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OUTSTANDING "G" POINTS IN
FUTURE ITALIAN ARMY - GENERAL

Sept. - Oct. 1945

COVER 1

5-1
15a
Major General L. Browning, CB., CBE., MC.
Headquarters,
Military Mission Italian Army
R O M E

DO/2

23 Oct 45.

My Dear *Minister*

1. I have been thinking about your conference next week with the Territorial Commanders.
2. The particular points on which we in M.M.I.A. would like opinions or which we feel it would be a good thing to explain to the Commanders are as per attached and I should be grateful if you would include them in your agenda.
3. I expect you have already done this, but I send the attached to ensure complete coordination between your staff and mine.
4. I could send over my two senior staff officers (Colonel FIDSLEY and Lieut Colonel INGLETON) to amplify or discuss further any of these points, should you wish this. Will you please let me know.
5. With all good wishes for what I am sure will be a most useful and successful conference.

Yours

L.B.

Signor JACINI
Minister of War
Italian War Ministry
R O M E

3246

Copy to:- Colonel FIDSLEY
Lt. Col INGLETON. ✓

On
FACCHINETTI

Acc
24/10

Appendix "A"

156

1. GENERAL TRAINING PROPOSALS.

Including :-

- (a) Aim, scope and organization of "Territorial Training Centres."
- (b) Accommodation proposed or required for T.T.C.
- (c) The CESSANO, IMBROGLIO and CIVITAVECCHIA general layout and organization as the training "cradle" of the future Italian Army.

2. MANPOWER POLICY.

- (a) Maintaining the Italian Army up to strength by test call-up over whole of Italy and accepting volunteers.

Questions : Age Group to be called up, 1926 or 1927?
Conditions and duration of volunteer service?
 It is suggested that the monthly intake be established on a twelve 28 day interval basis w.e.f. 1st Jan in any one year which would mean finishing on 15 Dec. in any one year. This would leave the period 15 Dec. to 15 Jan. as free for the Christmas holidays.

- (b) Distribution of intake to Regions : Affiliation of Regions to Training Centres and Regiments serving in different parts of Italy.

Questions : A scheme for affiliation and location of Regts?

- (c) Personal Selection : Responsibility for putting men into the proper arms and trades.

Questions : A Territorial or War Ministry responsibility? What methods to be adopted? Method of training of personnel for this specialist task?

(d) Regular Cadre for Army:

3243

Questions : Size and composition? Terms of service?

3. INSTRUCTORS.

Recommended instructors for the future T.T.C. are being trained :-

- (a) 400 NCOs for T.T.Cs commenced training 25 Sep
- (b) 250 Officers commence training 10 Oct
- (c) Remainder (2350) commence training 15 Nov

All at CESSANO

You have instructed Combat Groups to release their most efficient candidates and that in...

2. MAJOR GENERAL FINLEY.

- (a) Maintaining the Inferior Army up to strength by test calling over whole of Italy and accepting volunteers.

Questions : Age Group to be called up, 1925 or 1927?

Answers : Conditions and duration of volunteer service? It is suggested that the monthly intake be established on a twelve 28 day interval basis i.e. 14 Jan in any one year which would mean finishing on 15 Dec. in any one year. This would leave the period 16 Dec. to 13 Jan. as free for the Christmas holidays.

- (b) Distribution of intake to Regions : Affiliation of Regions to Training Centres and Regiments serving in different parts of Italy.

Questions : A scheme for affiliation and location of Regts?

- (c) Personnel Selection : Responsibility for putting men into the proper areas and trades.

Questions : A Territorial or War Ministry responsibility?

What methods to be adopted?

Method of training of personnel for this

Specialist task?

- (d) Regular Cadre for Army:

3243

Questions : Size and composition?

Terms of service?

3. DISCUSSION.

Recommendations instructors for the Future T.F.C. are being

trained :-

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| (a) 400 NCOs for TFCs commencing training 25 Sep | } All at
GSSWTO |
| (b) 250 Officers commencing training 10 Oct | |
| (c) Remainder (2500) commence training 15 Nov | |

You have instructed Combat Groups to release their most efficient candidates and that in so doing they must think of the Italian Army as a whole. I.I.V.'s have been instructed accordingly through Allied channels.

4. ITALIAN INF DIV REGS (EX COMBAT GROUPS)

You have forwarded your recommendations and these are now being consolidated with the Allied views and I.I.V. will call a meeting shortly.

5. "L'ARMATA" (I.I.V.) REGTS.

You agreed that these could profitably be organised on to the same REGS as Inf Regt in Inf Division with bases earmarked as ALPINE Regts. This will permit standardisation. At present, 20 out of the

Page 2.

5. (contd.)

30 guard battalions are under M of W command and we are pressing AFHQ for the release of the remainder. What variations from standard are required for normal and for ALPINE Independent Regiments? What should these Regiments be called?

6.

LEGAL REFORM.

Explanation of present situation and proposals for improvements.

Questions :

Advisability of ad hoc courts?
Methods of expediting trials?
Method for clearing up existing situation and possibility of habeas corpus decrees?

7.

PENAL REFORM.

Explanation of proposals for prisons, Detention Barracks and holding Centres.

Questions :

Views of Territorial Commanders on Detention Barracks in their commands.

8.

PAY.

Explain situation and proposals for meeting the Treasury difficulties. Principle of standardisation.

Questions :

Views of Territorial Commanders on scales and timings?

9.

WELFARE.

Statement of Italian responsibility now that Allied help is withdrawn.

Questions : Extent of special service needed?
Value of weekly news sheet?

10.

ADM SERVICES.

Outline proposed organisation and breakdown of 25,000.
Extent of civilian maintenance and production availabilities.

Questions : Views of Territorial Commanders?

11.

CC BR.

Responsibilities of Territorial Commanders and policy for Administration and training.
MIA responsibilities w.e.f. 1 Nov.
Readjustment of.

12.

OFFICERS.

32'

7. PENAL REFORM.

Explanation of proposals for prisons, Detention Barracks and holding Centres.

Questions : Views of Territorial Commanders on Detention Barracks in their commands.

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Questions : Views of Territorial Commanders on scales and timings?

9. PROFANE.

Statement of Italian responsibility now that Allied help is withdrawn.

3244

Questions : Extent of special service needed?
Value of weekly news sheet?

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Outline proposed organisation and breakdown of 25,000.
Extent of civilian maintenance and production availabilities.

Questions : Views of Territorial Commanders?

11. CC RR.

Responsibilities of Territorial Commanders and policy for Administration and training.
MIA responsibilities w.e.f. 1 Nov.
Readjustment of.

12. OFFICERS.

- (a) Action taken or being taken to remove inefficient.
- (b) Selection for the new Army out of Officers available.
- (c) Confidential reports in future without fear or favour.
Penalizing bad work and superiors who give good reports unjustifiably; reward for exceptional good work.
Accelerated promotion?
- (d) The training of the cadet and young officer. Length of course. General system.

Page 2.

13. ACCOMMODATION.

Outline AMHQ Directive re use of War Ministry Property.
Responsibility of Territorial Commanders.

Questions: Urgent selection of permanent sites for all
installations and troops of Interim Army.

14. G.A.M.

Equipment and Stations. Outline proposed system and ask
for views. Despite enormous quantities of MT, clothing and equipment
being recovered, need for economy.

15. ARMAMENT.

Policy re provisions must await Peace Treaty.

16. LIMITED RESPONSIBILITIES.

Continue as at present while new terms are made known.
PLUS with each Territorial HQ instead of with Combat Groups.

23 Oct 45.
/DGC

3248

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE G/3/2 ←

Rice

Maj. Gen. WARD visited us Monday, 15 Oct 45, and has promised to take up the u/m 5 points which are outstanding by AFHQ:-

(1) Accommodation

He will instruct "Q" at AFHQ that on application by us for certain accommodations for ITI Army, ITI Army is to have priority.

(2) Armament for Interim Army

It is essential that we know for training purposes what the future policy is with regard to the new Interim Army.

(3) MMIA WE

Gen. WARD promised to take hastening action with LONDON.

(4) MMIA Directive

Gen. WARD will hasten.

(5) Directive re handing over ITI Army to ITI Government

Gen. WARD promised to speed up.

19 Oct 45

Copy to: Col. A/Q
G II (Trg)

WS


Lt. Col.
G. S.

3242

G.O.C.

 ~~thru G.O.S.~~ Progress Outstanding 'G' Points
Interim Army.

1. Folio 8 shows letter written to AQ on subject of call-up Jan/Feb
2. Folio 9 shows letter written to 'A' on subject of affiliation of Inf Regts etc. (I have sent this in to you on separate file).
3. Folio 10 shows notes of staff meeting to discuss reorg of Ministry of War.

Please do not take any action on the above. It is only to show you progress on some of the outstanding 'G' points.

11 Oct 45

It.-Col.
GS.

3240

6501

Good.

I agree with points 6 & 10 to 8 & 9
discussed then with Col A/P today
accordingly
Folio 9 - I agree it is correct
instructions to make sure

1. Folio 8 shows letter written to AQ on subject of call-up Jan/Feb
2. Folio 9 shows letter written to 'A' on subject of affiliation of Inf Regts etc. (I have sent this in to you on separate file).
3. Folio 10 shows notes of staff meeting to discuss reorg of Ministry of War.

