Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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July 1945 - M

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

100000|120|5318 G/32 "G" LIAISON LOG PREPARED BY MAJ. BAUMANN

(4543 4821)

July 1945 - MARCH 1947

COVER I

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Date: ~~10PEN~~ when initializing should insert date/time of the old

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Liaison Log with the Ministry of National Defence - Army

24th March 47 - 29th March 47

1. A.E.A.K.

24 March 47. Discussed with Col MIGANI whose draft letter to the President of the Council (see Log of 12 March para 3c) has been studied by A [illegible] and Col A/Q.

Told MIGANI such a letter could not be written unless previous correspondence on a high level could be quoted, or even conversations. MIGANI had no knowledge of either, but (he argued) the ALLIES having ceded Military equipment to the ITALIAN Government never intended it to go to civilian firms who then disposed of certain quantities to Foreign powers, thus not only depriving the ITALIAN Army of what it urgently needs and IS. legitimately entitled to, but placing it in the hands of some potential enemy.

MIGANI expressed the opinion that on this score alone the ALLIES should feel it incumbent upon them to bring pressure to bear in the proper quarters.

However, as suggested to MIGANI, he will submit to this office a few notes giving the gist of any correspondence or interviews which have possibly taken place on a high level in this connection.

2. RECOVERY OF FRENCH EQUIPMENT.

25 March 47. Captain COSME (FRENCH Army) and Lt PI[illegible]INI (FRENCH Navy) called on the eve of their departure for CAGLIARI (SARDINIA) where FRENCH Arms, Ammunition and Equipment had been collected for despatching to FRANCE.

One point they were not clear about was whether ITALIAN War Ministry understood that the cost of such collection and transport of material to the port of embarkation, would be defrayed by the ITALIAN Government until such time as all such questions are settled through diplomatic channels.

Accompanied these two officers to War Ministry and conferred with Lt Col MINICO who assured us that the Ministry was quite agreed on this point and had already issued instructions to OC "Calabria" Inf Bde at CAGLIARI to receive the two FRENCH Officers and offer them every facility.

MINICO supposed that the equipment was actually in arms depots in and around CAGLIARI but that it would be transferred to the quayside for loading on to the [illegible] steamer due to call in on 27th inst.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

could be given; [illegible] knowledge of either, but (he argued) the Soviet having ceded Military equipment to the ITALIAN Government never intended it to go to civilian firms who then disposed of certain quantities to Foreign powers, thus not only depriving the ITALIAN Army of what it urgently needs and 15. legitimately entitled to, but placing it in the hands of some potential enemy.

MINARI expressed the opinion that on this score alone the ALLIES should feel it incumbent upon them to bring pressure to bear in the proper quarters.

However, as suggested to MINARI, he will submit to this office a few notes giving the gist of any correspondence or interviews which have possibly taken place on a high level in this connection.

2. KNOWLEDGE OF FRENCH EQUIPMENT.

25 March 47. Captain COSTE (FRENCH Army) and Lt PETRINI (FRENCH Navy) called in on the eve of their departure for CAGLIARI (SARDINIA) where FRENCH Arms, Ammunition and Equipment had been collected for despatching to FRANCE.

One point they were not clear about was whether ITALIAN War Ministry understood that the cost of such collection and transport of material to the port of embarkation, would be defrayed by the ITALIAN Government until such time as all such questions are settled through diplomatic channels.

Accompanied these two officers to War Ministry and conferred with Lt Col MONACO who assured us that the Ministry was quite agreed on this point and had already issued instructions to CC "Calabria" Inf Div at CAGLIARI to receive the two FRENCH officers and offer them every facility.

MONACO supposed that the equipment was actually in arms depots in and around CAGLIARI but that it would be transferred to the quayside for loading on to the FRENCH steamer due to call in on 27th inst.

FRENCH officers appeared very pleased having quite anticipated opposition in the matter of defraying expenses.

3. ARM'D CORPS OFFICER FOR GREECE

25 March 47. Informed General LIUZZI by phone that GHQ are going to send to this HQ an officer of the Arm'd Corps to give preliminary advice and assistance to War Ministry on setting up of their temporary Arm'd School at

...../2.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

3 (cont) CESARO. This Officer will be attached for the period 5 to 21 April, which probably meant his beginning work on 8 April.

C(ENG)

LIEUT I received this news with pleasure. Necessary ITALIAN specialists were being selected. Also a pre-arranged programme - Inspections, Conferences etc. - will be prepared.

LIEUT informed that Col ORTARU will be Commandant of the School.

4. FOOD SUPPLIED TO ITALIAN TROOPS (see Log of 22 inst para 3)

26 March 47. A copy of Acceptance Note No 593 had been found at the Ministry. The matter of the 2347½ lbs of Corned Beef in that agreed between our Ministry & F Bdl. Lt Col CHERCHARO will call at this HQ in a day or two, with documents, to compare figures, and agree on one or two doubtful points.

10/25

5. CONFIDENCE

27 March 47. Handed General PELLIGRA letter Q138/LF this date to inform him of release of 770 tons tonnage from 500 AOD and despatched to UDINE. PELLIGRA expressed thanks said he would instruct 5 Territorial Command to take over from 5 HAD.

