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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

10000\120\4741 BT1/A1(a) INFY TRG INSTS

MAR. 16, 1945 - JUE 15, 1945

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F...I...L...E.

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No.9 - Organisation of Infantry Training

'H' HQ IRAQ JOF

Officer i/c Training
IRAQ JOF

Ref: HQ/...1/284

15 June 1943

1. At present the training in the Regiments tends to be too centralised - this makes for large squads and also reduces responsibility.

While for actual instruction the basis is the section, with one NCO teaching about 7 - 10 men, the training unit in the platoon of about 40 men. Here at GHQ we always speak of the Company. This is wrong as the Company is not the unit for instruction.

2. Infantry Training here at GHQ should be organised as follows:

(i) Divisional HQ Training Staff responsible for

(a) Production of Original model training programme.

(b) Provision of Regimental Staffs and their training by courses, etc.

(c) Regulation of Intakes, drafting, etc.

(d) Production of training equipment and aids, beyond the powers of Regiments.

(e) Issue of Training Instructions, pamphlets, directives, etc, etc.

(ii) Regimental Training Staffs

(a) Co-ordinates training of Battalions.

(b) Provides training equipment and aids within their power, and ensures best use is made of them.

(c) Ensure that the standards of training is the best possible.

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(c) Ensure that the standards of training is the best possible.

(iii) Battalion Training Staffs

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(a) Co-ordinates training of Companies.

(b) Ensures all sub units are working efficiently.

(iv) Company Training Staffs

(a) Makes programme for platoons.

(b) Supervises platoon training and encourages competition between platoons.

3. To take an example if 700 recruits are due to arrive at CESANO.

The HQ Staff is responsible that they are allotted in the most efficient way. This will normally be to a Battalion which should be empty ready to receive them. Failing this a company is the next most suitable unit. On no account should they be divided between two Regiments, merely for the sake of impartiality.

The Headquarters/.....

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The Headquarters and Regimental Staff must be satisfied that they have everything in readiness for the recruits, and that the instructors and training facilities are the best available.

4. The Battalion Commander has previously learnt what equipment he has available and what ranges he has allotted to him. He therefore calls his company commanders together and sub-allots these.

The company company then makes out his programme for platoons based on the original divisional model programme of which he has a complete copy. The company commander must bear in mind the amount of equipment and facilities he has available. Therefore, his daily programme will look as follows compared to the divisional programme (rough example):

'A' Company Training Programme
MONDAY, Xth June 1945

Platoon.	0600.	0700.	0800.	0900.	1000.	1100.	1500.	1600.	Night.
1 Pl	Drill	PIAT.	Bren	Location of Fire	PT	30 yds Range			
2 Pl	30 yds Range.		Drill	PIAT.	PT.	Bren	Location of Fire		
3 Pl	Location of Fire.	30 yds Range			PIAT	Bren	PT.	Drill.	
4 Pl	PIAT	Drill	Bren	PT	30 yds Range		Location of Fire		
5 Pl	Location of Fire	PIAT	PT	Bren	Drill	30 yds Range			
6 Pl	30 yds Range	PT	Location of Fire	PIAT	Bren	Drill			

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2 Pl	30 yds Range.		Drill	PLAT.	PT.	Bren	Location of Fire		
3 Pl	Location of Fire.	30 yds Range		PLAT	Bren	PT.	Drill.		
4 Pl	PLAT	Drill	Bren	PT	30 yds Range	Location of Fire			
5 Pl	Location of Fire	PLAT	PT	Bren	Drill	30 yds Range			
6 Pl	30 yds Range	PT	Location of Fire	PLAT	Bren	Drill			

5. This is a llowing that there is a shortage of training equipment in the PLAT and that 2 x 30 yard ranges are available. If only one range is available then some squad would have to alter the programme of the following day or, alternatively, the period only to last one hour.

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6. In other words though the programme is made out on a high level the detail must be done by the company.

7. Each Platoon should have its own barrack room.

8. The permanent Staff of the platoon to be at least 1 Sgt and 3 NCOs. If possible 1 officer to each platoon but 1 to every two or three is quite adequate.

9. The platoon commander must be held responsible for the complete training and discipline of his platoon. If a high standard is to be reached there must be inter-platoon competition. At a British Centre there is nearly always a token of some sort held weekly by the best platoon.

10. The Regimental and Battalion Training Officers must encourage the inter platoon spirit, this and the control of equipment and instructors will be their chief job.

At present/.....

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At present there is a big tendency to over sub-allot stores. For example, if we have a horse and cart, the horse will go to one Battalion and the cart to another. There are many stores which are never in sufficient quantities for sub-allotment. Aiming rests, Bayonet Stands, PT apparatus and many other items.

Regiments should have a Weapon Training Officer and keep these type of stores centrally. The Weapon Training Officer should have a copy of all programmes, by careful study of the programmes he will be able to allot, for example, all the aiming rests of the Regiment to one platoon on same days. All items being returned after the period.

The Weapon Training Officer should also be responsible for upkeep and construction of ranges, training stores, and general standard of Weapon Training throughout the Regiment.

He should control the Regiment's Armourers, Zapperbori, and training stores. If, however, weapons are in good supply they are better sub-allotted. In the same way, if there are expert PT instructors they should be held centrally and allotted to people actually doing PT.

11. At present it is felt that training officers tend to supervise too much and organise too little. They are in the same position as a chief instructor at a school, they must not sit on top of their instructors but should make certain that everything is easy for their sub-ordinates.

WLP/amj

Major GSO.II
Inf Training

F...I...L...E.

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No.8 - Weapon Training

A1

'H' BTI IRTC ICF

Ref: BTI/A.1/271

11 June 1945

Officer i/c Trg
IRTC ICF

The following points have been noted and are sent to you for recommunication to interested parties.

1. The standard of weapon training compares most unfavourably with other aspects of training and will not be rectified unless it is approached from an entirely different angle, and energetic steps taken to ensure the points mentioned below are corrected.

2. Weapon training depends for its success on individual instruction. For this reason all weapon training lessons with a few exceptions are made very simple so that even the most junior NCO is capable of instruction.

3. NCOs have been sent on courses to SIVA and to the Infantry School as well as to British Schools of Instruction. In many cases they have done extra-ordinarily well. The whole point of accepting NCOs on Schools is to train them as Instructors. When they return they must be employed as instructors, and allowed to instruct. Nothing can be more boring for a recruit during his 8 weeks training here at CERANO than to constantly hear the voice of his Lieutenant or his Captain throughout his instruction.

4. It will be seen that weapon training lessons divide themselves simply as to whether an officer is required to take that instruction or not.

(a) If live ammunition is used an officer is required.

