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Visits

Apr. 12, 1940

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10000/120/4244

9/1

Visits + Inspections Reports

1040
1055

Apr. 12, 1946 - Dec. 10, 1946

SUBJECT :- Visits and Inspections by 9 BIU

9 British Liaison Unit
BARI

Ref :- 9/1/''

10 Dec 1946

HQ Terr Comd

The attached report on recent visits made by 9 BIU to Bns of 9 Inf Regt is forwarded.

It is requested that this information is brought to the notice of the GOC.

This HQ would be pleased to discuss, at his convenience, any of the points of view expressed.

(J. WILMAN) Major,
Comd 9 BIU.

OGGETTO :- Visite ed Ispezioni effettuate dal 9 BIU

A :- 9 Comando Territoriale

Si trasmette un rapporto sulle visite fatte recentemente dal 9 BIU ai Battaglioni del 9 Reggimento Panteria.

Si prega inoltrare queste informazioni a Sua Eccellenza il Comandante Territoriale.

Questo Comando avrebbe piacere di discutere, quando Sua Eccellenza ne sara' disposto su qualsiasi dei punti di vista espressi nel rapporto.

Fto :- J. WILMAN
Comandante il 9 BIU

785020

2 BDU INSPECTION REPORT - Dns 9 Inf Regt

1. Visits were paid to all bns 9 Inf Regt during the period 26 Nov - 5 Dec 1946. This report deals with points noted and cover org, adm and msg.

Re-org

Re-org of IG pls in accordance with SIE letter 4427/Ord/1 of 15 Sep involved reduction of IG pls to str 38. This reduction has not taken place and IG pls remain at str 40. Build up of ror pls to str 38 has been achieved by transfers as under

From Recce Pl	3
" Int Sec	1
" Sq Servizi	2

Some problems were stated to exist in connection with the re-org called for in Ver idn 5090/Ord/1 of 17 Oct 46 particularly in regard to the proposed reduction in the number of Rifle coys and IG pls and in the selection of the appropriate appointments for elimination in HQ orgs (incl Regt HQ).

Officers of the BDU will be pleased to advise in any problems as required, or in representing to HIA any difficulties which may arise.

Employment of Tns

4. A survey of str status of 2 and 3 Bns showed the following situation: the number of pers from 2 Bn employed on gmn duties appear to be rather high.

Posted Str	Offr	S/O	Tr	
2 Bn	26	67	471	
3 Bn	25	54	534	
				1054
<u>Gmn Gds and</u> <u>ex Bn org</u>				
2 Bn	4	21	173	
3 Bn	1	12	97	

Temp/absent (hospital, leave, courses)

transfers as under

From Recce Pl 3
" Int Sec 1
" Sa Servizi 2

Some problems were stated to exist in connection with the re-org called for in War in 5090/Ord/4 of 17 Oct 46 particularly in regard to the proposed reduction in the number of Rifle coys and IG pls and in the selection of the appropriate employees for elimination in HQ orgs (incl Regt HQ).

Officers of the BMJ will be pleased to advise in any problems as required, or in representing to MIA any difficulties which may arise.

Employment of Tps

4. A survey of str status of 2 and 3 Dns showed the following situation: the number of pers from 2 Dn employed on gnd duties appear to be rather high.

Posted Str	Gftr	S/O	Tr
2 Dn	23	67	471
3 Dn	25	54	524
			1054
<u>Gnd Gds and</u>			
<u>ex Dn Gnd</u>			
2 Dn	4	21	178
3 Dn	1	12	97
<u>Temp/absent (hospital, leave, courses)</u>			
2 Dn	6	9	65
3 Dn	6	10	72
			Tr

5. As local trg areas are few in number and the time available for fd trg amounting to four days per month for each coy is very limited, it is desirable that the greatest economy of time is exercised. To meet this necessity an alteration in daily routine on fd trg days is required. The normal routine hours of morning trg 0700 - 1030 necessitate tps returning by 1030 for their meal. As trg areas are some distance away the time

spent in actual tree on the ground is very short.

On 11 try days it would seem preferable therefore that , the ration situation permitting, tps should have some food before leaving barracks , carry a ~~light~~ ration on them for a midway meal and stay on the try ground for a longer period than is possible at present .

