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Docks Operating + IWT Units

June 22, 1944 - Aug. 18, 1944

7098
7112

1327

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19 AUG 1944

(11)

Subject : Modified G.1098 Scales
Italian Port Units.

Transportation (Docks),
HQ., No. 2 District, C.M.F.
Tel. Ext. 12593.
Tn. 1(a)/4278/M.
18 Aug 44.

To : Tn. (Br),
HQ., A.A.I.

1. Reference your Tn. A.1/101 dated 21 July 44 and
G.1098 Scales for the following units :

Italian Docks Operating Coy.
Italian I.W.T. Port Operating Coy.

it is noted that Bags Shoemakers' Filled, including grindery
have been omitted.

2. These are considered by the controlling British
units to be among the most important of items required in
view of the difficulty in the supply of boots by the Italian
authorities, and the large amount of boot repair work that
has to be carried out in consequence.

3. Will you please make application for the appropriate
amendment to be made.

H.G. Pottle

Colonel,
D. D. Tn. (Docks).
(H.G. POTTLE)

Copy to : M.M.I.A., Army Sub-Commission., A.C.O.,
No 394 c/o Postmaster, U.S. Army.

M.M.I.A.L.O., HQ No. 2 District, C.M.F.

103

20 LUG 1944

13

Subject:- Italian Army Units - Command

Army Sub Commission AGC
Main HQ (MIA)
ROME
Tr/1
18 Jul 44

MIA HQ 2 District
copy CC No 1 Docks Group, R.E.

Ref DG 1/111 dated 14 Jul from CC No 1 Docks
Gr R.E., attached.

Will you please make the necessary arrangements
with IX Corps.

gah

R. H. Phillips
Maj Gen
Army Sub Comm AGC

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Ref:- DGJ/111.

SUBJECT:- Italian Army Units - Command.

TO:- Army Sub-Commission, A.C.S.,
 Main H.Q. (M.H.I.A.),
INSURE (INCOB).

1. This H.Q. has three Italian Dock Operating Companies under its control - two at Brindisi and one at Taranto.
2. All these companies are regarded as battalions by the Italian authorities, and are included in the strength of Italian regiments. 922 and 924 Dock Operating Companies at Brindisi are part of 405 Infantry Regiment, and 923 Dock Operating Company at Taranto is part of 406 Infantry Regiment. These regiments are in turn under the command of the Italian Garrison Commander in each town.
3. It is essential that this H.Q. deals direct with the unit on all matters connected with their work. It is also necessary to deal with the units regarding clothing, G.I. equipment, M.F., leave and demobilisation.
4. On certain occasions it has been found that instructions issued to the units by this H.Q. have been at variance with those issued by the Regimental Commander; indeed the division of responsibility for the administration of the unit between the Regimental Commander and this H.Q. is by no means clear.
5. Are you able to clarify the position? It is suggested that if it is necessary to deal with the Italian units through their higher formations, then the Regiment is an unnecessary link and these units should come directly under the command of the Italian Garrison Commander.

[Signature]
 Lt-Col. R.E.
 Commanding No.1 Dock Group, 102.

FIELD.

14 Jul.44.

COPY:- Master File.

7110

SUBJECT : Rail Traffic of Italian Army

TO : Rail Transport Officer
MMIA - 2 District

11 # AGO 1344 12
Transportation Sub.
Allied Control Comm
c/o Movements L.I.

~~TO MMIA~~
Date : 14 Aug. 44
Ref : ACC/Tn/BD/

The attached application from Mem. Cav. Carlo
Cotella & Figlio is forwarded to you for attention as
it concerns the Italian Armed Forces.

Copy to : C.S.O.
ACC.
REGION II

10 AUG 1944

372

7109
R. E. [Signature]
Captain R.E.

1331

785020

U. P. E. C. Taranto N. 13100
C/C Postale N. 13/5500

Telegrammi: CARLOCOLELLA
Telefono N. 34 95

CAV. CARLO COLELLA & FIGLIO

CASA VITIVINICOLA - SQUADRA DI TARANTO - MERTINAFONICA - AEROPORTO
CASELLA PORTALE N. 61 TARANTO VIA S. GIORGIO IONICO, 602



U r g e n t e

Taranto, 29/7/1944

Alle Spett./le A.C.C. - Region II
Cereso Cavour, 202

e p/ e/ alla Spett./le A.C.C. - Ufficio Trasporti
Via Reggio Calabria

B a r i

MMIA

La scrivente prega codesta spett./le Commissione perchè le richieste di trasporto da essa formulate siano prese in benevole considerazione.