(b) If a lesson requires the use of fatigue men or if the lesson in any way is in the nature of a demonstration then an officer is required.

(c) If it is a lecture and a lecture only then an officer should give that lecture.

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(c) If it is a lecture and a lecture only then an officer should give that lecture.

In all other cases an NCO will and must take that lesson, each NCO instructing not more than 10 men.

5. An officers job is to ensure

(i) that his NCOs know and have prepared that lesson,

(ii) that the lesson is held in the most favourable conditions i.e. that the ground selected is the most convenient, 5484

(iii) that each instructor NCO has the correct stores for the lesson as is given in the pamphlet before each lesson,

(iv) that while the lesson is in progress to listen to the NCO instructor and after the lesson to make any suggestions as to any mistakes in teaching.

(v) to correctly note, both mentally and on paper, the progress of each individual men in the squad and to ensure that those men who do not come up to standard receive extra instruction.

6. It cannot be over emphasisied how important it is to ensure that the conditions under which weapon training are carried out are favourable. The following points spring to the mind.

(i)/.....

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(i) Is the lesson being carried out in the hottest and dustiest part of the camp?

(ii) Are the men seated in a bed of thorns?

(iii) When the men are practising the lying position have they got ground sheets to lie on?

(iv) Have sandbags been provided for the man to rest his arms on while firing?

(v) Is there boiling water, oil and cleaning materials ready for the man after he has fired?

(vi) Is a record being kept of the scores?

These and many other smaller points are the duties of officers, once again NOT doing NCOs' jobs. This tendency of officers to talk too much and do too much must be checked by every senior officer. The best training is when NCOs are instructing and instructing well and when the officer is supervising the arrangements for the next period. It is not the sign of a good Company Commander to find him always hanging around his squad. He must be looking ahead the whole time.

7. As has been emphasised this does not mean that the officer has little part in weapon training. The lessons of judging distance, the application of fire and where fatigue men are used require that the organisation of the period definitely have the supervision of an officer, also it is better if the officer explains the lesson.

8. Despite the enormous figures given as men required for keeping targets and ranges in order the conditions of the ranges is very bad, particularly in No.2 Regiment. At least an outward sign of efficiency is essential when recruits go on the range to fire and cleanliness, a little whitewash and good order, if they do not improve the standard of shooting certainly does not impede it.

9. It should be noted that weapon training for the war time soldier was drastically reduced and the standard asked of the soldier very much cut down. It is to be observed that there is far too much tendency on the part of officers to get men on the range shooting before the men are ready and I think too much emphasis is placed on the actual firing of the weapons by all and sundry. If each preparatory stage is carried out well, the resultant shooting should be good. If, on the

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officer is expecting the attack for that period. He is not the sign of a good Company Commander to find him always hanging around his squad. He must be looking ahead the whole time.

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10. The strengthening of the muscles required for shooting does not receive sufficient attention. In a lot of cases it is noted that men have their sights at zero when firing and the positions adopted are far from satisfactory. The rifle is to the other weapons, as drill is to the remainder of training. If a man shoots well with his rifle he will shoot well with all other arms.

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11. Testing is the basis of instruction, that and practice of tests of elementary training must receive more attention than they have been receiving up to the present, by physical and by questions.

12. During the early stages of weapon training a certain rigidity is essential for good results to be obtained. When a man has actually been trained then he can be allowed more free time, and he should be trained to fire quickly and at targets more suitable for service conditions. If, however, the men's original training is sloppy and half hearted, good results will not be gained in the more advanced stages.

W.L.P.

Major GSO.II
Inf Training

WLP/asj

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F...I...L...E.

SUBJECT:- Training - Infantry Training Instruction No.7

A1

'H' BTI IRTC ICF

Officer i/c Training
IRTC ICF.

Ref: BTI/A.1/232

30 May 1945

The following points have been noticed by me in the Infantry training here at CENTO during the last fortnight.

1. PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There is a general lack of any apparatus for physical training. Moreover, the same exercises are continually repeated.

I am having a British manual translated and hope this will be of assistance. As regards apparatus, wile it would be pleasant to have proper Gymnastic Equipment, much can be improvised. It should not be beyond the powers of this Centre to provide logs for log exercises. A horse for vaulting can easily be made out of sandbags, and ropes for climbing as at the Carabinieri, etc.

At present there are too many breaks for a rest and the periods tend to be too long. A Physical Training period should only be for forty minutes but there should be no breaks in it.

2. WEAPON TRAINING.

Is possibly the worst part of the instruction at present. This is due I think to lack of interest by Senior Officers who prefer to watch a more exciting form of training. Squads are still far too large, are incorrectly placed, the men stand up when they should be sitting down and sit down when they should be standing up.

Instructors do not really know their lesson in many cases and have not got the correct stores for the lesson. Also officers must not neglect their NCOs and attempt to do everything themselves. When weapon training instruction is in progress it is essential that there is no other instruction taking place which is likely to divert the eye or ear.

The selection of suitable ground is essential for good weapon training. It is also important that each Regiment should have a weapon

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The selection of suitable ground is essential for good weapon training. It is also important that each Regiment should have a weapon training officer, preferably each Battalion, to ensure that all necessary targets are provided and that ranges, etc, are kept in order, again to ensure that the best NCOs are selected for courses and that they are properly employed after courses.

3. FIELDCRAFT AND TACTICAL TRAINING.

Are probably better carried out than weapon training periods as more interest is shown in these by Senior Officers. If, however, the basic instruction is neglected so will the tactical periods suffer.

Sufficient use is still not made of models to explain exercises before going on the ground. Each Regiment should have a lecture room with models.

Whilst a Regiment can never have the same facilities as a School it can and should at least try.

4. DRILL AND GENERAL DISCIPLINE TRAINING.

Still remains rather poor. No.1 Regiment is running a junior NCOs course - this can be copied elsewhere. It must be realised that all training in the British Army is based on having good Junior Leaders and NCOs. If this is not realised any attempts to use British Tactical Methods will fail.

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It is suggested that a drill competition first run regimentally between battalions and finally a divisional competition for the best Battalion might help to produce a better standard. It is essential that a proper parade ground be supplied for No.2 Regiment.

5. SCHOOLS.

The Infantry School is very satisfactory at present, but there is a need for more tables and forms if possible. The classrooms are very bare and every effort should be made to produce more models etc.

Again the contractors must complete the work on hand quickly.

6. INFANTRY SPECIALISTS SCHOOL.

The mortar instruction is poor but the other instruction is making steady progress. Given proper support and good Instructors this School could be the best in the Centre as the commandant is first class.