6. K.D. CLOTHING

27 March 47. PELLIGRA stressed urgency and hoped a supply from AUSTRIA would be received soon

7. FOOD FOR RETURNED TROOPS

29 March 47. Lt Col CHERCHARO called re this matter (see letter 4101/LF of 20/3/47 and our Ministry reply 1116/SIT of 27/3/47; also Log of 26 March 47 para 4j introduced him to A&Q where matter was fully dealt with and A/C's procedure agreed upon.

8. C.E.M. MOTOCAR OF CONSTRUCTION (Log of 22 March para 13)

29 March 47. By appointment CONSALVO called here and introduced him to Claims (Allied Gp. (MR) to whom case was explained. CONSALVO was told it was a matter which could only be handled by Ministry of Transport (ITALIAN Government). Suggested Mackenzie should try Ministry of Transport and report results.

9. VISIT TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

29 March 47. Recommended Director and Deputy Director to our Ministry on formal visit to Ministry of Defence.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5. [redacted]

27 March 47. Handed General [redacted] letter [redacted] this date to inform him of release of 7 6 tons tonnage from 500 AMD and despatched to UDINE. [redacted] expressed thanks said he would instruct 5 Territorial Command to take over from 5 BAD. 'Q'

6. K.D. CLOTHING

27 March 47. [redacted] stressed urgency and hoped a supply from AUSTRIA would be received soon 'Q'

7. FOOD FOR [redacted]

29 March 47. Lt Col [redacted] called re this matter (see letter [redacted] of 20/3/47 and our Ministry reply 1146/SIM of 27/3/47. Also 2C of 26 March 47 para 4) introduced him to AMG where matter was fully dealt with and AMG's procedure agreed upon. 'Q'

8. C.I.C. MUSEUM OF [redacted] (Log of 22 March para 13)

29 March 47. By appointment [redacted] called here and introduced him to Claims Office G4 (Br) to whom case was explained. [redacted] was told it was a matter which could only be handled by Ministry of Transport (ITALIAN Government). Suggested [redacted] should try Ministry of Transport and report results.

9. VISIT TO MINISTRY OF DEFENCE CONTEMPLATED

29 March 47. Accompanied Director and Deputy Director to War Ministry on formal visit to Ministry of Defence.

[redacted] expressed pleasure at this visit and straightaway praised the AMERICAN system in the Armed Forces with one Supreme Commander. He had had an interview with Admiral [redacted] just before his departure, who gave him an outline of this system which ([redacted] thought) would suit the ITALIAN Armed Forces to which it can easily be adapted in view of small size of Army, Navy and Air Force, the dovetailing of which would be a simple matter.

[redacted] had prepared a very long and detailed observation and Memoir which was now before the Council of Ministers. He would let Director have a copy of this at an early date.

...../3.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9 (cont) The Minister proudly indicated an oak table in his room which he said was used by CAMILLO DI CAVOUR after the War of Independence in 1859 when he signed the peace Treaty with AUSTRIA.

CAMPANELLI again expressed his pleasure and thanks at the close of this short visit.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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Liaison Log with the Ministry of National Defence - Army

17th March 47 - 22nd March 47

1. RECOVERY OF FRENCH EQUIPMENT.

17 March 47. [illegible] Bridge over the ADIGE. Informed Col. [illegible] that this matter was entirely in the hands of the Ministry of Public Works to whom the FRENCH Representative should address his request.

Col. [illegible] said he would speak to the officer dealing with this question (Capt [illegible]) and get him to call on the writer.

Capt [illegible] duly called and the matter explained to him. He will get FRENCH Embassy to approach Ministry of Public Works.

2. INFORMATION FOR FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE.

17 March 47. Col [illegible] submitted a questionnaire on the formation of New Ministry of Defence before 'H' Day. This was perused by the SCS who will ask Col [illegible] to call and discuss.

3. RECOVERY OF FRENCH ARMOURED TRAIN.

17 March 47. Reference letter from Divisional Officer ROVIGO (VENETIA) ITALY to Ministry of Transport R.M., dated 4th March 47, ref No. RV - 147 on above subject. Called at Ministry of National Defence- Army and discussed with Col. CASPARRI and Lt.Col. [illegible]. The latter who claimed to know all about these wagons, having taken part in discussions in ROME and TARANTO where he saw the wagons, stated that this Armoured train originally consisted of 6 wagons, 3 of which carried a gun, calibre 194 x 29 each, the other 3 wagons (closed) to carry personnel, equipment and stores, have already been handed over to ITALIAN state "railways for despatching to FRANCE.

The guns in question, although of FRENCH manufacture, are part of a consignment of coast defence guns bought from the GERMANS and the Ministry is of the opinion that they should be removed from the wagons before these are handed over to the FRENCH.

[illegible] had referred the matter to the General Staff and a decision was awaited.

4. REPATRIATION OF P.W. to ITALIAN ARMY.

17 March 47. Handed Col [illegible] Release order 95.2/39. of 16 March 47 (in quadruplicate) for vehicles of ITALIAN Army origin, in POW's. [illegible] will forward these to ROMA for checking and signature. He will then countersign.

5. [illegible] BARRACKS - MATERIALS REMOVED BY THE FRENCH.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

explained to him. He will [illegible]
Minister of Public Works.

2. EVACUATION FOR FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

17 March 47. Col PEAKE submitted a memorandum on the formation of New Ministry of Defence before Mr. Day. This was perused by the Sec who will ask Col PEAKE to call round.