Ha, infatti, urgente bisogno di trasferire vino dalle provincie di Lecce Brindisi e Taranto al proprio stabilimento di Adelfia dove prepara le masse per le consegne di prodotti alle FORZE ARMATE ITALIANE, con cui è impegnata per forti quantitativi.

L'importazione di vini dalle predette provincie le è necessaria ed urgente dato che essa è attualmente quasi del tutto sprezzata di vini di bassa gradazione, di vini, cioè, che solo si producono in quelle provincie e che sono richiesti dalle Forze Armate Italiane.

Tuttavia, per vuotare le cisterne e prepararle per l'anni prossimo nuova produzione ha necessità di esitare vino di alta gradazione, di cui esistono/ ingenti quantitativi, spedendole ai clienti richiedenti di Napoli Termoli Pescara.

Per ovvi motivi le è anche indispensabile un certo movimento di fusti vuoti (soprattutto da Adelfia all'altro suo stabilimento di Martina Franca).

Non far presente che questa Ditta ha usufruito di pochissime concessioni di trasporto in confronto di numerose usufruite da altre Ditte di gran lunga meno importanti ed attrezzate.

Nella speranza che la comprensione e l'appoggio di codesta spett./le

o/o

30 AUG 1944
[Signature]

Le offerte non dichiarate si devono intendere non impegnative.

bile Commissione varrà a farle ottenere le auspicate concessioni, ringrazia
e ben distintamente essequia.

p. 2^{da} UN. CORPO COLONIA & FISCH
Sottosegretario di Stato (1907)

Carlo Solella

All. n. 1 copia di CERTIFICATO DEL IX CORPO D'ARMATA -Direzione
Commissariato Militare - 4^a Sezione .-

U. P. E. C. Taranto N. 13100
C. C. Postale N. 13/5506

Telegrammi: CARLOCOLELLA
Telefono N. 34-95

CAV. CARLO COLELLA & FIGLIO

CASA VITIVINICOLA - Stabilimenti in TARANTO, MARTINARDANICA, ADELPHIA
CASSELLA POSTALE N. 51 TARANTO VIA S. GIORDIO IONICO, 602



Taranto,

COPIA

COMMISSARIATO DEL IX CORPO D'ARMATA Direzione Commissariato M.re 4^a Sezione

Si certifica che la Ditta Cav. Carlo COLELLA & FIGLIO di Taranto abituale fornitrice del R.E., ha attualmente in corso con questa Direzione un contratto per la fornitura di quintali DIECI di vino stipulato il 9 marzo 1944 al n. 4236 di Rep.

Si rilascia a richiesta della Ditta interessata e in carta libera per la concessione di vagoni ferroviari da parte delle A.C.C. di Bari, Lecce e Brindisi.

Bari 11 luglio 1944

IL TEN. COLONN. COMMISSARIO V. DIRETTORE
Fte Agostino Maale

In fede per copia conforme

Cav. CARLO COLELLA & FIGLIO
Stabilimento di ADELPHIA (Etna)

Carlo Colella

7107
10 AUG 1944

Carlo Colella & Sons
Adelfia. 29 July 44

urgent
A.C.C. Region II
A.C.C. Transport Office, Bari

The writer requests that his request for transport be given favourable consideration.

The firm has urgent need to transfer wine from the provinces of Lecce, Brindisi and Taranto to its works in Adelfia where it is processed ready for delivery to the Italian armed forces from whom it has big contracts.

The firm has urgent need of wine from these provinces because it is quite out of low proof wines which are only produced there and which are the ones wanted by the army. However our tanks are full of high proof stuff which we will have to dispose of before we can take over this lowgrade wine. The large quantities we have of high proof we can send to clients in Naples, Ternoli and Pescara who have asked for it.

There will also obviously be the need of transferring empty barrels, especially from Adelfia to the other works at Martina Franca.

It is respectfully pointed out that this firm has had very few concessions as regards transport granted it while other much smaller and less well-equipped firms have had lots more.

Hoping that this request will have a favourable answer,
Yours faithfully

Note - attached certificate from Supply Services 9th Army Corps

9th ARMY CORPS SUPPLY BRANCH
4th Sectn.

Certified that Colella and Son of Taranto, regular contractors to the Army, has at the present time a contract (N° 4236 of 9th March 44) for 10,000 quintals of wine. 7106
This certificate is given to the contractor to enable him to get railway waggons from the ACC at Bari, Lecce & Brindisi.

Lt. Col. i/c Supplies
Agostino Meale

29 LUG 1944 (4)

Subject : Clothing and Equipment.Transportation(Docks),
HQ No.2 District, CMF.
Tel. Ext. 12593.To : M.M.I.A.,
Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
A.P.O. No 394 c/o Postmaster.
U.S. Army.