7. GENERAL.

(i) The training at the Infantry School may be said to be excellent. That of the First Regiment is good. The Specialist School is improving rapidly. However, though the Second Regiment is making progress I am certain that unless there are still further changes the standard will not be high.

(ii) It is also suggested that unless the number of men increases considerably, which I doubt it will, that each Regiment goes on a two Battalion basis. This will effect a better distribution of permanent staff, releasing more instructors and at the same time many men will become available for fatigues, etc. I do not see either Regiment exceeding 2,000 men for some time. It will not be difficult to change back if necessary.

At present there are far too many Company Commanders with no Companies and storemen with no stores.

With the fewer men present in Regimental areas, it is felt that NCOs messes and dining halls for the men might well be organised.

(iii) Contractors Works.

This is noticeable by its complete absence. I think the work of contractors in Nos 1 and 2 Regiments is a scandle. It is of the utmost importance that a recruits first impression of an army is a

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(iii) Contractors Works.

This is noticeable by its complete absence. I think the work of contractors in Nos 1 and 2 Regiments is a scandle. It is of the utmost importance that a recruits first impression of an army is a favourable one. The Centre still has a derelict look about it which is not conducive to entusiasm.

(iv) It would be an excellent idea if the training staff tested their 3481
quality of the instruction here at CRSANO, on the lines of the Aids to Methods of Instruction book; I am afraid the results would be very disappointing.

(v) I would be very glad to have fresh requests for any additional training equipment required as now with the break up of various centres this is much more easily procured than it was formerly.

Major G30.II
Inf Training.

WLP/asj

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNBC NO. 785020

F...I...L...E.

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No:6

Officer i/c Training, INF SCH
OC, No.1 Regiment
OC, No.2 Regiment
Infantry School
Infantry Specialists School

"H" HQ INF SCH

Ref: HQ/4.1/206

14 May 1945

1. GENERAL.

The following is a brief summary of the essential points of Infantry training during peace time conditions. It is felt that many officers have have still a wrong conception of the way this centre should function, and that at present the results being produced are far from satisfactory. Many recently joined officers probably have little conception of what a training centre should look like or how it should be run. It is essential that all officers should realise that the standard of training, of discipline and cleanliness of this Centre is deplorable still, while at the same time appreciating that great progress has been made.

2. It is essential that all officers and NCO's concentrate on the essential points of training and do not lose sight of the proper task of this Centre. It is no good an officer going to SEVA and getting a distinguished report as a sniper instructor, if, when he gets back, he cannot keep discipline when he has to deal with recruits.

Every officer must realise that the first function of this Centre is to change a civilian into a soldier. That is, a disciplined individual capable of obeying orders, with a smart appearance and a soldierly bearing.

When a soldier goes into NOWR now it is very doubtful if the civilians comment favourably on his smartness. They should do if this was a good Centre. There must be something wrong if they don't which every individual must try to rectify.

3. Basically then the first essential is good administration. At present officers should be ashamed of their efforts. Fully 50% of the men have no laces in their boots, no buttons, no shirts, no caps, the tunics do not fit, the

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The men must be fitted out properly when they arrive if it takes a month to do it.

4. Then they must be taught how to wear their clothing and how to keep it clean. At present despite orders, clothes are worn in a multitude of ways, some shirts outside, some shirts inside the trousers. First, officers must teach their men how to wear the clothes and then, if they don't do it, they must be punished.

To fine a man pay for being dirty is a bad punishment. He must be paraded after hours until he is clean. Extra drill and extra parades are the best punishments for recruits.

Now it is peace time soldiers should polish their brasses and clean their equipment and wash their clothing at least twice a week. At present the excuse is made of no soap - this is bad administration.

5. Once again it must be pointed out that preliminary instruction in drill, weapon training, etc, is the duty of the Non commissioned officer. It is the function of the officer to train and function to ensure that he has good non commissioned officers, not to make a fool of himself by trying to teach subjects better taken by an NCO.

NCOs must command. At present the 2nd Lieut is doing the job of the corporal and the captain that of the 2nd Lieut. The answer when it is suggested that the NCO is useless is rubbish. A good officer has good NCOs and the[re]

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are many good NCOs here. They must be taught how to train soldiers, how to put men in arrest, their responsibilities and made to realise that they are important. Nobody thinks an officer is good because he crawls around on his stomach demonstrating how to crawl. Rather the reverse - you think he is inefficient because he has not trained his NCOs. Officers and NCOs must confine themselves to their own jobs if they are to keep the dignity of the task.

6. If the standard of Junior Officer and NCO is as low as some people pretend then it is the duty of Battalion Commanders straight away to train their officers and NCOs by running cadres.

Commanders must not be frightened of reducing the hours of instruction of the men. A man actually learns very little after four hours of instruction a day. If that instruction is to be first class, however, the instructor must work from 8 - 10 hours a day. It is far better to do a little and do it well than to bore a squad by working too long.

Instead of doing fatigues in the morning, the morning should be devoted entirely to training. The afternoon to games and sports and compulsory cleaning of equipment, regimental areas, etc.

7. No man should be allowed out of the camp area unless he is clean and properly dressed and a credit to the Centre. This is the job of the guards, the Regimental Police and every officer and NCO, from the Commander to the most junior lance corporal.

8. The next point which requires the attention of officers is the appalling slowness of getting things done. If you want to make a regimental area smart decide first what is to be done. Get the stores necessary to the various sites, detail officers to particular jobs then strike off the whole regiment for a day or two days. The whole camp could be made to look perfect in two or three days if a really concentrated effort was made and every officer and NCO and man got out of his office or away from his training. It will be found that better results are obtained from a concentrated effort than putting 2 or 3 men on a job daily.

9. In this respect it is noticed that there is far too rigid an observance of hours of work. If the hours of instruction are from say 6 - 11 that does not mean that no other work is done after. This is only the actual period of training. The remainder of the day affords opportunities for building sports grounds, improving accomodation, etc.

This is most important, the desire to improvise training or others, the wish to improve accomodation and facilities must be predominant in every [illegible] that materials are in short supply.

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This is most important, the desire to improvise training aids etc, the wish to improve accommodation and facilities must be prominent in every officers mind. It must be fully realised that materials are in short supply, both Italian and English, therefore, officers must get things done by improvisation. There is far too much "I have written a letter" or "I have asked for the materials".

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10. As has been pointed out in previous letters there is no rush in training men now. It is essential now that the progress of individuals is watched far more carefully than previously, that before a man fires on the range he has passed his test of elementary training, and that other corresponding tests are introduced for physical training, etc. If a man does not progress he must be placed in a less advanced squad.

11. To ensure that there is proper individual attention it is essential that commanders stabilise immediately their permanent staff and also the localities of sub-units. Not until there is some degree of security for the junior commander can training go ahead really properly. Nobody will effect any improvements unless he is confident of holding his position for some time.

