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Reports on Depots + Installations

Jan 9, 1945 - Feb. 16, 1945

462  
519

1449

785020

Report Number 41

16 February 1945

Subject: 47 Reggimento Fanteria - Lecce  
Location: Piazza del Carmine, Lecce  
Personnel: 6 Officers  
           1 EM  
           110 Civilians  
Comdg. O.: Col. Rossi

Upon inspection it was found that there is a large warehouse of clothing and equipment plus a quantity of small arms, everything kept in an orderly and efficient manner. The attached inventories show the items and quantities shipped to the La Rocca Issue Depot, Bari and the items and quantities remaining at the Regimental Depot, because not deemed to be of immediate use. All of the small arms have remained in Lecce.

In addition to the above personnel, a new situation was found which has verified itself in other depots, as will be brought out in subsequent reports. By order of the War Ministry men who are ONY (limited service return to their matriculation centers (one of the Regimental Headquarters in Italy) and wait there for further disposition. They are being used by the Regimental Commanders for various duties either in the office or outside. The number of such cases is increasing daily, the concentration of this personnel having started about the first of February. It was stated that those men who have families in the liberated part of Italy are discharged, but those who have families in the north or who are regular army NON-COM and will be soon pensioned are retained.

There are also 87 horses located here, that were formerly of the Piceno Div.. The Territorial Command has been informed and the Regimental Hdqrs. is waiting for orders reference their removal.

Henry J. Pacini

23  
 1/18

1450

785020

Report Number 42

16 February 1945

Subject: Distretto Militare  
Location : Lecce  
Personnel: 5 Officers  
          5 EM  
          80 Civilians

Attached is an inventory of the material shipped to the La Rocca Issue Depot, Bari and an inventory of the equipment that has been left at the Military District warehouse because not deemed to be of immediate use. In addition there is an inventory of Group C materials, the firearms are bracketed because they are to pass to the Artillery Section of Lecce, whereas the remainder remains under the control of the District. There is a certain amount of equipment that may be used by some of the Muleter Cos. such as scissors for horses, a few kilograms of nails and 11 pack saddles.

The Military District was busy on the call up, the Colonel stating that the results were fairly satisfactory. He stated that it would be advisable to move the inductees immediately after they are taken into the Army because after lying about for a few days they start spending the night and evening at home and there is later danger that they may arbitrarily not show up at all or influence others that have not yet presented themselves by indicating that there is no use for the present as they are not being sent out.

Recommendations: It would be advisable to completely clear out these small depots at the earliest because they accomplish no purpose other than to keep a few people occupied keeping records and making out reports. For those items that are not of immediate use, the task could be accomplished by the Italian Army with whatever means they have, even rail, over a period of time.

Henry J. Pacini

23  
52 JP

Report Number 43

16 February 1945

Subject: Centro Alloggio Numero 2 e Presidio Militare

Location: Lecce

Personnel: 9 Officers

11 EM

50 Civilians

Comdg. O.: Col. Bellante

Col. Bellante is the Comdg. Officer of the Centro Alloggio and, being the senior officer in Lecce, he is also the Presidio Commander. The above personnel is employed between the two functions.

The Centro Alloggio has space for 137 Officers and 2700 men, however they had, at the time of the visit 36 men from the Balkans and 25 from PW Camp and this unit has never had much personnel sent to it.

There is no clothing or equipment here but sufficient casermaggio to take care of all the places of the camp.

Recommendations: See report number 27. I am not current on any long range programs for repatriation of PWs and refugees but at the moment these camps tie up requisitioned buildings, equipment and men.

Henry J. Pacini

23 1/2 JLS

Report Number 44

16 February 1945

Subject: Regia Accademia Militare

Location: Lecce

Personnel: 35 Officers

218 Students

175 MU

Comdg. O.: Col. Delardini Roberto

Although a bit crowded for space, the Academy appears clean, orderly, disciplined and active.

In addition to personnel, the Academy has the following:

72 horses

12 colts

17 mules

12 trucks, 2 of which are efficient

1 sedan

8 tractors

6 motorcycles, two of which are efficient, 1 with sidecar

It was stated that the efficient vehicles are used for transportation and for giving driving lessons. Others are used for studying motors and their functioning.

The students consist of men who have had a first year course in northern military academies and are here to complete their course. When they complete the one year course in Lecce they are given leave and are at the disposal of the War Ministry who calls the men to active duty for assignment with a unit at which time they receive their Commission, but not before.

It was referred that there is considerable difficulty in obtaining uniforms and many of the students are therefore dressed in civilian clothes, as verified.

Henry J. Facini

Report Number 45

16 February 1945

Subject: 140 Reggimento Fanteria

Location: Caserma Mass, Lecce

Personnel: 6 Officers

4 EM

63 Civilians

Comdg. O.: Col Gai Vincenzo

Attached is an inventory of the material transferred to the La Rocca Issue Depot, Bari and of the material that has remained because not considered to be of immediate use.

As in the case of the 47 Infantry Regiment, this Regiment has also been ordered to accept men who are EM limited service or awaiting discharge. I was told that the order states that all personnel born within 1921 to 1924 inclusive, even though limited service are to remain in the Army as well as those men of older classes who have families in northern Italy. Here too the men started arriving about the first of February and are increasing daily.

Henry J. Pacini

23  
2 JP

515

Report Number 46

16 February 1945

Subject: Laboratorio Ricuperi  
Location: Via Felice Cavallotti 12, Lecce  
Personnel: 3 Officers  
44 EM  
400 civilians approximately  
Comdg. O.: Capt. Gillo

This is one of the largest, most complete and most efficient repair plants I have visited, in addition to be orderly and very clean. The activities consist of making some new uniforms, which is to be discontinued and repairing Italian and Allied clothing, repairing Allied shoes, at the moment all American, a shop for making the little stars worn by Italian military personnel, repairing mess equipment etc. making and repairing woolen articles such as socks and underwear and a dye plant will be soon ready. From scraps of clothing the shop also makes the flashes worn by Combat Groups and other Italian units and weave branch of service insigna to be placed on headgear.

The Co. O. stated that there is a deficiency of needles, bulbs and other necessary electrical equipment which at present must be purchased on the open market at very high prices. If there is a possibility of obtaining this material through Allied sources it would be well worth the effort because these repair programs appear to be the life blood for dressing Italian military personnel.

One of the officers is also the C.O. of the 9th Reparto di Assistenza, a Headquarters set up to administer 67 EM, 44 who work with the repair plant and 23 who are employed in the Magazzino Vivari and Casermaggio.

Henry J. Pacini



Report Number 47

16 February 1945

Subject: Magazzino Vivari Presidiario  
Magazzino Casermaggio  
Location: Via Brindisi 3, Lecce  
Personnel: 3 Officers  
23 EM  
7 Civilians  
Comdg. O.: Capt. Annichiarico Giuseppe

Attached is an inventory of all casermaggio equipment at this warehouse, located in an old convent, as are the majority of military establishments here in southern Italy. The inventory is divided between equipment in good condition that can be employed at once, equipment that must be repaired and equipment that can no longer be used.

A check was made of the vouchers used by units for obtaining Rf food and appeared to be in order except the Camp at Tricase who drew for 200 but we later found only had 144. They stated that it had already been proposed to draw only 100 rations for the next 15 days to even up the situation, which had recently fluctuated due to officers and men being transferred elsewhere.

Recommendations: It will be noticed that in the inventories submitted for EMs and other casermaggio warehouses there are always a fairly large number of items that can no longer be utilized. These include many towels and sheets that I believe should be turned over to the repair plants already set up or organize new ones which make these torn sheets and towels into something usable such as foot cloths, handkerchiefs and even underwear. Otherwise an alternate plan would be to turn this material over to civilian relief organizations for their use and distribution.

