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M/1

MEDICAL-HOSP. REPORTS

May 1, 1946 - Oct. 18, 1946

2050
2868

Subject: Hospital Inspection.

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO

M/1

To : Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

18 Oct.+6.

Ref. your M/5 of 8 Oct.+6 and my M/1 of 2 Oct.+6.

I have today interviewed the Vice-Chief of Staff of 11 Territorial Command. He informs me that the Commanding Officer of the Hospital in question has already been changed and that he is personally interesting himself to see that the matters referred to are put right.

W.D.B.
W.D.B. BANKS,
Major,
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

WDB/SI
C.M.F.

2808

SUBJECT : Hospital Inspection

LAND FORCE SUB COM. A.C.
(M. M. I. A.) R O M E

M/5 3 Oct 46

TO : 11 B.L.U. / 9A

Reference your M/1 dated 2 Oct 46.

Your remarks on the OSPEDALE CONVENZIONATO CROCE ROSSA
No 23 are noted.

It is agreed that if such a state of affairs exists,
the Territorial Command should be approached with a view to
changing the Commanding Officer. Will you please therefore
approach the Territorial Commander, ascertain his view in the
matter and find out if he is prepared to approach the Ministry
of War with a view to effecting a change. Please keep this
HQ informed on the matter and say if any intervention is required
as between this HQ and the Ministry of War.

AHC/ml

W.H. Gillmore L/H

Major General
M. M. I. A.
For

Copy to : DADMS

2867

Subject: Hospital Inspection.

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO
M/1

To : Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

2 Oct. 46.

Ospedale Convencionato Ozeo Rossa No. 23

San Lorenzo Colli.

1. The above hospital was recently inspected by Major W.D. BANKS.
The following points were noted:-

a) Welfare

Almost none of the improvements suggested by Major Smezzum in his M/1 of 21 June 46 have been adopted. An occasional film or theatre show and walking in the grounds are the only recreational facilities available to patients.

b) Wards

No fly-proofing. Swarming with flies to great discomfort of sick men.

c) Latrines and wash-houses

Badly kept and in some cases with unpleasant odour.

d) Kitchen

- i) Smoke-blackened. Obviously not white-washed for months.
- ii) Practically no fly-proofing. Swarming with flies which had settled on prepared food. Meat almost invisible under layer of flies. No netting on exposed food.
- iii) Food handlers had filthy finger nails.
- iv) Food prepared and cooked in the same room.
- v) Whole kitchen dirty and insanitary.

e) Food stores.

Two store rooms, one for "hard" and one for "fresh"

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- iii) Food handlers had filthy finger nails.
- iv) Food prepared and cooked in the same room. 2866
- v) Whole kitchen dirty and insanitary.

e) Food stores.

Two store rooms, one for "hard" and one for "fresh" rations.

In the hard ration store, cheeses were standing on shelves in a layer of mildewed cheese. They were swarming with ants. The whole place was dirty and had a most unpleasant smell.

The "fresh" store room was over-run with flies and contained much evidence of very old "fresh" rations not cleared away.

f) Bath-house

Baths used as receptacles for rubbish.

Foot-baths covered with cob-webs and spiders.

Latrines smelly and insanitary.

2. It is recommended that 11 Terr. Command be approached with a view to changing the Commanding officer.

WDB/SI
C.M.F.

W.D.
W.E. BANKS,
Major,
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

TRANSLATION C.P.

11 Territorial H.Q.

Ref 6115/03/C

Palermo 24 Sept. '46

Subject:- Hospital.

To:- 11 B.L.U.

PALERMO.

-°-)-----

Further to our folio No 4800/03/C. dated 20 July 1946

Herewith for your acknowledge copy of folio No 001434/CO from
Min of War, Commissariato and Administration General Directorate-
Red Cross Hospital Control Committee - dated 10 September 1946,
fwd to this Terr.H.Q. for akn. from the Army Deputy - Sanitary
Directorate.

By Order
The Vice Chief of Staff.
(I.Inghilleri Lieut.Col)

2865

See 35.

M/10.

C O P Y

=====

Min. of War.
 Commissariato and Administrative General Directorate.
 Red Cross Hospital Control Committee.

Ref 00143/C.O.

Rome 10 Sept.'46.

Subject:- Rations at the Red Cross Hospital in San Lorenzo Colli -
Palermo.

/.....distribution omitted.