12. COMPETITION.

This is the keynote of good recruit training, unless there is competition there cannot be good results. At present far too much attention is paid to getting a level standard. This is wrong because a level standard is always a low standard. It is essential that comparisons be made between individuals and between units.

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At present any-body goes on leave be he a good soldier or a bad soldier. A definite standard should be laid down before a soldier is permitted to go on leave.

In this same way in a drill parade the time of instruction not the standard of instruction is the criterion at present. It is far better for the instructor to say before the lesson starts "If the drill is good the period will last 30 minutes, if it is bad for three hours".

13. REMARKS.

These are most important. There should be a factual inspection by a senior officer of sub-units one at a time every week, where every detail is closely checked - administrative and training. It is much better to visit only one period of training a day and to do it thoroughly rather than to visit 10 squads and know nothing about what is going on. The inspecting officer should, when visiting training, have studied carefully the lesson the night before so that he is in a good position to know if the training is sound or not.

W.C.

Major (GD).II
Dpt Training

KLP/aaj

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WLP/amj

Major GSC.II
Inf Training

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

F...I...L...E.

A1

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No:5

Officer i/c Training, [illegible]
OC No:1 Regiment
OC No.2 Regiment
Infantry School
Infantry Specialists School

[illegible]
Ref: HQ/A.1/197
7 May 1945

1. GENERAL.

Owing to the successful progress of the war the situation as regards training becomes very different and it is time to alter our ideas on this training and to begin to adapt ourselves to the new conditions which have arisen.

2. Previously a man, if sent forward from this Centre, had to take his place in the line on arriving at the Gruppe and had little or no chance of doing any further training with his unit. Therefore the function of this Centre was to attempt to produce a soldier who could fire his weapons and have a brief understanding of the main tactical manoeuvres of his Platoon. In the short time that was available for training it was not possible to produce either a particularly smart or a particularly efficient soldier.

3. The function of the Centre should now be to produce a smart, well disciplined soldier who has a first class knowledge of his weapons. The tactical side of his training is now of far less importance as this can be carried out equally well when the soldier is posted away to his Gruppe.

4. The first thing therefore, is to produce this higher standard of individual training. This can best be done by competition. The basic unit should be the Platoon and the competitive spirit encouraged throughout the time a man spends at this Centre. Competitions inter-Platoon should be run, not only in such subjects as machinery but also in the smartness of the mens barracks and rooms, their drill and their personal appearance, and prizes should be given to the winners. It is also very necessary that increased attention be given to games and sports in this Centre and the same competitive spirit introduced into these sports.

5. It is essential that the barracks are made to look attractive and

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and have a brief understanding of the main tactical manoeuvres of his Platoon. In the short time that was available for training it was not possible to produce either a particularly smart or a particularly efficient soldier.

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4. The first thing therefore, is to produce this higher standard of individual training. This can best be done by competition. The basic unit should be the Platoon and the competitive spirit encouraged throughout the time a man spends at this Centre. Competitions inter-Platoon should be run, not only in such subjects as musketry but also in the smartness of the mens barracks and rooms, their drill and their personal appearance, and prizes should be given to the winners. It is also very necessary that increased attention be given to games and sports in this Centre and the same competitive spirit introduced into these sports.

5. It is essential that the barracks are made to look attractive and to look smart, and this must be done down to the very last detail. When a football field is made it should be kept properly marked out; the goal posts have nets, and the side lines marked with proper flags. The fronts of buildings in many cases are very drab and unimpressive. These should be brightened up.

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HOURS OF WORK.

6. For the Schools these should be as at present but the Regiments should give attention to reducing the number of hours of work and increasing those of recreation. It is essential, however, that if hours of work are reduced that something concrete is put in their place. It is no use just doing merely less work. Games and sports must be organised for all or if for space reasons this is not possible the games must be watched by the remaining soldiers. It is not necessary merely to play football, proper swimming parties in the lake should be organised, boxing and athletics.

7. It is also important for officers and NCOs to realise that because training ends at a certain hour that it does not mean to say that all work for the day has finished. Soldiers must learn to smarten themselves and their surroundings after parade hours.

8. It is also essential that more attention is paid to the individual. There is too much juggling with figures at present. Each soldier should have a proper record kept of his progress in training, a record of this kinds be

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passes and if he fails to pass these tests he must be given further instruction.

9. More attention must be given to the maintenance of arms and equipment, this means not only rifles and Bren guns but also vehicles. The next point is to smarten up the Permanent Staff. At present they are a disgrace. This does not mean the Instructors but applies more to the drivers, the cooks and the army men who do nothing the greater part of the day. Attention must be watched to these people and they must pass the same tests as recruits and every man, from the Colonels batman downwards, should do at least one drill parade a week. You cannot produce smart soldiers with a dirty permanent staff.

10. Whatever training there is it is vitally important that it is good training with the man getting proper instruction from somebody who really knows what he is talking about. Commanders, therefore, must take energetic steps to produce a trained and efficient Permanent Staff and to get rid of the 'hangers on'.

Yours

Major Gen. I.C.
Inf Training

WLP/mcJ

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Weber

WLP/maj

Major GSC, U.S.
Intelligence

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F...I...L...E.

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No.4

'H' HTI ITN 1CP

Chief of Staff (Training)
OC No.1 Regiment
OC No.2 Regiment
Infantry School
Infantry Specialists School

Ref: HTI/A.1/190

4 May 1945

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION.

1. The methods of training do not appear to us to be fully appreciated. It is hoped that Regimental Commanders will take steps to rectify these points immediately.

WEAPON TRAINING.

2. The criterion of good weapon training is an Instructor who knows his lesson and who has the necessary stores to carry out that lesson. If these points are observed and the size of his squad regulated so that no Instructor has more than 10 men to teach good weapon training will automatically result. Despite the fact that we have been here for four months, half the necessary stores for good weapon training have not been made. How many Battalions have proper aiming discs? So easy to make with a bit of tin and a bit of wire. In all Battalions there should be a proper bayonet assault course and all battalions should have training sticks. It is the responsibility of the Battalion Training Officer to see such things are provided and that the correct targets are used.

3. Some trouble was taken to build a 600 yard range - now one cannot see from the firing points because crops have been allowed to grow too high.

4. Are those people who have done courses employed in Instructing in the subject in which they studied on their course? If a man has done a course for example, a Sniper course, such man should be employed where Sniper Instruction is actually being carried out.

TACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

5. The present method of tactical instruction appears to be that the training area is divided into three sectors, one Battalion being allotted a sector and told to carry out training in that area. If the period being taught is"clearing a wood" and the Battalion area does not possess a wood

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TACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

5. The present method of tactical instruction appears to be that the training area is divided into three sectors, one Battalion being allotted a sector and told to carry out training in that area. If the period being taught is"clearing a wood" and the Battalion area does not possess a wood this appears to make very little difference. Moreover, a whole Battalion does the same instruction at once. This is not Tactical Instruction. It is a waste of time!

6. The most important point with training so many men at once, is to get the men, as far as possible in different stages of training so that there are, for example, 200 men on each weekly stage of the 8-weeks programme. If this is done, or an attempt is made to get this done, one will find that it is easy to ensure that on any one day, no more than 2 Platoons at the outside need be doing the same Tactical Instruction at the same time.

7. It will be noticed that all Tactical Instruction periods in the programme start with a lecture, and many of the Tactical periods have a rehearsal before the actual exercise takes place. Battalion Commanders must not REPEAT NOT interfere with Tactical Instruction to the extent that they do at present. For example, a squad was observed sitting on a bare hill being harangued by an officer. This was the preliminary lecture to an afternoons Street Fighting. When asked why he was there, it was because he had been told to be there.

8. The preliminary lecture for "Street Fighting" would be far better given in a barrack room or in any other vacant space in the unit lines with a model of the ground where the actual exercise will take place in the

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afternoon or , alternatively, of an ideal tactical plan. It does not require any great efforts to produce a model. A blanket, some straw underneath, or shirts, rags or other material to give the shape of the ground a few bits of tape to mark the roads and a few blocks of wood for houses. This is, of course, the crudest type of model, but a Battalion which prides itself on its instruction would produce something vastly better.

9. The exercise which follows must start right from the barracks. In other words, the men leave the barracks in a tactical formation having been told what they are going to do, there the enemy is and with a Platoon Commander actually commanding the Platoon. The Company officer has gone on ahead, set out the enemy, cleared the area for firing if this is to take place, arranged targets, and is prepared to act as an Umpire.

10. The exercise proper should start with the leading troops coming under enemy fire, the Section Commanders, soldiers and officers acting exactly as they would in battle with proper orders given out and a proper plan of attack made. From time to time the Umpire will control the exercise giving new situations, only stopping the exercise if something goes radically wrong or for safety reasons. At the conclusion of the exercise there should be a conference and criticisms and, if necessary, the exercise should be repeated.

11. For all intents and purposes there are only about three types of exercises worth doing. One is where the exercise is carried out as a drill. Secondly where the fire of the enemy is represented through firing over the head or to the flanks of the attacking troops or, alternatively, into a bank or some other safe place. Thirdly where the attacking troops carry out a field firing exercise with all their weapons or, alternatively, a portion of their weapons.

12. It is not instruction to go out on to a piece of ground and say "We are now going to clear a village." Then to say, "Now, you two men are the clearing party. You go up to the door. Now you others, you are the mopping up party. When they open the door, you go through." This taken place and the Section goes into the house. So does the officer instructing and he then has to issue further orders inside the house to clear it and further orders to get the men out again. These drills, as has been pointed out, are first explained in properly organised lectures and demonstrations. The training progresses period is an exercise.

13. Commanders must have faith in their sub-ordinates. If they have not, these sub-ordinates must be changed. A Battalion Commander must feel quite happy to see a Platoon commander leave barracks at 7 o'clock and do training. He is provided with a car on the establishment to go out and witness this training if he has any doubts as to whether it is being well

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13. Commanders must have faith in their sub-ordinates. If they have not, these sub-ordinates must be changed. A Battalion Commander must feel quite happy to see a Platoon commander leave barracks at 7 o'clock and go training. He is provided with a car on the establishment to go out and witness this training if he has any doubts as to whether it is being well carried out. At present Tactical Training is being carried out too close to the barracks and the dinner break appears to dominate the training. Provided the work on the programme as laid down by the Regimental Commander is properly carried out it does not matter what time it is carried out or where it is carried out. The training at present is carried out to time but it is being spoilt by over centralisation and by being carried out far too close to barracks, so that one squad is on top of another. A good march out hurts nobody, infact it is good training.

14. The above remarks in the last paragraph, of course, apply to Tactical Training. Weapon training can be usually carried out near barracks and is probably more efficiently done by virtue of being near some.

15. The training Programme made out, it has been pointed out before and it is pointed out again, is a guide and a guide only. The Battalion Commander must start to plan his following weeks training the Friday before. He must bear in mind the following points:-

(i) How can I make this training interesting?

(ii) Is the sequence of training being followed?

(iii) Is there only one Platoon working in that area?

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(iv) What administrative problems are there connected with the training?

In this respect, from the Battalion point of view, it is best for the Battalion Commander, instead of calling his programme days Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday etc, to call them D.1, D.2, D.3, D.4. If a day is missed owing to a Feste, rain or other reasons in service as the training in sequence, instead of doing the training that is laid down for Wednesday. Regimental commanders cannot and must not expect, nor must other commanders, that the training programme be followed rigidly. There will always be alterations. It is merely the duty of the Junior Commander to inform his Senior Commander that such alterations are taking place.

CONCLUSION.

16. It is of vital importance that this question of Tactical Training be studied and carried out right now and a sense of responsibility given to the Junior Commander. If a Junior commander is not given an opportunity to show initiative he can not and will not make a commander. All Senior Commanders must be prepared to allow a shambles to take place once. There will be no second time as the good Commander will have got rid of the officer responsible. On the other hand, if this policy of allowing initiative is pursued, good exciting training will eventually result, instead of the outwardly efficient but rather mediocre and poor instruction that goes on at present.

Major G.S.II
Inf Training

WJF/asj

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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WLP/asj

Major GSC.II
Def Training

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FILE

A1

SUBJECT:- Infantry Training Instruction No.3

Chief of Staff (Training)
OC, 1 Regiment
OC, 2 Regiment
Infantry School
Infantry Specialist School

'H' BTI IRTC ICF

Ref: BTI/A.1/161

24 April 1945

INTRODUCTION.

1. In a previous letter I have emphasised the importance of having a fixed routine and a fixed standard of training. In the programme which was suggested as an example for recruits training a definite sequence of instruction was given. This aimed at producing a minimum amount of work for the Instructor. If the programme is faithfully followed out there should be little trouble in producing an interesting and instructive course of training. If, on the other hand, the programme is not followed or not adhered to properly, periods will be missed or shoddily carried out.

PREPARATION FOR TRAINING EXERCISES.

