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PROGRESS REPORTS

4482
4489

Aug. - Sept. 1946

Subject: Ordnance Services, 12, B.L.U. for the Italian
Central Military Schools.

Appreciation for the period 1st January - 31st July 1946.

To:- G.S.O. 1. 12, B.L.U.
A.D.O.S. M.M.I.A.

12, B.L.U. for the Italian
Central Military Schools.

Tel:- ROME 478808.

Ref:- ORD/4/30.

Date:- 27th July 1946.

1. During the above period the work for Ordnance Services of 12 B.L.U. has gradually decreased, owing to the fact that the demanding of stores through D.A.D.O.S. officially ceased on 31st December 1945, although stores demanded prior to that date were still arriving, when they had to be checked and handed over to the Italian Central Storehouse & Transit Shed for Distribution, which kept the clerks and storeman of D.A.D.O.S. Staff well employed.
2. Now that British Stores are being issued in bulk to the Italian Army, and the Italian Ministry of War is making its own distribution there is no longer need for handing over at this end, although an Ordnance representative may be needed to assist in designating, and checking of vouchers for receipt, of such stores that may arrive for the Schools.
3. Since the Commissariato Section of the Central Military Schools is now disbanded, and the Italian Central Storehouse is the responsibility of 8 Territorial Command, Rome, the work of Ordnance Services, 12, B.L.U. ceases in this direction. However there is still some correspondence, from time to time, cropping up with 557, B.O.D. concerning past issues, etc. There are also D.A.D.O.S. office records and correspondence, which need a responsible N.C.O. to deal with, whenever necessary.
4. On 1st August 1946 the only remaining Ordnance representative will be one Corporal Clerk. The W.E. for Ordnance Services 12, B.L.U. is as follows.

D.A.D.O.S.	1
W.O.I. (B.O.W.O.)	1
Clerks 1 L/Cpl.	2
1 Pte.	
Storeman 1 Cpl.	2
1 Pte.	

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All other personnel of the above establishment have gone on Release or Python, except D.A.D.O.S. who is proceeding, on Release at the end of this month.

Although deficiencies of these ranks have been shown on the Field Return of 12 B.L.U., it is understood that it is most unlikely for replacements to be available. At the present moment the Corporal Clerk is standing against the rank of W.O. I.

Comments

In view of the above it is considered that there should remain one responsible N.C.O. in charge of the Ordnance Services of 12, B.L.U., and assuming that an Ordnance Officer or any O.R. replacement will not be available it is recommended that, the Corporal be left in charge and promoted to the rank of Sergeant (standing against the rank of W.O.I.)

THS/ma.

File.

AA & QMC	
DAA & QMC	
SC "A" & "Q"	
DADST	
DADOS	
DADME	
Teg Increment	
Schools	
Inf	
74	
194	
File	

29 JUL Entd

194

File

1455

T.H. Shorthose
Major D.A.D.O.S.
(T.H. Shorthose)

4488

SUBJECT : Progress Report.

12 BRITISH LEADERS UNIT
for the
ITALIAN CENTRAL MILITARY SERVICES
(Vol : ROSS 409001 Ext : 545)

40/6/4/3067.

10 September 1946.

To : Comando Generale Centrale.

Herewith copy of 12 B.I.S. Monthly Progress Report No. 21
for August 1946.

WTT/mc

8
Capt. R.A.
GEO III.

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6 BRITISH LIAISON UNITPROGRESS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUSTPART I "GENERAL"1. Domestic.a) Change of Officers.

2/Major R.H. Charles (353938), Northern Rhodesia M.F.T., posted and joined this unit as C.S.O. II w.e.f. 19 Aug. 1946. via T/Major E. Downing on Class "B" release.

b) Visit of C.O.C., K.M.L.M.

Major General A.H. Coulburn, DSO, visited the Rose Territorial Command, General Boldarelli, on 28th August 1946.

2. Italian.Portmanteau visit of Foreign Military Representatives to S.C.M.H., Oristano.

Representatives of Great Britain, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., France, Spain and Brazil have been invited to visit S.C.M.H. on Wednesday, 4 Sept. 1946. The first four invitations were extended by H.Q. M.L.I., the latter two by the Ministry of War.

Programme for visit is attached as appendix "a"

PART II "G".3. Organization.

a) Reputation. - Nil.

b) Italian.

c) C.S.O. - S.M.L.I.

AA & QMC	
DAA & QMC	
SC "A" & "V"	
DADST	
DADOS	
DADST	
Schools	
Inf	
SA	
ME	
CS	
REG	
SEP	1946

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2/Major R.H. Charles (333930), Northern Rhodesia Regt, posted and joined this unit as C.S.O. II w.o.f. 19 Aug. 1946. Vice 2/Major H. Downing on leave w/o release.

b) Visit of C.O.C., M.H.I.

Major General A.H. Goulburn, DSO, visited the Regs Territorial Commander, General Solderelli, on 28th August 1946.