3. RECEIPT OF FOREIGN ARMOURED CARS.

17 March 47. Reference letter from Divisional officer MORO (NAPLES) ITALY to Ministry of Transport W.1, dated 14th March 47, ref No. AI - 447 on above subject. Called at Ministry of National Defence- Army and discussed with Col. CARRASCO and Lt.Col.SCHLUCHT. The latter who claimed to know all about these wagons, having taken part in discussions in ROME and TARANTO where he saw the wagons, stated that this armoured train originally consisted of 6 wagons, 3 of which carried a gun, calibre 12" x 29 each, the other 3 wagons (closed) to carry personnel, equipment and stores, have already been handed over to ITALIAN Govt "Allegra for despatching to FRANCE.
The guns in question, although of FRENCH manufacture, are part of a consignment of coast defence guns bought from the GERMANS and the Ministry is of the opinion that they should be removed from the wagons before these are handed over to the FRENCH.
PERMANENT had referred the matter to the General Staff and a decision was awaited.

4. RELEASE U.K. to ITALIAN ARMY.

17 March 47. Handed Col BRANSON Release order 95.2/3A of 10 March 47 (in quadruplicate) for vehicles of ITALIAN Army origin, in UNRRA. BRANSON will forward these to ROMANIA for checking and signature. He will then countersign.

5. [illegible] - MATERIAL RECEIVED BY THE FRENCH.

19 March 47. (see log of 14. March 47) 5(b)) spoke to Col BRANSON who referred the letter to Dept dealing. Outstanding the detachment actually occupying the premises.
20 March 47. Capt.[illegible] called on writer and submitted:-
(i) Inventory of signal equipment found on the premises when taken over, signed by signal Plant officer RAAC dated 15th 19[illegible].
(ii) List of 4 items of heating and cooking installations dated 13.March 46 signed by Lt.Col.[illegible] Director of Works RAAC Territorial Command.

[illegible]/2.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220

5 (Cont) (iii) Inventory of fixtures, mainly in ablution rooms and barber shops dated 24 March 46 signed by Capt [redacted] and an officer of the FRENCH "GENIE" Genie.

NO list of any beds, cupboards, tables etc, existed (said Capt [redacted]) as no such equipment was found on the premises when his detachment moved in. The beds, cupboards, tables etc, which they are now removing were brought from NAPLES where they had been bought a couple of years ago to equip a FRENCH hospital at POZZUOLI.
Writer proceeded to investigate the matter at RAAC (Real Estate Section) where Capt KEARNEY and Mr SCALA placed file GP 50/GP.68 at his disposal. Perusal of this gave following results:-

(a) Previous to the present FRENCH occupiers the premises were occupied by the 30th INDIAN General Hospital.

(b) On the inventory sheet signed by the CO Lt.Col.M.KIRK- MAYOR.IMS. IAMC, dated 26.7.44 it stated that "No articles of furniture were taken over with the building", the occupation of which was to date "as from 15th July", but a note was added stating, "11 Typewriters, a considerable quantity of stationary, tables, benches and other furniture were removed by the last FRENCH party",(occupants from 22nd to 30th June 1944) 'B'

(c) On 15th March 45 an attempt was apparently made by ROME Territorial Command to make an inventory of contents, but the INDIANS refused a request by Lt.Col.BUCHANAN.

Reported above in brief to Lt.Col.MONACO who expressed a wish to see any documents the FRENCH might have, to show from whom this equipment was purchased in NAPLES and whether legally acquired.
Suggested, that, having verified the fact that no furniture existed in the building when the FRENCH took over, it would be preferable for MONACO to request NAPLES Territorial Command to make enquiries on the spot as regards equipment acquired there.

6. ASSISTANCE TO ITALIAN ARMY AFTER 'P' DAY.

20 March 47. Gen MARRAS called on GOC in connection with previous interview (15th March at Min of N.Def -Army). He opened the conversation by explaining that what he was about to say would express his own personal views, and confidentially. He then went into the details of what he 'A' and 'C'

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c) Previous to the present FRENCH occupiers the premises were occupied by the 30th INDIAN General Hospital.

(b) On the inventory sheet signed by the CO Lt.Col.H.FINK- BRYCH.Inf. IAMC, dated 26.7.44 it stated that "No articles of furniture were taken over with the building", the occupation of which was to date "as from 15th July", but a note was added stating, "11 Typewriters, a considerable quantity of stationary, tables, benches and other furniture were removed by the last FRENCH party",(occupents from 22nd to 30th June 1944.) 'Q'

(c) On 15th March 45 an attempt was apparently made by NORTH Territorial Command to make an inventory of contents, but the INDIANS refused a request by Lt.Col.BUONOMO.

Reported above in brief to Lt.Col.MONACO who expressed a wish to see any documents the FRENCH might have, to show from whom this equipment was purchased in NAPLES and whether legally acquired.
Suggested, that, having verified the fact that no furniture existed in the building when the FRENCH took over, it would be preferable for MONACO to request NAPLES Territorial Command to make enquiries on the spot as regards equipment acquired there.

6. ASSISTANCE TO ITALIAN ARMY AFTER 'P' DAY.

20 March 47. Con NATRAS called on GOC in connection with previous interview (15th March at Min of N.Def -Army). He opened the conversation by explaining that what he was about to say would express his own personal views, and confidentially. He then went into the details of what he considered to be the Army's minimum requirements in BRITISH technical personnel, the name to be given to this small group of officers, and the way of dealing with the financial side of the question, which would be a charge on Italian Government funds. 'A' and 'C'

7. 3 WAGONS OF FRENCH ARMOURED TRAIN.

