

ACC

10000/120/4528

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10000/120/4528

A - ITALIAN RPTS (OFFERS) - PAL /A/26

MAR. 1, 1946 - May 27, 1946

2503
2512

SUBJECT : 11 CAR

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC(MMIA)

TRG/27/11

27 May 46.

TO : 11 BLU.

Ref your G/17 dated 20 May 46.

1. Information has been received from the Ministry of War that Colonel ALFIERI Antonio (Infantry) is being appointed in place of Col. LONGO.

2. Ref para 6 of your letter. Copy of the training Program~~s~~ for week 13-19 May 46 was not attached to your letter as stated - please forward.

TPL/mm

Huebsch
Major-General
M. M. I. A.

2512

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: 11. C.A.R.

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO
G/17

To : Land Forces Sub-Com. AC
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

20 May 46.

I have read from previous 11. B.L.U. Progress Reports that the situation at 11. C.A.R. has not been regarded as satisfactory for some time and that suggestions have been made for the replacement of the Commandant Colonel Longo Francesco.

From my own observations I consider that the criticisms levelled at this Officer are entirely justified and that his replacement is now most urgent if the first batch of recruits is going to achieve anything like the required standard of training in time.

The actual building of the C.A.R. has made good progress and although conditions are still somewhat crowded, there are now an adequate number of showers in working order etc. and there is really nothing lacking which would interfere with training.

General slackness is, however, apparent everywhere and the organisation of training and the training programmes leaves much to be desired.

When I was taking leave of the Commandant and some of his Officers, on the occasion of my last visit to 11 C.A.R., a number of recruits, hatless, and for the most part with their hands in their pockets, gathered round to listen to the conversation. When I asked that they should be ordered to move away the Commandant turned and more or less drove them away himself - as we passed the gate a member of the guard was "picking out" a dance tune on the trumpet.

Attached is a copy of the Training Programme ~~published~~ by 11 C.A.R. for the period 13-19 May.

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Attached is a copy of the Training Programme published by 11 C.A.R. for the period 13-19 May.

It does not conform with the official programme for 2nd week advanced training but when we visited every Company on their training ground on the afternoon of May 15 even this programme was not being carried out.

Nine 2" Mortars only are held by 11 C.A.R. but instead of using all nine for instructional purposes whenever possible and staggering times of instruction on this weapon we found two Bns all trying to do 2" mortar at the same time, with only six mortars, as the nine available had been divided equally among 3 Bns.

In these matters we can help, but I feel that if the Commandant was really up to his job any help as elementary as this should not be necessary.

2/....

Regarding a possible successor to Colonel Longo, Major General de Castiglioni suggested that he had an officer in view for the appointment - an Artillery Officer of high intellectual attainment - but I do not think that this is quite what is required and I would respectfully suggest that the appointment be left with the Ministry of War.

Finally I am not clear about the position of General GIANGRICO Francesco at H.Q. 11 Terr. Command.

He is described as Inspector of the C.A.R. but the present state of 11 C.A.R. does not suggest that his services are particularly valuable.

WS/SI

W.S.
W. SYKES, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

104

W. SYKES, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.I.U.

2510

IS/SA

CONFIDENTIAL⁶

11 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
Palermo, Sicily.

REF:A/26.

9 April 1946.

Subject :- Deferrment Italian Officers.

To :- H.Q., M.M.I.A.
C.M.F.2/Lieut. MINNECI Domenico

1. The Min. of War have ruled that the a/n officer is to be discharged on 30 April 46.
2. He is at present employed (and doing an exceptional good job) at the 11th Autocentro.
3. The Comando Territoriale have requested the Min. of War (2141/1 dated 10 Feb. 46) to allow this officer to be deferred for a few months as he is one of the best officers at the Autocentro, and they are already three officers short.
4. Could this matter please be taken-up with the Min. of War with a view to his being deferred until 30 June 46.

REH
R.E. HECTOR, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

REH/SP

2509

11 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
Palermo, Sicily.

Ref: PAL/A/26.

26 March 1946.

Subject: - Adverse Reports - Italian Officers.

To :- H.Q. M.M.I.A.
C.M.F.

Further to our PAL/A/26 dated 1 Mar.46 and
your A.310 dated 7 Mar.46.

This matter has now been settled locally
by the Territorial Commander who is taking steps to
change Major SCOZZARI in about 1 months time.

He has severely reprimanded Col. VENTURI
for his part in this inefficiency, and has had an
entry to this effect made on his Conduct-Sheet.