Please do not take any action on the above. It is only to show you progress on some of the outstanding 'G' points.

11 Oct 45

Lt.-Col.
GS.

3240

6801

Good.

I agree with you as to the importance of the document that will be sent to you by the end of the month of October 1945.

Accordingly, I agree to the document that will be sent to you by the end of the month of October 1945.

I agree to the document that will be sent to you by the end of the month of October 1945.

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I agree to the document that will be sent to you by the end of the month of October 1945.

PTD

and make certain changes (it is as a
DNR Director's) now, which seems
well (say) July 1966 a full month.
By July 1966 we could have got
some more and from W.D. to advise
we hope the whole Terminal
and full PR/TE and mid the
going smoothly?

But we are sure the costs
is going smoothly. We can put
the full PR/TE and 1966 into
effect - possibly by stages

W.D. is a very good person and will be sure to keep the costs at a minimum

13

11001-

11 Oct.

16 Oct.

File : C/3/2

NOTES ON MEETING HELD IN JOTA CONFERENCE
ROOM 10 OCT 45 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED INTERNAL
RE-ORGANISATION OF MINISTRY OF WAR.

PRESERVE

1.

G-3
CHIEF (1)
SCOR
Major CALABRESE

G-3
CHIEF
SCOR
Major CALABRESE
DAG
DAGST
DAGST

OBJECT

2. G-1 explained that the object of the meeting was to explore the present system of internal working within Ministry of War with a view to recommending a more up-to-date method of staff procedure if considered desirable. Para 5 of Minutes of CITE conference ref C/3/2 refer.

PRESERVE SYSTEM

3. G-1 tabled a chart showing present War Ministry lay-out and explained the procedure now in force. Among the many anomalies were:-

- (a) Both War Ministry and CITE have a separate signal office, separate chief clerks dept, separate comp comdts dept.
- (b) There is much overlapping in that Ministry of War has service directerates while CITE has staff sec doing the same type of work.
- (c) There appear to be too many branches dependent on one Chief in CITE and too many dependent on the War Minister himself in Ministry of War through the Cabinet (headed by a Col).
- (d) Many services have their own salvage office without apparent coordination at any level.
- (e) Not considered that Army and MC should be joined.
- (f) There is no effective trace, publicity and Propaganda dept.
- (g) The tag dept needs strengthening, etc etc.

PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM

4. G-1 then tabled a chart, to be used as a basis for discussion, taking care of all the above points and leaving the present 4.1 duties (strengths and intakes) in SD in Ministry of War where they are now. The chart was generally agreed but Col A/Q asked for:-

- (a) time to study in more detail;

OBJECT

2. G-1 explained that the subject of the meeting was to explore the present system of internal wiring within Ministry of War with a view to recommending a more up-to-date method of staff procedure if considered desirable. Para 5 of minutes of JMT conference ref G/5/2 refer.

PRESENT SYSTEM

3. G-1 tabled a chart showing present War Ministry lay-out and explained the procedure now in force. Among the new conditions were:-

- (a) Both War Ministry and War Dept have a separate cipher office, separate chief clerks dept, separate camp commands dept.
- (b) There is much overlapping in that Ministry of War has service directivities while WMD has staff ones doing the same type of work.
- (c) There appear to be too many branches dependent on one Chief in WMD and too many dependent on the War Minister himself in Ministry of War through the Cabinet (headed by a Col).
- (d) Many services have their own savings often without apparent coordination at any level.
- (e) Not considered that Army and MT should be joined.
- (f) There is no effective Press, Publicity and Propaganda Dept.
- (g) The War Dept needs strengthening, etc etc.

PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM

4. G-1 then tabled a chart, to be used as a basis for discussion, taking care of all the above points and leaving the present A.I. Duties (strengths and intakes) in SD in Ministry of War where they are now. The chart was generally agreed but Col A/Q asked for:-

- (a) time to study in more detail;
- (b) breakdown of work of the services by service, coming together with detailed functioning of same (action Major CHAIRMAN);
- (c) Division: breakdown on adm side when Col to Lt-Col.

COMPLETION STUDY

5. Although G-1 agreed that the matter under discussion was a most important question, he did not think that the time was ripe for a special offer to be asked for from War Office, LONDON, to make a complete study.

G (SD)

Distribution on reverse

R & A General Review
for Lt.-Col. Capt
PS

233

DISTRIBUTION

C.O.S.
Col A/Q

A Q

Major Calabrin
File : G/3/2

(42) 0

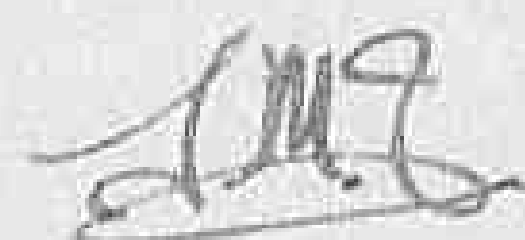
9A

Inter-Office MemoFile : SD/38/2

FROM : G(SD)

TO : A

Will you please say if you agree with the att
proposed letter addressed Ministry of War, subject Org of
Inf Regts in new interim army.

Lt.-Col.
GS.

10 Oct 45

3233

fa

Copy

9/3/2

←

letter was sent off
not exactly like this
on file SD/38/2

SUBJECT: Dir. of Inf. Regts.

LAND FORCES SUB CO., A.C. (SMA)

SD/32/2

Oct 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Reference para 11 of minutes of meeting held in S.M. offices, 1 Oct., and issued under ref. C/3/2 of 5 Oct. 45.

1. We have received your recommendations for alterations to the of Italian Divs (Combat Ops) which include the use of Inf. Regts. These will be considered as soon as 2 Districts forward the Allied views including views of BUs.

2. In the meantime it would seem appropriate at this stage that we should consider a system of "affiliating" certain I.S. Regts to Italian Divs with a view to:

- (a) interchangeability
- (b) Ease of territorial recruit intake so that:
 - (i) friends from the same neighborhood may serve in the same units,
 - (ii) certain types of the populace may be posted to the most suitable territory.

herewith.

With this end in view a suggestion from this office is attached herewith.

3. It is felt that the present I.S. Divs in Sardinia and Sicily should be converted into I.S. Regts with at a later date thereby forming two and four I.S. Regts respectively.

We could discuss the question of a small co-ordinating HQ for Sardinia (presumably the Garrison HQ there detached from the Terr. HQ) and two small co-ordinating HQs for Sicily under the P. Cmd of the Terr. HQ PALERMO.

The advantages of the conversion on the I.S. Regts are would be:

- (a) standardization throughout Italy
- (b) an increase in weapons.
- (c) morale. The troops would feel lifted out of the rut of garrison duty onto a higher plane.

If, for political reasons, the conversion is not possible, the troops would feel lifted out of the rut of garrison duty onto a higher plane.

If, for political reasons, the conversion is not possible, the troops would feel lifted out of the rut of garrison duty onto a higher plane.

1. We have received your recommendations for alterations to the of Italian Divs (Combat Ops) which include the use of Inf. Regts. Those will be considered as soon as 2 District forward the Allied views including views of Hqs.

2. In the meantime it would seem appropriate at this stage that we should consider a system of "enfilading" certain I.S. Regts to Italian Divs with a view to:-

- (a) interchangeability
- (b) Ease of territorial recruit intake so that:
 - (i) Friends from the same neighborhood may serve in the same units.
 - (ii) certain types of the populace may be posted to the most suitable territory.

With this end in view a suggestion from this office is attached herewith. 3237

3. It is felt that the present I.S. Divs in SARDINIA and SICILY should be converted into I.S. Regts and at a later date thereby forming two and four I.S. Regts respectively.

We could discuss the question of a small co-ordinating Hq for SARDINIA (presumably the Garrison Hq there detached from the Base Regt. the Terr. Hq PAFIRO).

The advantages of the conversion on the I.S. Regts are would be:

- (a) standardization throughout Italy
- (b) an increase in response.
- (c) morale. The troops would feel lifted out of the rut of old divisions onto a higher plane.

If, for political reasons you do not feel this is practical at present, will you, please, say if you agree to the conversion at a later date.

4. It would be appreciated if you would forward your comments on paras 2 and 3 above in due course.

Copy to: an/56/2

Major General,
M.I.D.