As regards the detailed work of the group there is a tendency for squads under instruction to be too large. The shortage of junior instructors amounting to approx 50% is appreciated and strenuous efforts to produce these by implementing the cadres is necessary.

In order to increase the competitiveness of individual test
competence in coys of a fuller record of individual test
results would be of value. A system whereby a careful
record of individual test results are posted up on coy notice
boards is recommended, and can be used as the basis for an
award and competition.

The BLU team can provide any further details as required.

Try of the recent influx of offrs and S/off ex PW requires special attention. In this connection HQ IIA are being reminded that no further information has been received here regarding a policy for affiliating Indpt Inf Rgts to Inf Div which was under consideration by War Min in Aug. Opportunity for attachment of ex PW's to Inf Divs for a short period of tme would be most beneficial in bringing them up to date quickly.

POC MIA has stressed the importance of expanding during 1947 the 1946 try policy outlined in War Jan 4446/R/4 of May 46 and lays particular emphasis on off too try and too carrying out of fd exercises at Bn or higher level.

Officers of the DLU are at disposal to assist in the preparation of the discussions, exercises etc if and when desired.

One and a half of weapons in general use is satisfactory.

There appears to be a shortage of rifle oil and grease and in consequence attention to the system of arms in store is most important. If weapons in store are cleaned and inspected once per week the needs of economy in cleaning materials and care of arms would be reconciled.

Welfa no

CO's of Ins are severely handicapped by financial restrictions in the development of unit welfare amenities.

7. In order to increase the competitiveness of individual try interference in coys of a fuller record of individual try results would be of value. A system whereby a careful record of individual try tests are posted up on coy notice boards is recommended, and can be used as the basis for an ~~advised~~ pl competition.

The BLU try major can provide any further details as required.

8. Try of the recent influx of offrs and S/off ex PW requires especial attention. In this connection HQ III are being reminded that no further information has been received here regarding a policy for affiliating Indpt Inf Regts to Inf Div which was under consideration by War Min in Aug. Opportunity for attachment of ex PW's to Inf Divs for short period of try would be most beneficial in bringing them up to date quickly.

9. GOC III has stressed the importance of expanding during 1947 the 1946 try policy outlined in War Min 446/R/4 of May 46 and lays particular emphasis on offr try and the carrying out of fd exercises at Bn or higher level.

Officers of the BLU are at disposal to assist in the promotion of try discussions, exercises etc if and when desired.

10. Care and mint of weapons in general use is satisfactory.

There appears to be a shortage of rifle oil ¹⁰⁵³ and in consequence attention to the system of arms in store is most important. If weapons in store are cleaned and inspected once per week the needs of economy in cleaning materials and care of arms would be reconciled.

Welfare

11. CO's of Bns are severely handicapped by financial restrictions in the development of unit welfare amenities.

The lack of daily and weekly papers, books, indoor games and sport eqpt is very noticeable.

The only funds at disposal of CO's appear to accrue from unit canteen profits averaging approx 10,000 lire monthly part of which may be used for family assistance.

12. On the other hand considerable effort is devoted to canteen i.e. live and cinema shows and "Cassa del Soldato"; but the conclusion reached is that too much emphasis is placed on collective and not enough support given to unit welfare.

The following facts appear to relate to the situation.

- Berlin grant a quarterly allotment of 750,000 lire to Terr Coal.
- A theatrical coy composed of 22 ill pers and 24 civilian artists is maintained.
- Excess of quarterly expenditure over income on this coy averages 500,000 lire.
- Average quarterly attendance is 60,000.
- Average overall str of 9 Terr Coal is 41,000 approx.
- Thus an average attendance of 6 shows per man per quarter represents the individual soldiers share in the 500,000 excess expenditure.
- Wages of 5 GMP pers, plus extra duty payments and family assistance are additional charges against the balance of 250,000 lire.

13.

In general therefore it appears desirable that either a different list of funds between collective ent and unit welfare is required or that collective ent should be made self-sufficing; also that the further development of unit canteens should be considered.

Medical

14.

Unit MO's complain of lack of sulpha drugs. Investigation of similar complaint in Aug revealed that very adequate stocks of these drugs were held at "DORCLO" hospital.

