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ITI - Visits, Inspections - Reports

1636
1665

July 15, 1946 - Jan. 15, 1947

Subject: Report on Tour of S.O.R.E. M.M.I.A.
to Hqs. and Units of the Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm
(H.M.I.A.)

RE 7

2 October 46.

To :- 8 B.C.U.

1. Further to our letter of even reference dated the 1 October 46 enclosing copy/ies of the a/m. report will you please make the following amendment :-

Part II, Page 7, 1st Col. beneath "Genio Militare (I/Col SPICNO)"
insert "102 Service Coy "

J.G.O'Ferrall
J.G.O'FERRALL, Major
S.O.R.E.
M.M.I.A.

■ 1665

Subject:- Tour report of S.O.R.E. M.M.I.A.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
RE 7
1 October 46.

No 8 B.L.U

1 Herewith 1 copy/ies of report on tour carried out by Major O'Ferrall R.E. accompanied by Major L.A. Calabrini (Liason Offr.) between the 3rd Sept. and the 18th Sept. 1946.

J.G. O'Ferrall
J.G. O'FERRALL, Major
S.O.R.E.
M.M.I.A.

1664

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REPORT
ON
TOUR OF S.O.R.E. M.H.I.A. TO HQRS. & ENGR. UNITS OF THE ITALIAN ARMY

3rd Sept - 18th Sept 1946

PART I

The Hqrs and units visited are given in Appx 'A' to part I of this report. Part I deals in general terms with impressions gained and main problems of Engr. Units & Hqrs. visited. It concludes with some recommendations.

Part II gives in more detail certain data and particular problems of Engr. Units etc. It will be seen that many of these are common to all units of like composition.

GENERAL

2. Taking the broad view it would be unfair to offer any harsh criticism of the state of the Engrs. in the Italian Army at present. Like other arms of the service, no doubt, they are suffering from an "interim" condition which puts them in a valley between what they were when operationally employed fully backed and supported by interested erstwhile foster parents and that condition we hope they will achieve when a clear appreciation of the role of the Italian Army is possible and the structure of the Engrs. can be soundly designed in support of that role, when the present factors operating against them can be removed.

Never the less I feel at present that more direction and support from above is indicated. There was evidence on my visits that problems which were affecting the efficiency and morale of units were just remaining problems, and in fact they were growing, and with little evidence of any sympathetic appreciation and help from higher command. Policy and training directives from Engr. sources were lacking and units seemed to be left "to get on with it" as best they could.

Lack of personnel, equipment and materials are the main factors directly affecting efficiency. Until these can be removed and the general organisation within the Engrs. strengthened, units can only be considered semi-effective.

I found most of the Unit etc. Comds keen, capable and energetic and they were fully alive to their problems and difficulties. It was admirable to find, in the circumstances, that they preserved their keenness and buoyancy so well. Perhaps in some cases a little more initiative could have been displayed in seeking ways and means of getting employment and training for units and sub units.

There was a marked difference in outward appearance of units actively employed (e.g. the two Metal Bridge Coys.) and those that were barrack bound.

Everywhere I received courtesy and consideration, Both senior and junior personnel went to a lot of trouble to show me round and to put me in the picture. This was very much appreciated.

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CENTRAL

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DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS

5 A general belief that each of the four Bns. visited were about to move to a new location makes it unnecessary to stress points arising out of existing accommodation and training ground facilities. The present set up in this respect for the Engrs. of the FOLGHEF, MANTOVA, and LEGNANO is unsatisfactory. 1662

6 No Rd. Pk. Coy. has yet been established in the Mantova Div. It appears that neither personnel or equipment are yet available to form one. I don't know if this also applies to the SPUIII Div (not visited).

See over Para 7

7 A very big deficiency in other ranks exists at present. Fairly typical was the state of the Engrs. of the CREMONA Div which was as follows :-

	W.E.	On strength	Present
Bn. Hqs.	:- 22	13	15
77 Pk. Coy	:- 225	64	57
44 " "	:- 225	110	88
2 Pk. Coy.	:- 117	39	39
	589	226	197

It will be seen that only 1/4 of the Bn. is available for work and training.

8 Specialists and tradesmen are right down. For example there were but two carpenters in the whole Bn. of the MANTOVA as against 39 On the new Establishment. There were no electricians and only 6 M.T. drivers that could be considered as such.

9 Unit equipment on the whole was satisfactory but facilities in the present barracks for storing and maintaining it were by no means satisfactory in some cases. Training equipment and materials for trades training and fieldworks training are very inadequate. No supplies are made of timber, metal, nails, dogs spikes etc and other expendable items required for trades and fieldwork training. This is a serious deficiency without this material little serious sapper training can be done. Units are forced to scrounge bits of timber etc to make native bear's and the like.

Motor Transport was fairly satisfactory. For example in the CREMONA Bn. of 99 vehicles held for the Engr. Bn. between 50 and 60 were ready to take the road. There is evidence to show that care is taken over their maintenance and, generally, the Engr. Pns. seem to be nursing the strength of their M.T. Good drivers for the existing vehicles is another story but steps were being taken to train men. They are all having difficulties in getting spare parts and tyres.

PROBLEMS OF THE TERRITORIAL COMMAND.

1 The Works Services and Engr. Stores Directorates seem to be functioning very satisfactorily. Naturally they are in a state of development and the stores side has to be built up. In the shattered state of many of the cities accommodation for stores dumps is very limited. There will be no shortage of work for them for years to come and the only limit to their achievement will be lack of funds. In BALOCCHIA much repair and reconstruction work has been done in a short time.

No difficulty appears to exist in making the necessary sub divisions in order to implement the War Ministry's instructions relating to the separation of Signals from Engrs.

I would like to have found more interest taken by Commanders Genio in technical supervision and assistance of the Div. Engrs. The Liason between Bn. Comds. and Engr. Terr. Comd. seems to be very weak. At each command I had to ask the Engr. Comd. to try and help the Div. Engrs. by supplying them with essential training materials from their resources. In general the Bn. Comds. said that they could not get any materials from the Genio Militare.

Whether a fact or not it appeared that release of such materials to Div. Engrs. would have to be sanctioned by the Engr. Directorate at the War Ministry whereas of course the training and efficiency of the Div. Engrs. is ultimately the concern of the Inspector General of Engrs.

2 The Engineer Service Coys. of Territorial Commands do not seem to fulfil any of their available numbers seemed to be entirely

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Motor Transport was fairly satisfactory. For example in the OPERONA Bn. of 99 vehicles held for the Engr. Bn. between 50 and 60 were ready to take the road. There is evidence to show that care is taken over their maintenance and, generally, the Engr. Bns. seem to be nursing the strength of their V.T. Good drivers for the existing vehicles is another story but steps were being taken to train men. They are all having difficulties in getting spare parts and tyres.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE TERRITORIAL COMMAND.

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12 The Engineer Service Coys. of Territorial German's do not seem to fulfil any useful engineer purpose. Throughout, their available numbers seemed to be entirely absorbed in guards and fatigues and administering themselves. The establishment of these Coys. is 3 officers and 100 other ranks. Taking 102 Service Coy (GENOVA) as an example, the day on which I visited them the strength was 103 other ranks (incl. N.C.O.s.).

39 of these were on permanent employment which included clerks, batmen, runners cooks, storemen details for Comd. Cenio and Direzione Lavori.

26 were on leave and in hospital

38 remaining were split up in "benny packets" on detailed duties which included Guard (4) Runners (5) food buyers (2) food servers (2) etc etc. There were 6 of the 38 left at the disposal of the Coy. Comd.

See over "A copy"

A copy of the days state is attached at Appendix 'B' to Part I for reference. I think that most Comd.s Genie agreed that Engr. Service Coys. had little Engr. function.

13 The two Sectional Metal Bridge Coys. - No. 1 at TURIN and No. 2 at BALOCNA were actively employed. No. 1 had almost completed a large metal girder railway bridge across the River Po at MONTECALIERI and a portion of No. 2 were under training at "Il Boschetto". Both units seemed to be in good heart and the men looked fit and cheerful.

General NICOTRA (Comd. Genio Turin) accompanied Lt. Col. Egerton and myself to see No. 2 Coy. on the work and a lady press photographer was busy photographing the party, which included the Coy officers, on and off the bridge!