2. For example let us take the period "The Attack on a Strong Point". This takes place in the seventh week of training. This is not a simple period. The first essential is that there should be a Strong Point to attack. By a"Strong Point" one implies either a Pill-box or a series of Pill-boxes or, alternatively, a well prepared dug-in and wired-in Platoon position which must be overcome by a definite drill, by the use of explosives, and by the use of all available fire power. One cannot carry out this period successfully by just saying "We are going out and carrying out an attack on a Strong-Point" and walking out on to a barren piece of ground with a flag representing a Strong Point. THERE MUST BE A STRONG POINT. There must be a well organised and prepared period of instruction.

3. For that reason the previous week (the sixth week of training) is devoted to the instruction of a Platoon Defensive Position, 3 complete days being allotted to this. This should be sufficient to construct a well dug-in Platoon position. I hope to see one soon. This position can be improved upon by subsequent courses and subsequent squads. People must dig and this training will not be neglected as at present.

4. First will be noted in the programme, one selects a defensive position; then one digs it; then one wires it; and then one puts mines in front of it. It is for this purpose that wire is issued. In each Regimental area there should be a dug Platoon position, a Strong Point ready to be attacked at any time by any squad who cares to carry out the exercise. This position should be dug and prepared in an area where live firing with small arms and with mortars is possible, such as the range area. How many regiments have prepared such an area?

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5. The actual conduct of the exercise is clearly explained in the pamphlet. There is nothing difficult in the exercise, it does, however, require careful preparation and all the necessary equipment. It differs from the normal exercise to the extent that in this drill more use is made of smoke than is normal, and also that to get through the outer wire use is made of the BANGALORE TORPEDO. Not every soldier will know how to use this, therefore, it may be necessary to borrow instructors or personnel from the Infantry School.

6. The exercise should be rehearsed as a drill and then done finally with live firing. Unless there is this "live firing" it is difficult to appreciate the careful co-ordination necessary in an assault of this nature. This type of exercise should be prepared by a Senior Officer and when a satisfactory exercise has been prepared, Platoons should go through it successively. It is not the type of exercise that you can just tell a Platoon Commander to go out and do, as Safety Precautions have to be observed in this exercise.

7. In the latter respect it is noted that when firing exercises are carried out a vehicle and trained stretcher bearers should always be available in the unlikely event of there being any casualties. Training should not be allowed to suffer through too much 'security mindedness' but it is important that there should always be efficient medical arrangements and that arrangements are made to close the area where firing is actually taking place.

DIGGING.

8. The importance of good digging cannot be overstressed. When these Strong Points are dug they will serve for demonstrations on the importance of digging. These trenches should have various targets made of paper and other materials and subjected to heavy 2 inch and 3 inch mortar fire. Soldiers will then see how little damage is done by enemy shell fire and mortar fire, provided there is good digging. Comparison can be made with other targets in the open.

9. On every problem the importance of digging must be stressed, even in the bivouac area. The British Training Manual possibly does not stress digging sufficiently and cetera more for digging against shell fire only. Most British Units in this Theatre of War have suffered casualties, and in some cases heavy casualties, from fragmentation bombs, both in the front line and whilst in bivouac areas. If a position is going to be occupied for any length of time, besides the ordinary fire trench, an adjoining dug-out with head cover is necessary. The slit trench is given in the book only the first task of digging and by no means represents the completed work.

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W.L. Pope
Major, GSO.II
Inf Training.

WLP/asj

OGGETTO: TERZA ISTRUZIONE PER L'ADDESTRAMENTO DELLA FANTERIA.

Al Capo di stato Maggiore (Addestramento)
Al Comando del I.° Reggimento .
Al Comando del 2.Reggimento.
Alla Scuola di fanteria.
Alla scuola di specialisti di fanteria.

'H' BTI IRTC ICF

Ref: BTI/A1/161

24 Aprile 1945

INTRODUZIONE.

1. Nella lettera precedente avevo illustrato l'importanza di avere una pratica fissa e un metodo di addestramento. Nel programma che fu suggerito come un modello per reclute da addestrarsi fu dato un ordine definito di istruzioni. Questo mirava a produrre una quantita' minima di lavoro per gli istruttori.Se il programma viene fedelmente seguito vi sarebbe poco sforzo nel produrre un interessante ed istruttivo corso di addestramento.Se,d'altro canto,il programma non e' seguito,o non si adorisce propriamente,si perdera' tempo oppure si svolgera' in modo errato.

PREPARAZIONE DI ESERCIZI DI ADDESTRAMENTO.

2. Per esempio studiato il periodo di "Attacco ad un caposaldo".Cio' ha luogo nella settimana di addestramento.Questo non e' un semplice esempio.
La prima cosa essenziale e' che ci dovrebbe essere un caposaldo da attaccare.
Con caposaldo s'intende o Casamatta o una serie di Casamatte o,alternativamente, una trincea ben preparata e cinta da fili spinato in posizione per Plotone,che deve essere superata per mezzo di determinata esercitazione,con l'uso di esplosivi e con l'uso di ogni potenza di fuoco utilizzabile. Non si puo' portare a termine questo con successo dicendo solamente: Noi usciamo e portiamo a compimento un attacco ad un caposaldo" e cominciando su un pezzo di terreno arido con una bandiera che rappresenta il caposaldo.SI DEVE ESSERE UN CAPOSALDO.SI DEVE ESSERE UNA BEN PREPARATA ED ORGANIZZATA BASE DI ISTRUZIONI"

3. Per questa ragione la precedente settimana(la sesta settimana di addestramento) e' dedicata all'istruzione di una posizione difensiva,essendo assegnati 3 giorni completi per questo.Cio' dovrebbe essere sufficiente per costruire una valida posizione di trincea. Spero di vederne una subito.Questa posizione puo' essere migliorata da corsi successivi o susseguenti squadre,BISOGNA SCAVARE, e questo addestramento non sara' trascurato come ora.

4. Dapprima sara' osservata nel programma,si sceglie la posizione difensiva,quindi si scava,quindi la si cinge di filo spinato;e quindi vi si pongono mine davanti.E' per questo scopo che il filo spinato viene posto.In ogni area raggiungibile vi dovrebbe essere una porzione di trincea,un caposaldo pronto ad essere attaccato in ogni momento da qualsiasi squadre che deve compiere l'esercitazione.Questa posizione dovrebbe essere

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2. Per esempio l'attacco di plotone ad un caposaldo ,che si dovrà nella settimana di addestramento.Questo non e' un semplice esempio. La prima cosa essenziale e' che ci dovrebbe essere un caposaldo da attaccare. Con caposaldo s'intende o Casamatta o una serie di Casamatte o,alternativamente, una trincea ben preparata e cinta da fili spinato in posizione per Plotone,che deve essere superata per mezzo di determinata esercitazione,con l'uso di esplosivi o con l'uso di ogni potenza di fuoco utilizzabile. Non si puo' portare a termine questo con successo dicendo solamente: Voi uscirete e porterete a compimento un attacco ad un caposaldo" e camminando su un pezzo di terreno arido con una bandiera che rappresenta il caposaldo.CI DEVE ESSERE UN CAPOSALDO.CI DEVE ESSERE UN BEN PREPARATA ED ORGANIZZATA BASE DI ISTRUZIONI"

3. Per questa ragione la precedente settimana(la sesta settimana di addestramento) e' dedicata all'istruzione di una posizione difensiva,essendo assegnati 3 giorni completi per questo.Cio' dovrebbe essere sufficiente per costruire una salda posizione di trincea. Spero di vederne una subito.Questa posizione puo' essere migliorata da corsi successivi o susseguenti squadre,BISOGNA SCAVARE, e questo addestramento non sara' trascurato ora.