Tn. 1(a)/4277/M.

28 July 1944.

1. Further to this H.Q. Tn. 1(a)/4277/M dated 25 July 44, attached are lists of items and clothing outstanding for the following units :-

922(Italian) Docks Operating Coy.
923(Italian) Docks Operating Coy.
924(Italian) Docks Operating Coy.
No. 2(Italian) I.W.T. Coy.
No. 3(Italian) I.W.T. Coy.

2. The controlling unit in each case confirm that the items have been indented for and are on the authorised scale.

3. It would be appreciated if you could expedite early provision.

4. 922(Italian) Docks Operating Coy. is the unit most in need of assistance. The items shown in respect of this Coy. are in order of priority. The boots are very urgently needed.

K. Badger
Colonel,
G.O. Tn. (Docks).
(K. BADGER) 7105

Copy to : M.M.I.A., L.O.,
HQ No. 2 District CMF

Subject : 922 Italian Docks Operating Coy.

To : M.M.I.A. L.O.,
HQ No.2 District.

Transportation (Docks)
HQ No.2 District, C.M.F.
Tel. Ext. 12443
Ref. Tn.1/1249/M

24 Jul 44

1. Reference my conversation with Major Marcelle this morning, I attach copies of letters, addressed to HQ M.M.I.A., I have had from both Nos. 1 and 5 Docks Group Commanders, on the subject of the unsatisfactory service of the O.C. of the above unit, Maggiore Fumagalli Robastiniano.
2. This unit has been the least satisfactory of my four Italian Docks Companies.
3. Bari Docks is now working under high pressure and it is essential that all units should work efficiently.
4. I am satisfied that the inefficiencies of 922 Company is very largely due to their O.C.
5. I understand you will represent my views to the Italian HQ at Bari in the hopes that they will see their way clear to effect a change of command on their own authority, and not wait for the inevitable delay which will occur in getting a decision on this matter from the Italian Ministry of War through M.M.I.A. at Rome.

H.G. Pottle
Colonel
D.D.Tn(Docks)
(H.G. POTTLE.)

Copy to : HQ No.5 Docks Group, R.E.
(Your DG5/112k dated 22 July 44 to M.M.I.A. refers.)

103

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COPY

From : H.Q. No.5 Docks Group, R.E.

Ref. DG5/112k

To : Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (M.M.I.A.)
Leguile (Lecce).Subject : 922 (Italian) Docks Operating Company.

1. Reference is made to the memorandum from the O.C. No.1 Docks Group, R.E., DGL/111 of the 9th July 1944, calling attention to the behaviour of the O.C. of this Company, Maggiore Pungalli Robastiniano.
2. Since the 19th July this Company have been under my command at Bari and have commenced to work in the docks. Although they have been here for so short a time it is obvious that under their present Commander they will not be satisfactory, in fact it is not possible, with the supervision available to this Group, to make them work in a reasonable manner.
3. Little satisfaction can be obtained either from the O.C. or the Second-in-Command of the Company and I am satisfied that this attitude will persist until the command is taken over by an officer who is a good disciplinarian.
4. It is requested that the replacement of Maggiore Pungalli Robastiniano be treated as an urgent matter. I shall be glad to know when the officer to replace Maggiore Pungalli Robastiniano may be expected.
5. I am not prepared to accept the present Second-in-Command of this Company in replacement of the present O.C. From the little that has been seen of him he is not suitable to exercise command of the Company.

C.M.F.
22 July 44.
RBO/MCG(Signed) R.B. ORAM, Lt.Col., R.E.
Commanding No.5 Docks Group, R.E.Copy to : D.D.Th(Docks).,
HQ NO.2 District, CLEP.

7103

COPY

Subject : Italian Docks Operating Companies - Command.

Ref. DG.1/111

To : Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Main HQ (M.H.I.A.),
LEQUIN (LECCE).

1. 922 (Italian) Docks Operating Company has for the past six weeks been under the command of Maggiore Fumagalli Robustiano.
2. During this time the efficiency of the unit has decreased, and it is my opinion that Maggiore Fumagalli has not the control over the unit that is necessary to ensure good results. This unit requires strong and careful handling, and this at the moment is not being exercised.
3. It is requested that you will arrange for this officer to be replaced by a man who is a good disciplinarian, and one who is prepared to devote considerable time and energy to the improvement of the unit.
4. It may be recalled that Capitano Battiglia Renzo, late O.C. of this unit, was posted to the Italian War Office at a time when he was doing excellent work with the unit, and it is hoped that the Italian Staff may be able to find an equally good officer to take over this unit.