Appendix "A" to MIA Letter SO/38/2
dated Oct 45

Regiment	Italian Inf Div	Affiliated I.S. Regiment	Terr. region from which intake would be drawn for both Regts.
87 Inf Regt	'PIUVE'	No. 5 I.S. Regt **	UDINE
88 Inf Regt	'PIUVE'	No. 6 I.S. Regt	SP/GNA
21 Inf Regt	'CONEGLIA'	No. 3 I.S. Regt	ALLIAN
22 Inf Regt	'CONEGLIA'	No. 1 I.S. Regt **	TURIN
"M. B." Inf Regt	'FOLGINE'	No. 10 I.S. Regt	RAV/DO
"GAMINARDI" Inf Regt 'FOLGINE'		No. 2 I.S. Regt	CREMA
68 Inf Regt	'LECCHIO'	No. 9 I.S. Regt	BAIT
Special Inf Regt	'LACCHIO'	No. 4 I.S. Regt **	BALZANO
78 Inf Regt	'LANTONA'	No. 7 I.S. Regt	PLACENZA
114 Inf Regt	'LANTONA'	No. 8 I.S. Regt	BORE

3235

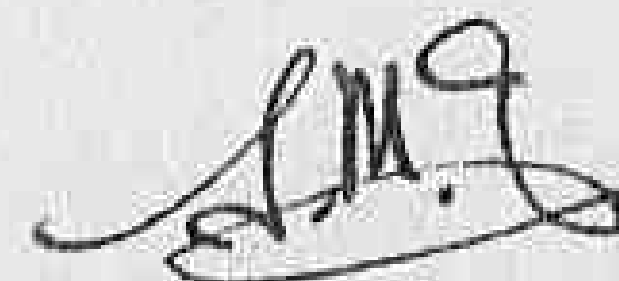
** Authority for these to be carried as "ALLIAN" was conveyed in MIA Letter SO/56/2 of 2 Oct. It would seem therefore that its opposite number in Italian Inf Div should also be "ALLIAN", if you think that the personnel intake in the recruiting region could stand it. Your comments and suggestions are awaited.

File: 9/3/2 ← QA

Col A/Q (three copies)

Att is the basis for a draft letter which I think
we ought to recommend that G.O.C. sends to War Ministry approx
mid Nov (not before).

Will you please accept action on the A and Q points
and say when you would like to discuss.



Lt.-Col.
GS.

G (SD)

8 Oct 45.

323

86

Suggested basis for a draft letter from
G.O.C. to Ministry of War approx mid Nov.

I refer you to the minutes of the 'C' conference held
at S.M.R.E. on 1 Oct and published under reference C/3/2 of 5 Oct.

1. As far as para 6 (Call-up) is concerned, my 'A' Branch
tells me that they have been carefully into the figures with you
and that you are satisfied with the present rate of demobilisation.
In addition a further disbandment of (depending on
date letter is sent out) US-ITI and BR-ITI service units is
anticipated by 1 Feb. I consider this most gratifying.

2. Turning now to the intake side of the call-up, I am
pleased to note that you are willing to try out the monthly intake
and would suggest that instead of this being held during the
twelve calendar months, it be held at 12 28-day intervals w.e.f.
14 Jan in any one year which would mean finishing on 15 Dec
thereby leaving in each year the period 16 Dec to 13 Jan as free
for the Christmas holidays - Dist HQs, instructors at PTCs and
intake personnel would benefit from this method.

3. I now come to the date on which we may commence our
plan. Your difficulties which we agreed had to be overcome first
were:

(a) accommodation;

(b) number of instructors to handle PTC/ITC org as well
as take care of the flow once it reached units;

(c) transport.

4. I report progress as under:-

(a) Accommodation. ('Q' to insert progress in finding
accommodation for PTC/ITC in each Terr region based
on approx 2,000).

(b) Instructors. (GII(Trg) please speak).

(c) Transport. 'Q' please make up - here are my notes)

(i) 150 vehs ex MILAN;

(ii) 500 vehs per month wef 1 Nov

2. Turning now to the intake side of the call-up, I am pleased to note that you are willing to try out the monthly intake and would suggest that instead of this being held during the twelve calendar months, it be held at 12 28-day intervals w.e.f. 14 Jan in any one year which would mean finishing on 15 Dec thereby leaving in each year the period 16 Dec to 13 Jan as free for the Christmas holidays - Dist HQs, instructors at PTCs and intake personnel would benefit from this method.

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 - (b) number of instructors to handle PTC/ITC org as well as take care of the flow once it reached units;
 - (c) transport.
- 3232

4. I report progress as under:-

- (a) Accommodation. ('Q' to insert progress in finding accommodation for PTC/ITC in each Terr region based on approx 2,000).
- (b) Instructors. (GII(TrG) please speak).
- (c) Transport. 'Q' please make up - here are my notes)
 - (i) 150 vehs ex MILAN;
 - (ii) 500 vehs per month wef 1 Nov
 - (iii) All Terr Region tpt coys up to strength
 - (iv) movement on rlys has been turned over to Italian Govt wef.....

5. Under the circumstances I am most anxious to start these small monthly intakes wef 11 Feb 46 when all the above provisos will have been taken care of. I feel sure this will be best for the Italian Army. Will you please say if you agree.

- 2 -

6. In any case I feel we ought to rule out your original suggestion of one large initial call-up in JAN or FEB because:

- (a) your figures vide para 1 are satisfactory;
- (b) it starts off the whole system of a small even flow on the wrong foot;
- (c) AFHQ would never allow trg to be carried out in units after the plans we have made for PTC/IRC trg.

Maj-General,
MIA.

3230

(7)

A.C. Points for Gen. VaxiAccommodation

Important that V. Maint give us an answer to our request for papers over War Ministry property, (letter attached).

Armament

Decision required whether Italian Army is to be armed with British or Italian weapons. Ads set up and arms factories etc depends on this.

Conditions of Service

For Italian Army we seem to be drifting towards a large regular cadre and small annual conscript turnover. Is this to be so? What about future army? Has the question of trained reserves been considered?

PSI

Discussions still proceeding and we hope to avert the crisis.

Demobilization

We expect to have a reserve of 15,000 on 31 Dec which will enable us to demobilize the 1939 class either Dec or Jan, and an intake of 15,000 in Jan - Feb.

M.M.I.A.

Required during October

File: 9/3/2 ← 6

OUTSTANDING 'C' POINTS FOR C.O.Cs

TALK WITH MAJ-GEN WARD, 9 OCT 45.

GENERAL

1. In general much progress has been made with org and trg since the last meeting. All plans have been made as far as circumstances have permitted.

Following on C.O.C. meeting with Minister Jacini last month, we have held 'C' meeting with Brig-Gen (Ops, SD and Trg) S.M.R.E., agreed minutes have been published and outstanding points are being pursued individually.

CALL-UPS

2. War Ministry agreed to try out monthly intakes next year, although they would like one big intake initially at the beginning of the year. Output and intake figures however will NOT warrant this and the policy of monthly intakes is being vigorously pursued. This provides a slow steady flow of rfts and keeps trg overheads to its most economical minimum.

P.T.G./I.T.C.

3. Our system agreed by Ministry of War, and we are now pursuing (a) accommodation ('Q' points will enlarge); (b) trg of instructors (see 4 below). The transport situation will be adequate. The policy of trg equipment is still outstanding and is being taken up with AFHQ.

INSTRUCTORS

4. 400 WCOs for PTCs commenced trg 25 Oct } All at
250 officers commence trg 10 Oct } CESSANO
Remainder commence trg 15 Nov }

Combat Gps and BUUs have been instructed to release their most efficient candidates and in doing so must think of Italian Army as a whole.

TARGET DATE

with a steady monthly turn-

Following on C.O.C. meeting with Minister of War, last month, we have held 'C' meeting with Brig-Gen (Ops, SD and Trg) S.M.R.E., agreed minutes have been published and outstanding points are being pursued individually.

CALL-UPS

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INSTRUCTORS

4. 400 NCOs for PTCs commenced trg 25 Oct } All at
250 officers commence trg 10 Oct } CESANO
Remainder commence trg 15 Nov }

Combat Gps and MLUs have been instructed to release their most efficient candidates and in doing so must think of Italian Army as a whole.

TARGET DATE

5. Target date for opening PTC/ITC with steady monthly turn-overs end JAN/early FEB.

REORG ITALIAN ARMY AND ITALIAN MINISTRY OF WAR

6. War Ministry agree that their systems can be considerably improved and we are now submitting our recommendations for
- (a) revised services;
 - (b) more up-to-date staff procedure in Ministry of War itself.

...../2

- 2 -

REDUCTIONS IN SERVICE UNITS

7. 62,000 US-ITIs have been disbanded during last two months and 59,000 BR-ITIs during same period. We are continually watching the overheads and reducing Adm Div HQs etc.

COMBAT GPS (ITALIAN INF DIVISIONS wef 15 OCT)

8. Ministry of War recommendations for alterations to WEs have been received and we are awaiting Allied recommendations via BLUs and 2 Dist before calling a conference.

Ministry of War agree that I.S. Regts should go on to serve WE as Inf Regts in Combat GPS and we are submitting to them an "affiliation" scheme which allows (a) ease of interchangeability, (b) ease of recruit induction into Army.

I.S. Bdes (to be known later as No - Inf Regt).

9. 20 out of the 30 Cd Bns are now under Ministry of War command and we are pressing AFHQ for release of remainder. All Bde HQs except 2 are at present in being. Unless we can get a further bn released in BARI area, SAN MARCO cannot revert to Italian Navy and remains on BR-INTI feeding account.

INTERIM ARMY

10. We have received copy of signal from COS WASHINGTON and await second draft of AFHQ directif. We will then comment and be ready to attend conference at CASERTA.

(G.O.C. -- You will probably want to talk about "control".)

DIRECTIVE TO MATA ON MATIAS DUTIES

11. Maj-Gen WARD to state progress at AFHQ (?)

ABSORPTION OF POLICE OFFERS INTO MATA

12. Discussion with Gen MORGAN.

MATA V.E.