I understand that these two Bridge Coys. will get absorbed in the proposed Engr. Bridging Bn.

14 The only Engr. Repair Shops I visited were No. 22 at PAVIA and No. 23 at PFSCHIERA. No. 22 is a very big "going concern" with large materials stores and well equipped workshops of every kind. The Mil. Establishment is 15 officers and 33 other ranks and there were 1,279 civilians on the pay roll. Unfortunately these were on strike the day I arrived but Col. SPINER (the Comdt.) very kindly took me round and I got a good impression of the capabilities of the place.

No. 23 Repair Shop at PFSCHIERA must have been a very big concern before the War. Its workshops, stores depots accommodations etc cover acres of ground. Unfortunately little remains in-tact and it suffered viciously from bombing. Col. PAPA (Comdt) has an enormous task trying to get the place on its legs again. A small workshop, unsuitably housed, is in operation but it will require a very large sum of money to have the place rebuilt with suitable offices, workshops, and stores depots.

The machines which were removed to MONTECALINA establishment near POLZANO have not yet been restored to PFSCHIERA workshops.

Apart from PFSCHIERA there is dependent on this workshop a dett. at LECNAGO which has a workshops and stores depots of its own and also stores depots at SOTTOPONTI, CAMPAGNOLA, VALLESCARPINI, MONZATELANO, MONTE BIANCO, AND CASTELNUOVO.

There are at present 4 officers and 19 other ranks, and 467 civilian personnel employed. Before the War there were 2,000 civilians. The Comdt. considered that the minimum military establishment should be 5 officers 48 other ranks (incl NCOs.)

WAR ESTABLISHMENTS.

15 The new proposed War Establishment for the Engr. Bn. was discussed with various Bn. Comds. The comments on it were as follows :-

- (a) No L.A.D. shown as attached to Bn.
- (b) No Anti Tank weapons
- (c) Insufficient machine carbines. should be 70 instead of 32 on the basis of :-
 - 30 per Md. Coy
 - 5 for M4, Pk. Coy
 - 5 " Bn. Hors.

1660

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The machines which were removed to MONTECATINI establishment near POLZANO have not yet been restored to PESCHIERA workshops.

Apart from PESCHIERA there is dependent on this workshop a dett. at LECNAGO which has a workshops and stores depots of its own and also stores depots at SETTEPONTI, CAMPAGNOLA, VALFSCARPIA, MONZAMBANO, MONTE BIANCO, AND CASTELNUOVO.

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1660

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- (c) Insufficient machine carbines. Should be 70 instead of 32 on the basis of :-
 - 30 per rd. Coy
 - 5 for Fd. Pk. Coy
 - 5 " Bn. Hors.
- (d) A minimum of 28 Brens for the Bn. on basis of :-
 - 12 per Fd. Coy.
 - 2 for Fd. Pk. Coy
 - 2 " Bn. Hors.
- (e) 3 Bulldozers to be included in the Fd. Pk. Coy.
- (f) Three of the lorries to be Tipper

See over Para. 16

CONCLUSION.

16

The following recommendations are not made emphatically but more as pointers to the direction in which way might lie the solution to some of the problems, and as a basis for further discussion.

(a) Assuming the new W.F. of the Engineer Bn. is adopted. The arrangements for the supply of specialists and tradesmen must be improved. It is not possible or profitable to the Army, to train a conscript in most trades from scratch in his 12 months of service. Therefore we must arrange to direct conscripted tradesmen to the Engrs. The system whereby Districts report particulars of individuals qualifications and employment and the process to C.A.P.s for allotting men to the various arms of the service should be made a really efficient one. The allotment of C.A.P.s after selection procedure must be guided by War Ministry's knowledge of deficiencies in numbers and species in the different arms of the service and the Engineers should have high priority in certain tradesmen related to their work.

It is wrong for example that the 7 Inf. Regt., accommodated in the same barracks with the POLICONE Engr. Bn. should be holding Engr. tradesmen badly needed by the Bn.

(b) The School of Military Engineering should develop a workshop wing where refresher courses in trades training can be given.

(c) More decentralisation of power to the Comd. Genio in Terr. Commands to supply the needs of Div. Engrs, located in their commands. If he does not hold it at present, I suggest he has also a training grant for allotment when required to meet certain training requirements of the Engineers located in his command.

The link between Comd. Genio and Div. Engrs, to be strengthened generally.

(d) Amendments to the W.F. of the Engr. Bn. to be considered to meet deficiencies stated in para. 15.

(e) The Italian Engrs. should have Bailey Pontoon eqpt. to train with. None exists at present. It is likely that all Bailey eqpt. will continue to be adopted and samples of it should at least be available at the Engr. School for training (i.e. Dry Bailey, Floating Bailey and Bailey Suspension).

(f) The abolition of the Service Coys. It strikes me that a strong ~~platoon~~ ^{platoon} supplemented if necessary by employed civilians could carry out ~~the~~ ^{the} duties now done by the Engr. Service Coy.

(g) The formation of at least one Engr. Group in support of Divisions. The Group to include a Bridging Bn. which would incorporate the two existing Bridge Coys. and a third Coy. holding heavy bridge eqpt. A second Bn. to have Coys of higher skilled tradesmen and equipped for follow up work to Div. Engrs. on the L of C. It might include a Mech. Engr. Coy. for road construction of heavy earth works.

(h) An increase in the Mil. Establishment of No. 23 Repair Shop at PESCHIERA.

Finally I should like to say that where there is so much engineer potential as there is in Italy there is no reason why the Engineer Arm of the Service should not be expanded. The recent war demonstrated the importance of Engineers and

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(h) An increase in the Mil. Establishment of No. 23 Repair Shop at PESCHIERA.

Finally I should like to say that where there is so much engineer potential as there is in Italy there is no reason why the Engineer Arm of the Service should not be first class. The recent war demonstrated the importance of Engineers and the planning and support for the Engineers of the new Italian Army merits high consideration.

J. C. Ferrall
J. C. FERRALL, Major
S.E.R.E.
U.M.I.A.

Appendix 'A'

DATE	PLACE	UNITS ENGR VISITED	OFFICERS INTERVIEWED	REMARKS
4th Sept	FLORENCE	184 Engr. Bn. H.Q.	Capt. MONNANNI	I/Col SAVINI Bn. Comd. was on leave. Both Bn Hqrs & Coys were visited by me in July 46.
6th Sept	GENOVA area	104 Engr. Bn. H.Q. 4 Engr. Coy	Maj. MARZONI (C.C. Bn.) Capt DI MITALE	Location = ALBISSOLA Location = SAVONA
7th Sept	- " -	Comd. Genio and 2 Wks. Services and Engineer Stores Directorate	Lt. Col. SPICNO	GENOVA
		102 Service Coy.	Capt GIUNTA	GENOVA
9th Sept	TURIN area	144 Engr. Bn. H.Q. 29 Pk. Coy. 77 Pk. Coy. 2 Pk. Pk. Coy.	Capt. DEL MONTE	There was no Bn. Comd and Capt del Monte also commanded 77 Pk. Coy. The whole Bn. located at CAUCOUR barracks in TURIN. C.C. NIJ. accompanied
10th Sept	- " -	Comd. Genio I. W. S. and Engineer Stores Directorate. 1 Sectional Metal Bridge Coy.	Gen. NICOTRA	TURIN
11th Sept			-	Visited at work at MONTECALIERI.
14th Sept	MILAN area	22 Engr. Repair Shop 51 Pk. Coy 3 Pk. Pk. Coy.	Col. STEINER Maj. JULLIANI (Bn. Comd.)	PAVIA CAIROPI barracks PAVIA
12th Sept	- " -	51 Engr. Bn. H.Q. 3 Pk. Coy. 3 W.S. & Engr Stores Directorate 103 Engr Service Coy.	- " - Capt BARCO	BERGAMO MILAN SUCZZANI Barracks
13th Sept	PESCHIERA	23 Engr Repair Shop	Col. PAPA	