20 March 47. (see para.3.17 March). Was informed by Lt.Col. PERRICONE that instructions had been given to Artillery Directorate of TARANTO,(through Artillery Directorate ROME) to hand over the 3 wagons with the 3 guns to State Railways for despatching to FRANCE. 'Q'

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND, No. 785020

9. FOOD SUPPLIED TO ITALIAN ARMY

22 March 47. Gen Lt.Col.VISCARDO and Lt.Col.CASADEMO ( the latter of A/Cs Division of CCC-HQ/ALSAT) with reference to letter G.104 of 21 March 47 handed to the former. Acceptance note No.355 for 5347½.lbs of Corned Beef, had apparently been mislaid, as no trace of it could be found at the Ministry who will ask RAINER Territorial Command Commissariat for a copy.

7. TYRES FOR ITALIAN ARMY (Ref G.257/GE).

28 March 47. Col BALANCERO is now agreed on the quantities of tyres supplied to ITALIAN Army from RAINER stocks, viz:-

2,000 Tyres (outer)
2,570 Tubes

A check on sizes has produced a few discrepancies. Written acknowledgement will be furnished by the Ministry shortly.

10. U.S.A. MOTOR CAR OF COL.CORTALDI (Plat 500).

22 March 47. Gen.LUCERT has personally requested that Mis DE should intervene (as a favour) in the matter of the confiscation of Col.CORTALDI' car by Carabinieri. *inserire foto G.S.* According to a memo drawn up by CORTALDI (It.Red Cross) the car was conceded to him (an absolute wreck without tyres, battery, carburettor) by AMG and he spent nearly 200,000 lire on it to make it serviceable. He then used it in his official capacity of Medical Officer. Price explained to Gen. LUCERT that this branch could not officially intervene in a matter affecting one individual. However, if CORTALDI would call at this office he would be introduced to the person who would instruct him as to the procedure to adopt.

11. EASTER HOLIDAYS - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE ARMY.

22 March 47. Was informed at Ministry of National Defence-Army that only SUNDAY 6th APRIL will be a whole holiday. THURSDAY 3rd and SATURDAY 5th the Ministry will close at 1200 hrs. Good Friday will be a normal holiday.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

G4

Liaison Log with the Ministry of National Defence - (MND to PWB)

17th Feb 47 - 15 March 47.

17th Feb to 5th March - Sec to C.O. PWB

1. ITALY (GENERAL)

10 March 47. During February activities of PWB included:-

(a) Publication and distribution of the only number of "IL NUOVA ESERCITO ITALIANO" (The new Italian Army). Very well compiled, printed on good paper and skilfully illustrated, this magazine is of good propaganda value. It was distributed on the occasion of the taking of the Oaths of Allegiance to the Republic.

(b) Circularising a questionnaire to all readers of the "settimanale dell' Esercito". On the opinions and suggestions resulting from this circular will be based the future development of this weekly and eventually its amalgamation with publications of the Navy and Air Force.

In the Radio Branch, many broadcasts, including:-

(i) Appeal to all Italians to assist POWs refugees as much as possible.

(ii) Orders of the Day addressed to the Army by Minister PARRI and Minister CASATI.

(iii) Item in connection with the Oath of Allegiance.

(iv) Visit (on 20 Feb) of Minister of Defence to Admiral Stone.

(v) Repatriation of Italian POW from Jugoslavia.

(vi) Inter Regimental winter sports competition.

In the cinematograph line too, the PWB has been busy i.e. translation of British training films, preparing graphs and drawings for production at the weekly lectures of officers of the Ministry of National Defence.

2. ACCREDITATION AND REGULARISATION OF PERSONNEL (GENERAL).

11 March 47. Revised AFHQ/PWB accreditation form (in Italian) and Annex 'A' (for MMIA letter PW/5 of 24 Dec 46)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(the new Italian Army). [illegible]
printed on good paper and suitably illustrated.
This magazine is of good propaganda value.
It was distributed on the occasion of the
taking of the Oath of Allegiance to the
Republic.

(b) Circularising a questionnaire to all readers of the "Bollettino dell' Esercito". On the opinions and suggestions resulting from this circular will be based the future development of this weekly and eventually its amalgamation with publications of the Navy and Air Force.

In the Radio Branch, many broadcasts, including:-

(i) Appeal to soldiers to locate ex-PW refugees as much as possible.

(ii) Orders of the Day addressed to the Army by Minister PACCIARDI and Minister CASTELLANI.

(iii) Ban in connection with the Oath of Allegiance.

(iv) Visit (on 20 Feb) of Minister of Defence to Admiral Stone.

(v) Repatriation of Italian POW from Jugoslavia.

(vi) Inter-Regimental Winter sports competition.

In the cinematograph line too, the MPD has been busy i.e. translation of British training films, preparing graphs and drawings for projection at the weekly lectures of officers of the Ministry of National Defence.

E. [illegible]

11 March 47. Handed Lt.-Col. Bronco specimen form (in Italian) and Appx'A' (see MIA letter M/5 of 24 Dec 46) requesting him to obtain full particulars about accommodation and type installations in Territorial Commands, 4, 7, 10 and 11.
BRONCO thought that a certain amount of information was available at the Ministry of National Defence-Army. He would look this up and then request respective Territorial Commands to complete returns as soon as possible.
He feared that some time would elapse before full and accurate information could be supplied to this Sub Section.
In the returns no map references could be given. The controlling body in every case would be the Territorial Command.