Reference the observations and the suggestions forwarded about the ration system in the Red Cross Hospital San Lorenzo Colli - Palermo, this Committee has first of all to point out that the ration scale for the patients of the Red Cross Hospitals, has been laid down, as for quantity and as for quality, after an agreement between the Military Sanitary Service and the Food Authorities, ~~xxxx~~ to grant, compatibly with the resources of the Country, a scale, giving the necessary number of calories.-

Excluded therefore that in the ration scale for the a/m. Hospitals, there is a possibility to find a deficiency for quantity, as it is shown in your remarks, it is to be brought up that if any inconvenients have been found about the making and the variety of the meals, those are to be attributed to the Hospital Personnel i/g. and to the Military Sanitary Personnel to whom is due the sanitary control of the a/m Hospital, which had to provide, as it is done in all the others Red Cross Hospitals to make more agreed the meals to the patients, changing and making in different way the rations that they get.

After this, the Committee is studying the possibility to give in contract the food service in the Red Cross Hospitals, that just to get a better making and variety of meals.

The General Director
 President of the Committee

Pelliera.

2864

Min of War.

Ref 2/423

Rome 14 Sept.'46

To:- 11 Terr.H.Q.

PALERMO

.....for aknowledge....

Subject: Italian Red Cross Hospital Catania.

(LICEO DEI SALESIANI VIA CAVALIERE)

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 15557 PALERMO
M/1

To : Land Forces Sub Com. A.S.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

28 July 46.

I visited the a/m Hospital on 23 July. It is clean and appears to be efficiently and conscientiously run, although, as it is at present the only Red Cross Hospital for the treatment of returning P.O.W. in Eastern Sicily, it is overcrowded especially in the T.B. wards.

The premises, which are admirable, are normally used as a Training College for priests and I understand that considerable pressure is being applied to the Ministry of War by the Principals to recover the premises for their original purpose.

I think that it would be most unfortunate for the Italian Red Cross if this building were to be given up as no other suitable premises for a hospital could be found.

The Principals of the College have regained possession of one large room which the Hospital in the past used as a theatre (holding 200 - 300 persons) on the pretext that they only wished to use it for a very short period and now their refusal to give it back robs the Hospital patients of a very excellent Welfare facility.

I would recommend that the Ministry of War be asked

- i) To permit the continued occupation of the premises by the C.R.I.
- ii) To apply pressure on the Principals of the College to hand over the part of the premises previously used by the Hospital for Welfare purpose.

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2863

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

WS/SI

TRANSL. Z.C. -

11th MILITARY TERRITORIAL H.Q.

4800/03/C.

20 July 1946.

SUBJECT: Hospitals.

To 11 B.L.U. Palermo

The Ministry of War - S.M/ Esercito - Has forwarded to the General Direction for the Commissariato and Administration services; this H.Q.'s letter No 3742/03/S for the necessary action.

The Sanity General Direction had instructed the Revision and Control Committee of the Hospitals regarding food rations, interesting also the proper office for the welfare part.

Still waiting for ~~concrete~~ information on the matter. -

The Vice Chief of Staff
Lt.Col.S. Inghilleri.

2862

SEE 29
M/10.

TRANSLATION C.P.

11 Territorial H.Q.

5A

Ref 4401/03/S

Palermo 6 July 1946

Subject:- Hospitals.

To:- 11 B.L.U.

P A L E R M O

Ref the letter M/1 dated 3 July 1946.

The S.M.R.E. has not yet notified which steps would be taken relating what suggested by this H.Q. with letter 3/42/03/S dated 23/6/46.

As soon the answer to the a/m letter will arrive to this H.Q. a copy for information will be fwd to the 11 B.L.U.

The Vice- Chief of the Staff;
(Ten Col. S. Inghilleri.)

SEE 26.
M/10.

2861

Subject: Hospitals

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO
M/1

To : 11 Territorial H.Q.
PALERMO.

3 July 46.

3A.
Reference your 1938/03/V dated 23 June 46.

1. Would you please inform this H.Q. of the Ministry of War's reply to your report contained in your 3742/03/S dated 23 June.

(D)
S.E. SNEEZUM,
Major,
D.A.L. & Q.M.G.

SES/SI
C.M.P.

2860

TRANSLATION C.P.

11 Territorial H.Q.
Service Office.

M/1 (3A)

Ref 2938/03/V.

Palermo. 23 June 1946.

Subject:- Military Hospital No 22 of the Red Cross.

To:- 11 B.L.U.

