

2042

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MONTHLY REPORTS - 2. BLU

Dec. 1945

197
199

CONFIDENTIALSubject:- Intelligence Report.

2 BUJ,
GENOVA.
Tel: 56575
G 3/4
5 Dec 45

To :-- HQ Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C. (MILIA)
R O M E

1 BUJ

AHQ to note the message
"A. points and act on
then during visit to Genova
about 20 Dec. they are
all old ones in hands."

Herewith Intelligence Report as at/Dec 45.

1. POLITICALGeneral.

During the past weeks minor attacks have been carried out by armed elements against the guard personnel of a few depots within the fortified fence of Genoa. The main intention appears to be to pilfer food and stores to sell for the purpose of making money for their own needs. Since the establishing of this HQ the area has been generally quiet and there seems to be no indication of any large scale signs of general disturbance of any particular party.

In the Savona area disturbances of minor nature have occurred and will continue to occur, the reason for this disturbance is mainly resentment shown towards a company of Germans working in the area, confused firing is always being reported in their vicinity at night time. The OC Carabinieri appears to be a reliable officer but his detachment is inadequate to deal efficiently with these disturbances. Summing up the general situation in the Genoa province the political position outwardly is calm with no indication of any future ~~1945~~ scale demonstration.

It is found that should there be a disturbance of a serious nature the sole communication of Territorial Command to Units would be by phone as they have no communication by wireless, ~~that the first move of a non friendly party~~

Seen by 'H' 11/12

7/2/45

739

WP
10 Dec.

TO :- HQ Land Forces
R O M E

1 BLU

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WSP
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1. POLITICAL

General.

During the past weeks minor attacks have been carried out by armed elements against the guard personnel of a few depots within the fortified fence of Genoa. The main intention appears to be to pilfer food and stores to sell for the purpose of making money for their own needs. Since the establishing of this HQ the area has been generally quiet and there seems to be no indication of any large scale signs of general disturbance of any particular party.

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It is found that should there be a disturbance of a serious nature the sole communication of Territorial Command to Units would be by phone as they have no communication by wireless, it is assumed that the first move of a non friendly party would be to cut existing telephone communications between HQs.

To overcome this difficulty Territorial HQ have ordered 3 Radio trucks from Inf Div Mantova to be at the disposal of Territorial HQ, this enables the Commander to be in communication with Mantova and 2 Inf Regt HQ only.

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The general opinion appears to be that the situation will remain more or less calm, everything seems to hang on the future General Election.

2. FRANCO - ITALIAN FRONTIER

It has been decided not to insert a paragraph on the Franco-Italian Political situation in the Tenda Valley since the matter has already been reported in 1 BIU Intelligence Report G 2/4 dated 2 Dec 45.

3. MOVEMENT OF UNITS

During the movement of November the following movements took place:-

- a) Transfer of the Arty Directorate from La Spezia to Albenga.
- b) Conversion of the 11 Inf Brigade with 2 Bns into 2 Inf Regt with 3 Guard Bns.
- c) Arrival at Genoa of 3 Coys (Inf) for the formation of the 3rd Bn of the a/m Regt.

4. GENERAL SITUATION OF UNITS

- a) Training of units especially those of Mantova and 2 Inf Regt have experienced many difficulties due to:

(i) Unceasing rotation of troops due to demobilization and consequent allocation of complements in order to keep units as per W.E.

(ii) Numerous guards on both Allied and Italian installations - escort services to M/T and railway convoys etc.

- b) All Allied installations guarded by Italian personnel are in the process of being relieved by British Troops who have arrived in the Area for this task, this will ease the situation and allow a fuller concentration of units on training.

- c) Relation of HQs with Troops.

(i) Local relations between Allied and Italian Troops are very good, no disturbance or brawls have been reported for some time.

(ii) Relations between the civil population and Italian Troops are good.

d) Discipline of Troops.

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- (ii) Relations between the civil population and Italian Troops are good.

d) Discipline of Troops.

- (i) In view of the general situation it may be considered as satisfactory.
- (ii) Owing to the non existence of a Military Tribunal in Genoa units are being over crowded with soldiers awaiting court martial for non serious crimes, i.e. desertion etc; it is an express wish of unit commanders that these men are dealt with more speedily as they are a bad influence on their comrades.

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5. MORALEa) Officers and NCOs.

The following causes interfere in the negative sense:

- (i) The strong difference between pay and present cost of living which is particularly heavy for the personnel who are compelled to be separated from their families. Increases recently granted by the Government are not sufficient for fitting the above difference.
- (ii) The difficulty to find accommodation also for families.
- (iii) Uncertainty with regard to the future in as much as no news is available in respect of the constitution of the new Army.

b) Troops.

Very poor. The causes are attributed to be the reasons:-

- (i) Recent and considerable decrease of pay.
- (ii) Restriction on leave owing to the fact of the leave system being 14 days per year, the general unrest about this question appears to be the fact that seven days every six months is not long enough for the distance some men have to travel, it is appreciated by the men that travelling time is allowed on top of their seven days but in a great number of cases this is not sufficient.

- (iii) Insufficient welfare assistance to servicemen and to their families thus following the modest means and sums available to units.

c) CC.RR.

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The smartness and efficiency of the CC.RR. is definitely improving owing to the presence of the rather well trained CC.RR. Detachment of Mantova. Morale is very fair but a more fuller report will be rendered in next month's report after a more closer inspection.

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Major,
G.S.

FPD/gc

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