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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ACC

10000/120/4990

TRG/43

TRG AM

MAR, 19

0952

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10000 1120 14990

TRG/43

TRG AMMUNITION - GENERAL

MAR. 1946 - FEB. 1947

6300
6310

TRANSLATION

(5)

FROM: M. C. W.

REF: 3928/DT

TO : M.M.I.A.

DATE: 8/2/47

SUBJECT: Blank cartridges for rifles and LMGs of British origin.~~COVER I~~ Folio 33

With reference to request already made in letter
655 of 27/12/46, we beg you to kindly send:

- a) a sample or drawing of the blank cartridge for rifle and L.M.G. ;
- b) a sample or drawing of the blank firing attachment for the L.M.G.

TRG
File : TRG/
Date:

(Sgd)

PROPERZI
Gen.

TRG
GSA TRG
GSA TRG
GSA TRG
BGS
GSO TRG

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War.

REF: 655

TO: M.M.I.A.

DATE: 27 December 1946.

SUBJECT:- Blank cartridges for rifles and L.M.G.s
of British origin.

(33)

We beg your Mission to kindly send as requested by Chief Technician
i/c Workshops MORETTI to Maj HIBBARD:

- a) some samples or designs of blank cartridges for rifles and L.M.G.s;
b) a sample or design of the blank firing attachment for L.M.G.

sgd. PROPERZJ
Gen.

R.A.G.

6310

TO SEE
GSO 1 TRG
GSO 2 TRG
GSO 3 TRG
EGS
GSO 4 (SD)

TRG M.M.I.A.
File: T.G. 43
Date: 30.12.46

SECRET

Headquarters
A. B. H. H.
Bolsano
Ref: Q5
27 Nov 45

Ordnance War and Officer's Report
on Inspection of Amn Deposit at LAZZARINO ALTO on 27 Nov 45.

Nature of Amn Held: - Divisional reserve of Amn for Friuli Inf. Div. including small amn and artillery. Also a certain quantity of French, German, and Italian Amn.

Nature of Magazine. - An old fort, ammunition is kept in the small rooms of the fort.

Safety precautions. - Amn is spread throughout the fort, the rooms in which the amn is stored are small and have very thick walls which could stand a minor explosion.

Fire Fighting Equipment. - The scale of equipment is, 1 Water Pump mechanical, 5 extinguishers 4 gallon, 5 shovels, and five pick axes. In my opinion this is inadequate. Also at the moment the water pump is being repaired and the fire extinguishers are being filled.

Stacking of Amn. - Quite satisfactory but not stacked by batches. This is due to the fact that the Italian Army has not yet been issued with any publications on British Amn, this is very difficult to understand as it is quite impossible for them to work properly without them.

Condition of Amn. - Seems to be alright but I am not in a position to give an opinion, an amn examiner is required for that purpose.

Notes on Amn other than British that is held:-

Italian. 1,000,000 Rds of 7.35 mm
500,000 Rds of 8mm

French. 1500 small 175 mm. This has been sold to civilians by French authorities and is awaiting collection.

German. Misc Amn which is being sold to civilians. Before any of the above Amn is handed to civilians the explosive is removed and destroyed.

Location of Magazine. - An excellent building for an amn magazine but the road leading to it will be blocked in winter. It is situated on the side of a mountain overlooking the main Verona - Bolzano Road.

Ordnance Warrant Officer's Comments.

6309

lacking German, and Italian Amn.

Nature of Magazine. An old fort, ammunition is kept in the small rooms of the fort. Amn is spread throughout the fort, the rooms in which the amn is stored are small and have very thick walls which could stand a minor explosion.

Fire Fighting Equipment. The scale of equipment is, 1 water pump mechanical, 3 extinguishers, 3 gallons, 3 hveels, and five pick axes. In my opinion this is inadequate. Also at the moment the water pump is being repaired and the fire extinguishers are being filled.

Stacking of Amn. Quite satisfactory, but not stacked by batches. This is due to the fact that the Italian Army has not yet been issued with any publications on British Amn; this is very difficult to understand as it is quite impossible for them to work properly without them.

Condition of Amn. Seems to be alright but I am not in a position to give an opinion, an amn examiner is required for that purpose.

Notes on Amn other than British that is held:-

6309

Italian. 1,000,000 Rds of 7.35 mm
500,000 Rds of 8mm

French. 1200 shell 155 mm. This has been sold to civilians by French authorities and is awaiting collection.

German. Misc Amn which is being sold to civilians.

Before any of the above amn is handed to civilians the explosive is removed and destroyed.

Location of Magazine. An excellent building for an amn magazine but the road leading to it will be blocked in winter. It is situated on the side of a mountain overlooking the main Verona - Bolzano Road.

Ordnance Varrant Officer's Comments.

1. The Italian authorities are doing a good job in the storage etc of this amn but they are hampered by lack of British Amn publications and lack of a trained Ordnance Amn Examiner to train their troops in the care of British Amn.