2. Italian

Participating visit of Foreign Military Representatives to S.C.A.R., Carrieto.

Representatives of Great Britain, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., France, Spain and Brazil have been invited to visit S.C.A.R. on Wednesday, 4 Sept. 1946. The first four invitations were extended by H.Q. M.H.I., the latter two by the Ministry of War.

Programme for visit is attached as Appendix "a"

PART II "a"

3. Organization.

a) Domestic - Nil.

b) Italian

1) C.A.R. - Sardinia.

The project of establishing a C.A.R. in Sardinia is in abeyance. It is considered that the need for this C.A.R. has been cancelled out by the policy of NOT forming Territorial Regiments.

2) Serving Soldiers from ex-Colonies.

It is reported that the discharge of soldiers from ex-colonies and their passing to employment by the Ministero di Assistenza Post Bellica is under consideration.

Soldiers in the above category are not being discharged at present but are permitted to resign if they can become self-supporting.

4. Training.

a) S.C.A.R.

Training at S.C.A.R. is proceeding satisfactorily.

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b) Regimental.

i) The training of the Granatieri Regiment in Rome is very difficult owing to the heavy duties being carried out.

ii) The Battalion at Viterbo is still in the process of being changed into Granatieri and is in a state of re-organization.

British small arms have arrived during the month but there is a great dearth of competent instructors.

iii) The Battalion at L'Aquila is very much in the same state as the Battalion at Viterbo except that the efficiency is higher.

c) Intelligence.

a) Ascertained activities of Italians vis-a-vis other countries.

It is reported that Yugoslav agents have established an office in Milan and seek to attract ex-Fascist and dis-occupied soldiers and especially aviators.

It is further suggested that organized armed bands of Slavs circulate in many towns of the Abruzzo where they conduct black market and smuggling activities. Fear is expressed that only action by the Allies can successfully intervene since the Italian Government has its hands tied by the Communist Party.

b) Frontier activity.

* Concern is mounting over the Yugoslav incidents in the Veneto and Friuli.

c) Relations between troops and populace.

Reported to be good and improving, probably assisted by a growing resentment of the partigiani who are seen to be adopting the Fascist principle of obtaining by force a recognition for their patriotic service and so exploiting the weakness of the Government.

d) Political current amongst troops.

New recruits are reported to be far more truly patriotic.

e) Public security.

Banditry, disorder, smuggling are all, rightly or wrongly, attributed to Slav agents who seek to disturb the equilibrium of the Italian people.

Intelligence

a) Ascertaining activities of Italians vis-a-vis other countries

It is reported that Yugoslav agents have established an office in Milan and seek to attract ex-Fascist and dis-occupied soldiers and especially aviators.

It is further suggested that organized armed bands of Slavs circulate in many towns of the Adriatic where they conduct black market and smuggling activities. Fear is expressed that only action by the Allies can successfully intervene since the Italian Government has its hands tied by the Communist Party.

b) Frontier activity

* Concern is mounting over the Yugoslav incidents in the Veneto and Ialria.

c) Relations between troops and population

Reported to be good and improving, probably assisted by a growing resentment of the partisans who are soon to be adopting the Fascist principle of obtaining by force a recompense for their patriotic service and so exploiting the weakness of the Government.

d) Political current amongst troops

New recruits are reported to be far more truly patriotic.

e) Public Security

Banditry, disorder, smuggling are all, rightly or wrongly, attributed to Slav agents who seek to disturb the equilibrium of the Italian people.

f) Economics

Nothing new to report.

Traffic in currency and gold is reported to be based on Greece, Isle of Rhodes and Switzerland.

g) Road accidents caused by Allied vehicles

The General Public desire that the Allied GHQ take strong action to suppress the speeding of Allied vehicles which has caused many fatal accidents of late.

This is particularly reported in the case of Polish vehicles.

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PART III - "A".6. Domestic.a) Deficiencies in all ranks against W.B.

Majors - Training	1.
Clerks - Corporal	1.
Motor Cyclist - Pts.	1.

b) Italian.

Major H.J.O. Prinsloo proceeded on 28 days LIAF #o.f. 31 Aug. 46.

c) Belgian.

Pte Dines G(Dar) is due for 19 days leave in Group 12.

Italian.7. Deficiencies in total strengths and in tradesmen against W.B.

<u>Total Strengths</u>	Officers	+6%
	C.R.s	-2%
<u>Tradesmen.</u>		-4%

8. Dominican.

It is felt that the continued imputation of public speeches and newspaper articles that all officers are reactionaries is causing a feeling of apathy and futility amongst officers.

9. Lebanese.

Nothing new to report.

10. Panama.

The recent increase of pay to the workers and the satisfying of the Panamanian demands has increased the discontent felt by the troops.

11. Morale.

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Major K.J.O. Frinaldo proceeded on 26 days LL/P m.e.f. 31 Aug. 46.

c) FRINALDO.

Pto Diego G(Dr) is due for 19 days leave in Group 12.

Italian.