13. We should hear shortly. In any case we are getting close alright.

322

has have been ...
ations via BUUs and 2 Dist before calling a conference.

Ministry of War agree that I.S. Regts should go on to some WE as Inf Regts in Combat Gps and we are submitting to them an "affiliation" scheme which allows (a) ease of interchangeability, (b) ease of recruit induction into Army.

I.S. Rdes (To be known later as No - Inf Regt).

9. 20 out of the 30 Cd Ens are now under Ministry of War command and we are pressing AFHQ for release of remainder. All Ddc HQs except 2 are at present in being. Unless we can get a further bn released in BARI area, SAN MARCO cannot revert to Italian Navy and remains on BR-ITI feeding account.

INTERIM ARMY

10. We have received copy of signal from OCS WASHINGTON and await second draft of AFHQ directive. We will then comment and be ready to attend conference at CASERTA.

(G.O.C. --- You will probably want to talk about "control".)

DIRECTLY TO MIA ON MIA'S DUTIES

11. Maj-Gen WARD to state progress at AFHQ (?)

322

ABSORPTION OF POLICE OFFERS INTO MIA

12. Discussion with Gen MORGAN.

MIA W.E.

13. We should hear shortly. In any case we are getting along alright.

G (SD)

Lt.-Col.
GS.

AMZ

8 Oct 45

FILE: G/3/2

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL
ADDETTO, S.M.R.E. ON 1ST OCTOBER 1945

ACTIONPRESENT

S.M.R.E.

M.M.I.A.

Brig. Gen. LIUZZI
Col. QUEROLA
Col. PIACENTINI
Col. MELONI
Maj. RATOL

Lt. Col. INGLEDEN
Maj. MEILAM
Capt. GROVES-RAINES

OBJECT

2. The object of the meeting was to discuss the "C" Points contained in D.O. letter from Lt. Col. INGLEDEN to Gen. LIUZZI which followed on Gen. BROWNING's conference with the Minister of War in Sep.

ORGANIZATION OF ARMS OF THE SERVICE

3. War Ministry agreed that operationally Sigs and Eng should be divided at all levels coming under one lead only at the War Ministry. Administratively they would remain as one Corps.

4. As far as other branches of the Army and the Adm Services were concerned War Ministry stated that they had only had experience up to Combat Cp level and consequently did not carry the set-up at higher levels. They would be pleased however to consider further on receipt of more details.

5. War Ministry agreed that there was a certain amount of red-tape in staff procedure between Ministry of War and S.M.R.E. and would be pleased to receive and consider details of the British or Allied Staff systems in organization with a view to a change. It was decided that MMIA should study and submit a proposal.

CALL-UP

6. War Ministry considered that for the present the Italian system versus the American system was more suitable for the requirements of Italy. War Ministry agreed however to try out the monthly call-up system (on condition that points at (a), (b) and (c) below are satisfactorily taken care of) thereby

MMIA

322

Brig. Gen. LIUZZI
Col. GUERGLIA
Col. PIAGANTINI
Col. MELONI
Maj. RATTI

Lt. Col. INGLEDEW
Maj. METLAM
Capt. GROVES-RAINES

OBJECT

2. The object of the meeting was to discuss the "C" Points contained in D.O. letter from Lt. Col. INGLEDEW to Gen. LIUZZI which followed on Gen. BROWNING's conference with the Minister of War in Sep.

ORGANIZATION OF ARMS OF THE SERVICE

3. War Ministry agreed that operationally Sigs and Eng should be divided at all levels coming under one head only at the War Ministry. Administratively they would remain as one Corps.

4. As far as other branches of the Army and the Adm Services were concerned War Ministry stated that they had only had experience up to Combat Gp level and consequently did not carry the set-up at higher levels. They would be pleased however to consider further on receipt of more details.

5. War Ministry agreed that there was a certain amount of red-tape in staff procedure between Ministry of War and S.M.R.E. and would be pleased to receive and consider details of the British or Allied Staff systems in organization with a view to a change. It was decided that MMIA should study and submit a proposal.

CALL-UP

6. War Ministry considered that for the present the Italian system versus the American system was more suitable for the requirements of Italy. War Ministry agreed however to try out the monthly call-up system (on condition that points at (a), (b) and (c) below are satisfactorily taken care of) thereby ensuring an even flow of intakes. It was decided, however, that should it be necessary to have a larger call-up initially in the earlier part of 1946 in view of any large scale demobilization this would be independent, but the S.M.R.E. stressed that in their opinion this should be a preliminary. It was agreed that plans on monthly basis should be made as under:-

(a) <u>Accommodation</u>	Ministry of War (Initially)
(b) <u>Trg of Instructors</u>	G(Trg) War Ministry/G(Trg) MMIA
(c) <u>Trg</u>	"Q" MMIA

MMIA

3227
MMIA

MMIA

It was agreed that another meeting should be held to discuss progress at a very early date. It will be necessary however for respective "A" Branches to agree on "intake" requirements and terms of service as early as possible.

DISTRICT HQS/DEPOTS

7. War Ministry agreed that later it would be desirable to combine Dist Hqs and Depots but in view of the general re-org it was decided to leave the matter temporarily.

RECRUIT TRG

MMIA

8. The adoption of the system of PTC's and ITC's and the Specialists Trg at CESANO was generally agreed and it was decided that plans should proceed on the lines already discussed, and that investigations should continue as to the desirability of combining the training of PTC and ITC.

CESANO

MMIA

9. In view of the fact that the Allies cannot release the Arty Barracks at CIVITAVECCHIA until Mar, it was agreed that a re-adjustment would have to be made possibly making use of the barracks at VITERBO.

WAR ESTABLISHMENTS

WAR
MINISTRY

10. War Ministry stated that their views on adjustments to Combat Gp WEs would be in two parts.

- (a) Minor adjustments already submitted.
- (b) Major requirements which would be submitted within a week.

11. It was agreed that, once a standard WE had been agreed upon, the I.S. Edes and Inf Regts in Combat Gps should both be organized onto this WE thereby permitting "interchangeability".

NOMENCLATURE

WAR
MINISTRY

12. SMRE liked the nomenclature "No. Infantry Regiment" etc and preferred the term "Division" to "Combat Group" but it was decided that before any official action was taken, SMRE should consult Combat Gp Commanders.

TERRITORIAL LAYOUT

WAR
MINISTRY

13. War Ministry agreed that it would be desirable to retain a ceiling of approx 1,000 personnel in reserve. They stated that an official reply should already have reached MMIA.

- 3 -

MISC. POINTS

14. (a) MMIA agreed that as there was such close and excellent liaison between branches of Ministry of War and branches of MMIA, the liaison office of Lt. Col. SANSONE could be closed shortly. MMIA would write officially to War Ministry on this subject.

MMIA

(b) MMIA agreed to render all assistance in reducing the number of interpreter officers in the Combat Gps to the authorized WE of 6.

MMIA

6 Oct 45

R. F. A. Gross-Raines
for Lt. Col. Capt
G. S.

DISTRIBUTION:

WAR MINISTRY (SMRE)

MA to GOC
C of S
A
Q
Maj. MEDLAM
FILE: C/3/2

3220

WS

File: G/3/2

DISCUSSION - M.M.I.A.

3 OCT 1945

Present : G.O.C.
Col A/Q
GSO 1
GSO 11 (Trg)

QUESTIONS

FOR WAR MINISTRY

1. What is the call-up estimate per Region ? i.e. are they all equal in man-power production ?

2. What percentage of Army should be Regular, for strengths of:

140,000 ?
165,000 ?
190,000 ?
215,000 ?

3. Is a 4-weekly call-up (even in winter) accepted definitely, despite its difficulties and disadvantages, as being possible and the best on balance ?

4. At what age will the recruit be inducted ?

5. What action is being taken to produce a new style uniform for the Italian Army ?

FOR M.M.I.A.

6. Is a combined PTC/ITC advisable with "universal" instructors ? Named "Territorial Training Centre" ?

7. Is it accepted that a 3-monthly intake is worse than a 4-monthly from the aspect of:-

(a) greater fluctuation in effective strength

(b) greater overheads and waste of effort.

on basis of 100 intake per PTC

At PTC/ITC with 4-monthly, instructors required are for $100 + 60 + 60 = 220$.

Action

A/Q

A/Q

G

A/Q

A/Q

321

QUESTIONSFOR WAR MINISTRY

1. What is the call-up estimate per Region? i.e. are they all equal in man-power production?

2. What percentage of Army should be Regular, for strengths of:

140,000?
165,000?
190,000?
215,000?

3. Is a 4-weekly call-up (even in winter) accepted definitely, despite its difficulties and disadvantages, as being possible and the best on balance?

4. At what age will the recruit be inducted?

5. What action is being taken to produce a new style uniform for the Italian Army?

FOR M.M.I.A.

6. Is a combined PTC/ITC advisable with "universal" instructors? Named "Territorial Training Centre"?

7. Is it accepted that a 3-monthly intake is worse than a 1-monthly from the aspect of:-

- (a) greater fluctuation in effective strength
- (b) greater overheads and waste of effort.

on basis of 100 intake per PTC

At PTC/ITC with 1-monthly, instructors required are for $100 + 60 + 60 = 220$.