R.E.H.
R.E. HECTOR, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

REH/gp



Risposta Personale

Comando Militare Territoriale di Palermo (XI)

Ufficio Personale

N. *10* prot. *Ris. pers.* Palermo, *h* 22 marzo 1946

Risposta foglio n.

Al SIG. MAGGIORE R.E. HECTOR
11^a B.L.U.

Allegati n.

P A L E R M O

Oggetto: Lavori del C.A.R. - Ufficiali del genio.

.....

In risposta al foglio PAL/A/26 in data 16 marzo c.a. ed a conferma di quanto ho prospettato alla S.V. nel colloquio del 20 corrente Le comunico :

1°.- La responsabilità principale del ritardo nell'approntamento del C.A.R. risale all'impresa, la quale aveva - a voce e per iscritto - promesso l'ultimazione d'una prima parte dei lavori per il 15 marzo. Per quanto ci siano alcune giustificazioni per causa di forza maggiore (piogge - sciopero - ritardo arrivo di materiali per deficienza servizio ferroviario), pur tuttavia con maggiore diligenza ed attività la Ditta avrebbe potuto rimediare, almeno in buona parte, alle manchevolezze ora constatate. Perciò ho dato disposizioni perché l'impresa sia richiamata, diffidata e multata.

2°.- Il maggiore del genio SCOZZARO, direttore dei lavori del C.A.R., è un ufficiale di complemento giudicato dai suoi superiori ottimo ingegnere e persona onesta. Doveva essere congedato il 28 febbraio, ma fu trattenuto d'autorità, data l'opportunità che egli stesso finisse i lavori da lui progettati ed iniziati e data la difficoltà di trovare un ottimo ufficiale del genio capace di sostituirlo immediatamente.

A mio parere egli ha, soprattutto, peccato di ottimismo perché si è fidato un po' troppo delle assicurazioni dell'impresa ed ha anche

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A mio parere egli ha, soprattutto, peccato di ottimismo perché si è fidato un po' troppo delle assicurazioni dell'impresa ed ha anche mancato di previdenza e d'immaginazione in alcune cose; non risulta, invece, che sia stato negligente, tenuto conto che egli - per scarsità di ufficiali del genio in rapporto al numero dei lavori - aveva anche la direzione di altri lavori in diverse caserma della ~~2367~~ ²³⁶⁷. Perciò ritengo opportuno mantenerlo in servizio ancora per 2 mesi fino alla fine dei lavori; ma l'ho personalmente richiamato e punito con un rimprovero scritto. Avevo già disposto che fosse esonerato da altri lavori in modo da potersi dedicare interamente al C.A.R. -

3°.- Il colonnello del genio VENTURI, comandante del genio della Sicilia, ha, nei riguardi dei singoli lavori, solo una responsabilità indiretta ed alquanto limitata se si tiene presente la grande quantità di lavori in corso e di progetti di lavori in istudio.

.../...

- 2 -

Però egli era stato sollecitato prima dal Sig. Generale BERARDI e poi da me a sorvegliare diligentemente i lavori del C.A.R. e a dare loro tutto l'impulso necessario perché nel 15 marzo la prima parte dei lavori fosse senza fallo ultimata.

Egli avrebbe dovuto rilevare tempestivamente le manchevolezze dell'impresa e del direttore dei lavori e rimediarvi in tempo. Ciò non è stato fatto e perciò la sua opera non è stata efficace come era desiderabile.

Però, non ravviso in ciò una gravità tale da proporre al Ministro della guerra la rimozione dalla carica di comandante del genio della Sicilia, che gli è stata conferita dal Ministro stesso.

Ritengo provvedimento equo e sufficiente quello di richiamarlo personalmente e di punirlo con un rimprovero scritto: e di tenere conto di questa sua manchevolezza nella compilazione del rapporto personale.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE INTERINALE p.s.v.
(Maurizio Lazzaro de Castiglioni)

M. L. de Castiglioni

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IL GENERALE COMANDANTE INTERNALE p.s.v.
(Maurizio Iazzaro de Castiglioni)

M. L. de Castiglioni

Subject :- Works at the C.A.R. - Engineer Officers.

Ref. your PAL/A/26 dated 16 March and for confirmation of what I said to you on 20 inst., I inform you that:-

1° - The principal responsibilities, in the delay to have the C.A.R. ready, are of the contractors, who had promised some of works to ready for the 15 of March.

Even if they have some good reasons due to superior strengths (raining, strike, delay in the arrival of material for railway deficiencies) however the firm should have remedied to the said deficiencies. I have given instructions to have the firm complained, mistrusted and mulcted.