Henry J. Pacini

23  
2 1/2

513

Report Number 48

16 February 1945

Subject: Sezione Staccata d'Artiglieria

Locations: Armeria Ietracchi - Viale degli Studenti - Small arms and helmets  
 Viale Brindisi - French rifles  
 Deposito di Sostentamento - Viale Brindisi - Material to be selected  
 Via Fremata 3 - Saddlery, helmets to be repaired  
 Magazzino Maraggi - Artillery pieces  
 Magazzino Ferrarese - Artillery pieces  
 Via Vecchia San Cesario - Artillery pieces  
 Locali Cerco - Via Lequile - Recently obtained to put under cover  
 material now in the open  
 Via 24 Maggio 5 - Repair shop  
 Via San Cataldo 20 - Ammunition  
 Gallipoli - Ammunition

Personnel: 2 officers  
 55 EN

Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Marazzi Evariatide

Although I was told that this is a comparatively new activity, it has now become one of considerable size and is increasing because many units being dissolved turn in their artillery and ammunition into this depot. There is therefore a considerable amount of equipment that is to be sorted, inspected for efficiency, cleaned and stored into its designated warehouse. What is stored is kept in an efficient manner, well oiled and taken care of and not like Brindisi. The Captain who is now at Lecce told me that he has been ordered to take command of the Artillery Depot at Brindisi as the Colonel now commanding is being relieved or retired. I informed him that the condition of the equipment there and the manner in which it is kept is anything but good.

Attached is a detailed inventory of the artillery and ammunition now located in the above mentioned depots at Lecce including the inventory of that ammunition that is at Gallipoli. It will be noticed that there are large quantities of ammunition, all very well cared for and efficient. The depot at Gallipoli is located in a former Montecatini factory a couple of kilometers outside of town.

It will be also noted that there is a fairly large quantity of rifles, machine guns, artillery pieces and some pack saddles the majority in excellent condition. There are a number of pack saddles that require considerable repairing, for which operation there are no facilities, materials or skilled labor here at Lecce. Considerable attention is being paid to artillery pieces, in fact on the day of the inspection, five skilled workers formerly with the arsenal of Naples ~~EN~~ arrived to assist in the inspection and maintenance of artillery pieces. As in other artillery depots, here too there is a considerable amount of equipment which should find its way into a furnace to be made into something worthwhile for the reconstruction of Italy. The majority of such items are very old and obsolete artillery pieces.

512

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 49

16 February 1945

Subject: Distaccamento 9 Autoreparto Pesante di TarantoLocation: LeccePersonnel: 1 Sergeant Major  
6 Drivers

The vehicles of this unit are at the disposal of the Presidio Comander. There are 7 trucks assigned to this outfit, 5 of which are efficient at the moment. In addition to this it also does minor repairs and some driving for the Garibaldi Div. Base. The Base has 5 trucks, 2 of which are given them by the 9 Autoreparto.

Henry J. Pacini

 $\frac{23}{2}$  JP

9 Trucks from 9 Autoreparto

511

Report Number 50

16 February 1945

Subject : Ospedale Militare "Trizio"

Location: Iccos

Personnel: 20 Medical Officers  
2 Pharmacists  
2 Administrative Officers  
1 Chaplain  
2 Officers performing miscellaneous duties  
198 EM  
15 Sisters  
4 Red Cross workers  
Comd'g. O.: Lt. Col. Manieri

This is a very large, clean and well kept hospital. It is by far the finest that I so far seen of Italian hospitals.

Of the 950 beds, 263 are occupied. Have 2 ambulances.

There are 2 over 60 day patients, authority for retaining them has been duly submitted due to their condition.

There is no clothing or equipment here, other than the normal caseraggle equipment required for the hospital.

Henry J. Pacini

23/2 11/3

Report Number 51

16 February 1945

Subject: Ufficio Staccato Lavori Genio  
Location: Lecce - Via Orsini del Balso 25  
Personnel: 3 Officers  
                  4 EM  
                  7 Civilians  
Comdg. O.: Capt. Bisantis Giuseppe

As in Brindisi, the function of this unit is to obtain requests for construction and repair work from Italian military units, obtain bids from contractors, contract the work to private firms, supervise the work and finally make payments to the contracting firms.

This unit has no supplies of any kind, nor clothing or equipment.

Henry J. Pacini

23/12 pp

1460

Report Number 52

16 February 1945

Subject: Frangione Magazzino Genio

Locations: There are four in this area, located in the following towns:

- Iccce
- Gallipoli
- Maglie
- Novoli

Personnel:

- Iccce - 1 Officer  
15 MM
- Gallipoli - 1 Officer  
14 MM
- Maglie - 1 Maresciallo  
13 MM
- Novoli - 1 Maresciallo  
12 MM

All of the above places were inspected and an inventory obtained attached hereto. It will be noted that the two most important are by far the depot at Iccce and the one at Gallipoli. This latter depot has been transferring its equipment mostly to Iccce, but it is a very slow process and it is estimated that another 100 rail cars will be required for the complete transfer. This is the only depot ordered to transfer.

There is ~~considerable equipment~~ a considerable amount of very valuable equipment at Iccce and Gallipoli, including copper made into every shape such as bars, wire and pieces, telephone wire, barbed wire, steel poles for constructing barbed wire fences, anilina, carburo di calcio, picks, shovels, axes, steel pipes, rubber tubing, aluminum, nuts and bolts, tar, ferro silicio, ghisa etc. We were informed that much of the raw material has been given to the Allies but there is still a considerable quantity that could be put to profitable use, either for military or for civilian use.

The function of the men is mostly to guard the places where the material is located as it is never centralized in one place and also to load and unload material and equipment that is to be transferred or received.

None of the above places had any clothing or equipment, but rather complain of the scarcity of their items.

Henry J. Pacini

508

23/12 9/45

Report Number 53

16 February 1945

Subject: 47 Reggimento ArtiglieriaLocation: CopertinoPersonnel: 3 Officers

6 EN

50 Civilians

Attached is an inventory of the equipment transferred to the La Rocca Issue Depot at Bari and a separate inventory of what now remains in the warehouse. In addition to this there is the following:

- 1 - 75 mm artillery piece
- 80 - rifles
- 6 - machine guns
- 6,000 rounds of rifle ammunition
- 2,000 rounds of machine gun ammunition

The artillery equipment is to be turned in to Lecce, but the Col. Commanding wants to keep the artillery piece for reasons of instruction, but no one seems to know whom he is to instruct. My recommendation is to remove the artillery out of Copertino also.

As of the day of the inspection, there were also 34 men attached because this Regiment is their matriculation center and they are classified as limited service. This is the same situation as exists in other Regimental depots reported on in previous reports.

There are also 10 horses at this Hdq. some of which have been returned recently by farmers that kept them for some time, as is the policy of the Italian Army when the horses are not being used. As the horses are not being used by the Army and the local farmers don't want them, I would recommend that they be utilized by the Army elsewhere or turned over to the Agricultural Sub-Commission of AG for disposal elsewhere.

In addition to the above recommendations, I again propose that the remainder of the Commissariato equipment left here be turned into a central depot rather than left in this out of the way place where it is serving no purpose whatsoever. This would make these Regimental Hdqs. a purely administrative unit of those men who have their matriculation center here.

Henry J. Pacini

507

23/2 H

Report Number 54

19 February 1945

Subject: 34 Compagnia TelegrafistaLocations: Headquarters at Maglie

Other units at Lecce, Ugento, Francavilla, Brindisi, Taranto and Bari

Personnel: 9 Officers, 3 of which are at Maglie and one in each of the units

224 EM

72 EM are attached for rations and administration

15 EM are attached for rations only

Comdg. O.: Capt. Sisti Rinaldo

Although this Company is classified as ITI-ITI it does a considerable amount of work for the Allies whenever requested to do so. The principal duty is the upkeep of the telephone network south of Bari as well as the removal of those lines that are no longer needed. This Company also has four trucks which are distributed as follows:

- 1 at Ugento
- 1 at Maglie
- 1 at Taranto
- 1 at Francavilla

These trucks are employed for transporting line units wherever there is any necessity.