At PTC/ITC with 3-monthly, instructors required = 300.

(Difference is waste of instructors for 80 for 2 months.)

At GERANO, difference is waste of instructors for 300 for 4 months in the year.

8. On what date can PTC/ITCs be fully ready to start functioning?

Training equipment aspect?

Administrative aspect?

Action

A/Q

A/Q

G

A/Q

A/Q

321

...../2

- 2 -

FOR M.M.I.A. (cont.)

Action

A/Q

9. Do we start the conscript flow when PTC/ITCs are ready?

10. Is it accepted that a complete demobilisation of all one class (e.g. 1924) all at once is impossible, as this would throw the whole system of flow and training of recruits out of gear and the recruits would have to be trained in units?

11. Is it accepted that we establish PTC/ITC/CESANO system as soon as possible, despite the fact that this will mean that operational units will, in consequence, gradually fall to some 25% below establishment?

This condition will only obtain while the ceiling is limited to 140,000. An increase to (say) a permissible 200,000 under the Peace Treaty would automatically allow operational units to be made up to full establishment again.

12. Can we put the PTC/ITC/CESANO system into force unless we have adequate similar (British) warlike training equipment at all these places?

13. While it is advisable to draft new new terms and conditions of service for Regulars, the actual putting of these into force (i.e. the actual constitution of the new Regular element in the Army) can await the signing of the Peace Treaty and does not hinder the establishing of the general project we are working on. Meanwhile existing terms and conditions of service for Regulars continue. Is this agreed.

L.B.
3 Oct 45

DISTRIBUTION:

G.O.O.
C. of S.
Col A/Q
GSO 1
GSO 11 (Trg)

File: G/3/2.

3216

A/Q

0/3/2

Capt. R.C. GROVES-RAINES
"G" Branch
M.M.I.A.

2 October 1945

Dear

1. Attached herewith is draft minutes of the very cordial meeting we had with your General yesterday. We feel that the decisions reached, although not in all cases conclusive, is a great step forward in the interim planning of the points outstanding between our respective branches.

2. Will you please say if the draft is agreed when we will post to you officially.

Yours

R.G.A.G-R

Major RATHI
Office of Generale ALDETTO
S.M.R.E.

WB

3215

DRAFT

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE GENERALE
ADDETTO, S.M.R.E. ON 1ST OCTOBER 1945

ACTIONPRESENT1. S.M.R.E.

Brig. Gen. LUZZI
Col. QUERCIA
Col. PIACENTINI
Col. MELONI
Maj. RATTI

M.M.I.A.

Lt. Col. INGLEDEW
Maj. MEDLAM
Capt. GROVES-RAINES

OBJECT

2. The object of the meeting was to discuss the "G" Points contained in D.O. letter from Lt. Col. INGLEDEW to Gen. LUZZI which followed on Gen. BROWNING's conference with the Minister of War in Sep.

ORGANIZATION OF ARMS OF THE SERVICE

3. War Ministry agreed that operationally Sigc and Eng should be divided at all levels coming under one head only at the War Ministry. Administratively they would remain as one Corps.
4. As far as other branches of the Army and the Adm Services were concerned War Ministry stated that they had only had experience up to Combat Cp level and consequently did not know the set-up at higher levels. They agreed however that there appeared many advantages and would be pleased to consider further on receipt of more details.
5. War Ministry agreed that there was a certain amount of overlapping in staff procedure between Ministry of War and S.M.R.E. and would be pleased to receive and consider details of the British or Allied Staff systems in organization with a view to a change. It was decided that M.M.I.A should study and submit a proposal.

3212

M.M.I.A.

Col. MELONI
Maj. RATTI

OBJECT

2. The object of the meeting was to discuss the "G" Points contained in D.O. letter from Lt. Col. INGLEDEN to Gen. LUZZI which followed on Gen. BROWNING's conference with the Minister of War in Sep.

ORGANIZATION OF ARMS OF THE SERVICE

3. War Ministry agreed that operationally Sig and Eng should be divided at all levels coming under one head only at the War Ministry. Administratively they would remain as one Corps.
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3212

MMIA

5. War Ministry agreed that there was a certain amount of overlapping in staff procedure between Ministry of War and S.M.R.E. and would be pleased to receive and consider details of the British or Allied Staff systems in organization with a view to a change. It was decided that MMIA should study and submit a proposal.

CALL-UP

6. War Ministry considered that for the present the Italian system versus the American system was more suitable for the requirements of Italy. War Ministry agreed however to try out the monthly Call-up system (provided points at (a), (b) and (c) below are satisfactorily taken care of) thereby ensuring an even flow of intakes. It was decided, however, that should it be necessary to have a larger call-up initially in the

- 2 -

earlier part of 1946 this should be superimposed. It was agreed that plans on monthly basis should be made as under:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) <u>Accommodation</u> | Ministry of War (Initially) |
| (b) <u>Trg of Instructors</u> | G(Trg) War Ministry/G(Trg) MMIA |
| (c) <u>Tpt</u> | Q. MMIA |

MMIA

It was agreed that another meeting should be held to discuss progress at a very early date. It will be necessary however for respective "A" Branches to agree on "intake" requirements and terms of service as early as possible.

DISTRICT HQS/DEPOTS

7. War Ministry agreed that later it would be desirable to move Dist HQs and Depots next to each other but in view of the general reorg it was decided to leave the matter temporarily.

RECRUIT TRG

8. The adoption of the system of PTC's and ITC's and the Specialists Trg at CESANO was generally agreed and it was decided that plans should proceed on the lines already discussed.

CESANO

9. In view of the fact that the Allies cannot release the Arty Barracks at CIVITAVECCHIA until Mar, it was agreed that a re-adjustment would have to be made possibly making use of the barracks at

VITERBO.

321

WAR ESTABLISHMENTS

WAR
MINISTRY

10. War Ministry stated that their views on adjustments to Combat Gp WEs would be in two parts.

- (a) Minor adjustments already submitted.
- (b) Major requirements which would be submitted within a week.

amused MMIA
5/10 (being
translated)

It was agreed that once a standard WE had been agreed upon

It was agreed that another meeting should be held to discuss progress at a very early date. It will be necessary however for respective "A" Branches to agree on "intake" requirements and terms of service as early as possible.

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VITERBO.

WAR ESTABLISHMENTS

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(a) Minor adjustments already submitted.

(b) Major requirements which would be submitted within a week.

11. It was agreed that, once a standard WE had been agreed upon, the I.S. Edes and Inf Regts in Combat Cps should both be organized onto this WE thereby permitting "interchangeability". Sicily would then produce four such Regts from its I.S. Divs and Sardinia would produce two.

amended 7-11-44
5/16 (being
re-submitted)

WAR
MINISTRY

3211

MMIA

MMIA

NOMENCLATURE

WAR
MINISTRY

12. SMRE liked the nomenclature "BARI Independent Regt" etc and preferred the term "Division" to "Combat Group" but it was decided that before any official action was taken, SMRE should consult Combat Gp Commanders.

TERRITORIAL LAYOUT

WAR
MINISTRY

13. War Ministry agreed that it would be desirable to retain a ceiling of approx 1,000 personnel in reserve. They stated that an official reply should already have reached MMIA.

MISC. POINTS

14. (a) MMIA agreed that as there was such close and excellent liaison between branches of Ministry of War and branches of MMIA, the liaison office of Lt. Col. SANSONE could be closed shortly. MMIA would write officially to War Ministry on this subject.

MMIA

MMIA

- (b) MMIA agreed to render all assistance in reducing the number of interpreter officers in the Combat Gps to the authorized WS of 6.

3203

Do/c 2
 Lt. Col. G.M. IMMEDEW,
 Military Mission to Italian Army,
 O.M.F.

19 September 1945

Dear General:

Following on General BUCHNUNG's talk with Minister JACINI on 14 Sep, it would seem that the undermentioned points require discussion between our respective departments.

1. Organization of Arms of the Service

(a) What do you think about having a separate Signal and Engineer Corps instead of one Genic Corps? We think it advisable.

(b) Do you consider that your Artillery Branch should confine itself to Artillery advice, or will it still control the issuing of stores as dealt with by the British "Ordnance" Branch? We think the former.

(c) The AQ services are being dealt with by Colonel FIDALEY's department, i.e. how about separate Ordnance, MAP, SF branches? We do not necessarily think that the British system is right, but now would be a good time to find something in between the present Italian and present British systems.

2. Organization of War Ministry

Depending on the answers to 1 (above) we feel the time has come to consider a possible reorganization of Ministry of War. The old-time system of GME and Ministry of War seems too cumbersome and out of date. Without prejudice to what may be the terms of the Peace Treaty as regards Allied requirements, it does seem as if we should get closer together now. Actually this staff procedure much interests me; I would like to examine in detail and put up a proposition for discussion between us.

3. Call-up

Do you agree to the call-up system on the American lines as outlined at the meeting? For purposes of planning accommodation and training I feel we should base our calculations on a figure of say 10,000 on 1 Feb but I know Colonel FIDALEY is going into detailed requirements of intakes with you. Do you agree, and if so would you please submit firmer details? This of course brings us to the question of siting of District HQs and Depots near each other and other problems vide paragraphs 4 to 6 below.