(Signed) E.L. TRIFETTI, 1st COL., R.E.
Commanding No.1 Docks Group, R.E.

FIELD
9 Jul 44.

Copies : Tn.(Docks), HQ No.2 District.
Master File.

7102

COPY

Subject: Italian Units - Reinforcements. (1)

To : M.M.I.A. L.O.,
HQ N°2 District.Transportation (Docks)
HQ N°2 District, CMF.
Tel. Ext. 12593
Ref. En.1/1249/M
5 July 44

1. Further to conversation Murcell - Badger of 4 July 1944, attached are two copies of relevant correspondence.
2. Will you please clarify the position since the matter is one which has a distinct bearing on the efficiency of this unit.
3. You will appreciate that the release of trained personnel without the prior provision of adequately trained reinforcements, would have very serious consequences and cannot be contemplated.

Colonel
D.D.Tn(Docks)
(K.Badger)Army Sub Commission, ACC
LEQUIL (LECC)Capt. C.F. MURCELL,
M.M.I.A. L.O.
c/o N°2 District
Ref. MF 103
6 July 44

1. Herewith copy of correspondence received from DD Tn 2 District for your information and necessary action.

Cast. M.M. 7101

103 82

1 3 4 0

785020

Subject : Italian Units - Reinforcements.

To : W.M.I.A., L.O.,
HQ No.2 District.

Transportation (Docks)
HQ No.2 District, CMF.
Tel. Ext. 12593
Ref. Tn.1/1249/M

6 Jul 44

1. Further to conversation Murcelle - Badger of 4 July 1944, attached are two copies of the relevant correspondence.
2. Will you please clarify the position since the matter is one which has a distinct bearing on the efficiency of this unit.
3. You will appreciate that the release of trained personnel without the prior provision of adequately trained reinforcements, would have very serious consequences and cannot be contemplated.

h *W. Badger* *Captain*
Colonel
D.D.Tn(Docks)
(K.BADGER.)

7199

John

COPY

FROM : 921 Reparto Portuale
TO : HQ No.5 Docks Group, R.E.

P.M. 67 29/6/44
Ref. No. 2642

Subject : Copy of request for reinforcements.

With reference to the attached which is a copy of a letter sent to Raggruppamento Unita Lavoratori, asking for reinforcements to be sent quickly to replace men who are asking for leave to go to the liberated provinces.

(Signed) Adelio d'Abramo
Major O.C.

Translated from Italian into English.

D.D.Tn., No.2 District.

Ref. DG5/112H

Subject : Copy of request for reinforcements.

Attached correspondence is forwarded for your information.

(Signed) W.A.BAYNES, Major, R.E.,
for Lt.Col., R.E.,
HQ No.5 Docks Group, R.E.

3.7.44

C O P Y

P.M. 22/6/44
Ref. No. 2563

To : O.C.,
Raggruppamento Unità Lavoratori
and for information to
Sottoraggruppamento Unità Lavoratori, Sede.

Subject : Request for personnel.

I inform you as follows :-

On the 1st of April I was instructed by the Commander of the Raggruppamento Unità Lavoratori, Brindisi, to form 921 Docks Operating Coy from men of the 2nd Group of the 404 Rgt of which I was commander.

To form the above 921 Coy I selected men most able to work in the Docks. Most of these were conscripted from the older classes and came from the centre and north part of the country which was not liberated at that time. The nucleus of this Company therefore consisted of 161 men from the 1912 class or older, which meant from soldiers who could not ask to be discharged owing to their part of the country not being liberated.

In consequence of the rapid advance which has liberated a large part of the country, events have taken a different course. The men are desirous of returning home to find out the fate of their families and asking for three months leave to which they are entitled. The Company without these personnel would be soon in bad conditions and it is therefore necessary to take adequate measures in time.

Suggestions : To eliminate difficulties which could occur I suggest the following :-

1. To bring into the Company younger people who are specialists as mechanics, blacksmiths, carpenters, to replace the 70 soldiers who wish to go on leave. They are from the provinces of Abruzzi, Lazio, Marche, Umbria, Toscana and Emilia.
2. To start immediately training new personnel in conjunction with the elder personnel who are more practiced and to start courses for checkers and crane drivers under the guidance of the Allied Authorities.
3. To obtain these personnel from the No. 20 Raggruppamento Art. Contraerei, which from information received is ready to post 500 men to other Companies.
4. To replace successively other men who become entitled to leave when the same conditions apply.

(Signed) Adelio Abramo,
Major O.C.

Translation from Italian into English.

7598