P A L E R M O
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Ref our verbal agreements, herewith copy of the u/n. folios
for your aknowledge:

- a) - Folio No 3742/03/S dated 23 June from S.M.R.E. - Service Office.
- b) - Ration scale (civilian) for the patients in the Red Cross Hospitals.
- c) - Ration scale (military) for the patients admitted in the Military Hospitals.

Ref paragraph b), the Military Hospital No 22 Directorate, tries to do
all what possible in order to made the rations the most agreeable
to the soldiers.

For this herwith a list of the food issued daily between the 1st and
the 21st June.

By Order
The Vice Chief of the Staff.
(S.Inghilleri Lieu.Col.)

2859

SEE 24
M/10.

11 Terr. n.Q. Military Sanitary Directorate.

MAXIMUM RATION SCALE (CIVILIAN) FOR THE SOLDIER ADMITTED IN THE RED CROSS HOSPITALS.

Daily Rations	Weekly Rations	For each 100 grams of food are:	Proteins	Salts	Fats	MA	GL	Weekly calories	Daily calories
Bread 350 grames	gr 2450	5,0	0,4	44	0,5	5090	120		
Pasta 85 "	" 595	12	0,0	75	0,01	2124	303		
Sugar 33 "	" 231	--	--	100	--	777	111		
Milk tinned gr100	" 700	3,4	3,05	4,8	0,10	399	57		
Olive Oil 35 gr.	" 275	--	99,4	0,2	--	1610	231		
Dry Veg. 100 gr	" 700	15,8	1,6	55	0,0	2135	305		
Soup. gr 100	" 700	0,05	3,0	49	0,02	1020	260		
Beer cubes nol	" No 7	--	--	--	--	--	--		
Fresh veg. 350 gr. (2)	1830	2,08	0,15	21	0,04	1104	252		
Fruit 300 gr.	gr 2100	0,5	0,5	15	--	1170	100		
Tomato sauce gr	" 35	0,9	0,2	4	0,11	7	1		
Salt gr 15	" 105	--	--	--	105	--	--		
Wine 1/2 litro	Lit. 3.1/2	--	--	0,10	--	2275	325		
Fresh cheese 100gr	gr 100	32	5,3	1,13	0,1	1344	192		
M & v gr 400(or)	" 2000	14,20	2,3	22	0,0	960	130 (4)		
Corned beef gr 200	" 1400	12,0	3,1	--	0,3	104	112 (4)		
Fresh meat(or fish) (1)	" 100	25,2	0,2	--	--	80	11		
100 gr	" 100	32	5,3	1,73	0,7	192	27		
Milk food gr 100 (1)	" 100								
Extra meal allowance									
15 litres	(3) 1r105					420	60		
						(4) 22.193	3169 (4)		
						22.011	3143 (4)		

The following scale (integrative) is issued for the 25% of the patients to the tuberculoses and to the patients waiting to be posted to the T.D.

C. Hospitals.

Fresh Milk 1 Litro	3.4	3.65	4.8	0.16	2875
Strong Wine Cl.10 (5)	5.65	5.4	0.25	0.10	71
Egg No 1	1.9	--	--	51	88
Ham gr 40					899

Tomato sauce grs	" 35	0,9	0,2	4	0,11	1170	160
Salts gr lb	" 105	--	--	--	105	1	1
Wine 1/2 litro	Lit. 3.1/2	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fresh cheese 100gr	gr 100	32	5,3	0,10	--	2275	325
M & V gr 400(or)	" 2000	14,20	2,3	1,13	0,1	1344	192
Corned beef gr 200	" 1400	12,0	3,1	22	0,8	960	130 (4)
Fresh meat(or fish) (1)	" 100	25,2	5,3	1.73	0,3	104	112 (4)
Milk food gr 100 (1)	" 100	32	5,3	--	--	80	11
Extra meal allowance					0.7	192	27
lb lires	(3) Lit 105					420	60

(4) 22.193 3169 (4)
22.011 3143 (4)

The following scale (integrative) is issued for the 25% of the patients to the tuberculoses and to the patients waiting to be posted to the T.B. C. Hospitals.

Fresh Milk 1 Litro	3.4	3.65	4.8	0.16	2875
Strong Wine Cl.10 (5)	5.65	5.4	0.25	0.10	2868
Egg No 1	1.9	--	--	51	71
Jam gr 40					88
					899

Therefore the tuberculoses and the 25% of the patients receive a ration of 3143 calories.