...../E.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

3. [illegible]

12 March 47. Called on Col. [illegible] to ascertain:-

(a) In what way the Ministry of National Defence-Army wished this Section to intervene in regard to material for Beijing Army.

(b) In what way Army were "out obliged"

(c) What materials were being held back.

which gave following replies:-

(a) The Ministry of National Defence - Army would like this Section to get Brig. CAMP to write to the President of the Council requesting energetic Government intervention on behalf of the Army to get them to fulfil the obligations as formulated on various meetings and by agreements.

(b) Army by procrastination and "beijing" were keeping back materials urgently required by the Army to complete 11 allotments. Apart from the financial side (various private obtainable from civilian firms, delays in Treasury sanction and payments) this was placed the necessity of first completing the sorting and [illegible] of material before dispatching of same.

(c) The equipment and materials thus held back are all those constituting the normal allotments for units of Artillery, Engineers and Communication.
Suggested that the Ministry of National Defence - Army should prepare rough draft of letter which should be addressed to President of Council of Ministers. This letter promised to have ready in a day or two.

4. [illegible] (see Log of 22 Dec. para 3).

12 March 47. Saw Lt.Col. [illegible] who was in a position to say that all efforts to trace Capt. [illegible] had failed. There is no such name in any of the Army records.

5. [illegible]

14 March 47. (a) Spoke to Lt.Col. [illegible] who first explained to this Sub Section that the [illegible] will

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(b) [illegible] would like this Sub Section to get help. Ought to write to the President of the Council requesting energetic Government intervention on behalf of the Army to get ADRI to fulfil its obligations as formulated at various meetings and by agreements.

(b) ADRI by procrastination and "forging" were keeping back materials urgently required by the Army to complete 31 allotments. Apart from the financial side (better prices obtainable from civilian firms, delays in Treasury sanction and payments) ADRI can plead the necessity of first completing the bowling and [illegible] of records before dispersing of same.

X Reference

(c) The equipment and materials thus held back are all those constituting the normal allotment for units of Artillery, Engineers and Ammunition.
Suggested that the Ministry of National Defence - Army should prepare rough draft of letter which should be addressed to President of Council of Ministers. This ADJUTANT promised to have ready in a day or two.

4. [illegible] (see Log of 23 Dec. para 3).

12 March 47. Saw Lt.Col. [illegible] who was in a position to say that all efforts to trace Capt. [illegible] had failed. There is no such name in any of the Army records.

5. [illegible]

14 March 47. (a) Spoke to Lt.Col. [illegible] who first complained to this Sub Section that the [illegible] while occupying these barracks were removing quantities of articles belonging to the Italian Army.
[illegible] referred writer to Lt.Col. [illegible] who is now handling this matter. The latter handed writer letter dated [illegible] from [illegible] of this date) which was about to be sent over to this Sub Section, covering report dated 12th inst. addressed by Chief of Carabinieri Legion, Rome [illegible] Chief of

...../5

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

G.C. on the subject.
Handed letter to D.A.G.M.G. (to-day).
It is stated in this report that the articles being removed by the FRENCH consist of cupboards, tables, bedsteads i.e. formerly the property of the Fascist organisation known as "M.V.S.N." (MILIZIA VOLONTARIA SICUREZZA NAZIONALE) and therefore now property of the Italian Army. Asked ARMANDOLA to try and find out where this material was being taken to, whilst this sub Section considered what action should be taken.

15 March 47. (b) Called on the French Representative Col. [redacted] to find out French version of the story. He stated that as far as he knew, the material in question was the property of the French, two lorryloads had already been despatched to France. That, he said, the person who could tell us more was Col. [redacted] at the French Embassy (Tel. 65419). Rang up Embassy and was told Col. Des Portes was out of town but would be back on Tuesday (18th March).

6. [redacted]

15 March 47. Accompanied Director to the War Ministry for interview with Gen. MARRAS. This subject was discussed in detail and at length on the lines indicated in a short memorandum handed to MARRAS, in which reference was made to the "Aide Memoire" previously handed by the British Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It was pointed out to Gen. MARRAS that the cost of such a post-Treaty Mission would very probably have to be borne by the Italian Government. MARRAS hoped this would not be the case, remarking that the whole question should be looked upon by the British Government as of great importance to both itself and the Italian Government. The present political situation in Europe made it imperative that Br.- It. relations should be as close as possible.
The question required careful study, said Marras, because the susceptibilities of the Italian people and the prestige of the Italian Army will have to be considered when formulating an official request for such a mission and giving it a name.
Director stressed the importance of submitting concrete and coordinated proposals as soon as possible in view of imminence of "D" day.
MARRAS expressed himself very pleased at this opportunity to explain his views which concurred with those already expressed by the Foreign Minister in his conversation with the British Ambassador.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

15 March 47.

(b) [illegible]
[illegible] should [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] has already been [illegible]
[illegible] he said, the matter [illegible]
was [illegible] the [illegible] at the French Embassy
(Col. Gallo).
[illegible] Rome to Milan and was told col.
[illegible] was out of town but would be back on
Monday (19th March).

