

ACC

10000/120/4816

10000/120/4816

G 13

A

SCHOOL OF INFANTRY

Oct. - Nov 1946

379  
394

SUBJECT : Ranges and Training Areas - School of Infantry.

12 RUJ.

C. M. F.

(Tel : RGE 489031 Ext : 515)

G. 13.

5 November 1946.

To : H.Q.  
Land Forces HQ Comd.  
A.C. (M.H.I.A.).

1. Two copies each of translations of the following letters are forwarded herewith for information :

Letter ref. No. 145 dated 11 Oct. '46 from  
"Universita' Agraria".

Letter ref. No. 03/2052 dated 17 Oct. '46 from  
Infantry School.

Letter ref. No. 01/10244 dated 26 Oct. '46 from  
H.Q. Central Military Schools.

2. It is agreed that the School of Infantry urgently requires a settlement of the problem of range and training areas. It is therefore recommended that the Ministry be invited to state their proposals for solving this problem.

394  
Lt. Colonel,  
C.S.

C O P Y

COMANDO SCUOLA CENTRALI MILITARI  
Ufficio Addestramento

No. 01/10244/Add. Gen.

ROME 26 Oct. 1946.

Subj. : Ranges and Training Areas.

to the STATO MAGGIORE ESERCITO  
Uff. Op. Add. Ser. Add.

To : 12 R.L.U. .... for action

ROMA

Please find enclosed letter No. 03/2052 dated 17th inst. of the Infantry School together with letter No. 145 dated the 11th inst. from the "Universita' Agraria" of Cesano - Roma.

Object of above letter is to point out the bad predicament in which the Infantry School will be put if prompt action is not going to be taken. In fact the whole NORTH and NORTH-WEST area used by the School as ranges and training grounds has been recently allotted to the peasants who will not clear it even during firing drill. In these conditions the School cannot carry on with the training, because in case of damages the civil and military responsibility falls on the School according to the laws actually in force.

As in the proximity of the School no other grounds are available for the above training and because the ranges are indispensable for the existence of the School, the S.M.S. is kindly requested to study carefully the question and take it up on a high level, to obtain at least the area South of the Lake of Martignano, to build up permanent ranges according with the schemes already forwarded by this H.Q. with letter No. 05/1171/S/Genio of the 15th April last.

(Sgt)

Brocole ROMCO  
The General in Comm.

393

C O P Y.UNIVERSITA' AGRARIA - CESANO DI R.

No. 145

11 Oct. 1945.

SUBJECT : Allotment of land.

To : H.Q. Infantry School - CESANO DI ROMAFor information to : PREFECT OF ROMA - ROMA

The Comando must be aware that the portion of land belonging to this "Universita' Agraria" and successively taken in possession by Genio Militare, to be allotted to the Centro Scuole is limited to the large area occupied by the buildings and enclosed by walls.

All the remaining property of the "Universita' Agraria", in accordance the ordinance of the 19th October 1944 No. 284 has been subdivided into 265 allotments - about 3 Ha. each - and given to as many citizens of Cesano who are bound within three years to work and improve the land for their own benefit and for that of the Nation as well.

Towards the end of 1944 a scheme of subdivision of the above land was worked out and advertisements were published with the approval by the "Commissario degli Usi Civili" (a Chief of the Office dealing with the land belonging to the Community). On the 3rd of February 1945 a special Ordinance was obtained after which the land was allotted to the peasants on the 8th of September r.year.

However since then 56 peasants, to which the land comprised in the localities called "Befo" and "M.S. Andrea & Prati S. Nicola" were allotted, have complained to this Office that the necessary works for the recuperation of the above land could not be started because the grounds were used by the Infantry School for training purposes. In fact owing to the necessities of the above training - passage of troops, M.T., digging of trenches, firing drills, etc., it was practically impossible for the peasants to work successfully.