The status of the 72 men attached for rations and administration is quite confusing. The following are the details as told me:

- 11 are men from Trani formerly with pigeon outfits, are now at Maglie not doing anything.
- 21 are assigned to the 48th Infantry (Castellana) but work at Taranto. The 48th Infantry is to have, as per the most recent regulations a total of 5 Officers.
- 3 are working at Bernalda on Engineer work but are assigned to the 139th Infantry (Conversano).
- 1 is stationed at the warehouse of the 9th Genio in Taranto.
- 5 are effective at Trani but work with pigeon outfit in Lecce and are fed from Gallipoli. Are these being rationed twice? I have been unable to find a pigeon outfit here in Lecce.
- 1 works with a pigeon outfit in Brindisi under the supervision of the Allies. This man is effective at Trani.

Henry J. Pacini

23/29/45  
506



Report Number 55

19 February 1945

Subject: Centro Militari Provenienti Prigionieri di Guerra e Oltre Mare.

Location: Tricase

Personnel: 19 Officers

125 EM

Attached: 26 Carabinieri

Comdg. O.: Col Marino Gerolamo

Although this unit is not up to full strength, the T/O calls for a Regimental set-up. Due to the small amount of overseas personnel that is sent here, the C.O. has not asked for replacements as the Officers or men were transferred.

The camp has sufficient space, in the form of requisitioned buildings to care for 860 men. At the time of the visit there were 40 refugees. The Colonel stated that he has brought this situation to the attention of the War Ministry in November but was told to retain the present organization for eventual increase in arrivals.

The situation here is analogous to the other camps visited, namely large staffs with practically nothing to do.

There is no clothing or equipment here, only the necessary casermaggio equipment for the number of places in the camp. As a matter of fact the men stationed here are very badly in need of clothing and shoes.

Henry J. Pacini

505

Report Number 56

16 February 1945

Subject : Commissione Interrogatrice dei Prigionieri di GuerraLocation : Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, LeccePersonnel : 13 Officers, 2 of which are Generals

38 EM

Comdg. General : General Romano

The purpose of this Commission is to interrogate all officers and regular Army Non-Coms returning from Allied Prisoner of War Camps. About 15 days ago the work of interrogating military personnel coming from German camps and from the Balkans was turned over to a newly organized Commission with Headquarters in Bari.

This Commission has examined a total of over 3000 officers and Non-Coms, not a very great number. Detailed records of the interrogations and statements are forwarded to the War Ministry for final disposition, perhaps the lack of numbers may be somewhat compensated for the responsibility of the work assigned to this Commission. However, they are not overworked.

Henry J. Pacini

23/2/45

504

Report Number 57

19 February 1945

Subject: Sezione Autonoma, Tribunale Militare di LecceLocation: LeccePersonnel: 21 Army Officers

29 Army EM

Comdg. O. Navy Captain

This Military Tribunal is rather strangely organized. It is under the Navy yet the Navy has ONLY a personnel of only 5 officers all the rest being the above mentioned Army personnel, who draw their rations from the Navy. The cases tried are of personnel belonging to any of the three services, namely Army, Navy or Air Corps plus civilians who have performed thefts etc. against the Allies.

As in the case of the Bari Tribunal, so this Tribunal is very far behind in its cases. I was told that they are about 12,000 cases behind of which about 6,000 are cases of desertion.

Whether or not such an organization is authorized, under the apparent camouflage of the Navy, I do not know. The Army personnel is finding it impossible however to obtain any items of clothing from Issue Depots, as a result of which they are in very bad condition as verified.

Henry J. Pacini

27/2/45

503

MAED V LAEE NR 55

10 FEB 1945



FROM MHA 090941A

TO 54 AREA

ORX SR 42 JT

ORD/85 RESTRICTED

*Handwritten:* H. H. V. MOST A. P. C.

FOR MHA LO FOR RACINI . REVISIT CHEMICAL DEPOT AGGUAVIVA DELLE  
FRONTI . DETERMINE EXACTLY AS POSSIBLE TYPES AND NUMBER OF SERVICEABLE  
GAS CAPES ON HAND . INSPECT UNSERVICEABLE LOTS TO DETERMINE ACTUAL  
SERVICEABILITY . REPORT FINDINGS BY LETTER . SEE MAJOR BRID FURTHER  
DETAILS

JT 090941A

502

SENT RL

T 35 in model of gas mask ready for Napoli - 1 1/2 cubic meters  
for each 1,000 - 18 cubic feet meters for 12,000 - 1 car load only

Scarpe - 392 + 4 + 206 = 602 - all good

Vestito tipo Sardegna - 250 + 136 <sup>not classified</sup> = 386 - all good  
with hood, but not shoes + gloves - 386 gloves - 164 not efficient

Vestito Modello 30 - this is a one piece outfit complete with  
gloves + shoes + hood. <sup>because worn at control,  
under arms + extra leg  
ribs</sup>

209 + 5 + = 214

Chemical service at <sup>Via Carro</sup> ~~Castel~~ Lorenziano in Rome

Scanzano Bel Trone,  
Province de Perugia  
large laboratory

Sanzio di Santa  
Cinzia Generale de Santa  
Igiene Chimica  
T-Col. Rampello

6/10/71  
M/M/A  
to paper  
11/10/71

Land Forces Sub Comm.  
A C (MMIA)  
11 February 1945  
-----

Reference your telegram ORD/85 dated 9 February.

Visited today the Chemical Depot at Acquaviva delle Fonti and found that there are no capes as such, but rather rubber suits in either one or two pieces as described in detail below:

Vestito tipo Sardegna - An all rubber uniform of excellent material consisting of hip length jacket with zipper, trousers, hood that drops over the shoulders, gloves and medium length boots, strong and well made. Of the above type uniform there is the following:

Jacket, trousers and hood	250 efficient
" " " "	136 not classified mostly good
" " " "	164 not efficient because worn at the crotch and under the arms.
Gloves	386 efficient

Vestito modello 30 - An all rubber one piece garment complete with gloves, foot wear and hood. This is not as well made nor is the material as good as the above described Sardegna type.

There are 214 complete sets of this type uniform.

I tried to obtain pictures of this equipment but there was none at the Depot. It was suggested that a visit be made to the Direzione Generale di Sanità, Lt: Col. Rampello who is in charge of the Sezione Chimica for further information regarding depots in other parts of Italy and pictures of the equipment. This office is located in Via Castro Lorenziano, Rome. It was brought to my attention that before WW and during the war a large laboratory existed at Soanano Bel Fiore, Provincia di Perugia.

Although the quantities are small, the equipment could be utilized for wear against the elements, particularly the hood and jacket of the Sardegna type uniform and the rubber boots. The trousers could be worn by engineer troops used in the construction of bridges.

501  
*Henry J. Pacini*  
Henry J. Pacini

1489

785020

Report Number 39

1 February 1945

Subject: Parco Automobilistico d'Armata

Location: Mesagne

Personnel: 19 Officers

296 EM

Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Mercante

This is a more complete automotive activity than the 9th Autieri. Its main purpose is to completely overhaul the wrecks that are sent there and after this operation, place the good cars at the disposal of the War Ministry. In fact, the C.O. informed me that about 10 days ago 40 reconditioned cars were sent directly to Rome on War Ministry authority.

The routine of the operations is almost identical to that of the 9th Autieri as explained in Report Number 11. Briefly: cars are sent here, inspected by the personnel of the Parco, those cars that are no longer usable are taken completely apart and the used parts stored. Others, that are to be reconditioned, are first completely overhauled, and then have the necessary replacements made. The Parco has large mechanical shops for reconditioning motors, upholstery shop, electrical work shop, wood working shop, tire repair shop, a Diesel engine dept., a motor testing dept. and a shop equipped with lathes for the making of its own parts.