6. ASSISTANCE TO ITALIAN ARMY. Army and Navy.

15 March 47.

Accompanied Alexander to the War Ministry for
interview with Gen. Marras. This subject was
discussed in detail and at length on the lines
indicated in a memo communicated to
Alexander by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.
It was pointed out to Gen. Marras that the only
way such a peace-treaty Italian would work probably
have to be borne by the Italian Government.
Marras hoped this would not be the case, remarking
that the whole question should be looked upon by
the British Government as of great importance to
both itself and the Italian Government. The
present political situation in Europe made it
imperative that Italy - i.e. politicians should be as
close as possible.
The question required careful study, said Marras,
because the responsibilities of the Italian
people and the prestige of the Italian Army
will have to be considered when formulating an
official request for such a mission and plans
if a mere.
Marras stressed the importance of submitting
concrete and detailed proposals as soon as
possible in view of lateness of the day.
Marras expressed himself very pleased of this
opportunity to explain his views which concurred
with those already expressed by the Foreign
Minister in his conversation with the British
Ambassador.
Marras would draw up concrete proposals, as
suggested, and get [redacted] Defence to discuss them with Count SFORZA.
the F.O. being absent from Rome for a day or two
this matter will be taken up with him early next
week.

[illegible]/h.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 735020

Towards the end of the interview the Director asked Harris how matters were going as regards organisation of the new Ministry of Defence. Harris replied that some progress had been made and explained the proposed layout of the Ministry. He [illegible] a rough sketch of the "Ministry three" to be handed over to the Director.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

G 3

APM

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

Liaison [illegible] with War Ministry (A [illegible]) 10 - 15 Feb 47

10 Feb — VISIT FROM GEN [illegible]

1. GC BERLIN Tmr. Cond called to see Director. The interview lasted about one and half hours.

2. RETURN AGE AND MATERIAL BY RAIL

Pro Log 30th Jan para 5.

Capt De HAAN called, with extracts from Armistice Terms and Peace Treaty terms affecting this question. Capt De HAAN was received by Col L/S.

11 Feb — RETURNING OF MATERIAL/TRANSPORTATION

3. Accompanied Director to War Ministry and acted as Interpreter at interview with Gen HARRAS, Chief of Staff.
The visit had two objects :-

1. Official return visit of Gen HARRAS, newly appointed Chief of Staff, and

2. Draw the General's attention to the very serious state of affairs at No 3 Sub Dep (or 557 BOD) near HARLAG, where wholesale pilferage of valuable equipment had been discovered.

Director handed Gen HARRAS copy of report on the matter drawn up by an offr of this Sub Section who recently inspected the dep.
Gen HARRAS said he would immediately order an enquiry and see that the responsible persons were brought to book, and also order that immediate steps be taken to put a stop to this pilfering. Mentioning only one item as an example, the unscrewing of valves from some 3,000 radio sets, thus rendering them absolutely useless. The Director pointed out the grave material loss to the ITALIAN Army, of material which could not at present be replaced.
Gen HARRAS said it was criminal negligence on someone's part.

12 - 15 Feb — Absent.

18th Feb 47

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Capt De MAIN called, with extracts from Armistice Terms and Peace Treaty Terms affecting this question. Capt De MAIN was received by Col S/L.

11 Feb — VISIT OF MATERIAL/NETHERLANDS

5. Accompanied Director to War Ministry and acted as Interpreter at interview with Gen MARRAS, Chief of Staff.
The visit had two objects :-

1. Official return visit of Gen MARRAS, newly appointed Chief of Staff, and

2. Drew the General's attention to the very serious state of affairs at No 3 Sub Dep (ex 557 MAD) near MARIAN, where wholesale pilferage of valuable equipment had been discovered.

Director handed Gen MARRAS copy of report on the matter drawn up by an Offr of this Sub Section who recently inspected the dep.
Gen MARRAS said he would immediately order an enquiry and see that the responsible persons were brought to book, and also order that immediate steps be taken to put a stop to this pilfering. Mentioning only one item as an example, the wrecking of valves from some 3,000 radio sets, thus rendering them absolutely useless, the Director pointed out the grave material loss to the ITALIAN Army, of material which could not at present be replaced.
Gen MARRAS said it was criminal negligence on someone's part.

12 - 15 Feb — Absent.

18th Feb 47
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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Feb 1st

4. LETTER TO GEN CADORNA

Handed to the late Chief of General Staff, at his residence personal letter from Major-General COULBURN) of appreciation and farewell.

2. LETTER TO MR. PANSA (MFA)

In the absence of the Minister, handed to Gen SUPINO (Chief of the Cabinet) letter from Gen COULBURN enclosing press release regarding the switch-over MMLA - MAAG.

Feb 3rd

3. EISENHOWER to ITALIAN ARMY

(see Log 25th Jan 47 para 6(b)).

Lt-Col MANNING called after his trip North. Interviewed by DAO.

4. VISIT MGS - GEN CADORNA

By appointment, paid brief farewell visit to Gen CADORNA at his residence.

Feb 5th

5. VISIT GEN CADORNA - DEFENCE

At the invitation of Gen CADORNA, the late Chief of Staff called at this HQ at 1200 hrs. Acted as interpreter during conversation of a confidential nature about the new Government Ministers in general and in particular about the character and past history of the proposed new Under-Secretary, Signor MORDINI.