As this "Universita' Agraria" has no other land to distribute among a great number of peasants who must work for their living the Comando is kindly requested to transfer elsewhere the ranges. Moreover it is kindly requested that the present difficult political moment be taken into consideration and further troubles be spared, this office which is trying its best to check any political excitement by satisfying as far as possible the claims of the local peasantry in great need of cultivatable land.

As the question must be urgently settled a prompt reply would be greatly appreciated. 392

(Sgl) The COMMISSARIO PREFETTURALE  
L. GIOVENCO



C O P YSCUOLA DI FANTERIA  
Uff. Add.to

No. 03/2052/

Cesano di Roma 17/10/46

Subject : Ranges and Training Grounds.

To : Comando Scuole Centrali Militari - Uff. Addestramento  
ROMA.

The recent allowances of land to the peasants granted by the Government have created in the Cesano zone a particular situation that will seriously affect the organization of this Infantry School. In fact all the land both and next to the School, a few Kilometers deep, belonging to the "Universita' Agraria" has been allotted to the peasants of the neighbouring Districts to be intensively cultivated.

On the above area the School has made ranges for small arms, mortars, and for hand-grenades; other works have been done as well, defence trenches, mine-fields, etc. for demonstrative purposes according to the training programs of the School. As all the above grounds were used then only as grazing-land they could easily be used by the School for training purposes as well without limitation of time or season, and they could be reached easily and without M.T. so that the daily programs could be carried on thoroughly and without loss of time. These advantages had been taken into consideration when it was decided that the Infantry School should remain at Cesano, even more so because (owing to the limited means of motor transport assigned to the School) a great economy of M.T. was obtained.

Owing to the nearness of the above grounds it was possible for the School to run many Courses at a time (in the last period of training 8 Courses were run at a time for about 1300 students) but if the present conditions alter, the training possibilities of the School would alter as well so that more reduced tasks should be assigned to the School by the Ministry of War.

In the whole territory no other locality - near or distant - can be found without damaging the cultivations or where the necessary safety measure could be taken, even if this could be possible, the School would have to be given a great deal more transport than it has at present.

Aware as I am of the political and social necessities of this particular moment, and of the difficult problems to be solved by the Government, and by People, I am anyhow obliged to point out the new situation arising at the School from the above informations.

I enclose herewith copy of letter No. 145 dated the 11th inst. received by this Comando from the "Universita' Agraria" of Cesano di Roma.

I am waiting further instructions by that Comando.

391

(Sgt) M. TANZI  
Col. in Comm.

OMANDO SCUOLE CENTRALI MILITARI  
Ufficio Addestramento

n° 01/10244/Add.Gen.

ROME 26 Oct. 1946

Subj.: - Ranges and training areas. =

to the STATO MAGGIORE ES.  
Uff.Op.Add.Sez.Add.

To the 12 B.L.U. ....for action

ROMA

=====

Please find enclosed letter n° 03/2052 dated the 17th inst. of the Infantry School together with letter n° 145 dated the 11 inst from the "Università Agraria" of Cesano-Roma. =

Object of above letters is to point out the bad predicament in which the Infantry School will be put if prompt action is not going to be taken. In fact the whole NORTH and North West area used by the School as ranges and training grounds has been recently allotted to the peasants <sup>who will not</sup> clear it even during ~~the~~ firing drill. In these conditions the School can not carry on with the training, because in case of damages the civil and military responsibility <sup>of the School</sup> ~~of the School~~ same is not supported by <sup>any of the laws</sup> ~~any of the laws~~ actually in force.

As in the proximity of the School no other grounds are available for the above training and because the ranges are indispensable for the existence of the School, the S.M.E. is kindly requested to study carefully the question and take it up on a high level, to obtain ~~that~~ at least the area South of the lake of Martignano, be taken in possession for public purposes to build up permanent ranges according with the schemes already forwarded by this H.Q. with letter n° 05/1171/S/Genio of the 15th April last.