Food and Ser

15.

Cook-houses are in general well scrubbed out and clean but more attention to the exclusion of flies from food stuffs is required.

1052

78/1 03 TRANSLATION 19

SUBJECT :- Magazzino Viveri - Foggia

Ref your 74/4 dated 14 inst.

Owing to the bad lack of housing in Foggia, the Magazzino Viveri had no opportunity of finding accomodation more suitable for the purposes of the Unit itself.

It is pointed out that the present location is only temporary as definite accomodation is being provided for this unit in "Oddone" Barracks.

Instructions have been issued to eliminate inconveniences mentioned in your letter.

DP

785020

SUBJECT: Magasinio Vivieri - NOVA

3 British Liaison Unit
HARI

Ref: 74/4

12th October 1945

TO: 9 Force Command.

The "Magasinio Vivieri" at NOVA was inspected by this Unit on 12th October and found to be in a very unsatisfactory state.

1. The building itself is very old and dilapidated. Walls, ceilings and floors are cracked and peeling and very dirty.
2. Sacks of flour, pasta and other foods are stacked so that they are permanently touching the walls and there is no free circulation of air. The store-rooms are very dirty.
3. The soldiers' quarters, both sleeping and eating - as well as the kitchen - are practically in cellars with small apertures instead of windows and very poorly lighted. But above all these, there is one extremely dirty, tables and food cupboards do not appear to have been scrubbed for a long time.

Recommendations

1. It is appreciated that the building itself is unsuitable for a Magasinio Vivieri and it is suggested that steps be taken forthwith to try to obtain or construct more suitable accommodation for the near future.
2. In the mean time supply of whitewash, disinfectant and soap should be provided and the whole of the building thoroughly scrubbed out and whitewashed.

pet.

The "Magasinno Vivendi" at POCOLA was inspected by this Unit on 10th October and found to be in a very unsatisfactory state.

1. The building itself is very old and dilapidated. Walls, ceilings and floors are cracked and peeling and very dirty.
2. Sacks of flour, pasta and other foods are stacked so that they are permanently touching the walls and there is no free circulation of air. The store-rooms are very dirty.
3. The soldiers quarters, both sleeping and eating - as well as the kitchen - are practically in cellars with small apertures instead of windows and very poorly lighted. But above all these, quarters are extremely dirty. Tables and food cupboards do not appear to have been scrubbed for a long time.

Recommendations

1. It is suggested that the building itself is unsuitable for a Magasinno Vivendi and it is suggested that steps be taken forthwith to try to obtain or construct more suitable accommodation for the near future.
2. In the mean time supply of whitewash, disinfectant and soap should be provided and the whole of the inside of the building thoroughly scrubbed out and whitewashed.

Pat.
(P.S. TIPPIN) Major,
D.A.A. & C.M.G.

TRANSLATION

OGGETTO :- Magasinno Vivendi - POCOLA

Questa Sezione il giorno 10 ottobre ha ispezionato il Magasinno Vivendi a POCOLA e lo ha trovato in pessime condizioni igieniche.

- 2 -

1. La stessa costruzione e' vecchia e disposta.
Pareti, soffitti e pavimenti sono spaccati, a regola d'arte e molto sporchi.
2. Sacchi di farina, pasta ed altri cibi sono accatastati in un modo da bloccare sempre le pareti e non vi e' una libera circolazione di aria. I magazzini sono molto suditi.
3. Gli alloggiamenti dei soldati, dormitori e cucine, come pure le cucine sono necessariamente collette con piccole aperture invece di finestre e molto sovraffollate. Soprattutto questi alloggiamenti sono estremamente suditi. Turchi e credenze non sembra siano stati lavate da lungo tempo.

Raccomandazioni.

1. Si stima che la costruzione in se non e' adatta per essere un deposito viveri e si suggerisce di interessarsi al immediatamente per tentare di ottenere un posto piu' adatto a questo scopo per il prossimo futuro.
2. Intanto si provvedere ad un rifornimento di olio, di un disinfettante e di sapone perche' tutta la esistente costruzione sia completamente lavata ed imbiancata.