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7th Sept	- " -	Comd. Conio and 2 Wks. Services and Engineer Stores Directorate	Lt. Col. SPIGNO	GENOVA
9th Sept	TURIN area	102 Service Coy. 144 Engr. Bn. H.Q. 29 Pk. Coy. 77 Pk. Coy. 2 Pk. Ek. Coy. Comd. Genio I. W. S. and Engineer Stores Directorate. 4 Sectional Metal Bridge Coy.	Capt. GIUNTA Capt. DEL MONTE	GENOVA There was no Bn. Comd and Capt del Monte also commanded 77 Pk. Coy. The whole Bn. located at CANOUR barracks in TURIN. C.C. MAJ. accompanied
10th Sept	- " -		Gen. NICOTRA	TURIN
11th Sept	MILAN area	22 Engr. Repair Shop 51 Pk. Coy 3 Pk. Ek. Coy. 51 Engr. Bn. H.Q. 3 Pk. Coy. 3 W.S. & Engr Stores Directorate 103 Engr Service Coy.	Col. STEINER Maj. JULIANI (Pn. Comd.) - " - Capt BARCO - -	PAVIA } CAROLI barracks } PAVIA } BERGAMO } MILAN } SUCZZANI Barracks
12th Sept	- " -			
13th Sept	FESCHIERA	23 Engr Repair Shop	Col. RAPA	
14th Sept	BOLIGNA area	Comd. Conio 106 Ingr Service Coy. 2 Metal Bridge Coy.	Gen. PETROCELLI - -	BOLIGNA In the process of changing barracks on day of visit. Training at "Il Poschetto"

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Appendix 'B'

102 Compagnia Servizi Cenio

Forza Effettiva 104 + 2 = 103

<u>Cariche Fisse</u>	
Sott. 14 impiegati	9
Attendenti	7
Portavivieri	2
Pint. S. Uff.	1
Scritturali Fureria	1
Cucinieri	2
Com. do Genio	4
Dir. Lavori	4
Piantoni fissi	1
Mac Vestiaro e Vivieri	4
Comm. ne Pancio	4
Piantoni Serb. Benzina	2
	= 39

<u>Assenti Reparto.</u>	
<u>Ospedale</u>	2
Lic. Convalescenza	9
Lic. Ordinaria	10
Sott. Uff. in licenza	3
Assente Arb.	1
Aggregati	1
	= 26

<u>Servizi Vari</u>	
<u>Guardie</u>	4
Cap. di Giornata	1
Piantoni	5
A ripose	2
Chiedenti Vis.	3
Cura Ambul.	3
Imbianchini	2
Sott uff	3
Luizia Caser.	3
Corve Vestiaro	2
Corve Spesa	2
Corve Cucina	2
A Disposizione	6
	= 38

■ 1657

Genovali 7. 9. 946

102 Compagnia Servizi Cenio
(signed) Capt. Giunta Libona

PART II

UNIT	LOCATION	DETAIL	ACTION
84 Engr. Bn.	FLORENCE (Scandicci Barracks)	<p>(a) Strength of Coys :- 10 Field Coy. :- 85 to 90 184 " " :- 85 to 90 1 M. Pk. Coy :- 60</p> <p>(b) No timber or fieldworks training materials yet received. Inert mines required for training purposes.</p> <p>(c) Accommodation in same barracks with 7th Inf. Bnt. far too cramped.</p>	<p>Action by Terr. Comd. & War Ministry</p> <p>7 BIU to note.</p> <p>Terr. Comd. 7 BIU to watch.</p>
104 Engr. Bn.	GENOVA area Savona Cuneo	<p>(a) Strength of Coys :- 4 Rd. Coy. :- 5 coffrs 110 Q/Rs 79 " " :- Not visited M. Pk. Coy :- Does not exist.</p> <p>(b) Accommodation of 4 Rd. Coy very unsuitable and no training facilities. A belief that this Coy and Bn. Hqs are to move to CUNEO to join 79 Rd. Coy.</p> <p>(c) Training materials required but none received.</p> <p>(d) Very much under strength in Trades men. Only 2 Carpenters in whole Bn No electricians. Only 6 caperable M. Pk. Coy.</p>	<p>War Ministry ref. M. Pk. Coy.</p> <p>Terr. Comd. 2 BIU to watch</p> <p>War Ministry.</p> <p>War Ministry</p>
Genio Militare (1/Col SPICINO) 102 SERVICE COY	GENOVA	<p>State they cannot supply any Engr. Trg. materials & Div Engrs until War Ministry sanction it.</p> <p>(a) Days State given in Appx 'B' to Part I of report.</p> <p>(b) Well accomodated & much contract work in progress constructing new buildings and welfare amenities.</p>	<p>War Ministry 1656</p> <p>Suggestions regarding Service Coys. given in Part I.</p>
Engr. Bn. 1st Del MONTF	TURIN (Cavour Barracks)	<p>(a) There is no Bn. Comd. & Bn. Hqs. is under establishment. A Coy Comd. is acting Bn. Comd.</p>	<p>War Ministry</p>

<p>104 Engr. Bn.</p>	<p>GENOA area Savona Cuneo</p>	<p>(c) Accommodation in some barracks with 7th Inf. Bn. far too cramped.</p> <p>(a) Strength of Coys :- 4 Pk. Coy. :- 5 Jeffrs 110 C/ps 79 " " :- Not visited Pk. Coy :- Does not exist.</p> <p>(b) Accommodation of 4 Pk. Coy very unsuitable and no training facilities. A belief that this Coy and Pk. Hqs are to move to CUNEO to join 79 Pk. Coy.</p> <p>(c) Training materials required but none received.</p> <p>(d) Very much under strength in Trades men. Only 2 Carpenters in whole Bn No electricians. Only 6 caperable W.M. Drivers.</p>	<p>Terr. Comd. 7 BnJ to watch.</p> <p>War Ministry ref. Pk. Coy.</p> <p>Terr. Comd. 2 BnJ to watch</p> <p>War Ministry.</p> <p>War Ministry</p>																														
<p>Genio Militare (3/Col SPICNO) <u>102 SERVICE</u> COY</p>	<p>GENOA</p>	<p>State Govt cannot supply any Engr. Trg. materials & Piv Engrs until War Ministry sanction it.</p> <p>(a) Days State given in Appx 'B' to Part I of report.</p> <p>(b) Well accommodated & much contract work in progress constructing new buildings and welfare amenities.</p>	<p>War Ministry 1656</p> <p>Suggestions regarding Service Coys. given in Part I.</p>																														
<p>Engr. Bn. pt Del MONTF</p>	<p>TURIN (Cavour Barracks)</p>	<p>(a) There is no Pk. Comd. & Pk. Hqs. is under establishment. A Coy Comd. is acting Bn. Comd.</p> <p>(b) Strength of Coys :-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Off.</th> <th>N.C.Os.</th> <th>Troops</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>29 Pk. Coy :-</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>77 " " :-</td> <td>6</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Pk. Pk. Coy :-</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pk. Hqs. :-</td> <td>5</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">The establishments are as follows</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pk. Hqs.</td> <td>7</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pk. Coys</td> <td>6</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pk. Pk. Coys.</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>117</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Off.	N.C.Os.	Troops	29 Pk. Coy :-	5	6	77 " " :-	6	10	2 Pk. Pk. Coy :-	4	4	Pk. Hqs. :-	5	3	The establishments are as follows			Pk. Hqs.	7	3	Pk. Coys	6	9	Pk. Pk. Coys.	4	0			117	<p>War Ministry</p>
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See over "(c)"

UNIT	LOCATION	DETAIL	ACTION
4 Engr. Bn. (Contin.)	TURIN	(c) Suitably accommodated at present with training grounds near by. Orders have been received to move the Bn. to VERCELLI.	
Genio Militare (Gen NICOTRA)	TURIN	Getting no supply of training materials. No training grant. Very few tradesmen amongst recruits received by this Bn.	War Ministry & Terr. Comd. War Ministry
101 Service Coy (Cas. da BORGATA)	TURIN	(a) States that he will supply materials for Div. Engrs. if they submit their requirements. (b) Considers that it is a waste to spend money on the boot factory (Opificio) as it is an uneconomical establishment.	
Sec. Metal Coy.	On work at MONTECALIERI	(c) Visit to 101 Service Coy. Very temporary. Only 24 present out of 42 on strength of Coy at present. (d) Gen. Nicotra considers that all Mil. Bridges etc. Eopt. recovered by Civilian Engr. Dep'ts. should be handed over to Genio Militare.	
51 Engr. Bn. 51 Pk. Coy. 3 Pk Coy	PAVIA (Cas. CAIROLI)	Completing Rly. Bridge over the Po. Coy. fully employed on such works and the work testifies a good unit.	
J. JULIANI		(a) Strengths of Units:- 51 Pk Coy :- 5 3 Pk Coy :- 4 Off 100 troops 9 130 0 63	Suggest P.P. could be made up from stocks of recovered E.P. at present at PAVIA or PESCIERRE.
		(b) More Bailey Br. required. Mines, explosives and timber required for training purposes.	War Ministry & Terr. Comd. 3 P.L.U.
		(c) Unsatisfactory having these Coys. so far from Bn. Hors and 3 Pk. Coy at PESCIERRE. (d) Workshops element of Pk Coy	Suggest that