The General in Comm.  
 (Ercole RONCO)

390

(4)

SCUOLA DI FANTERIA - Uff. Add.to

n° 03/2052/

Cesano di ROMA 17-10-46

Subj.: - Ranges and training grounds.

to the COMANDO SCUOLE C.MIL.  
Uff.Add.toROMA

The recent allowances of land to the peasants granted by the Government have created in the Cesano Zone a particular situation that will seriously affect the organisation of this Infantry School. = In fact all the land North and next to the School, a few Kilometers deep, belonging to the "Università Agraria" has been allotted to the peasants of the neighbouring Districts to be intensely cultivated. On the above area the School had arranged ranges for small arms, for mortars, and for hand-grenades; other works had been done as well, as defence trenches, mine-fields, etc. for demonstrative purposes according to the training programs of the School. = As all the above grounds were used then only as grazing-land they could easily be used by the School for training purposes as well, without limitation of time or season, and great were the advantages offered by that zone, that could be reached easily and in no time, without necessity of M.T. so that the daily program could be carried on thoroughly and without loss of time. = All the above advantages had been taken into consideration when it was decided that the Infantry School should remain at Cesano, even so because (owing to the limited means of motor transport assigned to the School) a great economy of M.T. was obtained.

Owing to the nearness of the above grounds it was possible to the School to run many Courses at a time ( in the last period of training 8 Courses were run at a time for about 1300 students ) but if the present conditions should alter, the training possibilities of the School would alter as well so that more reduced tasks should be assigned to the School ~~same~~ by the Ministry of War.

In the whole territory no other locality - near or distant - can be found without damaging the cultivations or where the necessary safety measures could be taken. ~~Anyhow~~ even if this could be possible the School should be given a great deal more of means of transport than ~~she presently has~~ <sup>it has at present</sup>.

Even if I am perfectly aware of the political and social necessities of this particular moment, and of the difficult problems to be solved by the Government, and by the People, I am anyhow obliged to point out the new situation deriving <sup>from</sup> the School from what above.

I enclose herewith copy of letter n° 145 dated the 11th inst. received by this Commando from the "Università Agraria" of Cesano di Roma.

I am waiting further instructions by that Commando.

The Colonel in Comm.  
M. TANZI



Copy.

UNIVERSITA' AGRARIA-CESANO DI ROMA

N° 145

11 Oct. 1946

Subj.: - Allotment of land. =

To the H.Q. of the SCUOLE MILITARI DI FANTERIA

CESANO DI ROMA

For information to the

PREFECT OF ROME

ROME

cultivable

That Commando must be aware that the portion of land belonging to this "Università Agraria" and successively taken in possession by Genio Militare, to be allotted to the Centro Scuole is limited to the large area occupied by the buildings and enclosed by walls. =

All the remaining property of the "Università Agraria", in accordance with the Ordinance of the 19th October 1944 n° 284, has been subdivided into 263 allotments - about 3 Ha. each - to be given to as many citizens of Cesano who are bound within three years to work and improve the land for their own benefit and for that of the Nation as well.

Towards the end of 1944 a scheme of subdivision of the above land was worked out and advertisements were published with the approval by the "Commissario degli Usi Civili" ( a Chief of the Office dealing with the land belonging to the Community ). - On the 3rd of Feb. 1945 a special Ordinance was obtained after which the land was allotted to the peasants on the 8th of September r. year.

However since then 56 peasants, to which the land comprised in the localities called "Bofo" and "M.S. Andrea & Prati S. Nicola" was allotted, have complained to this Office that the necessary works for the recuperation of the above land could not be started because the grounds were used by the Inftr. School for training purposes. = In fact owing to the necessities of the above training - passage of troops, M.T., digging of trenches, firing drills, etc., it is practically impossible for the peasants to work successfully.

As this "Università Agraria" has no other land to distribute among a great number of peasants that must work for their living

that Commando is kindly requested to transfer elsewhere the ranges.

Moreover it is kindly requested that the present difficult political moment be taken into consideration and further troubles be spared to this office which is trying its best to check any political excitement by satisfying as far as possible the claims of the local peasantry in great need of cultivable land. =

As the question must be urgently settled a prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.