4. Come precedentemente osservato nel programma,si sceglie la posizione difensiva,quindi si scava,quindi la si cinge di filo spinato;e quindi vi si pongono mine davanti.E' per questo scopo che il filo spinato viene posto.In ogni area reggimentale vi dovrebbe essere una porzione di trincea,un caposaldo pronto ad essere attaccato in ogni momento da qualsiasi squadra che deve compiere l'esercitazione.Questa posizione dovrebbe essere scavata e preparata in un'area dove sia possibile un fuoco vivo con piccole armi e con mortai,cosi' come il poligono di tiro.Quanti reggimenti hanno preparato una siffatta area?

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5. La condotta attuale dell'esercitazione e' chiaramente spiegata nell'opuscolo. Non vi e' nulla di difficile nell'esercitazione,richiede,tuttavia,una minuziosa preparazione e tutto il necessario materiale.Differisca dalla normale esercitazione per cio' che riguarda il fatto che vien fatto piu' uso,del normale,di fumo;e anche per attraversare il filo spinato che e' all'esterno vien fatto uso di BANGALORE TORPEDO.Non tutti i soldati ne conoscerannni l'uso perciò' puo' essere necessario far venire istruttori o personale dalla scuola di fanteria.

6. L'esercitazione dovrebbe essere prima spiegata e rispiegata,e poi fatta finalmente con vivo fuoco.Se non c'e' questo "fuoco vivo" e' difficile stimare l'accurata coordinazione necessaria,in un assalto di questa natura.Questo tipo di esercitazione dovrebbe essere preparata da un ufficiale superiore e quando una pratica soddisfacente sia stata raggiunta,plotoni dovrebbero susseguirsi in questa esercitazione.Non e' il tipo di esercitazione per cui si puo' solo dire a un comandante il plotone di uscire fuori e fare,poiche' precauzioni di sicurezza devono essere osservate in queste esercitazioni.

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7. Al precedente numero si osserva che quando si compiono esercitazioni di fuoco dovrebbero essere sempre disponibili un veicolo e porta-feriti,preparati nel caso infelice che vi fossero delle disgrazie.L'addestramento non lo si dovrebbe interrompere di troppe preoccupazioni di sicurezza,ma e' importante che vi siano sempre sufficienti disposizioni sanitarie e che provvedimenti siano presi per circoscrivere l'area dove il fuoco in quel momento abbia luogo.

SCAVARE.

8. L'importanza dello scavare bene puo' non essere ripetuto.Quando questi capisaldi sono scavati,essi serviranno per di ostruzioni sull importanza dello scavare.Queste trincee dovrebbero avere vari bersagli fatti di carta e altri materiali e sottoposti a fuoco di mortai da 2 pollici e 3 pollici.I soldati vedranno allora quantapoco danno e prodotto da fuoco di artiglieria nemica e da fuoco di mortaio quando si sia scavato bene.Un paragone puo' essere fatto con altri bersagli all'aperto.

9. Ad ogni proposito l'importanza dello scavare deve essere ripetuto,persino nei luoghi di bivacco.Il manuale incluso di addestramento non ritorna sufficientemente sullo scavare e sicuro di piu' per quel che riguarde lo scavare contro il fuoco d'artiglieria solamente.Moltissimi reparti inglesi di questo teatro di guerra hanno sofferto perdite e in alcuni casi gravi perdite,per frammenti di bomba,tanto nelle linee di fuoco che nei bivacchi.Se una posizione sta per essere occupata per una qualsiasi durata di tempo,oltre al posto di fuoco della trincea,e' necessario porre una necessaria trincea con copertura.

Major,GSO.II
Inf' Training.

WLP/us j

OGGETTO: Istruzione No.2 sull'addestramento di Fanteria.

File A1

'H' BTI ETC ICF

Ref: BTI/A1/133

27 Aprile 1945

Al:
COMANDO 1 REGGIMENTO
COMANDO 2 REGGIMENTO
COMANDO SCUOLA DI FANTERIA
COMANDO SCUOLA SPECIALISTI DI FANTERIA
CAPO UFFICIO ADDESTRAMENTO CACFIC.

1. Si e' constatato che il livello di cognizioni degli ufficiali e sottufficiali non e' alto come si potrebbe desiderare. Inoltre spesso essi si trovano ad aver a che fare con armi che non conoscono e con principi tattici e organizzazioni molto differenti da quelli che hanno conosciuto in precedenza.

Di piu' , si incontrano molte difficolta' amministrative quando si fanno richieste di materiali inglesi.

E' percio' essenziale che l'addestramento sia reso semplice e ci si tenga aderenti sempre ad un programma fisso.

2. Non si insistera' mai abbastanza sulla importanza del programma fisso. L'addestramento di un uomo e' simile a un processo di lavorazione di oggetti manifatturati: bisogna procedere secondo una sequenza definita e senza omettere alcun passaggio.

Nella produzione in serie nelle fabbriche ogni operaio fa solo un lavoro. Fin dove e' possibile, dovrebbe essere la stessa cosa per gli istruttori. Pochi ufficiali e sottufficiali s'intendono di tutto; dovrebbero essere impiegati a fare solo cio' che meglio sanno fare.

3. Tenendo presenti tali punti, la prima cosa da fare e' mantenere la continuita' e la sequenza nell'addestramento.

Si pensa che sia adeguato un programma di otto settimane. Sempre pero' che lo si eseguisca bene. Se ci sono 3 giorni di festa, se l'istruzione del lunedi' mattina si fa solo a meta', e se si fanno vaccinazioni e iniezioni durante l'addestramento, non ci sara' piu' continuita'. I giorni festivi potranno osservarsi prima e dopo il periodo di istruzione, non durante. In un Reggimento di Guardie Britanniche, per tutto il primo mese di addestramento non si permette ai soldati di uscire dalle Caserme.