The Parco averages about 70 cars repaired and reconditioned per month, a large percentage of which is major reconditioning work.

The activity has ~~EM~~ 14 rather small depots for the storing of new and used parts, efficient and non-efficient tires, wood for the making of body parts, distilled water and battery acid and heavy canvas for trucks.

A time inventory will be sent to Rome before the 7th of February as ordered.

At present there are about 300 cars and trucks, including those that are to be reconditioned and those that are being taken apart for parts.

Henry J. Pacini

*1/2 1/2 File*

500

Report Number 38

1 February 1945

Subject: 48 Reggimento Fanteria

Location: Castellana

Personnel: 4 Officers

6 MM

Civilians - unknown

This is another regimental hdqs. that had a fair sized clothing and equipment depot.

All the clothing and equipment that could be put to immediate use was moved at once. The attached inventories furnish an exact figure of the quantities moved and of the equipment that has been left at Castellana because not considered to be of immediate use.

Being the senior officer, Col. Calvi, the C.O. of the 48 Reggimento Fanteria also has supervision of the Campo Sosta that is located nearby, covered by Report Number 27.

Henry J. Pacini

*1/2 R file*

499



Report Number 37

1 February 1945

Subject: Il Reggimento Artiglieria  
Location: Corato  
PERSONNEL: 6 Officers  
          1 PM  
          84 civilians  
Comdg. O.: It. Col Aloisi Giovanni

At the time of the inspection, this unit had a large and orderly depot containing large quantities of equipment that can be immediately used, the majority of which is absolutely new.

There is attached, two inventories, one of the clothing and equipment that has been transferred into the La Rocca Depot, Bari and the other of equipment that has been left at the Depot because not considered to be of immediate use.

Few transfers had taken place within the past several months. The organization, as is the case with the other Regimental Hqs., is exclusively engaged in maintaining the personnel and financial records of its own and the many other units that have been transferred to it upon War Ministry order.

Henry J. Pacini

*1/2 R. File*

1473

785020

Report Number 36

1 February 1945

Subject: 225 Reggimento Panteria

Location: Monopoli

Personnel: 6 Officers

4 BM

Comdg. O.: Col. Vasco Vittorio

The inspection here revealed that the 225th had under its control a clothing and equipment depot, a casermaggio depot and an artillery depot.

The following was ordered and executed:

- (a) The casermaggio depot was transferred completely to the principal depot in Bari. Attached is an inventory of the material transferred.
- (b) The items of immediate use in the clothing and equipment depot have been transferred to the La Rocca depot in Bari. Attached is an inventory of the items transferred and a separate inventory of what now remains there.
- (c) An inventory of the artillery depot was taken and is attached. None of the artillery equipment has been transferred.

During the inspection it was noticed that there was a quantity of Italian uniforms stored in the depot that needed repairing. Upon questioning it was stated that this depot, as undoubtedly are others, is authorized by the War Ministry or Commissariato in Bari to have uniforms belonging to personnel of nearby units tailored and mended and repaired by a civilian tailor with whom they contract.

Recommendations: In view of the centralized repair program now in execution it is recommended that the War Ministry issue an order to have such a practice discontinued and ordering that torn uniforms may be exchanged for usable ones. ~~BMX~~ The torn uniforms will then be repaired under the present repair system.

Henry J. Pacini

*1/2 file*

Report Number 35

1 February 1945

Subject: 139 Reggimento Fanteria  
Location: Conversano  
Personnel: 5 Officers  
5 NM  
52 civilians  
Comdg. O.: Col. Rivelli

This Headquarters was found to have a clothing and equipment depot. All the equipment has been transferred from this depot into the La Rocca depot, Bari and a detailed inventory obtained as the items were loaded. XXAN inventory of all the equipment transferred is attached.

The reason for the considerable personnel is that the 139th is being used as the matriculation center of many units and it falls upon the 139th to keep accurate personnel and financial records of the members of those units they have been ordered to concentrate under their command.

Henry J. Pacini

File

Report Number 34

1 February 1945

Subject: Parco Autogusti  
Location: Acquaviva delle Fonti  
Personnel: 1 Maresciallo  
3 EM

This unit is under the 9th Autieri and its function is merely to store old vehicles that are no longer serviceable. There are 58 such vehicles here, the majority of which still have the motor. It was stated that the 9th Autieri occasionally withdraw the cars and trucks or motors and utilize them on their salvage program. All tires had been removed from the vehicles.

A fair quantity of tires were found stored in this location, so arrangements were made and have been effected for the removal of all tires to the Fire Depot at Binetto. The attached is a detailed list of the 121 tires that were transferred yesterday. The tires will be sorted and selected at Binetto due to the fact that such selection had not been made at Acquaviva. Some of the tires are not in usable condition.

Henry J. Pecini

1/2 943

Report Number 33

30 January 1945

Subject : Deposito Materiali di Artiglieria  
Locations: Via Castello 246 - Brindisi - Artillery, small arms and automatics  
Polveriera Montenegro - Balistite  
Deposito ex Batteria Garaffa - Artillery Ammunition  
Deposito ex Batteria Lauria - Artillery ammunition, grenades  
Polveriera Lauria - Cariche di lancio  
Villa Chiodi - Small arms ammunition

Personnel: 1 Officer  
43 EM

Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Menno

The above Artillery depots have large quantities of equipment. The attached stock status reports show the present material broken down between ammunition and artillery for all depots combined.

The ammunition is well stored and kept with care. However, the artillery equipment is not properly taken care of. As an example, rifles and automatic weapons are not oiled and have a heavy coating of rust and the barrels are pitted. The C.O. is about to be retired, and that may be the reason for this apparent abandon. The artillery depots are not as orderly as they should be with the inevitable result that the material is suffering a rapid rate of deterioration.

As in the depot at Bari there is much useless equipment that will never be utilized and can only be melted for the manufacture of something necessary.

Henry J. Pacini

30  
1  
JK

Report Number 32

30 January 1945

Subject: Lavori Genio - Ufficio DistaccatoLocation: Corso Garibaldi 12, BrindisiPersonnel: 4 Officers

9 EM

Comdg. O. : Maj. Favero Amedeo

On visiting this office it was found that they only are concerned with construction and repair work, the latter being about the only active part. Repair and construction is leased out to private firms, therefore the work merely consists of accepting or rejecting work asked for by military units and then finding a contractor that will execute it, following it up with the necessary supervision.

This office also controls the requisitioning and derequisitioning of property for the Allies.

Henry J. Facini

Report Number 31

30 January 1945

Subject: Magazzino Viveri, Foraggi, Casermaggio e CombustibiliLocation: BrindisiPersonnel: 2 Officers

43 MM distributed as follows:

19 at the repair shop

6 guards

11 magazzino viveri

4 deposito legna

2 ufficio distaccamento

1 casermaggio

Comdg. O.: Lt. Manala

The most important activity by far is the Casermaggio depot, that is well kept and orderly. The attached inventory illustrates the large quantities of important equipment that are stored there. Issues, since the first part of December, when the present officer took charge, are practically negligible. It would take approximately 20 trucks to move the items checked, which do not include the heavy quantities of vegetable wool and pure wool used for the manufacture of mattresses, done in Bari.

Recommendations: As this depot is located so far south, it may be advisable to move the entire depot to a more convenient locality up north when the proper time arrives, by north meaning further north than Bari.

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 30

30 January 1945

Subject: Capedale MilitareLocation: BitontoPersonnel: 13 Officers

55 EM

8 Sisters

This military hospital has 268 beds, 94 of which were occupied. There are 10 over 60 day patients that, they claimed, they have been trying to evacuate but have not been successful due to lack of transportation. They were told to get in touch with the central office in Bari and obtain the necessary transportation there as the policy is to be complied with.

