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PLANNING

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Oct. 1946

Subject : Monthly Call-Up.

12 B.L.U.
G.M.P.

(Tel Rome 439004 Ext 545)

G.P.

2 October 1946.

To : H.Q.,
Land Forces Sub-Comm A.C. (M.E.I.A.)

Copy to : H.Q.
Italian Central Military Schools.

1. British Officers of 12 B.L.U. and Italian Officers of the Central Schools have discussed fully the question of a monthly call-up and agree on the main points.

2. The main conclusions are:-

a. That the School of Signals, Motor Repair Training Centre and Army Repair Training Centre cannot change the present system without serious loss of efficiency. These Schools run numerous small courses of four and more months duration.

b. That the Schools of Artillery, Engineers, Infantry and Motorisation could manage with a monthly call-up, but would very much prefer a two monthly call-up.
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3. The School of Signals, who run a very large number of small courses would not be able to adopt a monthly or two monthly system without a serious loss of efficiency. They would prefer to run two courses a year, rather than three, as at present. It is suggested that if a few more frequent call-up is adopted, the School should continue to run courses as at present, and that recruits should be sent temporarily to units to await being called forward to the School. This also applies to Artillery and Infantry Signallers, whose present course is found to be too short.

1. British Officers of 12 B.L.U. and Italian Officers of the Central Schools have discussed fully the question of a monthly call-up and agree on the main points.
2. The main conclusions are:-
 - a. That the School of Signals, Motor Repair Training Centre and Arty Repair Training Centre cannot change the present system without serious loss of efficiency. These schools run numerous small courses of four and more months duration.
 - b. That the Schools of Artillery, Engineers, Infantry and Motorisation could manage with a monthly call-up, but would very much prefer a two monthly call-up.
 3. The School of Signals, who run a very large number of small courses would not be able to adopt a monthly or two monthly system without a serious loss of efficiency. They would prefer to run two courses a year, rather than three, as at present. It is suggested that if a far more frequent call-up is adopted, the school should continue to run courses as at present, and that recruits should be sent temporarily to units to await being called forward to the school. This also applies to Artillery and Infantry Signallers, whose present course is found to be too short.
 4. The Motor Repair Training Centre and Arty Repair Training Centre make a similar case for continuing their present system.
 5. The Armoured Car School have not yet had experience of training recruits, and cannot express an opinion.
 6. The remaining schools, which run courses of eight weeks or less, make a convincing case for a two monthly call-up, on the grounds that it will keep the recruits at an even strength throughout the year, and that courses will not overlap.
 7. The schools would require the following increases in R.R.:-

Engineers School	A small increase in personnel and equipment (Details not known)	
Signal School	Instructors 30 ? Adm staff 12 Officers 27 O.R.'s. (Details not known)	6956
School of Motorisation	75 All Ranks.	

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8. There is a case for calling up every eight weeks, rather than every two months, as is done in the U.S. This would enable standardization of programmed, troop trains etc.
9. The principal objections to a monthly call-up are given as follows:-
- a. Italians who are accustomed to an annual call-up dislike the idea of a "press gang perpetually on the prowl".
 - b. It is thought that frequent call-ups and troop movements will increase expense.
 - c. Perpetual coming and going at the schools will result in confusion.
 - d. An increased reception staff will be needed at the schools.
 - e. The morale of the instructors will suffer as they will get no leave.
- (12 B.L.U. does not agree with this point)
10. The attached diagrams have been lent by the Italians. It is requested that they may be returned.
11. The ~~date~~ of this letter has been ~~sent~~ ^{discussed with} General Ronco, who agrees with it.

AWG/vj

[Signature]
 Lt-Colonel
 G.S.

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