4. District HQs/Depots

Personally we feel that they should be near each other to save overheads

3207

Following on General ERDMAN's talk with Minister JACINI on 14 Sep, it would seem that the undermentioned points require discussion between our respective departments.

1. Organization of Arms of the Service

- (a) What do you think about having a separate Signal and Engineer Corps instead of one Genic Corps? We think it advisable.
- (b) Do you consider that your Artillery Branch should confine itself to Artillery advice, or will it still control the issues of stores as dealt with by the British "Ordnance" Branch? We think the former.
- (c) The AG services are being dealt with by Colonel FIDLEY's department, i.e. how about separate Ordnance, REME, SF Branches? We do not necessarily think that the British system is right, but now would be a good time to find something in between the present Italian and present British systems.

2. Organization of War Ministry

Depending on the answers to 1 (above) we feel the time has come to consider a possible reorganization of Ministry of War. The old-time system of ~~WAR~~ and Ministry of War seems too cumbersome and out of date. Without prejudice to what may be the terms of the Peace Treaty as regards Allied requirements, it does seem as if we should get closer together now. Actually this staff procedure much interests me; I would like to examine in detail and put up a proposition for discussion between us.

3. Call-up

Do you agree to the call-up system on the American lines as outlined at the meeting? For purposes of planning accommodation and training I feel we should base our calculations on a figure of say 10,000 on 1 Feb but I know Colonel FIDLEY is going into detailed requirements of intakes with you. Do you agree, and if so would you please submit firmer details? This of course brings us to the question of siting of District HQs and Depots near each other and other problems vide paragraphs 4 to 6 below.

4. District HQs/Depots

Personally we feel that they should be near each other to save overheads and to save movement. Major BARMAN has told us your objections are:-

- (a) Lack of barrack accommodation for Depots near Districts;
- (b) The fact that District HQs are sited in thickly populated areas while Depots are located in the country or in country villages where training facilities are good;
- (c) The fact that even if Districts and Depots were to be next door to each other, practically no overheads could be saved as each unit has such totally different functions.

Are the above really your views and, if so, are there any ways of overcoming the difficulties? What alternative?

Recruit Training

5. Do you agree to the system outlined at the meeting? It looks the most simple and effective under the circumstances and I do hope you will agree. If so, will you please put up MBs for Primary Training Centres (P.T.Cs) and Infantry Training Centres (I.T.Cs) and start looking for accommodation in each Territorial Region. Do you want any help in connection with the accommodation?

6. As you know we already have a plan for training 3,000 instructors at GESANO which should take care of the first in-flow of reinforcements.

It seems to us that this P.T.C./I.T.C. Organization is the first thing to get settled and organized.

7. GESANO

We have examined the position of the various schools in detail vide our letter G/TRE/13/5 of 18 Sep 45.

I trust you will agree. There we differ with your official view is chiefly over the question of moving the Artillery School to CIVITAVECCHIA. I hear that the real opposition to the move of this school from BRACCIANO is because certain officers are so comfortable there. On the other hand, at CIVITAVECCHIA the barracks are near the sea for out-to-sea firing which includes anti-tank and anti-aircraft. At the present moment anti-tank and anti-aircraft troops have to move from BRACCIANO to CIVITAVECCHIA to fire. In addition, the present British occupants of the CIVITAVECCHIA barracks (The British School of Artillery) have done a great deal towards repairing the barracks and increasing the amenities of the ranges. So from every point of view it is clear that CIVITAVECCHIA is the best location. In the light of the above, I ask that you will look into this matter personally.

8. COMBAT GROUPS

Could you please hasten reply to our letter SE/59/2 of 11 Sep 45 where we asked for your views on the future MB of the Combat Groups. This will of course include such items as:-

- (a) Whether you require an armoured car battalion;
- (b) Whether you require any Alpine increments;
- (c) Whether you require any readjustment of Artillery.

3203

Please base your reply on British Equipment. That brings us to the important question of the MB of an Infantry Regiment in a Combat Group. We feel that they should definitely be interchangeable with the I.S. Brigade which at the moment is only on an ad hoc temporary MB of HQ and three Guard Battalions. The advantages of interchangeability are of course enormous. If you agree, then SICILY would produce four such regiments from its I.S. Division and SARDINIA would produce two. This brings us to the question of command structure. Do you fancy

6. As you know we already have a plan for the first in-flow of reinforcements. CESANO which should take care of the first in-flow of reinforcements.
- It seems to us that this P.I.C./I.I.C. organization is the first thing to get settled and organized.
7. CESANO
- We have examined the position of the various schools in detail vide our letter G/TG/13/5 of 18 Sep 45.
- I trust you will agree. There we differ with your official view is chiefly over the question of moving the Artillery School to CIVITAVECCHIA. I hear that the real opposition to the move of this school from BRACCIANO is because certain officers are so comfortable there. On the other hand, at CIVITAVECCHIA the barracks are near the sea for out-to-sea firing which includes anti-tank and anti-aircraft. At the present moment anti-tank and anti-aircraft troops have to move from BRACCIANO to CIVITAVECCHIA to fire. In addition, the present British occupants of the CIVITAVECCHIA barracks (The British School of Artillery) have done a great deal towards repairing the barracks and increasing the amenities of the ranges. So from every point of view it is clear that CIVITAVECCHIA is the best location. In the light of the above, I ask that you will look into this matter personally.

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Could you please hasten reply to our letter SD/59/2 of 11 Sep 45 where we asked for your views on the future RS of the Combat Groups. This will of course include such items as:-

3203

- (a) Whether you require an armoured car battalion;
- (b) Whether you require any Alpine increments;
- (c) Whether you require any readjustment of Artillery.

Please base your reply on British Equipment. That brings us to the important question of the WE of an Infantry Regiment in a Combat Group. We feel that they should definitely be interchangeable with the I.S. Brigade which at the moment is only on an ad hoc temporary WE of HQ and three Guard Battalions. The advantages of interchangeability are of course enormous. If you agree, then SICILY would produce four such regiments from its I.S. Divisions and SAMBRIA would produce two. This brings us to the question of nomenclature. Do you fancy the terms "Italian Division", "FRIULI Division", "Adriatic Independent Regiment" etc?

9. Territorial Lay-out

You were going to let us have a reply to our letter SD/54/2 of 29 Aug 45 asking for further details on the Territorial lay-out. I think it would be wise for you to keep about 1,000 up your sleeve as unallotted. What do you think?

- 3 -

10.

Conclusion

When you have had time to think about the above points I would like to come across and have a talk over it all. I feel that the sooner we get down to fundamentals now the better. I suggest our first meeting about the middle of next week.

I need hardly repeat that all our proposals are dictated by what we feel necessary in ITALY's own interest. I must also add that AFHQ (with whom as you know, General BURNING discussed this whole matter fully) want to know at regular intervals the progress towards our arriving at an agreed solution and consider the matter as urgent.

I hope you have enjoyed your few days break in the country.

Yours sincerely,



Brig. Gen. G. LUZZI
Generale Addetto
SURE

WS

320

1a

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Address by GOC MMIA

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MMIA)

G / 95

14 Sep 45

TO : MMIA Outstation IOs
GSOs 1 BLUs att Combat Gps
Comd 'F' BL & TU

1. Attached hereto is copy of address given by GOC MMIA to Senior Italian War Ministry officials on 14 Sep 45.

2. This document is for your personal information so that you will be in the picture if Territorial and Div comds discuss with you. It is necessary that the information contained in the document should first reach Italian officials through Italian Ministry of War channels and you are requested NOT to use this information for the present for purposes other than personal knowledge of what is being examined this end in ROME.

rd

J M G. Gledhill
Lt.-Col.
GS.3203

RESTRICTED

Land Forcea Sub-Commission A.C.,
M.M.I.A.
R O M E

G/3

14 September 1945

Address by G.O.C., M.M.I.A. to give an
outline of Allied views and intentions
as regards the future organization and
training of the ITALIAN ARMY.

1. Creation of existing Italian Army.

- (a) The existing Italian Army represents an ad hoc build-up to suit immediate Allied war needs and dependent on factors such as supply, time available, the development of the war etc.
- (b) It bore little relation to what ITALY will need as a post-treaty army. Yet we always had one eye on the future and tried to develop an organization which would fit post-war without detracting from the immediate war effort.
- (c) The result is that now we already have an organization which can be and is being changed into a shape which will produce an army to meet Italian needs during the Interim period until the Peace Treaty is signed.
- (d) We have the Ministry of War, the Territorial H.Q.'s organization, the Gruppi, 3 I.S. Divs, the Services, CESAMO, etc - and we are now planning to expand Territorial H.Q. from 2,000 to 7,000 and creating 10 I.S. Edes.
- (e) The immediate object of the Allies is to create this Italian Army and raise its quality and efficiency.

2. Peace Treaty Terms.

I do not know what these will be. That is a matter for the Allied

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2. Peace Treaty Terms.

I do not know what these will be. That is a matter for the Allied Governments and is not yet settled. So do NOT think that I can tell you anything about this to-day. I want to make that quite clear. I don't know.

3. Post-treaty set-up.

- (a) The post-treaty Italian Army will depend on the size, composition and armament authorized by the Allies, and on the matter of conscription or a long service army (much on the British model).