1655

<p>101 Servizio Militare (Gen NICOTRA)</p>	<p>TURIN</p>	<p>(a) States that he will supply materials for Div. Engrs. if they submit their requirements.</p>
<p>104 Service Coy</p>	<p>TURIN (Cas. da BORMIDA)</p>	<p>(b) Considers that it is a waste to spend money on the boot factory (Opificio) as it is an uneconomic establishment.</p>
<p>Sec. Metal Coy.</p>	<p>On work at MONTICALIERI</p>	<p>(c) Visit to 104 Service Coy. Very satisfactory. Only 24 present out of 42 on strength of Coy at present.</p>
<p>51 Engr. Bn.</p>	<p>On work at PAVIA (Cas. CAIROLI)</p>	<p>(d) Gen. Nicotra considers that all Mil. Bridges etc. Capt. recovered by Civilian Engr. Dep'ts. should be handed over to Genio Militare.</p>
<p>54 Engr. Coy. 3 Engr. Pk Coy</p>	<p>51 Engr. Coy 3 Engr. Pk Coy</p>	<p>(a) Strengths of Units:- Off N.Cos. troops 51 Engr Coy :- 5 9 130 3 Engr. Pk Coy :- 4 9 63</p>
<p>5. JIVILLANI</p>	<p>More Bailey Br. required. Mines, explosives and timber required for training purposes.</p>	<p>(b) More Bailey Br. required. Mines, explosives and timber required for training purposes.</p>
<p>Engr. Repair Shop.</p>	<p>Un satisfactory having these Coys. so far from Bn. Hors and 3 Pk. Coy at BERGAMO.</p>	<p>(c) Un satisfactory having these Coys. so far from Bn. Hors and 3 Pk. Coy at BERGAMO.</p>
<p>Engr. Repair Shop.</p>	<p>Workshops element of 14 Pk Coy linked up with 22 Engr Repair Shop. Satisfactory arrangement.</p>	<p>(d) Workshops element of 14 Pk Coy linked up with 22 Engr Repair Shop. Satisfactory arrangement.</p>
<p>Engr. Repair Shop.</p>	<p>A very large concern with every kind of workshop and should have great potentiality for production and experimental work. Also extensive stores depot of Engr. materials.</p>	<p>Suggest that tradesmen from Engr Coys could get training with 22 Repair Shop.</p>

1655

UNIT	LOCATION	DETAILS	ACTION
1 Engr Bn. H.Q.	BERGAMO	<p>(a) Barracks not very suitable and storage for unit equipment could be better.</p> <p>(b) 3 Pz. Coy. very short of tradesmen and M.T. drivers.</p> <p>(c) No materials being received for Fieldworks training.</p> <p>(d) Certain items of unit eqpt. required e.g. two more oil cookers required.</p>	
Enno Militare 63 Service Coy.	VILLIN (Cas. SULLZANI)	<p>No remarks</p> <p>Not visited</p>	
Engr. Repair Shop. 1 PAPA	PESCHIERA	<p>See remarks in Pt. I of report.</p>	
Enno Militare en. PETERMILLI	BOLOGNA	<p>Much repair and reconstruction work has been and is being carried out. Stores Depots and Workshops being developed.</p>	<p>Coy. was in process of moving into this repaired barracks. They will have heaps of work to get their own barracks in order for some time to come. No details of strength etc. could be obtained owing to move.</p>
6 Service Coy	Cas. BERTALLIA		<p>1654</p>
2 Metal Br. Coy	"Il Boschetto"	<p>Portion of Coy training in the erection of a metal girder Rly bridge. Most of the men employed were recently joined recruits. Favourable impression of the unit.</p>	<p>No details of strength taken.</p>

SUBJECT: - Inspections.

Lead Forces Sub Comm. AC.

(M.M.I.A.).

Tel : 485081 Ext 526

SF/135

21 Aug 46.

8 Territorial Command.

An inspection of 8 Admin Tpt Coy was carried out by
Capt. MURRAY this HQ on Aug 20.

1. 412's and 406's were not fully understood and were therefore not being used correctly, in addition there were not sufficient copies to allow for one copy of each for every vehicle, it is therefore suggested that these be supplied and the unit instructed in the correct use and method of inspections.

2. The Task System was not in use. No driver had a copy of the daily tasks and no diagrams were displayed in vehicle lines or maintenance area. The unit had no copies of the above but it was stated that these had been asked for but had not been supplied.

3. The building used for the POL store is not satisfactory for the large amount held and in view of the fact that Terr Comd POL reserve is also held by this unit it is suggested that if possible a pump be used by this unit thus cutting down the quantity of barrels. This would allow for better and safer stacking in the area provided in the present building.

4. There were insufficient fire points and none were to be seen in the vehicle lines. **1653**

5. No effort has been made to provide any facilities for recreation for the men. There is no canteen. In fact no interest appears to have been taken in the past in the welfare of the personnel of this unit.

6. It is felt that this unit is at present well below the standard of MT Coys in other Territorial Commands, and it is suggested that the present O.C. be given every assistance to bring his Coy up to a better standard.

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2. The Task System was not in use. No driver had a copy of the daily tasks and no diagrams were displayed in vehicle lines or maintenance area. The unit had no copies of the above but it was stated that these had been asked for but had not been supplied.

3. The building used for the IOL store is not satisfactory for the large amount held and in view of the fact that Terr Comd FCL reserve is also held by this unit it is suggested that if possible a pump be used by this unit thus cutting down the quantity of barrels. This would allow for better and safer stacking in the area provided in the present building.

4. There were insufficient fire points and none were to be seen in the vehicle lines. **1653**

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6. It is felt that this unit is at present well below the standard of MT Coys in other Territorial Commands, and it is suggested that the present O.C. be given every assistance to bring his Coy up to a better standard.

Y.O. Murray Capt.
Lt. Col. RASC.
Adj. Gen. Sub Comm. AC. (MIA).

PAM/gmc

Copy to:- 8 RIU (attached is copy of inspection report).

19
 META LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT
 ON INSPECTION OF TRANSPORT UNIT.

1. Unit. 8 Admin Troop Coy.

2. Date of Inspection. 20 August 1946

3. Name of C.O. Lt. TARRANT

4. Strength. Officers 235
 N.C. 153

5. Vehicles.

(Loadcarriers)	Lorries	Cars	M/C	Amb
a) W.L.	114	17	22	20
b) Actual number held	99	17	22	20
c) " " on charge	6	1	4	1
d) Number V.O.R.	3	-	-	3
e) " " beyond unit repair have they been evacuated?				
f) Have vehs in Repairs Unit more than 7 days been struck of strength?				
g) Number of Daily and Standing details.				
h) Number of vehs not in use on date of inspection.	Standing 20		Daily 24	

i) General condition of vehs. Fairly good considering no tank system in use

j) " " types of vehicles seen each had one spare tyre. 1652

k) What anti-front precautions are taken? N/A

l) Are Targe numbers and Wind-screen Labels affixed and legible? Not in all cases

m) Any special difficulties in obtaining spare parts, if so give details and date of demands already submitted. Usual difficulties met by HQ Coy at present

• Vehicle Park.

a) Is it best space available? Yes, as barracks are shared by other units

b) Condition of standings. Hard at present & reasonable amount of shelter affixed.

c) Guards and pickets. Guard provided by unit at night only.

d) Condition of P.O.L. store. Too small for amount of P.O.L. held.

e) Quantities of P.O.L. held. 30,000 lbs

1990

3. Name of C.C. LT. FARAFINO
4. Strength.
 - a) Officers 019
 - b) Actual Strength 235
 - 153
5. Vehicles. (Loadcarriers)

Lorries	Cars	M/C	Amb
144	17	22	20
99	17	22	20
6	1	4	1
3	-	-	3

 - a) W.P.
 - b) Actual number held
 - c) " " on charge
 - d) Number V.C.P.
 - e) " beyond unit repair
have they been evacuated?
 - f) Have vehs in Repairs Unit
more than 7 days been
struck or strength?
 - g) Number of Daily and
Standing details.
 - h) Number of vehs not in use
on date of inspection.
 - i) General condition of vehs.
 - j) " " tyres
number of spare tyres held
 - k) What anti-frost precautions
are taken?
 - l) Are Targe numbers and Wind-
screen labels affixed and
legible?
 - m) Are special difficulties in
obtaining spare parts, if
no give details and date
of demands already submitted.