 Fto:- Maggiore P.S. TIRIA
 D.A.A. e C.I.G. 1049

INSPECTIONS 25 - 29 April 46.MilanoFalanga

	<u>Milano</u>	<u>Falanga</u>	
Cookhouse	In the open due to RE work not having been completed.	Satisfactory	In the open, not completed
Cleanliness of cookhouse	As good as can be expected under the conditions.	Satisfactory	As good as condition
Dining Hall	In the open.	Good	Very good completed
Stores	Well laid out, but the day's rations are kept here as well. This should be overcome immediately accommodation is available.	Well laid out. Walking out Dress size problem. Higher scale of denims required (now 1 per man)	Very well
Issue and Repair of Socks	2 pairs of socks available only, and no pezzi di piedi? Worthwhile repairs impossible.	See Milano	See Milano
Issue and repair of boots	1 pr of boots issued. When handed in for repair, a pair is given in exchange. Boots for repair collected weekly and sent to central repair depot.	"	(1) leather stitching
Accounting for Stores	At the moment an individual does not sign for clothing etc. issued to him until he is transferred elsewhere. w.e.f. this date this practice will cease.	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

INSPECTIONS 25 - 29 April 45.

<u>Milano</u>	<u>Falanga</u>	<u>San Pasquale</u>
open due to RE work ing been completed.	Satisfactory	In the open. Proper cookhouse not completed.
as can be expected e conditions.	Satisfactory	As good as can be expected under the conditions.
pen.	Good	Very good when engineer work is completed.
d out, but the day's are kept here as This should be over- mediately accommodation able.	Well laid out. Walking out Dress size problem. Higher scale of denims required (now 1 per man)	Very well laid out.
of socks available only, ezzi di piedi? le repairs impossible.	See Milano	See Milano.
boots issued. When a for repair, a pair in exchange. Boots ir collected weekly to central repair	"	Boots wearing badly, due to (1) leather being too new (2) faulty stitching.
oment an individual sign for clothing ued to him until he ferred elsewhere. his date this practice se.	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

	<u>Milano</u>	<u>Falanga</u>	
Ration Store	See Q Stores	Satisfactory	
Drawing of rations.	Coys daily from Bn HQ.	See Milano	
Barber and Tailor?	Use made of those from Services Coy, Falanga bks.	No. 5 Coy have their own. This should be the aim of <u>every</u> Coy.	Use An their
Barrack Rooms	Cramped owing to barracks not yet completed. Kits uniform - floors etc clean - not sufficient windows open.	Kits not uniform throughout Bn. General tidiness only fair, e.g. rubbish not emptied from receptacles as soon as it might be.	Live clean It is week for
Ablutions	Satisfactory	Fair - many taps in need of repair. Fair Not given prompt attention.	
Shower arrangements	None at present. Use made of facilities at Falanga, but not often enough. (soap shortage ?)	Hot showers available but now governed by soap limitations (last shower for men 20 days ago) Suggest a wash down without soap would be better than nothing.	Use their
Latrines.	One coy's in <u>very</u> bad state through drainage stoppages, otherwise fair.	Drainage here v.fair, but cleanliness could be improved upon.	Fair.
Medical arrangements			
Sick	Report to Falanga	S. only very small numbers involved except for inoculations.	
Inoculations	In order - 2 or 3 cases of small pox reported	S.	
Dental	S. (to hospital)	S. (to hospital)	

MilanoFalangaSan Pasquale.

res

Satisfactory

Satisfactory

y from Bn HQ.

See Milano

See Milano.

of those from
Coy, Falanga bks.

Nº.5 Coy have their own. This
should be the aim of every Coy.

Use ^{made} of those at Falanga.
An effort should be made to instal
their own.

owing to barracks
completed. Kits
floors etc clean -
icient windows open.

Kits not uniform throughout Bn.
General tidiness only fair, e.g.
rubbish not emptied from recep-
tacles as soon as it might be

Living in huts which are kept very
clean considering the crampedness.
It is hoped that during the next
week the cookhouse and accommodat
for 2 coys will be available. ion

very

Fair - many taps in need of repair. Fair.
Not given prompt attention.

present. Use made
ities at Falanga,
often enough. (soap
?)

Hot showers available but now
governed by soap limitations
(last shower for men 20 days ago)
Suggest a wash down without soap
would be better than nothing.