Se un soldato si ammala, guarito, ricominciera' l'addestramento dal punto in cui lo lascio'.

Il criterio da seguire e', dunque, che ogni uomo eseguisca il programma in otto settimane.

4. Inoltre e' importante che ogni uomo abbia il CORRETTO ADDESTRAMENTO.

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2. Non si addestra alla battaglia, ma [illegible]
L'addestramento di un uomo e' simile a un processo di lavorazione di oggetti manifatturati: bisogna procedere secondo una sequenza definita e senza omettere alcun passaggio.

Nella produzione in serie nelle fabbriche ogni operaio fa solo un lavoro. Fin dove e' possibile, dovrebbe essere la stessa cosa per gli istruttori. Pochi ufficiali e sottufficiali s'intendono di tutto; dovrebbero essere impiegati a fare solo cio' che meglio sanno fare.

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Se un soldato si ammala, guarito, ricominciera' l'addestramento dal punto in cui lo lascio'.

Il criterio da seguire e', dunque, che ogni uomo eseguisca il programma in otto settimane.

4. Inoltre e' importante che ogni uomo abbia il CORRETTO ADDESTRAMENTO. Si sa che c'e' differenza tra istruttore e istruttore. Dobbiamo assicurarci che l'istruzione sia facile per il cattivo istruttore. Perche' essa deve essere tanto semplice da poter essere compresa dai piu' sciocchi.

Gli istruttori dei Battaglioni dovrebbero perciо' avere per ogni periodo istruzioni scritte, che spieghino come eseguire una esercitazione, dove, e quali materiali etc. bisognano.

Probabilmente un bravo istruttore non avra' alcun bisogno di cio', ma almeno cio' assicurera' che anche un cattivo istruttore porti a termine una esercitazione che avra' il suo valore, piuttosto che starsene seduto contro un muro a dire stupidaggini ad una squadra annoiata.

5. L'addestramento sarebbe molto semplificato, se la squadra passasse da un istruttore all'altro anziche' tenere sempre lostesso Ufficiale. Per esempio:

* - Squadre

In questo caso l'ufficiale A trattera' solo le mine (avra' i materiali allo scopo etc), e fara' quattro volte la stessa lezione. Lo stesso per B, C, & D.

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6. Il normale organico di addestramento stabilisce in pratica che i sottufficiali impartiscano l'addestramento sulle armi e fisico, mentre un ufficiale sovrintende all'addestramento di 6 squadre. Gli ufficiali invece dovrebbero impartire solo l'addestramento tattico o di fuoco.

7. Tale organizzazione fu fatta in base alla supposizione che i sottufficiali fossero all'altezza del loro compito.

Un buon sottufficiale deve sapere impartire l'istruzione formale e sulle armi meglio di un ufficiale. Un ufficiale parla troppo.

Ammenochè sia data la dovuta attenzione all'addestramento dei sottufficiali, assegnando loro una squadra da istruire con le conseguenti responsabilita', non faremo mai dei progressi.

La base dell'istruzione e' la squadra di 7-10 uomini istruita da un sottufficiale.

8. L'addestramento delle reclute, e' dottrina comune, deve avere le sue basi su: istruzioni scritte per gl'istruttori deboli e una rigida sequenza di istruzioni.

L'istruzione attuale, comunque deve essere decentralizzata quanto e' possibile per assicurare la dovuta attenzione alle squadre e agli individui.

9. Concludendo; le premesse dell'addestramento sono le seguenti:-

i) Buona disciplina e comportamento militare, istillato con l'orgoglio del proprio Plotone, Battaglione o Reggimento, con la pulizia degli accantonamenti, e la bravura degli Uff. e Sottuff.

ii) Buon addestramento sulle armi, dato da un buon istruttore a una PICCOLA SQUADRA.

iii) Buon addestramento tattico, dato con ben preparate esercitazioni e istruttori svegli.

WLP/ro

Major

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9. Concludendo: le premesse dell'addestramento sono le seguenti:

i) Buona disciplina e comportamento militare, istillato con l'orgoglio del proprio Plotone, Battaglione e Reggimento, con la pulizia degli accantonamenti, e la bravura degli Uff. e Sottuff.

ii) Buon addestramento sulle armi, dato da un buon istruttore a una PICCOLA SQUADRA.

iii) Buon addestramento tattico, dato con ben preparate esercitazioni e istruttori svegli.

WLP/rc

Major

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SUBJECT:- Info( )y Training Instruction No.1

A 1

"F" HQ 1 CCO ICF.

Ref: HQ/A.1/25

16 March 1945

Officer i/c Training, HQ CCO ICF.

Info to:
Comd., "F" HQ CCO ICF.
Spares (2)

1. GENERAL.

It is apparent that in the last 3 weeks great progress has been made towards making CHASE into a first class training Centre. However, there still remains a great deal of work to be done.

The following are a few of the more outstanding points:-

(a) Training programmes.

It is clear that commanders are still not giving sufficient attention to these. There is no worse fault in making out a training programme than putting in a period of which there is no intention of carrying out.

Before a Regimental Commander issues a training programme, he must ensure that all training stores required are available and that instructors are capable in instructing in the subject to be taught.

(b) Training Areas must be allotted according to the subjects being taught. When platoons are observed doing section exercises on the barrack square it shows a lack of real preparation.

(c) Infantry in Italy is recognised as the dominant arm. The Infantry must be, as far as possible, self-supporting.

Commanders must realise that, in addition to a knowledge of weapons and a degree of tactical knowledge, Infantry soldiers must be capable of clearing and lifting mines, improvising bridges, first aid, using explosives, etc.

Junior Commanders must be capable of instructing in these subjects. Pamphlets are available and must initially be the basis of instruction.

Courses are few and difficult to get. The fact that an officer has not been on a course of mine warfare for example, is no excuse for him not being able to carry out some instruction in the subject.

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2. INFANTRY REGIMENTAL TRAINING.

Regimental Commanders must ensure that, until the formation of a special battalion, use is made of the officers and equipment allowed in their War Establishment.

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It is particularly requested that the documentation of recruits be most carefully studied so that when classes are formed it will not be difficult to obtain suitable recruits.

3. TACTICAL TRAINING.

Wherever safety permits, the exercises should include firing, or, if it is not possible to have the squad under instruction firing, an enemy who fires.

It may be found better to have a demonstration by 1 Platoon to the remainder of the company, followed by other platoons practising, rather than each platoon attempting to teach the same subject independently.

Battalion Commanders should, as far as possible, work out a number of exercises, sub units doing them in turn.

W.L.C.

Major, O.C. H.Q.
Inf. Brigade.

WLC/amj.