The hospital has the necessary supplies, both medical and casermaggio, but no clothing or personal equipment.

Henry J. Pacinski

3/1/45 File

490  
491



Report Number 29

30 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Materiale Militare

Location: Bitonto

Personnel: 4 Officers

19 EN

Comdg. O.: Captain

This depot has rather large quantities of medical equipment, much of it deriving from Allied sources. It distributes to all medical establishments within and outside of the Territorial Command. It also has a motor fuel depot which distributes gasoline to ambulances.

There is no clothing or personal equipment in this depot.

The depot is provided with three cars for the purpose of hauling.

No inventory of the items in stock was obtained.

Henry J. Pacini

1480

Report Number 28

29 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Gomma - 9 Autieri

Location: Binetto

Personnel: 1 Officer

10 MM

Comdg. O.: 2nd Lt. Albano Vincenzo

The attached inventory gives a breakdown, between tires and tubes - usable and needing repair - that are located at this depot. It does not show about 600 tires and tubes that have been recently sent there and have not yet been selected and placed in their respective categories. I was informed that these 600 tires and tubes came from cars that have been salvaged by the 9 Autieri and about 250 were recently transferred from a depot at Acquaviva. The latter has about 110 additional tires which will be moved by the trucks assigned to me and an accurate inventory of these attached to the report on that particular activity.

The localities are carefully guarded and have been made fairly suitable for the storing of these tires. No repair work is carried on here.

This unit administratively depends from 9 Autieri but tires are issued only upon Ministry of War authorization.

Recommendations: The inventory brings out that many tires could be employed if the facilities for repairing them were made available. As brought out in previous reports, it would seem advisable to undertake the repair and vulcanization of tires due to the fact that there are cars and trucks not being employed because of this deficiency.

Henry J. Pacini

31/1/45 File

Report Number 27

29 January 1945

Subject: Campo Sosta  
Location: Castellana  
Personnel: 3 Officers  
5 EM  
Comdg. O.: Lt. Colonel

This camp was recently set up to accept the excess of military personnel coming from the Balkans. It is large enough to hold 400 men and has the necessary casermaggio equipment for the purpose. However, there has never been any one sent to this camp and very likely no one ever will, due to the fact that the number of incoming personnel is decreasing, according to the latest reports.

Recommendation: That the need of this and other similar camps be investigated. By eliminating such camps it would free, for more useful employment, both men and considerable casermaggio equipment.

Henry J. Pacini

31

A.E.

Closed

488

Report Number 26

29 January 1945

Subject: 1008 Reparto Autieri per AA

Location: Conversano

Personnel: 9 Officers

158 EM of which 80 are to ~~learn~~ learn to drive

This unit is organized for the purpose of teaching men how to drive, that are destined for Allied formations. They have been inactive now for some time due to the lack of cars and trucks on which to learn.

The unit is 4 Officers overstrength.

Officers and men are anxious to be relieved of their inactivity forced upon them by the lack of vehicles.

Henry J. Pacini

*3/1/45* File

487

1483

785020

Report Number 25

29 January 1945

Subject: Magazzino Chimico  
Location: Acquaviva delle Fonti  
Personnel: 1 Officer  
16 EN

This depot stores and salvages Chemical Warfare material. There is another depot at Altamura that depends on the one at Acquaviva.

99% of the salvage work is done on gas masks that are being checked one by one and either put into use, if possible or discarded. A final check is made by an authorized officer from the Servizio Chimico.

An exact inventory of this depot was not taken. The following are the items of which there are large quantities:

- 50,000 gas masks of which 20,000 are efficient.
- 7657.5 kgs. of cloruro di calce at Acquaviva
- 6400 kgs. of cloruro di calce at Altamura
- 9250 kgs. of liquido nebbiogeno
- 5980 kgs. of Iprite

The remaining material is in smaller quantities and much of it consists of parts for gas masks and gas proof capes, that are not being utilized.

Recommendations: In the case of urgent need, the gas proof capes could be used as rain capes.

Henry J. Pacini

31/1/45 H.J.P.

485

486

Report Number 24

29 January 1945

Subject: Ospedale Militare

Location: Gioia del Colle

Personnel: 12 Officers

79 EM

46 EM are attached

Comdg. O.: Major

The hospital has the necessary casermaggio equipment, but no clothing or equipment. With reference to this, the Director pointed out that considerable difficulty was experienced at the time patients were discharged from the hospital as they, at times, enter the hospital lacking items of clothing that cannot be given them for the return trip to their unit or replacement camp.

The hospital has 338 beds of which 207 were occupied at the time of the visit on 18 January.

There were no over 60 day patients.

Another deficiency that hospitals particularly complained of was the scarcity of electric bulbs. The bulbs are very seldom ever issued so they are at times purchased on the open market to meet some of the more pressing needs at very high prices - between 200 and 300 Lire a piece, I was told. At this hospital the Director had the remaining ones locked up in his own desk and maintained personal supervision of them.

Henry J. Pacini

34 1/2 File

1485

Report Number 23

29 January 1945

Subject: Frazione Magazzino Genio  
Location: Gioia del Colle  
Personnel: 1 Officer  
22 EM  
Comdg. O.: Captain

The enlisted personnel is divided as follows:  
12 between the office and the Engineer Depot  
10 at the Ammunition depot.

The attached inventory reveals that there are fair quantities of material that could be put to immediate use, namely: insulators, picks, shovels, plain and barbed wire, telephone wire and detonating material used for engineer purposes.

Quantities of material are still coming in from Canosa di Puglia as this depot is closing down.

The localities are adequate though not good. The material is kept in fairly good condition, selection and oiling of the incoming material is proceeding regularly.

Recommendation: The only recommendation that could be made would be to try and put this material into use, if this is practical at the moment.

Henry J. Pacini

31/1 PD File

482  
483

Report Number 22

29 ~~XXX~~ January 1945

Subject: Laboratorio Militare Ricupera

Location: Fasano

Personnel: 1 Officer

32 EM

370 Civilians

This is a large salvage workshop used to repair shoes and clothing. The visit here was very brief because there is constant supervision from Bari and the materials that are sent there and returned are closely checked.

The shops are well organized, the personnel kept busy.

Henry J. Pacini

3/1/45 R. L.

482

481



Report Number 21

29 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Carburante e Lubrificante di MonopoliLocation: MonopoliPersonnel: 1 Officer

14 EM

5 Civilians

All of the above are stationed in Monopoli, the civilian personnel consists of specialists who work wherever needed.

In addition there are eight EM at each of the subsidiary Depots.

Comdg. O.: Capt. Camasso

The main and subsidiary depots are administratively under the 9th Artieri, but issues are made only upon direct authorization from the Ministry of War.

The main depot consists of 17 large underground tanks that have a total capacity of 17,000 cubic meters. As there are now issues of gasoline and no receipts the tanks are mostly empty. This, in addition to a larger and more modern one now used by Allied Forces, was once one of the principal depots of the Italian Army for their overseas units. In fact there is direct communication with the port for loading and unloading of gasoline.

The depots are orderly and well kept. We inspected one of the empty tanks and it was clean and ready for use at a moments notice.

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 20

21/1/45 20 January 1945

File

Subject: Tribunale Militare

Personnel: 41 Officers  
62 EMI of which 20 are orderlies  
2 civilians

The presiding judge is a General, whereas the chief of the Procura, where the technical and preparatory work is done, is a Colonel.

I obtained a copy of the attached report because of the interesting figures reflecting the state of desertions. The large number reflects the total that have been denounced as deserters not necessarily in arrest. They are being sought and when found, arrested and brought to trial. The figures show that at the beginning of the month of December there were 13,982 men on the books denounced as deserters. During the month an additional 2,836 were recorded as deserters. Also during the month 19 were brought to trial, 270 charges dropped, 98 are in process of being brought to trial. The month ends therefore with the increased figure of 16,470 men recorded on the books as deserters. It was frankly stated that this situation is growing increasingly worse with each successive month and no way is in sight of improving it. This is caused by the long, drawn out technicalities of the law and the slow pace of legal procedure.