Use of Falanga made. Will have
their own when cookhouse complete.

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drainage stoppages,
fair.

Drainage here v. fair, but clean-
liness could be improved upon.

Fair.

o Falanga

S. only very small numbers
involved except for inoculations.

S.

- 2 or 3 cases of

S.

S.

x reported
ospital)

S. (to hospital)

S.

MilanoFalanga

Guard Room			
Booking in & out	Not carried out - Officers personally responsible to see that men have returned.	See Milano	
Length of tour	24 hrs. 1800 - 1800 hrs.	24 hrs. 1800 - 1800 hrs Sentries 1 by day, 3 by night	24
Guard mounting	Under duty officer	Under duty officer	Un
M.T. inc.			
Maintenance system	Serviced by M.T. at Falanga	Task system working well. When lorry situation allows, suggested keeping lorries off road one day per week for general maintenance/	S
Work Tickets		In operation	
Repairs		Repairs such as punctures have to be done at W/Shops owing to complete lack of materials.	
Office Routine			
Nominal Rolls	S.	S.	S
Ration Indents	S.	S.	S
Postal	S.	Central	S
Pay	Men do not sign for <u>basic</u> pay. Apparently this is the rule in the Italian army.	See Milano	Se
Armoury	Well laid out but not sufficient attention paid to cleaning of arms	See Milano	See on

1046

MilanoPalangaSan Pasquale.

See Milano

ried out - Officers
lly responsible to see
n have returned.

See Milano

1800 - 1800 hrs.

24 hrs. 1800 - 1800 hrs
Sentries 1 by day, 3 by night

1046

24 hrs.

duty officer

Under duty officer

Under duty officer

iced by M.T. at
Palanga

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When lorry situation allows,
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See Milano.

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in the Italian army.

See Milano

laid out but not sufficient
ntion paid to cleaning of arms

See Milano

See Milano, though improvement
on other two.

MilanoFalanga

Officers Mess

15-20 days work still to be done on
the building concerned

General Remarks

- A. Barrack Rooms good.
- B. Sanitation not given the degree of priority it must have.
- C. Tidiness of areas adjacent to barrack rooms could be improved, especially those areas at the rear.
- D. Too much waste water flowing. This will be a source of Malaria later on. Suggest this is brought home to the troops in the most forcible manner possible.
- E. Discipline and Morale good.
- F. Medical staff not sufficient to cope with inoculations, normal sick etc. Commandant including this in his report at end of month.

- A. This Bn owing to accommodation situation has far greater amenities than the others, but in some respects is well below the others' standard.

- B. Not sufficient attention given to barrack rooms, e.g. cleanliness, uniformity of kit etc.

C,D,E - see Milano

- F. A suitable place for the wash-down of vehicles is urgently needed. Local Fire Station facilities apparently not satisfactory owing to
 1. Wastage of time through waiting their turn
 2. Drivers cannot be supervised.
 3. Scared that tools will be lost while washing in progress.

MilanoFalangaSan Pasquale

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C,D,E - see Milano

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Local Fire Station facilities
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1. Wastage of time through
waiting their turn
2. Drivers cannot be supervised.
3. Scared that tools will be
lost while washing in progress.

A. An excellent canteen being
run for the men of this Bn
Very clean and cheerful. It
is very popular with the men.

B. ~~CAR~~^{CAF}'s ammunition stores here.
Security posted. Amn. neatly
stowed, but phosphorus
smoke too near to 30 grenades

C. I consider that this Bn is
a long way ahead of the other
two in spite of their
accommodation difficulties.

Subject : Reports.CONFIDENTIAL.

9 British Liaison Unit,
BARI.
Telephone : 11458.

71/153.

24 June 46.

To : 2 Terr HQ.

1.

The following remarks made by the E.M.E. Officer on his visit 12 to 15 June 46, are forwarded :-

(a) C.A.R.

A small workshop is being fitted out for small arms. Complete small arms records are being started, which should prove very complete.

The cleanliness of weapons in general leaves a little to be desired; earth and dirt is left in cracks and more attention should be paid to more frequent pulling through of rifles.

Rifle bolt heads and Bren piston heads were found black; apparently these are cleaned periodically by the Armoury. It is suggested Recruits should always clean these gas affected parts any time they clean the rest of the rifle and especially after firing.