/... (b)

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-2-

3. (Contd.)

- (b) Nevertheless, we have got to think ahead in anticipation and try to design a proper framework which will suit an army of any size that ITALY is likely to be allowed.
- (c) ITALY, undoubtedly, in any event, will only be able to afford a small army, and I know as soldiers that you will agree with me that it is far better for her to have a small army of high quality than a large army of low quality. So that simplifies our problem.

4.

Discussions with A.F.H.Q.

- (a) I have been having discussion with A.F.H.Q. and other Allied authorities on this whole matter and I have called you together today to explain in broad outline what are the present Allied ideas and intentions subject to approval by higher authority. After I have explained this in outline, our respective staffs can examine the problem and its implications in greater detail.
- (b) We have proceeded on the assumptions that :
- (i) owing to war and the circumstances under which it was born, the existing Italian Army requires complete reorganization throughout.
 - (ii) the Allies are prepared and determined to assist in this reconstruction and I have no doubt that ITALY will welcome this.
 - (iii) the future Italian Army must be brought right up to date and purged of all the inefficiencies and out of date procedure which existed under the Fascist Regime.
 - (iv) quality not quantity is to be the keynote.
- (c) The Italian Army proved in the post-armistice war that it had advanced a long way since the chaos of early 1944, but there is still

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(iv) quality not quantity is to be the keynote.

(c) The Italian Army proved in the post-armistice war that it had advanced a long way since the chaos of early 1944, but there is still a very long way to go yet.

(d) We appreciate that the full reconstruction will take time, but we must make a start now and go all out NOW to put a proper Italian Army on its feet. I know I can rely on your cooperation in this.

/.....(e)

-3-

4. (contd.)

(e) I am now going to outline to you the Allied views on general organization and training.

5. Conscription versus a long service voluntary army.

(a) With a small army, with key-note quality, there is no doubt in my mind that a long service army is far the best in every way for ITALY and I believe you thoroughly agree with me.

(b) Some aspects of this are :-

(i) Modern training takes months. Unless the army is trained, it is no use. Therefore, with a conscript army, you have to have large training staffs to train the whole call-up authorized each year. During early training men are away from their units. The result is that the size of the effective part of the army is small and unable to fulfil its function.

(ii) With a conscript army of one year's service, you have to turn over and train 100% of the call-up each year; but with a long service army of 5 years minimum, only 20% which eases the training commitment and thus enlarges the "effective" part of the army.

(iii) A long service army would be a complete break with the past, which (though I am not a politician) seems to me to be an excellent thing politically and for army prestige.

(c) There are, of course, many other aspects which you realize as well as I do. The argument against long service is the COST. But I doubt if really the cost is very much greater. The main increase is

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(c) There are, of course, many other aspects which you realize as well as I do. The argument against long service is the COST. But I doubt if really the cost is very much greater. The main increase is the extra pay for volunteers. But you will have to pay a conscript a living wage in future, higher than in the past - and I doubt if you would have to pay the volunteer much more. We are getting many volunteers today, though perhaps these are not drawn from the best types available.

/....(d)

-4-

5. (contd.)

- (d) In any event, I will tell my staff to examine the question with you and get your views. Personally, I think it far better to have a small long service, dependable army of high quality than a larger, less stable, conscript army of the same cost.
- (e) The OCRR give us a guide as to how a voluntary, long service army could be put into effect i.e. system, conditions of service, etc.

6. Call-up

- (a) If conscription continues to be the form of producing men for the army, I want you to examine the American system of call-up. (EXPLAIN)
- (b) It has worked excellently; is completely fair; and takes away an even % of men from each part of the country, thus assisting national economy.
- (c) I feel myself that it is the system ITALY needs and superior to your present methods.
- (d) It would make monthly call-ups possible, thus easing the strain on the training organizations and enabling that to be adjusted to meet a continuous and even flow of recruits.

7. Inflow and training of recruits.

- (a) This DIAGRAM (on blackboard) gives an outline of how we envisage recruits being taken into the Army, trained and delivered to units. (EXPLAIN DIAGRAM ATTACHED).
- (b) We have based the design so that :-

- (i) it can fit either the voluntary or the conscription army.

The matter is merely one of degree of size of the training

establishments.

- (ii) an even flow of recruits can be dealt with and all training

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- (ii) an even flow of recruits can be dealt with and all training organizations are full simultaneously, thus reducing training overheads and maintaining the effective strength of the army.

- (iii) the recruit gets a thorough grounding before he goes to his unit. This enables the C.O. of the unit to concentrate on collective training.

/....(iv)

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-5-

7. (contd.)

(b) (contd.)

- (iv) the higher training establishments (except Military Academy at MODENA and Staff College in ROME) are planned to be concentrated round ROME, with obvious advantages of supervision and control by the Ministry of War; and are also concentrated by arms, which means economy of equipment.
- (v) collection and initial training of recruits is **by** Regions, thus preserving Territorial association and avoiding waste of time and transport in travelling.
- (vi) it is a system which we can start putting into force as soon as we get permission from higher authority.
- (vii) incidentally troops under training at CESANO are a potential valuable I.S. reserve centrally located.
- (c) In many ways it is a complete break with the past, but it will undoubtedly be a more efficient machine for the purpose and the country round CESANO is ideal for training. Sentiment of using former artillery barracks at TURIN, for instance, must give way to efficiency. You remember the sentence in the Bible about "putting new wine into old bottles" ! We have nevertheless tried to make the best compromise possible.
- (d) (i) We have CESANO and BRACCIANO Schools already in being. We looked ahead and have secured further accommodation at
CIVITAVECCHIA. 3197
- (ii) Now we must go ahead with planning and organizing the P.T.C.'s and I.T.C.'s, as well as adjusting CESANO and the other schools nearby.
- (iii) We must decide quickly on the barracks and locations of the

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(iii) We must decide quickly on the barracks and locations of the P.T.C's and I.T.C's which should be alongside each other. If the most suitable site in any place is occupied by the Allies, I will see if that can be freed for you.

(iv) We must get the District H.Q's and Depots organized and functioning. The Depot (in our system) would have a

/....dual

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2. (contd.)

(a) (contd.)

(iv) (contd.)

dual role of an outfitting H.Q. and a Regimental Depot. I feel that District H.Q.'s and Depots should be merged to save overheads, movement and accommodation, I should like this examined in detail.

(v) We must get the CESANO and other nearby schools properly fitted up with suitable accommodation, roads etc. I am glad to see improvement there as regards this BUT WE MUST get the gas plant completely removed. We cannot have a civilian business in CESANO. It must be purely military - the shrine of the Italian Army, which in time will become a "show-piece" !

(vi) The great difficulty I see is on what figures are we to base the accommodation necessary? You need twice as much for a turnover of 200,000 as you do for 100,000. We don't know what the Peace Treaty will say. The turnover of recruits (and thus size of training staff) will be different for conscription to long service. But we have one advantage i.e. that we will start in a small way and increase gradually. So, even if we make a mistake we can alter it. I think we had better work backwards from a total figure of (say) 140,000 for the Interim Army plus 50%, i.e. about 200,000 or so on a conscript basis. That is the only figure I can think of to work on, and we can adjust up or down from that later - though I must repeat that it is a pure guess as I do NOT know what the Peace Treaty figures will be or whether it will be conscription or

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(e) We must also now train instructors for P.T.C's and I.T.C's, and in fact get everything ready as soon as possible to take on the first big call-up. We can "live on our fat" from BR-ITI's and US-ITI's and local volunteers, we estimate, till December. By that time we anticipate having^{ing} demobilized down to the 1919 class inclusive. It looks as

/...if we

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7. (contd.)

(e) (contd.)

if we will want a call-up in January, so all must be ready before Xmas - say 15 December. There is not too much time. We must hurry, hurry, hurry.

8.

Officers.

- (a) We agree to your having the military academy at MODENA. This raises the whole question of provision of officers on which any army basically depends. We have already started with the grading and removal of existing officers down to Major inclusive. That is one aspect - sorting out and keeping the best officers you have, and rehabilitating P.W. officers that you keep, by a course at CESSANO.
- (b) (i) The other angle is the provision and training of new entry into the Army. I would like you to examine now the question as to whether All "new entry" should not do 6 months in the ranks first before going as cadets to the Military Academy. The British and all the Dominion troops do this and it has been an unqualified success and invaluable to the officer.
- Later on, as he then understands how his men live in the Army.
- (ii) Frankly, we feel that your whole basis of officer training academic and not human or personal enough. We feel that the relationship between officer and man is not what it should be in a democratic world and to get the best team work. We feel your course for cadets is much too long.
- (iii) I would like you to examine the whole business in the light of what we have found so beneficial in the Allied Armies.
- (iv) Till MODENA is ready and with the requisite instructors, we shall have to continue temporarily with LECCE - though here

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ed.

(v) As I say, the officer question is vital. No out of date tradition or procedure must stand in the way of producing the right type of modern army officer worthy of ITALY and which

/....she

-8-

8. (contd.)

(b) (contd.)

(v) (contd.)

she needs so badly. We must start to build now for posterity and the word "Impossible" does not exist in my Dictionary !

9. Staff College.

This is not of such urgency but we want your views on this.