7. Definiciones in total strength and in tradesman against N.S.

<u>Total Strengths</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>+6%</u>
	<u>O.R.s</u>	<u>-2%</u>
<u>Tradesman.</u>		<u>-4.5%</u>

8. Manpower.

It is felt that the continued imputation of public speeches and newspaper articles that all officers are reactionaries is causing a feeling of apathy and futility amongst officers.

9. Leave.

Nothing new to report.

10. Pay.

The recent increase of pay to the workers and the satisfying of the Partisan demands has increased the discontent felt by the troops.

11. Morale.

- a) Recruits are reported to be of good morale whilst at C.A.R.s
- b) Amongst the older soldiers the current feeling of uncertainty and of frustration following on the Pesoe Treaty is noticed.

12. Welfare.

No change in the situation.

13. Public Relations.

The new intake of recruits was well and favourably publicized. All commanders have been instructed to invite relations, local authorities and newspaper men to the important feast days celebrated in barracks.

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PART IV - "C".14. Duping.a) Transport.

Vehicles have now been allocated to this unit as per Appendix B. Vehicle Serial No. 1 is to be returned to L. G. L. M. L. on about 7 Sept. on the assumption that vehicle Serial No. 4 will be serviceable when the L. G. L. M. L. returns from L. I. L. S.

b) Accommodation.

The proposed move to the Caserma ex-Militia, via Romania, has been postponed but should take place in September.

Italian.15. Transport.a) AMV less O. M.

Data for the Calabria Brigade is not yet to hand owing to the recent conversion from Divisional to Brigade status.

Summary:-

	<u>M/Cs</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>Trucks</u>
Sufficient	42	41	160
Lacking spares	5	6	28
Lacking tyres	3	4	5
Deficient	17	1	6
<u>M.3.</u>	67	52	199
			<u>4483</u>

16. L. S. M. L.

a) The Directorate of Motorisation is not ensuring that their instructions are put into operation.

The Territorial Commander is interesting himself in the matter.

b) Repair Workshop.CarsTrucks

Italian.15. Trenement.a) Army less OC.M.

Data for the Calabria Brigade is not yet to hand owing to the recent conversion from Divisional to Brigade status.

Summary:-

	<u>M/Cs</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>Trucks</u>
Efficient	42	44	160
Lacking spares	5	6	28
Lacking tyres	3	4	5
Deficient	17	1	6
<u>M.E.</u>	67	52	199
			<u>4483</u>

16. P.D.M.E.

a) The Directorate of Motorisation is not ensuring that their instructions are put into operation.

The Territorial Commander is interesting himself in the matter.

b) 6 Repair Workshop.

	<u>Cars</u>	<u>Trucks</u>
Vehicles awaiting repair - 31st Aug.	90	142
" repaired - August	291	181
" received during August	307	190
Number of man hours worked by technicians		66571
" " " " others		65730
Total		132306
Average man hours for vehicles repaired		260.3.

P.A.O.C. Problems17. Clothing and equipment.

a) The recruits arriving at 8 C.A.R. were satisfactorily fitted out.

b) The 2nd. and 3rd. Infantry Battalions at Viterbo and L'Aquila have NOT yet received web equipment. Territorial Command has now interested itself in the release.

c) Failure to exchange clothing is found often to be due to bad interior economy and failure to press for releases after the initial indent has been submitted.

d) It is hoped that 8 Centre of Clothing and Repair will be able to move to more suitable premises shortly.

18. Arms and Ammunition

Army Losses C.C. RR.

a) The release of arms in the following quantities to the Grenadier Regt., the 2nd. and 3rd. Infantry Battalions has been made.

Rifles 1602	Bayonets 1602
Rifle Blings 1602	Oil Pottles 1602.

Brass 149	P.I.A.T. 49
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Signal Pistols 117

b) Pullthroughs are practically non-existent but it is reported that they are being manufactured locally.

19. Accommodation

No change.

20. F.O.L.

Satisfactory.

21. Supply Problems

Several depots were visited by 8 B.L.U. and Staff Captain, S & T during the month. The situation was mainly satisfactory excepting for minor details like the stacking system, Bin cards not being up to date, local innovations in accountings and the lack of Fire Preparations.

22. Medical

Nothing to report.

23. General

The failure of Italian Service Representatives to visit units is marked.

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Raymonds 1602
Oil bottles 1602.

Rifle Slings 1602

Brons 149" P.I.L.T. 49

Signal Pistols 117

b) Pullthroughs are practically non-existent but it is reported that they are being manufactured locally.

19. Accommodation.

No change.

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22. Medical.

Nothing to report.

23. General.

The failure of Italian Service Representatives to visit units is marked.

Rome.

4 Sept. 1945.

Distribution.

H.Q. M.M.I.A.

12 E.L.U.

File

- 4 Copies.

+ 1 Copy - Loss Appendices.

- 1 Copy.

Major (RA.)

Commanding

8 British Liaison Unit.

John T. ...

4482

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