Standing 20 Daily 24

37 Fairly good considering no task system in use of vehicles seen each had one spare tyre. 1652

N/A

Not in all cases

Usual difficulties met by W/3cys at present

- a) Vehicle Park.
 - a) Is it best space available?
(General layout)
 - b) Condition of standings.
 - c) Guards and picquets.
 - d) Condition of P.C.I. store.
 - e) Quantities of P.O.I. held.
 - f) Wire Precautions.
 - g) Is place set aside for
Daily Maintenance, minor
repairs etc.
- Yes, as barracks are shared by other units
- Hard at present & reasonable amount of shelter affrid. Guard provided by unit at night only. Too small for amount of P.O.I. held. approx 50,000 kilos petrol - 30,000 derv. Insufficient and badly placed. Yes, in addition a Lt W/3 Sect is located in unit lines.
- 2 inspection pits are provided.

...../2

7. Administration.

- a) Is a record kept of all details carried out?
- b) Are all vehicles correctly signed over to drivers?
- c) Conforms to civilians driving vehicles.
- d) Is Daily Task system carried out and understood?
- e) Are petrol and oil accounted for?
- f) Condition of 412s.
- g) Are 406 inspections regularly carried out?
- h) Personnel records - are they up to date (Bath book, guard roster etc).
- i) Are vans on detachment visited and changed at intervals?
- j) Welfare.

YES
412's are not signed but a chit is signed by drivers.

None

No.
Yes this appears to be accurately kept.

Bad.

No.
Bath Book kept by Plus
Duty roster kept and inspected.

In the past no but after last inspection this is now being correctly carried out.
None existent.

8. Accommodation.

- a) Sleeping quarters. (condition)
- b) Dining quarters.
- c) Recreation "
- d) Cookhouse.
- e) Ration Store
- f) Latrines.
- g) Ablutions.

tier beds used - some rooms are very cramped but other additional accommodation has now been provided.

Old stables - tables very dirty.

None existent.

Very bad - in process of being changed.

Unfitly and dirty.

No unit latrines - communal latrines centralised barracks.

Bad - horse trough in middle of vehicle lines only method available.

9. General Remarks.

(general turnout of men, standard of unit etc).

■ 1651

SEE OVER.

- d) Is Daily Task system carried out and understood?
- e) Are patrol and oil accounted for?
- f) Condition of #12s.
- g) Are 406 inspections regularly carried out?
- h) Personnel records - are they up to date (Bath book, guard roster etc).
- i) Are vehicles on Detachment visited and changed at intervals?
- j) Welfare.

3. Accommodation.

- a) Sleeping quarters. (condition)
- b) Dining quarters.
- c) Recreation "
- d) Cookhouse.
- e) Ration Store
- f) Latrines.
- g) Ablutions.

No unit latrines - communal latrines centralised in barracks. Bad - horse trough in middle of vehicle lines only method available.

9. General Remarks. (general turnout of men, standard of unit etc).

1651

SEE OVER.

Handwritten signature

Signature of Inspecting Officer.

Yes this appears to be accurately kept.

No.

Bath Book kept by Plns
Duty roster kept and inspected.

In the past no but after last inspection this is now being correctly carried out.
Non-existent.

Tier beds used - some rooms are very cramped but other additional accommodation has now been provided.
Old stables - tables very dirty.
Non-existent.
Very bad - in process of being changed.
Untidy and dirty.

1. At time of inspection Lt. TARANTINO (previous 2 i/c) had only recently assumed command of this unit and has not yet had time to make any appreciable difference for better or worse - to this Coy.

2. 406's and 412's are not understood and consequently only used because it has so been laid down. In one 412 inspected it was found that the task system had been signed, but on questioning the driver it was found that he had no idea what the task was and in addition it turned out that he was on fatigues.

3. No Task System is in use although it was stated that Territorial HQ had been asked for diagrams and copies of Task System. Nevertheless vehicles seen were in very good condition considering the above mentioned points.

4. In addition to holding own stock of POL the reserve for Territorial Command is also held by this Coy. (Petrol 39,000 k los, Beriv. 30,000, Labs. 2,500). The store is a fairly large shed but far from ideal for large quantities of POL to be properly stacked. It would possibly be more convenient if Coy could be supplied with a pump and thus cut down the very large stock of petrol.

5. No effort has been made to provide welfare of any description for the men of this unit who are thus forced to go into the town or elsewhere for their amusements.

6. Cookhouse and dining room are far from good and were found to be dirty. The present range is one that was found on the scrap heap and does not appear to be working properly. It was stated that these two rooms are being moved very shortly to better sites.

GENERAL.

At present this Coy is well below standard and it is felt that it is not all due to a not very satisfactory location. On the other hand I do not think that very much help has been given them by higher authorities.

It is possible that given such assistance the new O.C. might take a better show than did the previous one, as shown by his efforts to improve the sleeping quarters.

- 2000
- Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020
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OGGETTO: - Ispezioni.

Land Forces Sub Comm. AU.
(M.H.I.A.)
Tel: 489081 Ext 526
57/155

8 Comandà Territoriale.

21 agosto 46.

Un ispezione dell'ò Compagnia Amministrazione Trasporti fu eseguita il 20 agosto dal Capitano MURRAY di questo Quartiere Generale.

1. I 412 e i 406 non sono completamente compresi e non erano perciò usati correttamente, inoltre non c'erano copie sufficienti per dare una copia di ognuno dei due ad ogni veicolo, e perciò si consiglia che queste vengano fornite e che ogni reparto sia istruito nel corretto uso e metodo di ispezioni.

2. Il sistema compiti non era in uso. Nessun guidatore aveva una copia dei compiti giornalieri né erano affissi diagrammi sulle linee dei veicoli o sul luogo di riparazioni. Il reparto non aveva copie dei summenzionati ma fu detto che questi erano stati richiesti e non forniti.

3. Il caseggiato usato per il magazzino del POL non è soddisfacente per le grandi quantità ammassatevi e in vista del fatto che anche le riserve del Comd POL Terr. vi sono tenute, si suggerisce che possibilmente sia usata da questo reparto una pompa, diminuendo così il numero delle botti. Questo provvederebbe per migliore e più sicuro accastamento nello spazio esistente nell'attuale caseggiato.

4. I punti da fuoco erano insufficienti e non se ne notava alcuno sulle linee dei veicoli.

5. Non è stato compiuto alcuno sforzo per provvedere alle facilitazioni per la ricreazione di EII uomini. Non vi sono cantine di caserma. Infatti sembra che nel passato nessuna cura sia stata data al benessere del personale di questo reparto.

6. Si ha l'impressione che questo reparto è attualmente molto al di sotto del livello delle Compagnie Mf. degli altri Comandi Territoriali, e si suggerisce che al presente Comandante sia data ogni assistenza per migliorare lo stato della sua Compagnia.

1650

FAM/SNC

ADST, Land Forces Sub Comm. AC. (IMIA).
Lt. Col. RASC.

Copia per: - 8 BLU (inclusa e una copia del rapporto sull'ispezione).

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1650

FAM/gmc ADST, Land Forces 3 ub Comm. AC. (MIA). Lt.Col. RASC.

Copia per:- 8 BLU (inclusa e una copia del rapporto sull'ispezione).