- (1) - Once a week.
- (2) - Potatoes less 1/4 for the peel (1038 gr sharp.)
- (3) - With the actual prices of the market with this sum we could buy the following: 200 gr of fresh meat, 200 gr of fish; 400 gr of onions, 400 gr of tomatoes; we could obtain other 60 calories daily.
- (4) It depends if M.&V. is issued or only Corned Beef.
- (5) Instead of the normal issue.

NOTE:- No increasings but only variations are allowed for the rationed articles. This is largely exploited in order to have a best manufacturing of the meals and more agreeable. The claims of the patients relating the food (not sufficient daily ration) are to be understood apart the quantity of calories, they would have a bigger quantity of bread and pasta; and with the same mean the T.B.C. and the very weak patients wish to have a bigger quantity of eggs; meat of fish.

MILITARY SANITARY DIRECTORATE OF 11 TERR. H.Q.

MAXIMUM RATION SCALE (MILITARY) FOR THE SOLDIERS ADMITTED IN THE MILITARY HOSPITALS.

Daily Rations	Weekly Rations	For each 100 grammes of food are:	Proteins !	Salts !	Fats !	Macl	Weekly calories	Daily calories
Bread gr 444	gr 3108	5.8	0.4	44	0.5.8	6464	923	
Pasta gr 150	" 1050	12	0.6	75	0.01	3648	521	
Fresh meat gr 200 (1)"	1022	25.2	6.2	=	=	823	118	
Table cheese gr 25(2)	228	32	5.3	1.73	0.7	437	62	
Dry Veg. gr 56	392	15.8	1.6	55	0.8	1195	170	
Rice gr 28	196	6.7	0.8	78	0.04	699	99	
Tomato sauce gr 14	98	0.9	0.2	4	0.11	19	3	
Coffee gr 14	98					652	93	
Sugar gr 28	196				20.7			
Olive Oil gr 28	196					1813	259	
Fruit gr 113	791	=	99.4	0.2	=	442	63	
Vegetables gr 350(3)	1838	02=08	0=0.3	8=23	=	1764	252	
Dry Fruits gr 42	294	2.08	0.15	21	0.04	1852	264	
Salth gr 20	140	18	58	10	=	=	=	
Wine 1/2 litro	li. 31/2	=	=	=	140	2275	325	
Extra meal allowance								
15 lire	L.(4) 135					660	94	
						22.743	3246	

- (1) It is issued for eleven days each fortnight, in the other days are issued 60 gr. of table cheese or different food bought with the extra meal allowance.
- (2) Inclosed 60 gr issued once a week instead of the meat.
- (3) Potatos less 1/4 of the weight for the peel. (1838 sharp)
- (4) Inclosed 30 liras allowed once a week instead of 200 gr of meat. With the actual prices of the markets with this sum we could buy: 200 gr of fresh meat, 400 gr of fish, 400 gr of onions, 500 gr of tomatoes, we could obtain other 94 calories daily.

NOTE:- No increasing but only variations are allowed in the rationed articles.

Olive Oil gr 28	196	=	99.4	0.2	=	1013	259
Fruit gr 113	791	02=08	0=0.3	8=23	=	442	63
Vegetables gr 350(3)	1838	2.08	0.15	21	0.04	1764	252
Dry Fruits gr 42	294	18	58	10	=	1852	264
Salth gr 20	140	=	=	=	140	=	=
Wine 1/2 litro	11. 31/2	=	=	8.10	=	2275	325
Extra meal allowance							
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NOTE:- No increasing but only variations are allowed in the rationed articles.

2807

TRANSLATION C.P.

Menu for the patients of the Military Hospital of Red Cross No 22 in San Lorenzo Colli, for the period between the 1st and the 21st June 1946.

=0=0=0=0=0=0=0=0=0=

Bread grammes 350

Fruit grammes 300

Wine 1/2 litro.

Breakfast :- Coffee and milk. (milk grammes 190 ; coffee Gr 5)

Lunch :- Vegetable Stew. (pasta gr 85 - vegetables gr 175 - dry veg. gr 150.)

Dinner :- Vegetable Stew (pasta gr 50 - vegetables gr 175 - dry veg. gr 50)

Meat or fish (meat gr 100 - fish gr 150)

Meat of fish (meat gr 100 - fish 150)

Sometimes instead of meat or fish it has been issued to some patients 100 gr of cheese.

On 16.6.46 during the lunch has been given coffee cream and milk.

On 20.6.46 during the lunch has been given cake and coffee.

Additions daily:

For T.B.C's. = One egg. & 1 litro of milk. = 40 gr of jam. (if required the milk is substituted with one egg.)