The only time rifles are boiled out is on being issued to a fresh recruit. Thereafter only gauze and Flannelette are used.

It is suggested that gauze only be used in case of real necessity i.e. during several day long exercises, and that, after firing, the weapons be always boiled out as soon as possible afterwards. This should save gauze and will produce far cleaner rifles. The same applies to other small arms.

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It is suggested that gauze only be used in case of real necessity i.e. during several day long exercises, and that, after firing, the weapons be always boiled out as soon as possible afterwards. This should save gauze and will produce far cleaner rifles. The same applies to other small arms.

The manufacture of small rifle parts is being carried out in the workshop with what appeared good results. It was found that the safety catch spring (Lee Enfield Rifle) broke in half fairly often - possibly due to Recruits operating safety catches with a sideways pressure. Since explaining this to the recruits breakages have greatly decreased.

2/.....

- 2 -

(b) Efficient Vehicle Park.

This consists of about a dozen vehicles, some trailers and several tanks repaired for the CO.RR, all housed in a large garage. The vehicles appeared well cared for and clean. Each vehicle and trailer had one wheel removed as a safety precaution.

(c) 9 Ambulance Car Section.

Ambulances appeared in very good condition and very clean. British Task System is used and has proved very satisfactory.

(d) 9 Territorial Admin Transport Coy.

The task system is also in use here with good results though there is room for improvement, especially when compared with the Ambulance Section.

(e) 9 Territorial CO.RR Legion HQ.

Only one section of Staghounds (six) was visited, the other section being stationed at the other end of Bari. The LAD was in the process of being installed at HQ Barracks, having recently moved.

The Staghounds appeared in very good condition, mechanically and externally. Weapons, too, were well cared for. The British Task system is also being used here. Each crew appeared to take great pride in their vehicle.

2.

It is requested that the cleanliness of British weapons on loan to the C.A.R. be better supervised (ref para 1(a) above). Boiling water must be employed to clean the bore of rifles and other small arms, every time they are used for firing, and supervision by instructors should ensure the correct method being used.

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1043

3. With reference to 9 Repair Unit: it appears that the workshop is run by Capt. Iannone, whereas the O.C., Maggiore Pitrolo is merely a figurehead.
- It is suggested that the Director of Repairs should render a report to 9 Terr Cond, as to whether he is satisfied or not on the suitability of Mags. Pitrolo to command the unit. If Col. Sportaro does not consider Mags. Pitrolo to be suitable, steps should be taken to replace him immediately.

4. Demands for spare parts should be made direct on the UCT (Ufficio Co-ordinatore Tecnico), Bologna. This also applies to spare parts for CC.RR vehicles of Allied type. (H. Ferro) Major CC

Subject : Inspections.

9 British Liaison Unit,
BARI.

5/11/14.

10 May 46.

To : 2 Terr HQ.

1. The following remarks are forwarded for your consideration, after an administrative inspection of the C.A.R. made by Major J.E. Aylward at the end of April:-

Barrack Rooms - were good on the whole, considering the cramped state of available accommodation. At C. Milano, the rooms are not sufficiently aired and windows are kept closed. At C. Falanga, kits are not arranged uniformly throughout the bn. and general cleanliness requires improvement.

Sanitation - in the C. Milano is not given the degree of priority it must have. The cleanliness of latrines requires attention as does that of the areas adjacent to the barrack rooms.

There is too much waste water flowing, which may be a source of malaria later on. It is suggested that this is brought home to the troops in the most forcible manner possible.

Transport - The task system of maintenance is working well. It is suggested that lorries should be placed off the road one day per week for general maintenance, when the situation allows.

A suitable place for the washdown of vehicles is urgently needed: the local fire station facilities are not satisfactory as drivers waste time by waiting for their turn.

Time can be saved by having punctures at the C.A.R. instead of at workshops. If the Ministry of War cannot authorise the issue of repair kits, it is suggested that puncture patches be obtained for the C.A.R. from

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Barrack Rooms - were good on the whole, considering the cramped state of available accommodation. At C. Milano, the rooms are not sufficiently aired and windows are kept closed. At C. Falanga, kits are not arranged uniformly throughout the bn. and general cleanliness requires improvement.