The COMMISSARIO PREFETTIZIO  
L. GIOVENCO

SUBJECT : Bayonet Training.

12 JUL.

C. M. S.

(Ref : RM 439084 Ref : 545)

C. 13.

12 November 1946.

To : S. A.  
 Land Forces Sub Comm.  
 A.C. (S.A.T.A.).

1. There is a tendency among Italian soldiers to place the butt of the rifle under the armpit when in the "On - Guard" position. This makes the rifle insecure, and is contrary to the instructions contained in S.A.T. 1940 Vol. I Paragraph 12 and Fig. 1.

2. Steps have been taken to correct this fault at the School of Infantry.

3. It is recommended that S.A.T.'s be asked to watch for this fault in units and C.A.T.'s, and to correct it as far as possible.

A.C./gms.

Lt. Colonel,  
 C. . .

387

subject : Field Area.

12 B. L. U.  
C. N. P.

(Tel : ROME 489084 Ext : 545)

G. 13

November 1946

To : H.Q.  
Central Military Schools

It has been reported that there is difficulty in arranging with the civil authorities in the area CESANO-SNACCIANO for the use of land for field-firing. It is requested that you will furnish this B.L.U. with a statement as to :-

- a) What difficulties have been encountered in this connection.
- b) What arrangements are being made to ensure that the Schools of Artillery and Infantry will have adequate field-firing areas at their disposal in future.

ANG/ep

Lt. Col.  
C.S.

386

SUBJECT : Ranges and Training Areas - School of Infantry.

---

12 BLU.  
G. M. S.

(Tel : ROME 489081 Ext : 545)

G. 13.

5 November 1946.

To : H.C.  
Land Forces Sub Comm.  
A.C. (M.M.I.A.).

---

1. Two copies each of translations of the following letters are forwarded herewith for information :

Letter ref. No. 145 dated 11 Oct. '46 from  
"Universita' Agraria".

Letter ref. No. 03/2052 dated 17 Oct. '46 from  
Infantry School.

Letter ref. No. 05/10244 dated 26 Oct. '46 from  
H.C. Central Military Schools.

2. It is agreed that the School of Infantry urgently requires a settlement of the problem of range and training areas. It is therefore recommended that the Ministry be invited to state their proposals for solving this problem.



Lt. Colonel,  
G.S.

AKC/ps.

385



C O P Y

COMANDO SCUOLA CENTRALE MILITARE  
Ufficio Addestramento

No. 01/10844/Add. Gen.

ROME 26 Oct. 1946.

Subj. : Ranges and Training Areas.

to the STATO MAGGIORE ESERCITO  
Uff. Op. Add. Gen. Add.

To : 12 B.L.U. .... for action

ROMA

Please find enclosed letter No. 03/2052 dated 17th inst. of the Infantry School together with letter No. 145 dated the 11th inst. from the "Universita' Agraria" of Cesano - Rome.

Object of above letter is to point out the bad predicament in which the Infantry School will be put if prompt action is not going to be taken. In fact the whole NORTH and NORTH-EAST area used by the School as ranges and training grounds has been recently allotted to the peasants who will not clear it even during firing drill. In these conditions the School cannot carry on with the training, because in case of damages the civil and military responsibility falls on the School according to the laws actually in force.

As in the proximity of the School no other grounds are available for the above training and because the ranges are indispensable for the existence of the School, the S.M.E. is kindly requested to study carefully the question and take it up on a high level, to obtain at least the area South of the Lake of Martignano, to build up permanent ranges according with the schemes already forwarded by this H.Q. with letter No. 05/1171/B/Genio of the 15th April last.

(Sgd) Brocole ROMEO  
The General in Comm.

384

C.O.P.X.UNIVERSITA' AGRARIA - CESANO DI ROMA.

No. 145

11 Oct. 1946.

SUBJECT : Allotment of land.

To : M.O. Infantry School - CESANO DI ROMAFor information to : PREFECT OF ROSE - ROME

The Commando must be aware that the portion of land belonging to this "Universita' Agraria" and successively taken in possession by Genio Militare, to be allotted to the Centro Scuole is limited to the large area occupied by the buildings and enclosed by walls.