The majority of other crimes are those committed against the Allies and these are given priority over all other cases.

If Bari is a gauge of the conditions that exist throughout Italy, it may be found that there are more deserters than there are men in the Armed Forces.

While on this subject, it may be advisable to note that the students of Bari have already started demonstrations against the next call-up. The general tone of these demonstrations calls for clarification on Italy's position after the war, more specifically the publication of the Armistice terms.

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 19

2/1/45 20 January 1945 File

Subject: Direzione Lavori Genio  
Locations: Via San Benedetto 15 (Hdqs.)  
 Via Petroni 14  
 Via Isonzo 22  
 Via Montegrappa 56-60  
 Corso Sicilia 129 and 133  
 Via San Francesco  
 Via Dieta di Bari (laboratory)  
Comdg. O.: Col Torelli

Attached is a complete list of Engineer equipment both ready for use and needing repair that is located in Bari. The warehouses are crowded with equipment much of which could be put to use, such as large quantities of entrenching tools, picks, axes, shovels, wheel barrows, locks, sledge hammers, cleavers, telephone wire, plain and barbed wire, and many other. In addition there are, as indicated by the attached report, large quantities of material that need repair such as switch boards, about 1000 telephone for field use, and over 400 kilometers of telephone wire. In the laboratory there are only a few mechanics that are slowly repairing some of the material, one repairing telephone sets and a few repairing shovels, picks etc..

Recommendations: As much of the equipment is in good condition it could be put to immediate use. As pointed out in the preceding report greater impetus could be given to the repairing of this equipment if such a program is worth the effort, and the material absolutely needed. Special consideration would be required in the question of wages due to the technical nature of this and artillery equipment. The one man repairing telephone sets stated that he could make many times the present salary in private industry but was staying on because he was shortly due to be pensioned and did not want to lose the accrued benefits.

Henry J. Pacini

1490

Report Number 18

2/9/45  
20 January 1945

File

Subject: Sezione Staccata di Artiglieria  
Locations: See attached report  
Personnel: See attached report  
Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Turino Paolo

This detached section is under the jurisdiction of the Hdqs. located in Taranto.

The Warehouses containing artillery equipment are scattered within and around the city of Bari and in some farm houses that are difficult to approach. At the moment this is not an inconvenience because there is not much movement of material. The warehouses are well kept, the material taken care of and precautions taken to assure the maximum safety. To cite an example, the rifles are stored in a warehouse that leads on to a ~~xxxx~~ busy street, the only entrance to it is a corrugated metal door which in itself is not too secure. For this reason all the bolts of the pieces have been taken out and stored elsewhere. The same precaution was taken at Monopoli by the 225th Reggimento Fanteria as will be brought out in a subsequent report.

Some of the material that can be immediately employed are rifles, machine guns, small caliber cannons, pack howitzers, pack saddles (a number of which are in need of repairs), binoculars, compasses, fire direction instruments and a few watches.

Repair work is being carried, in a very reduced scale on ammunition and artillery equipment, particularly small arms.

Recommendations: Recommendations for this type of equipment are rather difficult to make. One recommendation, if it is deemed necessary to make use of this equipment, would be to intensify the repair program with the purpose in mind of eventually employing it otherwise it is useless. Another recommendation would be to set up a foundry and melt much of the equipment for the making of steel items required for the reconstruction of important steel items but the quantity of steel derived would be quite small. There are old artillery pieces that can never be utilized, one that particularly stands out ~~is~~ are three Russian cannons, very large, that were sold to the Italian Army by the Germans but for which ammunition was never made and are very difficult to transport. There are artillery pieces used in the last war and never again utilized and many inefficient pieces because they lack essential parts.

Henry J. Pacini 478

Report Number 17

15 January 1945

Subject: Commissione Interrogatorie Reduci della SalceziaLocation: Via Carruba 3Personnel: 6 Officers

10 EM

Comm. O.: Col. Gentile Mario

The purpose of this Commission is simply to question every man that returns from the Balkans and obtain a statement from him of his activity since Sept. 1943. In addition personal information concerning the man is obtained for War Ministry records. Should the activities of the man be suspicious he is turned over to GIB for further questioning, thereby reducing the responsibilities of this Commission to one of a screening Agency. With the exception of the high rank of the C.O. which seems not called for, the activities of this Commission appear justified as it is apparently the only unit that performs this activity.

From Dec. 16 to Dec. 31 it examined 2215 men. It has never found any collaborators with the Germans because Allied sources get them before releasing them for questioning by this agency.

Henry J. Pacini

15/1 9/15

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File

Report Number 16

15 January 1945

Subject: Distretto Militare di Bari  
Location: via San Francesco  
Personnel: 8 officers  
2 Carabinieri  
100 civilians approximately  
Comdg. C.: Col. Di Monte Antonio

On the day of the visit, 14 January, the District offices were preparing all that will be necessary for the forthcoming call up. This included barracks, blankets, mess gear and additional temporary personnel for the forming of a unit to handle the inductees.

The District no longer has any storerooms of its own, everything having been turned in a long time ago. Its principal activity at the moment being the preparation and maintenance of records for the payment of subsidies to the families of those who are PWs, are still in occupied areas, in the Balkans etc..

Henry J. Pasini

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JP

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Report Number 15

15 January 1945

File

Subject: Compagnia PresidiariaPersonnel & Officers

115 M

Comdg. O.: Lt. Verbo

This Company provides for the services of the Bari Presidio. It has no automotive equipment, but instead has 110 horses and mules with carts with which they provide much of the transportation. In addition the men do guard duty, act as waiters, etc.

The Company is located in barracks at the outskirts of the city. They are in good health, work willingly and the C.O. stated that there has been no trouble in the couple of months that he has taken over.

They have the necessary casermaggio equipment but are especially short of shoes and overcoats, and therefore the overcoats are allotted only to those doing guard duty in the open. The mess is good, but the kitchen facilities bad and could be easily remedied with a bit of initiative as brought out.

Henry J. Poinel

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Report Number 14

15 January 1945

File

Subject: Centro Alloggio Numero 1 (formerly Campo Sesta e Contunacia)

Location: Approximately 1 1/2 hrs from Bari.

Personnel: 8 Officers

35 MM

Comdg. O.: A Lt. Col. whose name I didn't get.

This is a reception center for men coming from overseas - the Balkans, Africa, India etc.. They are washed, disinfected, examined and disposed of as soon as possible to their ultimate destinations. Men are generally not held for over 5 days.

At the time of the inspection there were only 30 transients in the camp. It is equipped to handle as many as 850 and have the necessary casermaggio equipment for this purpose. The number in the camp fluctuates strongly but I could not get evidence of very large numbers ever being there except once when they had over 1000 for a period of a few days. This was made necessary by the fact that the C.O. insisted that he needed more personnel, whereas the situation is precisely the reverse.

Henry J. Pacini

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785020

File

Report Number 13

15 January 1945

Subject: Military Prison

Location: Corso Sicilia

Personnel: The only military personnel is a small guard detachment drawn from the Compagnia Presidiaria.

The military prisoners are the following:

Serving sentences: 120

Appealed and waiting further trial: 45

Waiting trial: 137

The inspection here consisted of talking to military prisoners to get first hand information as to their treatment and obtain any interesting information.

The situation is anything but good. There are men in prison who have been held for as much as a year and not yet been either interrogated or tried. They are in there apparently completely forgotten.

One man, in prison for the past six months, is held on the charge of desertion while working for the Allies and has documents to prove the same.

Another, in prison for a year and not yet tried, was picked up and held as a deserter as of the time of the Fascist regime.