The same additions are for the 25% of all the patients.

TRANSLATION C.P.

11 Territorial H.Q.

Ref 3742/03/S.

Palermo 23 June 1945.

Subject:- Red Cross Hospital No 22

To:- S.M.R.E.

ROME

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- 1) Major Sneezum - 11 D.L.U. during a recent inspection to the Red Cross Hospital No 22 (Palermo - San Lorenzo Colli), noted that the moral standard of the patients, (near the totality they are ex-P.O.W.) is very low. Following the opinion of the a/n. Officer, this moral dejection is due to the two following points:
 - Unsufficient daily rations (as quality and quantity)
 - Whole lack of any kind of recreation and no Welfare organization.

- 2) Major Sneezum's remarks, especially about the moral of the patients are, quite adherent to the real situation of the Hospital. I noted this myself during my frequent inspection to the Hospital.-

But it is to be pointed out :

- the Hospital is an establishment of the Red Cross,
- therefore it has its own personnel, organisation, and administration
- that the military power is limited to a technical check on the Sanitary Assistance (and for the lawfulness of this check, long polemics have been recently carried on between the Central Committee of the Red Cross and the Min. of War - General Sanitary Directorate.

And although all the above creates a particular situation that makes difficult any plain interference to avoid reactions and susceptibility, I never left behind anything in order to improve the conditions of the patients, whether issuing, when I could, clothing or allowances whether applying to H.E. the Cardinal of Palermo or other Charity Committees for the ex P.O.W. And my interest has not been useless because recently H.E. the Cardinal has issued a pijama to each patient, and books, news papers and magazines have been issued too.

- 3) After this I will express my thoughts (or my suggestions) about two points: rations and Welfare, that have been Major Sneezum's remarks

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2/.....

= 2 =

1°- RATIONS.

As it is known there is a special ration scale ordered by the Min. of War, for such Hospitals.

The rations, that at the beginning were the same as for the civilians, (because at that time the Allied Authorities did not allow the military scale), have been gradually improved, and up to day, the number of calories are lightly less than the calories in the rations issued to the soldiers on active service. (3169 calories instead of 3245.) They are not so good when manufactured and the quantity of pasta and bread ~~is~~ not sufficient.

In effect:

- the canned beef (that is always M. & V.) that is issued 5 times a week, is not much accepted.
- less accepted the soup.
- 350 grammes of bread and 85 of pasta are not sufficient even if they are to be add to 100 grammes of soup. (the normal weight of bread and pasta are of 444 Gr. and 150 gr.)

Pointed out the reasons of the discontent among the patients, regarding the food, I will press this S.M.R.E. in order to:

- increase the weight of bread and pasta until the normal ration (444 gr. of bread and 150 gr of pasta;)
- stopping therefore the normal issuing of soup (I do believe to be necessary over all increase the pasta quantity)
- to issue 200 grammes of fresh meat instead of the corned beef.

2°- WELFARE

Major Sneezum complains that in the Red Cross Hospital No 22, (the same is for all the military Hospitals), there is not an organisation for easy hand-works, for the patients laying in bed, in order to keep the patients busy, avoiding in this way the weariness, that influence badly the patients admitted in the surgical wards, when they have one hand or one arm amputated. Following Major Sneezum, it is possible to organize inside the Hospital what is called by the British a "Welfare Office.": One Office with personnel of the Red Cross (one or more Red Cross Nurses) with an head Office, that it could be or one Red Cross Nurse or an Officer.-

If it would be impossible to organize this Office inside the Hospital, we could interest any civilian Charitable Institution. But, apart the modalities of this organisation, it is important and necessary to do anything in this side: it would be very useful that every morning one or more Red Cross Nurses could visit

= 3 =

the patients in bed, issue the hand - work, give them suggestions and incidentally ask them what they need, about their familiary conditions, and confort them.

I do agree with Major Sneezum about the opportunity of this organization, and I will contact at once the President of the Italian Red Cross of Palermo, in order to invite him to do as much as he can in this side.

I believe that it will be necessary that this S.M.R.E. would inform the Central Committee of the Red Cross, because it is pointed out that is up to ~~the~~ look after this organisation, also because this has to be done for all the Hospitals.

I beg to inform the Central Committee in order to supply to the Hospital " San Lorenzo Colli" with a film projector owing that in the Hospital there is a big hall that it could be used as a cinema.

I will supply the films, with those hired by the O.R.'S Welfare Canténe.