2° - Major SCZZARI, director of the works at the C.A.R., is a temporary officer. He has been judged by his superiors a very good engineer and honest person. He had to be released on the 20th of February last, but he was kept on so that he could be able to finish the works he has projected and started, and also due to difficulty in finding a good engineer officer to substitute him immediately. It is my opinion his only mistake was to trust the firm too much in what they promised and to have lack of imagination and prevision in some things; it does not seem, on the contrary, that he has been negligent, as he has deficiency in engineer officers and other works to direct in several other barracks in the city.

I retain opportune to keep him for 2 more months until the works are completed; in the meanwhile I have punished him with a written complaint. I had already given instructions for him to be exonerated from other jobs to take entirely care of the C.A.R.

3° - Col. VENTURI, Commandant of the "GENIO" in Sicily has, in regard to single works, an indirect and much limited responsibility in comparison to the big quantity of works and projects of works he has to deal with.

He had been hastened by Gen. BERARDI first and by me in a second time to supervise the works at the C.A.R. and do the neces-

mistrusted and mulcted.

2° - Major SCOZZARI, director of the works at the C.A.R., is a temporary officer. He has been judged by his superiors a very good engineer and honest person. He had to be released on the 26th of February last, but he was kept on so that he could be able to finish the works he has projected and started, and also due to difficulty in finding a good engineer officer to substitute him immediately. It is my opinion his only mistake was to trust the firm too much in what they promised and to have lack of imagination and prevision in some things; it does not seem, on the contrary, that he has been negligent, as he has deficiency in engineer officers and other works to direct in several other barracks in the city.

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He had been hastened by Gen. BERARDI first and by me in a second time to supervise the works at the C.A.R. and do the necessary things to have part of them finished by the 15th of March. He should have notified at once the firm and the director's deficiency and try to remedy in time. This was not done and his job was not as efficient as should have been.

Notwithstanding I do not think there is a so big mistake to propose the Min. of War to remove the Commandant of the "Genio" in Sicily, for the fact also that he was assigned to that job by the same Min. of War. directly.

I retain ~~sufficient~~ sufficient enough to punish him with a written complaint and notify his mistake in the compilation of his personal report.

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HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

11 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
Palermo, Sicily.

Ref: PAL/A/26.

/6 March 1946.

Subject :- Adverse Reports - Italian Officers.

To :- Comando Territoriale, Palermo.

COL. VENTURI Dante

MAJ. SCOZZARI

We are very dissatisfied with the a/n officers of the Comando Genio.

It is further felt that these officers are in many ways directly responsible for the failure of the C.A.R. to be anywhere near ready by the opening date 15 March.

You are also reminded that these officers promised that this C.A.R. would be complete in every detail by 15 FEB.

Instead, they had not thought of most of the essentials, either when planning the barracks, or since.

It is therefore recommended that these officers are relieved of their duties immediately, for the following reasons:-

a. Their work is very slack, and they are seldom on the job directing operations.

b. Complete lack of interest or imagination and lack of general intelligence and initiative.

Please inform this Unit what action is taken, as early as possible.

REH
R.E. HECTOR, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

2505

REH/EP

2

SUBJECT : Adverse Reports - Italian Officers

Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.) R O N E .

A 310

7 Mar. '46.

TO : CC 11 BLU PALERMO

Ref. your PAI/N/26 of 1 March 1946.

1. This matter should be settled locally if possible.
2. In any case this HQ is not prepared to take any action until informed of the reply you receive from Territorial HQ.

2504

Attilio L. Col

fa Major General
M.M.I.A.

AHG/as

CONFIDENTIAL

11 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
Palermo, Sicily.

Ref: PAL/A/26

/ March 1946.

Subject :- Adverse Reports - Italian Officers.To :- H.Q. M.M.I.A.
C.M.F. (for A.A.G.).COL. VENTURI Dante
MAJ. SCOZZARI

Ref. Pt. II Sect. 3. Sub-Sect. a' of Fortnightly
Report No. 6 dated 1 March 46 regarding the a/n officers of
the COMANDO GENIO.

1. It is requested that Min. of War please be approached and asked to order the immediate removal of these two officers from 11 Terr. Command for the following reasons:-

- a. Their work is very slack and they are seldom on the job directing operations.
- b. Improvements never get past the "promising" stage.
- c. Lack of interest, general intelligence and initiative.

2. I have already put the question of the removal of these two Engineers, up to Territorial H.Q., but as yet have received no satisfaction concerning their removal.

REH
R.E. HECTOR, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

2803

REH/gp