2. Storehouses were clean and had an air of efficiency.

3. Staff was very keen.

Just 4. B.L.U.
P.O. 05 M.M.A.
Kilmer Senior Officer

IRC M.M.I.
File: T.M. 43
Date: 13/12/46

[Signature]
C.I.O.
4 B.L.U.

TO: SAC
FROM: GSO/1111
SUBJECT: GSO/1111
DATE: GSO/1111
BY: EGS
REMARKS: GSO/1111

SECRET

Headquarters
4 B.I.D.
Belisano
Ref: 25
27 Nov 65

Ordnance Warrant Officer's Report
on Inspection of Ammunition Deposits at LATTINARO, BASCO on 26.11.65.

Nature of Amn Held.

All amn for the Artillery Brigade of Briuli Inf Div with the exception of Divisional Reserve.

Nature of Magazine.

In old fort situated below the fort of Matteredello Lito. Amn is kept in the small rooms of the fort.

Fire Fighting Precautions.

Equipment is 1 Water Pump mechanical, 5 Extinguishers, 5 Shovels and 5 pick axes. This, in my opinion is inadequate.

Safety Precautions.

Amn is stored in small rooms which have thick walls and which would stand up to a minor explosion.

Storage etc.

Amn is well stacked but is not separated into batches. Amn for each battery is stacked separately. Bin cards are kept for each item.

Condition of Amn.

The amn was inspected by an Italian A.E. some weeks ago, but since then the Warrant Officer i/c the Dump has condemned 30 cases of 75 Par charges which had deteriorated. On the firing practice a week ago there were 35 misfires out of 400 rounds fired. The Warrant Officer i/c the Magazine also showed no signs of Anti-tank mines which were covered with crystals, he had them segregated and was going to have them destroyed. In Ordnance A.E. is urgently required to examine this amn.

Location of Magazine.

The Building is excellent for the purpose and the road although poor should be satisfactory.

Ordnance Warrant Officer's Notes.

1. Ordnance Amn publications are urgently required, the staff are keen, but of course do not know British Amn. The publications should if possible be translated into Italian.
2. Storehouse was clean and seemed to be very efficiently run by the Warrant Officer i/c.
3. An Ordnance Amn Examiner should be detailed to inspect this Amn as soon as possible.
4. A course should be run by the A.E. when he is in this Area to teach the Italian storemen the fundamentals of British Amn markings etc.

6308

in Div with the exception of Divisional Reserve.

Nature of Magazine.

An old fort situated below the fort of Batterello Alto. Amn is kept in the small rooms of the fort.

Fire Fighting Precautions.

Equipment is 1 Water Pump mechanical, 6 Extinguishers, 3 Shovels and 3 pick axes. This, in my opinion is inadequate.

Safety Precautions.

Amn is stored in small rooms which have thick walls and which would stand up to a minor explosion.

Storage etc.

Amn is well stacked but is not separated into batches. Amn for each battery is stacked separately. Bin cards are kept for each item.

Condition of Amn.

The Amn was inspected by an Italian A.E. some weeks ago, but since then the Warrant Officer i/c the Dump has condemned 30 cases of 25 Par charges which had deteriorated. On the firing practice a week ago there were 15 misfires out of 400 rounds fired. The Warrant Officer i/c the Magazine also showed us some Anti-tank mines which were covered with crystals, he had them segregated and was going to have them destroyed. An Ordnance A.E. is presently required to examine this Amn.

Location of Magazine.

The Building is excellent for the purpose and the road although poor should be satisfactory.

6308

Ordnance Warrant Officer's Notes.

1. Ordnance Amn publications are urgently required, the staff are keen, but of course do not know British Amn. The publications should if possible be translated into Italian.
2. Storehouse was clean and seemed to be very efficiently run by the Warrant Officer i/c.
3. An Ordnance Amn Examiner should be detailed to inspect this Amn as soon as possible.
4. A course should be run by the A.E. when he is in this Area to teach the Italian storemen the fundamentals of British Amn markings etc.
5. The Warrant Officer in charge of the magazine seemed to be a very capable man, and is anxious to learn something of British Amn.

Dist. 4 B.L.U.

ADOS AMIA

Italian Liaison Officer 4 BLU

O.A.O.
B.L.U.

TRC AMIA
FIG TRG/43
Date 13/12/46

Subject :- Practise Am

1 British Liaison Unit
G 6/1

28 Oct 46

To :- HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AC
(M.M.I.A.) WHEE

Ref your Trg 43 dated 15 Oct 46.

My monthly Report No 15 para 4 (a) refers to Recruit Bns.
No complaint of shortage was received from the C.A.R. or made by
me.

Apart from the C.A.R. there is a great shortage.