Oggetto: - Visita al 3 CAR il 13 agosto 46.

8 British Liaison Unit,
C.M.P.
Tel. Roma - 043140
30/3

14 agosto 1946

Per 1- Comando Territoriale di Roma per informazioni al Generale
Comandante.

Durante la mia recente visita al CAR di Orvieto i seguenti punti furono notati:-

1. Nel tempo trascorso dopo la mia ultima visita è stato nominato un nuovo Vice Comandante. Suggestisco che voi vediate questo nuovo ufficiale e formiate conclusioni proprie a proposito della sua appropriatezza per questa nomina. La mia impressione non fu favorevole.
2. Le armi già distribuite ai soldati ed anche quelle ancora in armeria non erano pulite. Fui informato che ciò era dovuto a mancanza da parte del Quartiere Generale del Comando Territoriale di venire incontro a richieste di olii. Si suggerisce che il dipartimento responsabile sia richiesto di spiegare questa sua mancanza nel fornire dei prodotti essenziali.
3. Rinnai costernato dalle uniformi del personale permanente. Le difficoltà nel provvedere indumenti sono pienamente apprezzate ma non potrei mai insistere troppo che ogni sforzo possibile sia fatto per vestire i 750 membri dello stato maggiore in uniformi simili tra di loro. Il vestiario e le scarpe di molti soldati erano del tutto inadatti a un uso ulteriore e in alcuni casi persino irrimediabili. L'effetto morale sul personale permanente e sulle reclute può ben essere immaginato. Non richiedo che siano vestiti come le reclute, ma che nessuno sforzo sia risparmiato per realizzare una certa uniformità o per lo meno per assicurare che gli uomini non circolino in indumenti che sono un'offesa contro ogni concetto militare. Il colonnello Gatta ha sollevato questa questione nelle sue lettere No. 950 datata il 7 agosto 46 e No. 959 datata il 9 agosto 1946. **1649**
4. La mancanza di istruzioni fu anche particolarmente notata. Questa questione è stata pienamente spiegata nelle lettere del 3 CAR numero 2045/O.A. datata il 9 agosto e 2075/O.A. datata il 12 agosto.
5. Se sarà deciso di procedere a lavori di costruzione sul poligono d'addestramento durante questo corso, si raccomanda che questi lavori siano iniziati immediatamente per non interferire col lavoro del C.A.R. e prima del principio della stagione delle piogge.
6. Si nota con soddisfazione che molti dei punti sollevati dopo la mia prima visita sono stati accolti con attenzione e che verso la fine del corrente mese si dovrebbero notare miglioramenti nelle sale da pranzo, magazzini alimentari, spacci, e sale di ritrovo.
7. Gli sforzi del colonnello comandante nel risolvere le difficoltà che egli incontra meritano grande lode.

8. In conclusione si raccomanda che l' 8tavo Reparto Servizi p. CAR sia visitato da un rappresentante del Direttorato della Motorizzazione e istruito nel giusto metodo di documentazione.

HP/eg.


H.J.C. PRINSLOO, Major. (RA)
D.A.A. & Q.M.C.

■ 1648

= COMANDO 8° CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE -ORVIETO=
=====

№ 2045/O.A. di prot.

Orvieto 11, 9 agosto 1946

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE - Uff. OAOM - ROMA =

OGGETTO : organico sottufficiali.-

La situazione sottufficiali del CAR è la seguente:

Reparto	sottufficiali					
	organico		effettivi		deficienze	
	Istrut.	Gover.	Istrut.	Gover.	Istrut.	Gover.
op. serv. e reparto serv.	-	28	-	28	-	-
3 com. di btg	-	3	-	3	-	-
12 op.	90	36	66	32 °	30	4

° dei 32 sottufficiali di governo 9 devono essere inviati a frequentare il corso alle Scuole Centrali di Cesano che avrà inizio il 24 corr. di modo che le deficienze salgono a 13.

Conclusione il Centro all'inizio del II corso nel quale dovrà inquadrare circa 4000 reclute difetta sugli scarsi organici di ben:
- 30 sottufficiali istruttori **1647**
- 13 sottufficiali di governo.

Tale grave deficienze ove non siano prontamente eliminate non potranno non far risentire i loro dannosi effetti.-

IL CORONNELLO COMANDANTE
F/to (Giovanni Gatta)

P.C.C.

L'aiutante maggiore in l^
(Magg. Maria Marchesani)

Magg. Marchesani



COMANDO 8 CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE - ORVIETO -

No. 2045/O.A. di prot.

Orvieto, 9 August 1945

TO THE MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND - Uff. CAOM - RomeSUBJECT: W.E. non commissioned officers.

The situation of non-commissioned officers of the GAR is the following

Unit	non-commissioned officers					
	W.E.		effectives		deficiencies	
	Instruct.	Gov.	Instruct.	Gov.	Instruct.	Gov.
cp. serv. and unit serv.	-	28	-	28	-	-
3 com. of batt.	-	3	-	3	-	-
12 cp.	96	36	66	32	30	4

of the 32 non-commissioned government officers 9 have to be sent to the course of the Central Schools of Cesano, that will begin the 24th of this month; so the deficiencies will grow to 13.

As a conclusion, at the beginning of its II course the Center will in which it will have to train about 4000 recruits, the Center will lack on its scarce W.E. the following:

- 30 non-commissioned instructing officers
- 13 non-commissioned government officers.

These grave deficiencies will bring forth great damage if they are not promptly eliminated.

■ 1646

/s/ THE COLONEL COMMANDING
(Giovanni Gatta)



8° Centro Addestramento Reclute COMANDO

n. 2075/O.A. di prot.

Orvieto, li 12 agosto 1946.-

OGGETTO: organico sottufficiali.

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE - Ufficio O.A.O.M. - = ROMA =

1) Con lettera 2045/O.A. data 9 agosto ho rappresentato la situazione sottufficiali che presenta in sintesi le seguenti deficienze:

- 30 sottufficiali istruttori;
- 9 sottufficiali di governo.

■ 1645

2) Per il ripianamento delle deficienze in fatto di sottufficiali di governo ha provveduto ampliamente codesto Comando - ufficio O.A.O.M. - dando incarico ai dipendenti Distretti.

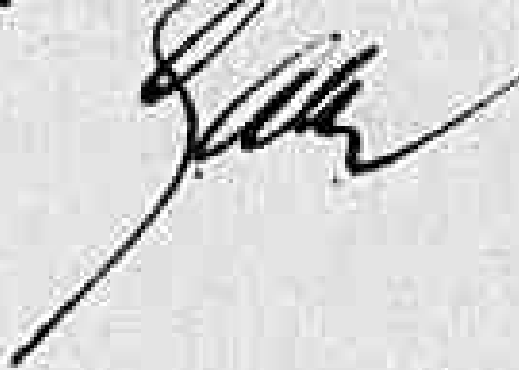
Per il ripianamento delle deficienze di sottufficiali istruttori avevo avuto comunicazione dallo S.M.E. - ufficio O.A. - Sez. Addestramento - che sarebbe stato provveduto con trasferimenti da altri CAR dell'Italia Settentrionale che ne hanno in eccesso rispetto all'organico. Senonchè quest'oggi mi è stato comunicato che i trasferimenti predetti non saranno più attuati.

3) Alcuni CAR, dislocati in residenze più richieste, hanno notevoli esuberanze in fatto di sottufficiali istruttori (Genova oltre 100, Udine 90 ecc.), perchè nella distribuzione dopo i corsi di Cesano, non si è tanto tenuto conto delle esigenze dei CAR quanto dei desiderata dei singoli.

Io avevo richiesto che dalle esuberanze predette fossero tratti nel numero necessario i sottufficiali per ripianare le deficienze del CAR di Orvieto, scegliendoli fra gli scapoli o comunque non aventi famiglia a carico. Tale richiesta, accolta in un primo tempo, è stata poscia messa da parte.

Ne riferisco per il caso codesto Comando ritenga di insistere presso l'ufficio competente, giacchè una tale grave deficienza di personale istruttore non potrà non far risentire i suoi dannosi effetti sull'addestramento e determinare un sensibile divario fra i risultati che potranno essere ottenuti dal nostro CAR nei confronti degli altri CAR.-

IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE
(Giovanni Gatta)



Dritte Seite zu falten

FELDPOSTBRIEF

Zweite Seite zu falten

8 CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE
COMANDO

No. 2075/ O.A. di prot.