Feb 6th

6. VISIT OF GEN MARRAS (NEW Chief of Staff)

Capt CHIAZZO AA to Gen MARRAS telephoned to obtain appointment for the latter to pay an official visit to the Director.
1215 hrs was fixed. Acted as interpreter at this interview.
Gen MARRAS informed that he had just come away from an interview with Admiral STONE.
The subjects discussed included the new Government Cabinet, the new Ministry of Defence, the War Ministry reorg.
Gen COULBURN remarked that this was the time when an Army Council, on the lines proposed by MMLA, if now in existence, would have proved invaluable.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

residence personal letter(from [illegible]) of appreciation and farewell.

2. LETTER TO GEN. [illegible]

In the absence of the Minister, handed to Gen ALFIERO (Chief of the Cabinet) letter from Gen CARBONARI enclosing press releases regarding the anti-aircraft MISSION - IMAM.

Feb 3rd GARDNER to ITALIAN ARMY

3. (see Log 25th Jan 47 para 6(b)).

Lt-Col [illegible] called after his trip North. Interviewed by [illegible].

4. VISIT BGS - Gen CARBONI

By appointment, [illegible] paid farewell visit to Gen CARBONI at his residence.

Feb 5th VISIT Gen CARBONI - DIRECTOR

5. At the invitation of Gen CARBONI, the late Chief of Staff called at this HQ at 1200 hrs.
[illegible] acted as interpreter during conversation of a confidential nature about the new Government Ministers in general and in particular about the character and past history of the proposed new Under-Secretary, Signor [illegible].

Feb 6th VISIT OF GEN MARRAS (New Chief of Staff)

6. Capt CARRARO PA to Gen MARRAS telephoned to obtain appointment for the latter to pay an official visit to the Director.
1215 hrs was fixed. [illegible] acted as interpreter at this interview.
Gen MARRAS informed that he had JUST come away from an interview with Admiral STONE.
The subjects discussed included the new Government Cabinet, the new Ministry of Defence, the War Ministry reorg.
Gen COULDREY reasured that this was the time when an Army Council, on the lines proposed by WVB, if now in existence, would have proven invaluable.

15th Feb
ell

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

G 1

Liaison with War Ministry (A [illegible] - 31 Jan 47

27 Jan — MUSSOLINI BARRACKS

1. Capt de MALAN (FRENCH Rep Office) in answer to enquiry replied that he could say unofficially that the portion of these barracks now occupied by the FRENCH would be vacated by the end of Mar 47.
Passed this info to Lt-Col MONACO at War Ministry, who remarked that he could not see why the FRENCH should require the premises so long after 10 Feb 47. Lt-Col MONACO urged that FRENCH be persuaded to hand over to ITALIANS earlier, as the premises are urgently required for housing the "pietretto". The premises now occupied by them in Via Paolina and at Palazzo Brocchi are required for housing D.Ps.

27 Jan — LAWS OF MILITARY OCCUPATION - AMENDMENTS ETC

2. (a) Obtained from Col CLEMENCEAU (Chief of Recruiting Div at War Ministry) info on Decrees and laws relating to above and passed to AFC.

(b) Also obtained info as to average strength of the 1925 and other classes available for call-ups.

28 Jan — HIS CAPTAIN - CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF

3. Asked for an appointment to call upon GOC this Mission on an official farewell visit.
Appointment fixed for 11.30 hrs 31st Jan 47.

29 Jan — PUBLIC RELATIONS

4. Col FIORE VENIAZZA referred to articles in newspaper of 25th ("ITALIA NUOVA" and "RISORGIMENTO") on the termination of LAND FORCES SUB COM in the near future and wished to know if contents accurate and, if so, whether this HQ would authorise him to publish similar article in next issue of "RISTRETTO DELL'ESERCITO".
Perused said articles and found contents substantially correct.
Consulted HQ who approved.

30 Jan — FRENCH ARMS AND MATERIAL IN ITALY

5. (a) Capt De MALAN, on behalf of FRENCH Rep AC, called to complain that the War Ministry was about to issue orders to Gen. Comde not to allow FRENCH Officer Inspectors to visit ITALIAN Depots in [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

The [illegible] and at Palazzo Brancchi are required for [illegible] D.Ps.

27 Jan — LAND OF MILITARY SERVICE - EXEMPTIONS ETC

2. (a) Obtained from Col [illegible] (Chief of Recruiting Div at War Ministry) infm on Decrees and Laws relating to above and passed to AMF.

(b) Also obtained infm as t o average strength of the 1927 and older classes available for call-ups.

28 Jan — CHF CANOPHA - CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF

3. Asked for an appointment to call upon CGS this Mission on an official farewell visit. Appointment fixed for 11.30 hrs 31st Jan 47.

29 Jan — PUBLIC RELATIONS

4. Col FIORE VENTAGLI referred to articles in newspaper of 20th ("ITALIA NUOVA" and "RISORGIMENTO") on the termination of LAND FORCES SUB COM in the near future and wished to know if contents accurate and, if so, whether this HQ would authorise him to publish similar article in next issue of "MILIZIA DELL'ENERGETO".
Perused said articles and found contents substantially correct.
Consulted HQ who approved.

30 Jan — FRENCH ARMS AND MATERIAL IN ITALY

5. (a) Capt De MARAN, on behalf of FRENCH Rep AC, called to complain that the War Ministry was about to issue orders to form. Canals not to allow FRENCH Officer Inspectors to visit ITALIAN Depots in search of FRENCH material.