10. Standardization.

(a) Frankly, we feel that one of your troubles is the lack of standardization in your army organization. You have so many different types of units, all on different war establishments. An army cannot be really efficient thus. It complicates everything (training, reinforcements, supply - everything) and SIMPLICITY is a major element in military efficiency.

(b) (i) Till now, we have had I.S. Divs and Bdes on a different W.E. to the Gruppi. That could not be helped. But now we must plan to get on to a standard Infantry organization.

(ii) I have told my staff to examine with you as to whether the hastily-put-together Gruppo organization is correct. We will then adjust it and put I.S. Divs and Bdes on a similar organization. A gruppo Regiment is about the same strength as an I.S. Bde. We ~~would~~ call these converted I.S. Bdes "Independent Regiments". They need not have the same full scale of equipment but should be inter-changeable with Gruppo Regiments.

(iii) These "Independent Regiments", (similarly to all formations, units and establishments in a Territorial Region) will be under the command and supervision of the Territorial Regional

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(iii) These "Independent Regiments", (similarly to all formations, units and establishments in a Territorial Region) will be under the command and supervision of the Territorial Regional Commander.

(iv) CESANO, BRACCIANO and CIVITAVECCHIA Schools would be the exception. These should be controlled by one General under orders of the Ministry of War.

(v) M. of W. would lay down the standard syllabus for P.T.C's

/.... I.T.C's

-9-

10. (contd.)

(b) (contd.)

(v) (contd.)

and I.T.C's, thus ensuring standardization of training. But the Territorial Commander would supervise and issue all orders.

(vi) The whole lay-out, as you see, is a SIMPLE one, with decentralization to the Territorial Commanders combined with central control by the M. of W.

(vii) One last aspect of standardization is the matter of "Alpine Groups". We query whether these need a separate organization and W.E. to the Gruppi. The Gruppi (and all British and American Divisions) fought in the mountains of ITALY perfectly effectively with the aid of "Alpine increments" e.g. mule companies, etc. The same should apply as regards "Alpine Groups" based on the fundamental Gruppo organization. We thus would have a uniform training for all recruits, who could then do their specialized or higher training in their units.

11. Services.

(a) Pari passu with plans for all the reorganization I have mentioned must be plans for the reorganization of the services and the

M. of W. to correspond.

(b) We think, for instance, that you must have a separate signal corps, a separate R.E.M.E. corps divorced from all other services, a 319

separate Training Directorate which will have a very big task.

(c) I would like you to examine this also with my staff.

12. Conclusion.

I want to emphasize that what I have said is subject to confirmation by higher authority. It is intended to be the best forecast I can make for us

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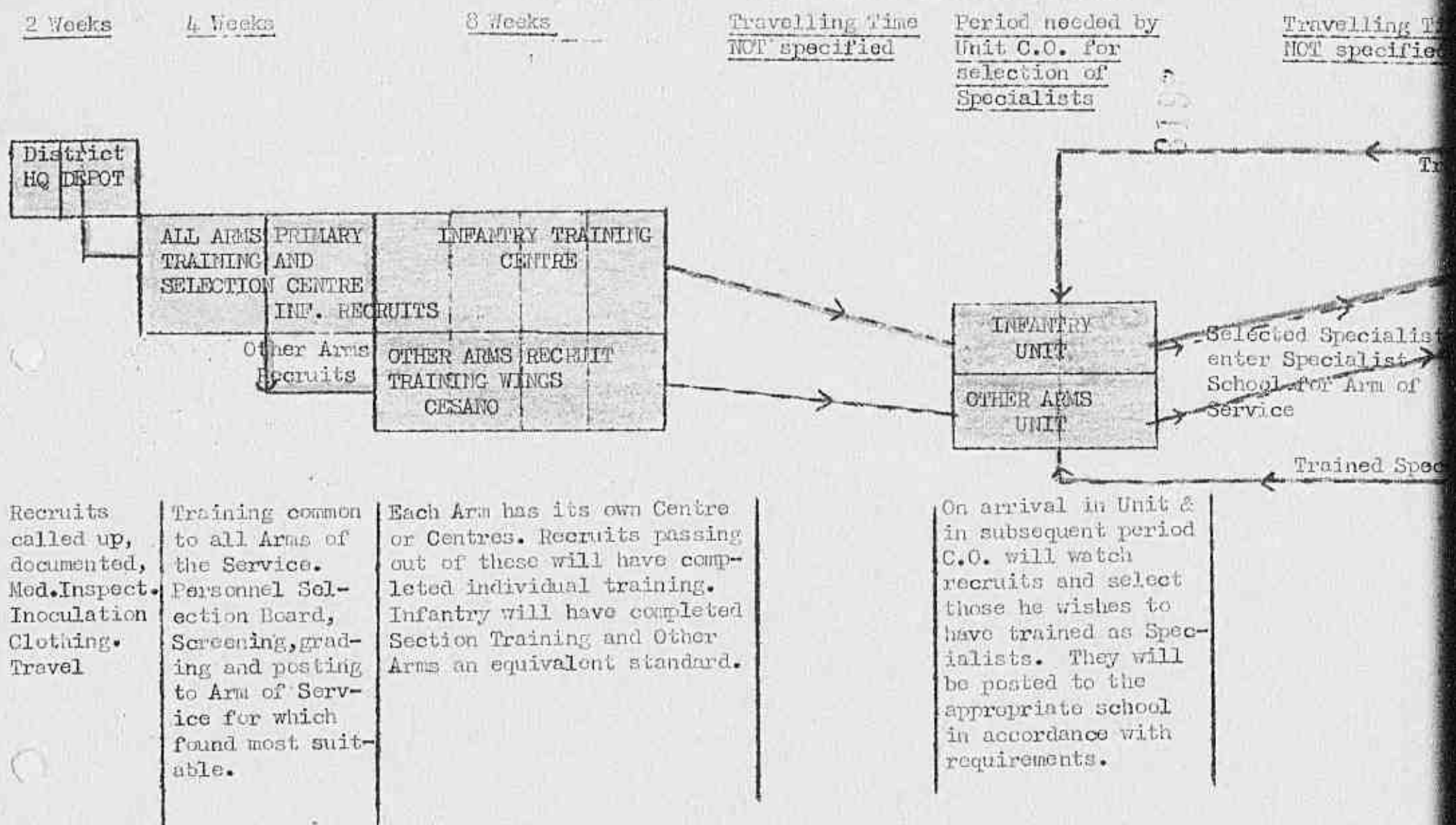
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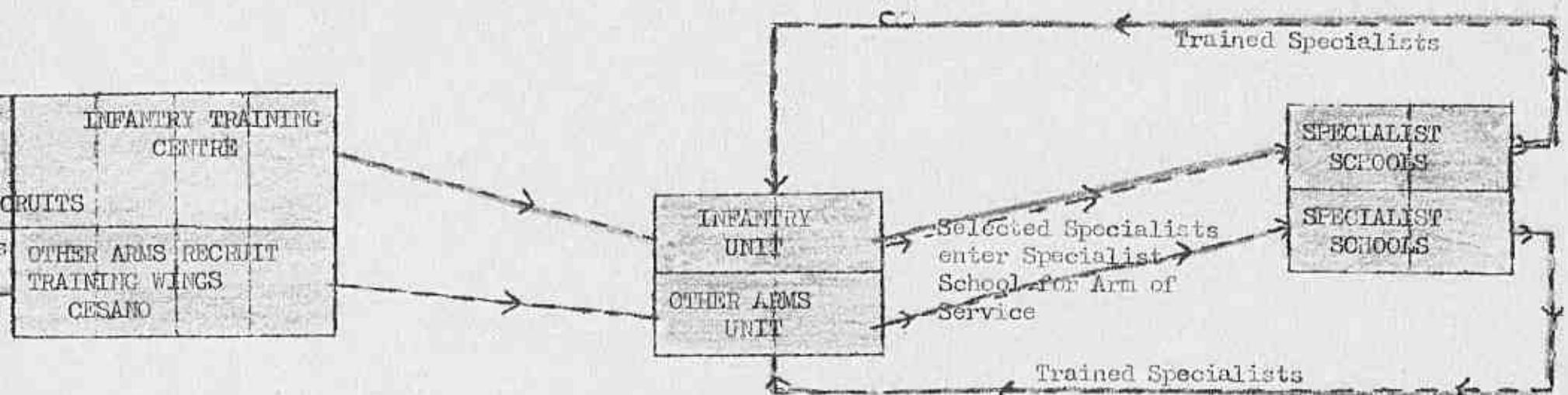
LB/ar

L. Browning

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

FLOW AND TRAINING OF RECRUITS



FLOW AND TRAINING OF RECRUITS8 WeeksTravelling Time
NOT specifiedPeriod needed by
Unit C.O. for
selection of
SpecialistsTravelling Time
NOT specifiedVarious periods
required to train in
different Subjects

Each Arm has its own Centre or Centres. Recruits passing out of these will have completed individual training. Infantry will have completed Section Training and Other Arms an equivalent standard.

On arrival in Unit & in subsequent period C.O. will watch recruits and select those he wishes to have trained as Specialists. They will be posted to the appropriate school in accordance with requirements.

At the Specialist Schools for each arm of the Service recruits will complete the courses of various lengths laid down

1630