Orvieto, 12 August 46

Subject: W.E. non-commissioned officers

TO THE MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND - Ufficio O.A.O.M. - ROME -

1. With letter 2045/O.A. dated the 9th August I have explained the situation of non-commissioned officers, that presents, as a synthesis, the following deficiencies:

- 30 non-commissioned instructing officers;
- 9 non commissioned government officers.

2. For the settling of deficiencies concerning government non-commissioned officers I have largely provided this Command - office O.A.O.M. - giving orders to the dependent districts.

For the settling of deficiencies of non-commissioned instructing officers, I had been informed by S.M.E. - office O.A. - Training Section - that it would have been provided by transferring non-commissioned instructing officers from other C.A.R.s in northern Italy, that have too many of them in respect to their W.E. Today, however, I have been informed that the above mentioned transfers will not be carried out.

3. Some C.A.R.s, located in more requested residences, have notable overnumbers of non-commissioned instructing officers (Genoa over 100, Udine 90 and so on), because in the distribution after the courses of Cesano, the exigencies of the C.A.R.s have not been considered so much as the requests of the single persons.

I had requested that from the above mentioned overnumbers there were detracted a sufficient amount of non-commissioned officers to fill the deficiencies of the C.A.R. of Orvieto, choosing them among those not married or who, anyhow do not have to support a family. This request, that had been granted in a first time, has then been discarded.

I mention in case this Command may consider it necessary to insist at the competent office, because such a grave deficiency of instructing personnel will have its bad effects on the training and will cause a sensible difference in the results that will be obtained by our C.A.R. in respect to the other C.A.R.s.

THE COMMANDING COLONEL
(Giovanni Gatta)

Comando 8 Centro Addestramento Reclute - Orvieto

No. 959/Com. di prot.

Orvieto, 9 August 46

TO THE TERRITORIAL MILITARY COMMAND OF
Memorandum for the General Commanding

-ROME-

Subject: New uniform of the Army.

1. With the sheet No. 950/Commissariato dated the 7th of this month, addressed to the Ufficio Territoriale and, for information, to the Ufficio Servizi of this Command, I have demonstrated that it is not possible to achieve uniformity in the various ~~in-the~~ types of uniforms that are distributed to the personnel of C.A.R.

The use of the most disparate uniforms by officers, ~~undergraduates~~ non-commissioned officers and government or military instructors, derives from the different places the personnel come from, who, in these last years, have served with American, English or Italian units.

To impose on all of them the adoption of the same uniform is difficult for plain economical reasons.

2. When the first groups of new recruits were dressed up, the difference between the young soldiers and their instructors was even more evident. While the first are dressed and equipped with the new cotton uniforms, the others are "clad" in the most various ways and do, as a contrast, look very poorly.

This difference in treatment does not fail to make felt its fatal influence to the damage of the prestige, dignity, authority and feelings of the officers and non-commissioned officers.

3. The permanent personnel of the Center, who, as mentioned above, have found themselves in a manifest condition of inferiority in respect to the recruits, have explained the necessity to be admitted to benefit of the distribution of the new uniforms. Although I could not grant the fulfillment of their request, my feelings of Commanding Officer urge me to back it up as it is absolutely not convenient that, in the same unit, the soldiers be dressed well and the instructors poorly.

Whichever be the economical conditions of the Country, ~~it is not~~ ¹⁶⁴³ possible to put the instructing and commanding personnel in this condition of inferiority.

4. Because of the above mentioned and considering the reasons as explained, I make request for an authorization to take No. 750 complete series of the uniforms of the new type, to be able to carry out the gratuitous distribution to the permanent personnel of enrolment (Officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers).

The granting of this request will contribute to the reestablishment of an atmosphere of discipline, calmness and prestige that is so necessary for those who hold the difficult task to form the new soldiers of the Italian Army.

THE COLONEL COMMANDING
(Giovanni Gatta)

8 CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE - ORVIETO
Ufficio Commissariato

Prot. No. 950 / Comm.

Orvieto, 7 August 46

TO THE MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF ROME
Ufficio Territoriale Affari Vari
S.P.C. :
To the Ufficio Servizi
To the Direzione di Commissariato

SUBJECT: New Uniform of the Army.

Regarding the circular S.M.E. - Ufficio Servizi - No. 1/2187 dated the 12th July of this year.

1. The personnel of C.A.R., for what concerns the uniform, can be divided as follows:

- Officers and sergents;
- Non-commissioned officers, rank and file or government instructors;
- Recruits;

a) Officers and Sergents

They have uniforms that are most disparate in the way of color and fashion: grey-green, dark green, kaki; Italian, English, American.

Reason of these differences: their forthcoming.

It is not possible to impose uniformity for the lack of a type of definitive uniform (cloth, fashion and color) and for plain economical reasons.

It would be possible to obtain it by gratuitously distributing the new uniforms, that are being tried out.

b) Non-commissioned officers, rank and file or government instructors.

They also have in distribution clothes that vary according to their forthcoming.

Analogously to the above mentioned, it is necessary, to obtain uniformity, to carry out the distribution of the new uniforms.

c) Recruits.

Notwithstanding they are newly dressed up (first dressing), there will not be for them either complete uniformity, as, for example, the ankle-bandages are of different colors.

2. At the C.A.R. there are expected 3818 recruits. There will however probably be more, as it happened for the call of March.

For the dressing of the above mentioned recruits the C.A.R. had requested 4200 series. The Direzione di Commissariato has sent 3900.

The series at disposal are therefore absolutely insufficient to dress all the recruits, as the small margin, even if it will remain, will not allow to adapt the measures to all the recruits. As experience teaches, it is necessary in this respect to have a good margin left.

Wanting, overmore, to carry out the necessary distributions to obtain uniformity, it would be necessary to provide also for the 86 officers and 628 non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the permanent roster.

3. a) The new uniform foresees the use of ankle bandages only with long

trousers. As it has been experienced during the first course, ankle bandages are necessary also with parachutist trousers, and on the ankle in the shoe in a comfortable and aesthetic way. This inconvenience revealed itself in a so evident way, that the ankle bandages were requested and obtained for the uniform of grey-green cloth with parachutist trousers.

b) With shorts there are foreseen long socks. In the series of clothes received for the recruits the socks are however not included.

c) In the uniform for free outgoing and for marching, the soldier comes to have shirt and jacket; that is, two pieces of clothing made of cotton, while there is lacking a summer knitted undergarment; as he feels the lack of it he nearly always buys it for himself.

It would be better if, considering also the economical situation of the Country, there were distributed a single piece of clothing made of cotton (Jacket or, better, shirt) and if possible, there were given instead a knitted summer underwear garment.

It is profitable to notice in this regard, that the Allied troops, with their larger possibilities, wear a single piece of clothing made of cotton and not two.

d) With the uniform of toil (that it would be preferable to call "of work") uprolled sleeves are not foreseen.

Considering the work is performed with bare knees, it would be easier and healthier to be able to bare also the forearms avoiding shirtsleeves that are pasted to the arms by sweat.

Uprolled sleeves were, by the way, already regularly used with the flannel shirts of the old grey-green uniform.

4. Conclusion.

a) For the necessary uniformity it will be necessary to carry out gratuitous distributions of the new uniforms to officers, non-commissioned officers and military or government instructors;

b) For an appropriate dressing up it is necessary to increase the disponibilities of series of clothing in the stores of the Center;

c) for a complete dressing it is necessary to have long socks and ankle bandages for all;

d) for a more comfortable and healthy dressing, it would be convenient to eliminate the two pieces of clothing made of cotton (jacket and shirt) and to give instead a knitted summer undergarment;

e) for greater comfort and not to be forced to rebuke a natural tendency, it would be better to allow that with the working uniform sleeves be rolled up.

THE COLONEL COMMANDING
(Giovanni Gatta)

1641

COMANDO 8° CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE = ORVIETO =

n°959/Com.di prot.

MINUTA

Orvieto 9 Agosto 1946

-AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI = R O M A =
Pro memoria per il Sig.Gen.Comandante

OGGETTO: Nuova uniforme dell'Esercito.