All the remaining property of the "Universita' Agraria", in accordance the ordinance of the 19th October 1944 No. 284 has been subdivided into 263 allotments - about 3 Ha. each - and given to as many citizens of Cesano who are bound within three years to work and improve the land for their own benefit and for that of the Nation as well.

Towards the end of 1944 a scheme of subdivision of the above land was worked out and advertisements were published with the approval by the "Commissario degli Usi Civili" (a Chief of the Office dealing with the land belonging to the Community). On the 3rd of February 1945 a special Ordinance was obtained after which the land was allotted to the peasants on the 8th of September r.year.

However since then 56 peasants, to which the land comprised in the localities called "Bofo" and "S.S. Andrea & Prati S. Nicola" were allotted, have complained to this Office that the necessary works for the recuperation of the above land could not be started because the grounds were used by the Infantry School for training purposes. In fact owing to the necessities of the above training - passage of troops, M.T., digging of trenches, firing drills, etc., it was practically impossible for the peasants to work successfully.

As this "Universita' Agraria" has no other land to distribute among a great number of peasants who must work for their living the Commando is kindly requested to transfer elsewhere the ranges. Moreover it is kindly requested that the present difficult political moment be taken into consideration and further troubles be spared, this office which is trying its best to check any political excitement by satisfying as far as possible the claims of the local peasantry in great need of cultivatable land.

As the question must be urgently settled a prompt reply would be greatly appreciated.

(Sgl) The COMMISSARIO PERMETTENDO  
L. GIOVENCO

383

COPY

CICOLA DI MENTORE  
UFF. Adm. to

No. 01/2052

Cesano di Roma 17/10/46

Subject : Prigioni and Training Courses.

To : Comando Scuola Centrale Militari - Uff. Addestramento  
RM.

The recent allocations of land to the peasants granted by the Government have created in the Cesano area a particular situation that will seriously affect the organization of this Infantry school. In fact all the land both near and to the school, a few kilometers long, belonging to the "Universita' Agraria" has been allotted to the peasants of the neighboring "Municipi" to be intensively cultivated.

In the above area the school has wide ranges for soil work, horticulture, and for hand-revered; other works have been done as well, such as drainage, wire-fencing, etc. for demonstrative purposes according to the training program of the school. In all the above grounds were used then only as practice-land they could easily be used by the school for training purposes as well without limitation of time or season, and they could be reached easily and without delay so that the daily program could be carried on thoroughly and without loss of time. These advantages had been taken into consideration when it was decided that the Infantry school should remain at Cesano, even when no means (owing to the limited means of motor transport assigned to the school) a great economy of time was obtained.

Owing to the narrowness of the above grounds it was possible for the school to run many courses at a time (in the last period of training 8 courses were run at a time for about 1300 students). But if the present conditions alter, the training possibilities of the school will alter as well so that more reduced tasks should be assigned to the school by the Ministry of War.

In the whole territory no other locality - near or distant - can be found without damaging the cultivation or where the necessary safety measure could be taken. even if this could be possible, the school would have to be given a good deal more transport than it has at present.

Since as I am of the political and social necessities of this particular moment, and of the difficult problems to be solved by the Government, and by people, I am anyhow obliged to point out the new situation arising at the school from the above information.

I enclose herewith copy of letter No. 145 dated the fifth inst. received by this Comando from the "Universita' Agraria" of Cesano di Roma.

I am waiting further instructions by that Comando.

(381) 1. 10. 46  
Col. in Chm.

382

SUBJECT : RANGE.

42 MU.  
G. H. E.

(Tel : RM 409081 Ext : 545)

G. 13.

October 1946.

To : H. C.  
Land Forces Sub Comm  
A.C. (M.I.I.A.).

1. The Italian type of "closed" Rifle Range, surrounded with a wall, has the following characteristics :

(a) When used with Italian type reduced charge fragmentation practice ammunition the danger area is confined to the wall area enclosed by the wall, as on striking a bad surface the bullet would not ricochet out disintegrate.