Eight ~~xxx~~ have been held for approximately a year, have not been brought to trial, and were denounced for stealing by a person known to be ~~insane~~ insane.

Another has been in prison for six months, not yet brought to trial, on the charge of insubordination.

Another was picked up and, he states, arbitrarily held as a deserter because he lost all of his official documents while in the Balkans. When I asked the Director, a retired Army Officer, whether attempts had been made to write to the man's military district to correct the situation, the reply was very evasive.

I felt the above to offer sufficient cross section of the situation that exists among the military prisoners.

The present law provides that a prisoner cannot volunteer for combat duty until he has been tried. All those I spoke to requested that they be brought to trial at the earliest so that they could have an opportunity to volunteer. This with the exception of those that are still Fascists and there still are some.

The prison is very clean, the cells orderly. The men sleep on straw mattresses placed on the floor, receive one meal per day.

The biggest and most crying need is clothing, particularly shoes, and medical supplies, this latter for the entire prison not only for the military prisoners.

Henry J. Pacini

473

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1496

File

Report Number 12

15 January 1945

Subject: 147th Autoreparto Pesante  
Location: Dante Alighieri  
Strength: 6 Officers  
147 E M including the detachment at Brindisi

As of 12 Jan., the day of the inspection, this unit had the following cars:

- Efficient trucks - 58
- Not efficient - 6
- Need only tires and batteries - 14

This unit provides the bulk of the transportation for the Direzione Automobilistica. It is organized in the form of a Company, the C. O. being a Captain. The majority of repairs are taken care of by their own small shop, some performed by the 9th Autieri.

In addition to the difficulties found in obtaining tires and batteries this unit also has a number of Citroen trucks, some not efficient and that cannot be repaired unless parts are found.

The situation ~~is~~ of this unit is the same as that of the 9th Autieri, namely a fair percentage of cars could be put on the road by the mere issue of tires and batteries and on the basis of this it is suggested that details be obtained with the purpose in mind of meeting this deficiency.

The unit is efficiently organized, the officers and men know their business. Practically all from Milano and surrounding towns and ~~area~~ have been in the automotive industry all their life.

The unit storeroom had no excess clothing, only the necessary casermaggio equipment.

Henry J. Pacini

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Report Number 11

14 January 1945

*File*

Subject: 9th Raggruppamento Autieri  
Locations: Caserma Vittorio Emanuele - Via Tanzio . Contains Hdqs.,  
garages, B type shop, new and used parts storeroom.  
A type shop, Via Gendar  
Salvage Section, Via Brigata Bari  
Irreparable cars, Via Carbonara  
Personnel: 25 officers  
281 E M  
60 civilians  
Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Barbone

As of 12 Jan., the day of the inspection, this unit had the following cars:

Efficient - 27  
Not efficient - 102  
In German hands - 10

In addition to the above there are about 400 cars and trucks, as shown by the census report a copy of which was sent to MMIA Rome, that either cannot be repaired or need major repairs.

The use of all efficient vehicles of the 9th Autieri as well as the 147th Autoreparto Pesante (see separate report) is controlled by the Direzione Automobilistica with offices in the Hdqs. of Bari Territorial Command, the specific office known as the Autoreparto d'Esercizio.

As Italian Army vehicles are found, they are sent to the 9th Autieri, where they are inspected. Those that cannot be repaired are sent to Via Carbonara, completely ~~disassembled~~ disassembled and the usable parts stored in the parts storeroom. Those that have to be repaired are sent to one of the two repair shops and as soon as they are placed into operation the Ministry of War is informed and disposition ordered.

The locations were very orderly, the men busy repairing cars that are in really bad condition.

Recommendations: A percentage of the not efficient vehicles and of the 400 could be put into operation if tires and batteries could be provided. In view of the difficult transportation situation detailed investigations with this purpose in mind sounds advisable.

It was brought out that some tires could be obtained from Allied sources and vulcanized if the local Ianiri firm could be requisitioned and the necessary vulcanizing material be obtained also through Allied sources. The above mentioned firm has a capacity of from 40 to 50 tires per day. The success of the clothing and shoe repair program makes me think that this would be also worth while.

Henry J. Pacini

14/99

1498

785020

Ditts

Report Number 10

14 January 1945

Subject: Military Medical Installations in Bari

Locations: Ispettorato di Sanità  
Direzione Sanità  
Ospedale Principale Militare  
" Balilla  
" Del Prete

9th Compagnia di Sanità  
84th Reparto Autoambulanze

Personnel: See attached report for entire Territorial Command, which shows the T/O, the strength and the difference. The records of the units in Bari correspond, the rest will be checked as inspections are made.

Commanding O.: Col. Felsani, Director of Sanità  
Col. in charge of Ospedale Principale  
Lt. Col. in charge of Balilla and Del Prete  
Capt. in charge of 9th Compagnia

There are 20 ambulances, distributed as follows:

- 8 in Bari
- 6 in Bari being repaired
- 1 at Bisceglie
- 1 at Molfetta
- 1 at Gioia del Colle
- 1 at Mesagne
- 1 at Lecce
- 1 at Palo del Colle

The ambulances are under control of the 84th Reparto Autoambulanze.

The Balilla and Del Prete hospitals have over 60 day patients, all of which will be moved within the next few days to the two locations assigned by the authorities.

The store rooms of these units contained a sufficient quantity of casermaggio equipment but no excess clothing.

Recommendations: The Director of Sanità requested that I recommend that train cases be sent directly to the hospital in Lecce instead of Bari as at present. This would facilitate operations in Bari and avoid further removals from Bari to Lecce.

Henry J. Pacini

11/19/45

1499

785020

Diko

Report Number 9

14 January 1945

Subject: Magazzino Vestiario ed Equipaggiamento  
Location: Caserma of 9th Raggruppamento Autieri  
Personnel: 1 Officer  
 4 Civilians  
Comdg. O.: Capt. Ricco Giovanni

This depot performs the following:

(a) Stores the material sent to it by the Commissariato. Distributes material to units in Bari upon authorization from the War Ministry a copy supposedly sent to MMIA Rome.

Attached is an inventory of the material on hand as of the day of the inspection. The items checked were in order and the entire depot orderly.

(b) Receives pieces of new gray-green or khaki cloth that is cut into uniforms by the only civilian tailor in the depot. These are then passed on to civilian firms for sewing. When completed by the firms, they are returned to the depot and are not released for distribution until an inspection is made by the Commissariato to assure that the clothing corresponds to specifications.

In the "NOTE" column of the attached report this activity is indicated in the following manner: "in costruzione" means that the number of ~~the~~ items noted are at present in civilian tailor shops. The items listed as "nella sartoria" are those not yet examined by the Commissariato and therefore not released for distribution.

(c) There are also three shoe makers who repair a few boots and shoes, principally of personnel of the 9th Autieri.

Recommendations: How much of this activity is authorized, I do not know. If it is authorized, it would be recommendable to have regular Army uniforms manufactured instead of parachutists as is being done at present:

Henry J. Pacini

470

14/1/45

Report No. 8

14 January 1945

3 File in Report File

Subject: Deposito Ricuperi

Locations: Capannoni Giordano - Via Brigata Regina  
 Via Carruba 3 (Office only)  
 Via Pasubio 127  
 Reparto Carceri  
 Sartoria Redentore  
 Magazzino Via Re David  
 Magazzino Scannicchio - Via Trani  
 Via Argiro

Comdg. O.: Capt. Bartone, representing the War Ministry and therefore directly responsible to it for all salvage activities in Fuglie.  
 Lt. Calabrese is the officer in charge from the Commissariato and subordinate to Capt. Bartone.

This is the biggest activity in the Bari area, is well organized, efficient and produces the most concrete results. The civilian personnel is closely controlled to avoid thefts of the items they constantly handle. This is an activity which, in my opinion, is well worth the time and efforts spent because today, and it will be more so in the future, the Italian Army is dependent on this salvaged clothing.