Sanitation - in the C. Milano is not given the degree of priority it must have. The cleanliness of latrines requires attention as does that of the areas adjacent to the barrack rooms.

There is too much waste water flowing, which may be a source of malaria later on. It is suggested that this is brought home to the troops in the most forcible manner possible.

Transport - The task system of maintenance is working well. It is suggested that lorries should be placed off the road one day per week for general maintenance, when the situation allows.

A suitable place for the washdown of vehicles is urgently needed: the local fire station facilities are not satisfactory as drivers waste time by waiting for their turn.

Time can be saved by having punctures at the C.A.R. instead of at workshops. If the Ministry of War cannot authorise the issue of repair kits, it is suggested that puncture patches be obtained for the C.A.R. from 9 Repair Unit.

Armoury - Well laid out in all barracks, but insufficient attention is paid to the cleaning of arms.

The importance of keeping arms scrupulously clean, should be impressed on the C.A.R. commandant.

Ammunition, - The ammunition in the store at C. San Pasquale is neatly stowed, but phosphorus smoke is too near 36 Grenades.

.....over/

2. It is apparent that the C. San Pasquale is much better administered than the other two barracks, in spite of the difficulties that exist for accommodation. In addition an excellent canteen is being run there, which is very popular with the men.

Maggiore P. Mirabella is to be congratulated on the success he has achieved.



(H. Ferro) Major GS.
Comd. 9 B.L.U.

HF/opr

Subject: C.A.R.

9 British Liaison Unit,
BARI.

5/1/6.

12 April 46.

To: 9 Terr HQ.

Copy to: Comd. 9 Terr C.A.R.

The following remarks on my visit to barrack rooms at Caserma Balanga, on 12 April 46, are forwarded:-

1. Reparto Servizio - The barrack rooms of the administrative company were not so well ordered as those of the recruits. They should have the same standard as the recruits, beds and accoutrements should be arranged similarly and the barrack rooms kept clean.

2. 6 Company - (a) Barrack rooms were well ordered, but the floors were dirty; they had not been swept that morning. It was explained by the Marsciallo di Servizio that the floors are cleaned by four men of the Reparto Servizio. This is wrong. The floor should be cleaned every day by the recruits in each barrack room, under the supervision of the Capo-Quadrone, as is done in Caserma S. Angelo, where each barrack room has its own broom and cleaning materials.

(b) The barber was cutting men's hair in the latrine; he should be in the ablution room.

(c) The ration store was in the same room as the clothing store. A separate room should be used as soon as possible.

3. It is obvious from the above remarks that 6 Coy Commander does not take sufficient interest in the supervision and organisation of his command.

4. 7 Company -

The barrack rooms of this company were in good order, except that the floors were unswept.

5. Inspections - It is suggested that each battalion commander should

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Cubaia Palanga, on 12 April 46, are forwarded :-

1. Reporte Servicio - The barrack rooms of the administrative company were not so well ordered as those of the recruits. They should have the same standard as the recruits, beds and accoutrements should be arranged similarly and the barrack rooms kept clean.

2. 8 Company - (a) Barrack rooms were well ordered, but the floors were dirty; they had not been swept that morning. It was explained by the responsible el Servicio that the floors are cleaned by four men of the Reporte Servicio. This is wrong. The floor should be cleaned every day by the recruits in each barrack room, under the supervision of the Cape-Quadrante, as is done in Caeratan S. Pasquale, where each barrack room has its own broom and cleaning materials.

(b) The barber was cutting men's hair in the latrine; he should be in the ablution room.

(c) The ration store was in the same room as the clothing store. A separate room should be used as soon as possible.

3. It is obvious from the above remarks that 8 Coy Commander does not take sufficient interest in the supervision and organization of his command.

4. 7 Company -

The barrack rooms of this company were in good order, except that the floors were unswept.

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5. Inspections - It is suggested that each battalion commander should inspect his barrack rooms once a week, in order to :-

(i) Supervise order and cleanliness.

(ii) Ensure uniformity throughout the battalion.

(iii) Ensure that a high standard of barrack room discipline is maintained in all companies.

HP/eyr

H.F.
(H. Ferro) Major.
GS.

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