TO SEE	
GSO I TRG	
GSO II TRG	<u>28/11</u>
GSO II TRG	
BGS	
GSO I (3D)	

JLEE/AM

per Egan
Lt Col
GSO I

TRG M. M. I. A.
File : T. 43
Date: <u>18/11/46.</u>

620
RECEIVED 2 NOV 1946

6307

SUBJECT: Practice Amn.

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AC (MMIA)

(489081 Ext. 476) TRG/43

15 Oct 46

TO : 1 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

Reference your monthly Progress report No 15 paragraph 4a.

1. It is pointed out that during the week ending 7 Sep 46 the following PIAT practice ammunition was forwarded from TERLIZZI Depot to the CAR at CASALE.

PIAT Prac Cartg	2700
Dets No 27	200
PIAT HE Fzd 425/426 prac	888
PIAT Prac shots	300

2. There are no thunder flashes held by the Italians in any of the ammunition depots.

GBC/sb

Internal: 'Q'
SD

Sept 18
CB Connell Major RA
Major General,
f M. M. I. A.

TRG M. M. I.
File : T. C. 43.
Date: 15.10.46

6306

COPY TRANSLATION

From : Ministry of War

Ref No : 58715/M/639

To : M.M.I.A.

Date : 12 August 46

Subject Explosives for the Pioneer School at Civitavecchia.

The Pioneer School at Civitavecchia has made a request to this Office for the following explosives for training the Demolition Coy. under its command.

Light British Bangalore Torpedo	100
Beehive Charges	150
Friction and Time Primers (German and American)	1,000
Windproof matches	100
VIS detonators for booby-traps	1,000
Trip wire for 'Mine-yard'	1,000
British comb charges	100
Limpet charges MK 2	200

Of the above listed explosives this office has only the windproof matches at its disposal which will be sent to the Pioneer School.

We request your MMIA to kindly examine the possibility of allocating the remaining British stores to the aforesaid School as soon as possible.

signed: CRIVARO
Minister

8805

SUBJECT: Training Ammunition

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AC (MMIA)

(489081 Ext. 476)

TRG/43✓

13 Aug 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

N.R.
Ref your 33944/7518 of 5 ^{Aug} 46.

1. Large stocks of the first four types of ammunition referred to are at present held at TERLIZZI Depot (Italian).
2. The Italian School of Artillery holds stocks of the last two items and it is suggested that application be made for the numbers required.

TRG M. M. I.
File : TRG/73
Date: <i>R/13/8</i>

RPC/sb

Rec. by
Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal: 'a'
(your 139 Folio 45 refers).

6303

SUBJECT: Amn for Trg.

AND FORCES SUB OCE, AC(MILA)

(TEL EXT: 309)

TRG/43

11 Jul 46.

TO : CHQ - G Trg.

1. A request for Amn .22 was made some time ago, this it being then informed that no Amn .22 existed in this theatre. We have now heard however that stocks do exist.
2. The Italian Schools have 4 Rifles .22 attached (for Sub Calibre Shooting) to 6 pr and 17 pr Guns.
3. 6,000 Rds Amn .22 is urgently required for use on these equipments in Trg of Artillery recruits for Anti Tank Units.
4. It is pointed out that firing is done at a few yards range and that larger calibres of Amn would not be safe to use.
5. May we please be informed if a special issue can be made to meet this urgent need.

WM/WM

[Signature]
Major-General
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: CHQ - G/SD
B.A.

TRG M. A.
File: TRG/43
Date: 2/11/46

6302

Subject :- Trg Amn

To :- HQ Land Forces Sub Comm AG (GHIH)
RCE

1 British Liaison Unit
C 5/5

9 Apr 46

15 APR 1946

1. ^{fuse} Cremona Inf Div have recently received 320 3" mortar bombs of '40 type, which are dangerous for use with Mk II mortars, as the Regts of Cremona are in possession of all Mk II mortars they are unable to carry out practice firing with this type of amn.

2. ^{fuse} May these bombs therefore be replaced with 3" mortar bombs type '42, which are the normal bombs for use with the Mk II mortar..

R/15/4.
NB.

J. H. L. Smith Major
for Lt Col
GSC I

BH30

6301

SUBJECT : Ammunition.

LAND FORCES SUB COMM, A.C. (MMIA)

G/TRG/42/1.

20 March 46.

TO : GHQ C (TRG)
C.M.P.

1. The recently completed estimate of Trg Amn for the Italian Army for the period March to December 46. may appear to be unduly large.
2. It is pointed out (in support of the estimate) that out of a total of 140,000 all ranks, the Italian Army will train 120,000 recruits this year.
3. In addition 68 out of 78 Bns will be provided with Br wpns which are completely strange to them.
4. The estimates referred to have therefore been compiled with a view to allowing a margin to cover the anticipated needs over and above normal requirements to bring these troops to efficiency as soon as possible.

Bluecock
Major-General
M. M. I. A.

Copy to : C/TRG/43.

6300

REC/pt.

0966