Attached is a report of the stock status as of the 5th of January. The depots were visited on the 3th. At the bottom of the last page and on the reverse is a brief analysis of the activity which each depot consists of and an analysis of the civilian and military personnel employed in Bari.

Recommendations: None

Note: Visited the Zanonetti warehouse that recently burnt down. All the material has been cleared out and sent to the Reparto Carceri.

Henry J. Pacini

469

14/1 JB

Report Number 7

9 January 1945

Subject: 9th Reparto SussistenzaComdg. O. Capt. Guarnieri

This is the unit under which are grouped all the E M working for the numerous Commissariato units plus those that go on guard duty on trains which totalled 213 on the day of the inspection and are included in the attached report under the heading "In servizio isolato."

The barracks, former armored car garages, were clean and orderly but also cold and uncomfortable to men who are coming off long train trips and rest only about 24 hours before returning to duty.

The discomforts of train guard duty was emphasized by the C.O. and hoped that I would see fit to recommend a more ample and varied ration than the existing one, consisting of hard tack, a can of Spam that serves for 3 days and two oranges or nuts and figs.

This unit also includes 78 men located at 3 Via Carriba who constitute a band. The band was also investigated and it was found to consist of Non-Coms of the regular Army. They have not played since 11 November, with the exception of a few who play with some of the Allied units. The attached report also shows that there are 70 men on leave, of these 28 are members of the band.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That the Non-Coms constituting the band be ordered to more active work or if it is felt that the band is good for morale purposes that it play in hospitals and camps.

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 6

9 January 1945

Subject: Magazzino Foraggi

Locations: Via Crisanzio - presso il Redentore  
Via Vaccarella 22  
Via Reggio Calabria 78

Personnel: 1 Officer  
6 E M  
15 Civilians

Comdg. O. : Lt. Spadaro Marcello

The inventory, taken on 5 January is as follows:

Crusca	5676	kg
Carrube	15016	"
Favette	11890	"
Paglia	78603	"
Avena	41468	"

In addition there is a small quantity of empty sacks, covers for open trains, vegetable and mineral coal.

The activity is very small, but well organized and efficiently operated.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

Henry J. Pacini



Report Number 5

9 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Speciali Viveri

Location: Via Re David 181-185  
Via Quarta

Personnel: 6 Officers  
27 E M

Comdg. O.: Lt. Col. Scarpa Luigi

This depot furnishes other food depots including Naples, Taranto, Palermo, Catania and Catanzaro as well as the Navy and Air Corps in Bari alone.

Attached is an inventory of the depot. This also is well run, the stock well taken care of and the records orderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The personnel, particularly the officer personnel is too great. Recommend that it be curtailed.

Henry J; Pacini

Report Number 4

9 January 1945

Subject: Magazzino Militare Distribuzione Viveri  
Frazione Deposito Speciali Viveri

Location: Via dei Mercati 3

Personnel: 3 Officers

18 E M

14 Civilians

Comdg O. : Major Padula Giuseppe

This activity distributes to all units within Bari, plus Foggia, Campobasso, Barletta, Potenza, Monopoli and Ortona.

Attached are inventories of the stock on hand, broken down between the two activities that operate under the one Command and in addition a separate record of the special Christmas Issue.

This is an efficiently operated activity; having accurate records, the items well stored. The items verified were accurate.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

Henry J. Pacini

Report Number 3

9 January 1945

Subject: Panificio Militare and  
2 nd Frazione Deposito Speciale Viveri

Locations: Via Crispi 3 and 216  
Piazza Garibaldi 24-25 and 59-60  
Via Perrone 5

Personnel: 2 Officers  
10 E M  
12 Civilians

The above are employed in the office  
In addition there are 2 Officers and 133 E M employed  
in the bakery known as the "Distaccamento di Sussistenza alla  
Sede." This is organized in a form of detachment separate from  
the principal one under which E Ms are organized known as the  
"9 Reparto di Sussistenza."

Comdg. O. : Lt. Col. Giaregnola

The bakery and all the warehouses were neat and  
orderly. The bakery works on a 24 hour basis and bakes approximately  
11,000 rations of bread daily, plus hard tack for escort guards.  
The 2nd Frazione Deposito Speciale Viveri takes care of and dis-  
tributes the flour and semolina assigned to it. The Direzione  
Commissariato is contracting privately for the eventual manufacture  
of macaroni with the semolina, of which there is now a very large  
quantity.

Attached is an inventory of the material that is located  
in the warehouses.

The activity is efficiently operated, the material  
well guarded.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

Report Number 2

9 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Speciale Vestiario - La Rocca  
Location: Via Estramurale Capruzzi 238  
Warehouses: Rutigliano ( contain category B material) located  
 17 kms. south of Bari on Via Capusso  
Personnel: 3 Officers  
 29 E M  
 15 Civilians  
Comdg. O. Capt. D'Agostino, Tommaso

This is an efficiently run activity. The items checked had no discrepancies. The personnel all busy.

In this activity, as in all others visited thus far, the civilian personnel is utilized in the office, in the warehouses and as sworn guards to perform guard duty during the day as well as at night. Personnel generally sleeps in most of the warehouses, this is limited to military personnel only.

RECOMMENDATIONS: There are 4,140 jackets (giubbe panno marrone) all new and in excellent condition. It was thought to utilize these for the Garibaldi Div. but that is no longer planned. It is therefore recommended that they be dyed and utilized for distribution to troops, thus placing a rather large stock at effective disposal.

There are 2,770 Fez. These are Fascist caps made of good material that could be utilized for making insignia or even hospital slippers. The color is black.

There are 600 Fascist hats that are identical to the type worn by the Alpine troops, all of these new. It is recommended that they be distributed to alpine units. They have remained in the warehouse a long time not utilized. The color is gray-green.

Hauling: All hauling out of this Depot to the units and RR Station is performed by horse-drawn carts, privately contracted for by the Direzione Commissariato. The same situation exists for all other activities. It is indeed a surprise to find such an active organization getting along well on such means.

ACCOUNTING: In addition to the accounting prescribed by MMIA, all Italian Army activities are further recorded on forms known as 1022. Postings to these are not made until the receiving unit has accepted the material and returned the Issue Voucher, thus causing this accounting system to be at times months behind. In the activities visited these records are kept by civilians with a Non-Com in charge, generally a Maresciallo.

Report Number 1

9 January 1945

Subject: Deposito Speciale Casermaggio  
Location: Via Casale Fjgoroa 10 and 20  
Warehouses: Via Crisanzio 218  
Via Estramurale Capruzzi 240  
Via Cardassi & Via de Giosa  
Distributes to units in: Bari, Foggia, Potenza, Campobasso,  
Lecce, Taranto, Brindisi, Molfetta, Monopoli, and Barletta  
Personnel: 2 Officers  
15 EM  
17 Civilians, of which 2 are office employees, remainder  
work in repair shops  
Commanding O.: Lt. Col. Calderazzi Filippo

Attached is an inventory of the material that is located in all of the Casermaggio warehouses.

The more important material such as blankets, sheets, pillow cases and matree covers is in excellent condition. The majority of the rest is only fair and in rather small quantities.

RECOMMENDATIONS: This activity is very poorly managed. The items checked had discrepancies. The CO is being retired. It is strongly recommended that an inventory of the entire stock be taken, that a good set of records be opened, replacing or supplementing the present ones that are inadequate. It is further recommended that the entire Casermaggio activity pass under the control of the La Rocca Issue Depot placing in charge a Junior Officer dependent on the centralized activity at La Rocca. There is no need for a Lt. Col. in charge of this comparatively minor activity.

An alternate recommendation would be to move out all the blankets that total 21,117 into the La Rocca Depot so that at least this important item may be centralized.

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