Signed M.L.de Castiglione
G.O.C.

2853

Subject: Hospital Welfare.

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO

M/1

To : Land Forces Sub Com.A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

21 June 45.

1. From observations made during visits to hospitals in 11 Territorial Command, it is quite evident that the Italian Army Medical Directorate do not realise the importance of a 100% welfare organisation in their hospitals.

The morale of patients is invariably very low which fact is attributed mainly to unrelieved boredom.

2. In the Red Cross Hospital at San Lorenzo Colli, where 90% of the patients were ex P.O.W's, there was no library, or "spaccio".

3. It is suggested that a directive on hospital welfare be written to the Medical Directorate bringing out the following points:

a) That each hospital should have a welfare office with a complete welfare staff made up of either Red Cross personnel or civilian volunteers.

b) The importance of relieving patients of boredom by,

i) Daily visits of welfare staff who should take a personal interest in each patient.

ii) Getting patients to do handiwork such as rug-making, embroidery etc.

To be run in conjunction with occupational therapy which also serves to restore the use of limbs and teaches the use of a new limb when one has been lost. At present it would appear that there is no system of occupational therapy.

iii) The running of a good library whereby bed patients can get books and have them exchanged regularly.

iv) The running of a spaccio theatre and small concerts in wards etc.

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iii) The running of a good library whereby bed patients can get books and have them exchanged regularly.

iv) The running of a 'spaccio' theatre and small concerts in wards etc.

4. It is quite evident that at present the welfare organisation in hospitals is far behind that of other units.

2852

S.E. SWEETUM,
Major,
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.

SBS/SI
C.M.F.

Subject: Military Hospitals. Inspection

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO

M/1

To : Land Forces Sub Com.A.C.

(M.M.I.A.)

ROME

1 May 46.

11 Principal Terr. Hospital (PALERMO)

1. From a visit made by Major S.E. SNEEZUM on 30.Apr.46. to the above named military hospital the following observations were made:

- a) The hospital was very clean tidy and efficient.
- b) There is at present a shortage of specialist O.R. personnel, but 160 men are expected to arrive within a few days for training at the hospital from C.A.R.'s, on the mainland.
- c) The present supplies of coal amounting to between 4 and 6 tons per month are reported to be quite inadequate. Consequences are:-

(i) The hospital laundry is on many occasions unable to function.

(ii) The same applies to the disinfection sterilisation machinery and baths.

(iii) The one time reputed spoliess kitchen, converted by a proud Italian Sister is now blackened by the charcoal fumes emitted by the enforced use of wood fuel.

There is evidently no Army ration of coal, and it is purchased locally. This coal is also often of poor quality.

The same problem is said to exist at the other hospital at MESSINA.

Could an investigation be made whereby the Ministry of War will ensure an adequate supply of coal for hospitals.

The particular hospital in question state that their monthly requirement is 25 tons.

- c) but 160 men are expected to arrive within a few days for training at the hospital from C.A.F.'s, on the mainland.
- The present supplies of coal amounting to between 4 and 6 tons per month are reported to be quite inadequate. Consequences are:-
- (i) The hospital laundry is on many occasions unable to function.
 - (ii) The same applies to the disinfection sterilisation machinery and baths.
 - (iii) The one time reputed spotless kitchen, covered by a proud Italian Sister is now blackened by the charcoal fumes emitted by the enforced use of wood fuel.
- There is evidently no Army ration of coal, and it is purchased locally. This coal is also often of poor quality.
- The same problem is said to exist at the other hospital at VERGINA.
- Could an investigation be made whereby the Ministry of War will ensure an adequate supply of coal for ~~hospital~~ units.
- The particular hospital in question state that their monthly requirement is 25 tons.
- d) Only about 50% of beds were supplied with mosquito nets. More are evidently unobtainable.
- e) Patients were comfortable and well looked after, but seemed rather low in morale, probably due to boredom.
- It was suggested to the Director that handicrafts should be organised for bed patients by daily visits from Red Cross personnel and/or by the employment of civilian welfare societies.
- This suggestion was at first received rather disdainfully with a reply that such an arrangement would not appeal to the mentality of the Italian soldier.
- f) There was no remedial class in the form of handicrafts for surgical patients who had damaged or lost limbs. System is that of employing merely remedial exercise.
- g) An extremely good theatre has been constructed in the

hospital for the benefit of up-patients.

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S. E. STREZUM,
Major,
D. A. A. & C. M. G.

SES/SI
C.M.P.

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