(b) With .303 Service Ammunition this type of range is not necessarily safe at all.

2. The British type of range requires an extensive danger area behind the butts and to the flanks. See Small Arms Training 1934 Vol 5, Chap. para.

3. In many parts of Italy the Government does not own enough land to provide danger areas.

4. With the introduction of British weapons the Italians are found with a new problem in regard to the provision of ranges. Is any information available on the Ministry of War's plans for solving it?



(a) When used with Italian type reduced charge fragmentation practice ammunition the danger area is confined to the small area enclosed by the wall, as on striking a hard surface the bullet would not ricochet but disintegrate.

(b) With .303 Service Ammunition this type of range is not necessarily safe at all.

2. The British type of range requires an extensive danger area behind the butts and to the flanks. See Small Arms Training 1934 Vol 5, Chap. para.

3. In many parts of Italy the Government does not own enough land to provide danger areas.

4. With the introduction of British weapons the Italians are faced with a new problem in regard to the provision of ranges. Is any information available on the Ministry of War's plans for solving it?

W.C./Gm.

Lt. Colonel,  
G.I.

SUBJECT : Range Coaching.

12 MU.  
G. H. P.

(Tel : Rome 489064 Ext : 545)

G. 13.

19 October 1946.

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

An investigation has been made at CERINO reference the teaching of range coaching duties in the P.I. weapons course.

It is a fact that in the past the coaches have taken up a position on the left of the firer, and as an explanation, the Italian Instructors produced a translated copy of Vol. 1 Pamphlet 1 Weapons Trg. 1942 Apox II COACHING.

This Appx. gives all the duties of a coach, but does not state on which side of the firer the coach should take up his position.

The Italians with their individual characteristics preferred the left side, as on reloading they state the coach on the right side would have obstructed the firer. The instructors also state that when the Courses were started some 18 months ago, the British Officers witnessed the method of coaching and raised no comments, although this is rather difficult to believe.

The position now is that the Infantry Instructor 12 B.I.U. has rectified the error and in future the coaching will be taught correctly i.e. with the coach on the right of the firer.

An investigation has been made at CASANO reference the teaching of range coaching duties in the PL. weapons course.

It is a fact that in the past the coaches have taken up a position on the left of the firer, and as an explanation, the Italian Instructors produced a translated copy of Vol. 1 Pamphlet 1 Weapons TRG. 1942 Appx II COACHING.

This Appx. gives all the duties of a coach, but does not state on which side of the firer the coach should take up his position.

The Italians with their individual characteristics preferred the left side, as on reloading they unite the coach on the right side would have obstructed the firer. The instructors also state that when the Courses were started some 18 months ago, the British Officers witnessed the method of coaching and raised no comments, although this is rather difficult to believe.

The position now is that the Infantry Instructor 12 B.I.D. has rectified the error and in future the coaching will be taught correctly i.e. with the coach on the right of the firer.

AWG/ann.

Lt. Colonel,  
G.S.

380

SUBJECT : Infantry School - Cesano.

12 H.H.  
C. M. F.

(Tel : ROME 489081 Ext : 545)

G. 13.

October 1946.

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

The Training area used by the above School for the past year and a half is not Government owned property, and for the past year a great deal of difficulty has been experienced in finding areas suitable for ranges. A proposal for the requisitioning of land and building of ranges was submitted through Engineer channels, but in spite of numerous reminders during the past six months, no decision has been made by the Ministry of War.

The position has now become acute, the land in question has now been given by the Owners to the Workers, who are demanding the right to till the soil and go about their work undisturbed, in which case it will be impossible for any training with live ammunition to be carried out in the Cesano area. The same difficulty has also arisen in the Manziana area where the School has its three inch mortar ranges.

May therefore a letter be sent to the Italian Ministry of War, asking them, what action they propose to take, to ensure that a reasonable training area and range area is made available for the School.

RCH/ga.

Lt. Colonel,  
C.S.