1) Col foglio n° 950/Commissariato data 7 corr. diretto all'Ufficio Territoriale A.V. e, per conoscenza, all'Ufficio Servizi di codesto Comando, ho messo in evidenza come non sia possibile raggiungere l'uniformità nelle varie fogge di divise in distribuzione al personale del C.A.R.

L'uso dei più svariati tipi di uniformi da parte di ufficiali, sottufficiali e graduati istruttori e di governo, deriva dalle diverse provenienze del personale che, in questi ultimi anni, ha prestato servizio con reparti americani, inglesi o italiani.

Imporre a tutti l'adozione della stessa divisa è difficile per manifeste ragioni d'ordine economico.

2) Effettuata la vestizione dei primi scaglioni di reclute affluiti, è risaltata in modo ancor più evidente la diversità fra i giovani soldati ed i loro istruttori. Mentre i primi sono vestiti ed equipaggiati con le nuove uniformi di tela, gli altri sono "arraggiati" nelle maniere più disparate e fanno una ben misera figura al confronto.

Questa diversità di trattamento non manca di far risentire la sua deleteria influenza a danno del prestigio dignità autorevolezza e morale degli ufficiali e sottufficiali.

3) Il personale permanente del Centro che, come detto ¹⁶⁴⁰ si è venuto a trovare in una manifesta condizione d'inferiorità rispetto alle reclute, ha rappresentato la necessità di essere ammesso a beneficiare della distribuzione delle nuove uniformi. Pur non avendo potuto aderire alla richiesta, la mia sensibilità di comandante mi spinge ad appoggiarla giacché non è assolutamente conveniente che, nello stesso reparto, gli inquadrati siano ben vestiti e gli inquadratori malvestiti.

Qualunque sia la situazione economica del Paese, non è possibile porre in condizione di inferiorità il personale di inquadramento.

4) Per quanto sopra, in considerazione dei motivi esposti, rivolgo preghiera di voler autorizzare il prelevamento di n° 750 serie complete di vestisio del nuovo modello, per poter effettuare la distribuzione gratuita al personale permanente di inquadramento (Ufficiali, sottufficiali e truppa).

L'accoglimento della richiesta contribuirà a ristabilire quell'atmosfera di disciplina, serenità e prestigio tanto necessario in coloro che hanno l'arduo compito di formare i nuovi soldati dell'Esercito Italiano.

IL COLONNELLO COMANDANTE
(Giovanni Gatta)



8° CENTRO ADDESTRAMENTO RECLUTE - ORVIETO
Ufficio Commissariato

MINUTA

Prot. n. 950 /Comm.

Orvieto, li 7 agosto 1946

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI
- Ufficio Territoriale Affari Vari
e.p.c.:
- All'Ufficio Servizi
- Alla Direzione di Commissariato

R O M A

OGGETTO : nuova uniforme dell'Esercito.

Riferimento circolare S.A.E. - Ufficio Servizi - n.1/2187 data 12 luglio c.a.

1°) Il personale del C.A.R., agli effetti dell'uniforme, può essere ripartito come segue :

- Ufficiali e marescialli ;
- sottufficiali, graduati e truppa istruttori o di governo ;
- reclute ;

a) Ufficiali e marescialli

Sono provvisti delle uniformi più disparate per colore e foggia : grigio verde, verdone, kaki ; italiane, inglesi, americane.
Motivo di tale difformità : la provenienza.

Non è possibile imporre uniformità per mancanza del tipo definitivo di uniforme (stoffa, foggia e colore) e per manifeste ragioni d'ordine economico.

Sarebbe possibile ottenerla distribuendo gratuitamente gli oggetti della nuova uniforme in corso di esperimento.

b) Sottufficiali, graduati e truppa istruttori o di governo.

Hanno in distribuzione anch'essi indumenti vari a seconda della provenienza.

Analogamente a quanto detto sopra, per ottenere uniformità, occorre far luogo alla distribuzione delle nuove divise.

c) Reclute.

Malgrado siano tutte vestite a nuovo (1° vestizione), non si avrà neppure per essere completa uniformità, giacché, ad esempio, le cavigliere, sono di colori vari.

2°) Al C.A.R. sono preannunciate n. 3818 reclute. E' da presumere peraltro che, come accadde nella chiamata di marzo, ne giungano in numero superiore.

Per la vestizione delle reclute predette il C.A.R. aveva richiesto 1.200 serie, la Direzione di Commissariato ne ha inviate 3900.

Le serie disponibili sono perciò assolutamente insufficienti per vestire tutte le reclute, giacché il piccolo margine, seppure rimarrà, non consentirà di adattare le taglie a tutte le reclute. Come l'esperienza insegna, occorre al riguardo una sensibile percentuale di maggiorazione.

Volendosi poi far luogo alle distribuzioni necessarie per ottenere la uniformità, occorrerebbe provvedere anche per gli 86 ufficiali e 628 sottufficiali e truppa del quadro permanente.

3°) a) La nuova uniforme prevede l'uso delle cavigliere solo con il pantalone lungo. Come è stato sperimentato durante il primo corso, la cavigliere sono necessarie anche col pantalone da paracadutista giacché ben pochi di tali pantaloni si uniscono alla scarpa sulla caviglia in maniera comoda ed estetica.

- 2 -

Questo inconveniente si palesò in modo così evidente che furono richieste ed ottenute le cavigliere per l'uniforme di panno grigio-verde col pantalone alla paracadutista.

b) Col pantalone corto sono previsti i calzettoni. Nella serie vestiario ricevuta per le reclute i calzettoni però non sono stati compresi.

c) Nell'uniforme da libera uscita e da marcia il soldato viene ad avere camicia e giubbotto ; cioè due indumenti di tela, mentre manca di una maglia estiva e, siccome ne sente il bisogno, quasi sempre se ne provvede per proprio conto.

Sarebbe preferibile che, avuto anche riguardo alla situazione economica del Paese, fosse distribuito un solo indumento di tela (giubbotto o, meglio, camicia) e, se possibile, fosse data invece la maglia estiva.

Giova al riguardo rilevare che le truppe alleate, con tutte le loro maggiori possibilità, indossano un solo indumento di tela e non due.

d) Con l'uniforme da fatica (che sarebbe bene chiamare da lavoro) non sono previste le maniche rimboccate.

Dal momento che al lavoro ~~scoperta~~ scoperte, sarebbe più comodo ed igienico che si potessero scoprire anche gli avambracci evitando maniche di camicia appiccicate alle braccia dal sudore.

Dal resto, la manica rimboccata era già regolarmente in uso con la camicia di flanella della vecchia uniforme grigio-verde.

4°) Conclusioni.

a) Per la necessaria uniformità occorrerà far luogo a distribuzioni gratuite delle nuove divise ad ufficiali, sottufficiali e truppa istruttori e di governo ;

b) per una appropriata vestizione occorre aumentare la disponibilità delle serie vestiario del magazzino del Centro ;

c) per una completa vestizione occorre disporre di calzettoni e di cavigliere per tutti ;

d) per una vestizione più confortevole ed igienica, converrebbe eliminare uno dei due indumenti di tela (giubbotto o camicia) e dare invece la maglia estiva ;

e) per maggiore comodità e per non dover reprimere una tendenza naturale, sarebbe meglio consentire che con l'uniforme da lavoro le maniche possano essere rimboccate. -

1638



Il colonnello comandante
(Giovanni Gatta)

Gatta

DIREZIONE SANITA' COMILITER
ROMA

NUMERO 7808 alt seguito foglio 7729 data 8/8/46 alt
Condizioni igieniche gabinetti esigono impiego litri
50 acido muriatico per togliere incrostazioni alt
In mancanza pregasi autorizzare acquisto
Colonnello Gatta

1637

L'AVVANTO IN COLORE IS

Mass Mambrovi

Se ci vorrà al foglio 7729

Ma

HEALTH DIRECTION COMILITER
ROME

NUMBER 7808 stop reference sheet 7729 dated 8/8/46 stop
sanitarian conditions of latrines request employment
of 50 liters of muriatic acid to eliminate encrustations
stop in case of lack please authorize purchase
Colonel Gatta

1636

2018