(b) Capt De MARAN further stated that at NAPLES the FRENCH Inspecting Officer had found that fuses were being removed from FRENCH shells, and explosives extracted. The FRENCH Officer (2nd Lt PIERINI) had ordered that this work be made to cease forthwith.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5. (Continued)

(c) The question of expenses incurred by the ITALIAN Government in connection with the collection and transport of FRENCH material from battle fields was thoroughly discussed (ref a 155 folio 77). Capt De MASAR pointed out that if expenses were incurred, the FRENCH Government would not pay a penny of it, quoting following figures as justifying this decision :-

(i) Of all material taken by the ITALIANS from the FRENCH only 5% had been recovered so far.

(ii) On 10,000 tons of material handed over, only 4% of non-ferrous metals (copper etc) recovered instead of the usual 20 - 25%.

(d) Capt De MASAR stated that the material recovered up to date consisted of bridging material, a few duty pieces in N.ITALY and some aviation material.
Arranged with Capt De MASAR to visit the War Ministry tomorrow at 0930 hrs to discuss above matters and try to reach agreement.

31 Jan

6. (e) With Capt De MASAR and Capt De Conde' called on Gen FRANCHET and had long discussion.

(f) Gen FRANCHET explained that work being done on shells was done on his own instructions. A certain quantity of shells was found to be in a dangerous condition and it was these that were being rendered harmless. Already three spontaneous explosions had occurred and he considered that the continuation of this work was most essential. The placing of a "ring" by the FRENCH Inspecting Officer, he thought, was an unwarranted procedure and certainly out of order, as such a request should have been made through MMIA. He had therefore prepared a signal to all Territorial Zones instructing them not to allow any FRENCH officers to visit Depots until further orders.

(g) Gen FRANCHET raised the question of 91 MM gun which, he said was not FRENCH. The ITALIAN Government having manufactured this since it had learnt it as a gun from FRANCE before the

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

justifying this decision :-

(d) Of all material taken by the ITALIANS from the FRENCH only 30% had been recovered so far.

(ii) On 10,000 tons of material handed over, only 4% of non-ferrous metals (copper etc) recovered instead of the usual 20 - 25%.

(d) Capt De MAZAN stated that the material recovered up to date consisted of bridging material, a few army pieces in N.ITALY and some existing material.
Arranged with Capt De MAZAN to visit the war Mining Museum at 0930 hrs to discuss above matters and try to reach agreement.

31 Jan

6. (e) With Capt De MAZAN and Capt De Combe' called on Gen [redacted] and had long discussion.

(f) Gen [redacted] explained that work being done on shells was done on his own instructions. A certain quantity of shells was found to be in a dangerous condition and it was these that were being rendered harmless. Already three spontaneous explosions had occurred and he considered that the continuation of this work was most essential. The placing of a "VETO" by the FRENCH inspecting officer, he thought, was an unwarranted procedure and certainly out of order, as such a request should have been made through [redacted]. He had therefore prepared a signal to all Territorial Units instructing them not to allow any FRENCH officers to visit depots until further orders.

(g) Gen [redacted] raised the question of 6" gun which, he said was not FRENCH, The ITALIAN Government having manufactured this since it had bought 6" gun guns from FRANCE before the war. Here Capt De COMBE' remarked that identification would be easy as every FRENCH shell was unmistakeably marked.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

31 Jan

6. (Continued)

(h) The question of transport (horse drawn) vehicles of FRENCH origin was also raised by Gen PROSPERI. A certain number of vehs were held, which the ITALIANS say are POLISH but the FRENCH officer declared to be of FRENCH manufacture with their identity obliterated.

(i) The conclusions arrived at after this long (and at times somewhat heated) discussion were :-

1. The work on dangerous ammo to continue.

2. Inspection of ITALIAN depots by FRENCH officers to proceed unimpeded, but no civilian to accompany said officer on first visit until FRENCH Inspecting Officer and ITALIAN CO Depot had agreed on to which material was or was not FRENCH.
Gen PROSPERI CALLED upon his PA to cancel the signal which was to have been sent off.

3. A committee of experts from both sides to inspect and agree upon identity of SI ammo.

4. Transport vehs to be inspected similarly, for proper identification.

5. The question of expenses to be left in abeyance; the financial aspect being a matter for decision by the politicians.

6. Capt De HAULT would obtain extracts of Peace Treaty terms affecting this last question, and Gen PROSPERI would detail the necessary ITALIAN technical experts to proceed to NAPLES. When both ready, another meeting to be held at War Ministry.

31 Jan **STEAM ROLLER**

7. Gen PROSPERI wanted to know how this matter stood. quoted letter from War Ministry to UNRRA dated 11.3.46 ref 7234/OT. Also letter SACMED of 25.3.46.

31 Jan **OFFICIAL FAREWELL VISIT - GEN CADORNA**

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

here :-

1. The work on dangerous ammo to continue.

2. Inspection of ITALIAN Depots by FRENCH officers to proceed unimpeded, but no civilian to accompany said officer on first visit until FRENCH Inspecting officer and ITALIAN OC Depot had agreed as to which material was or was not FRENCH.
Gen PROCHNIK CALLED upon him PA to cancel the signal which was to have been sent off.

3. A committee of experts from both sides to inspect and agree upon identity of dl ms ammo.

4. Transport vehs to be inspected similarly for proper identification.

5. The question of expenses to be left in abeyance; the financial aspect being a matter for decision by the politicians.

6. Dept de GAULE would obtain extracts of Peace Treaty terms affecting this last question, and Gen PROCHNIK would detail the necessary ITALIAN technical experts to proceed to PARIS. when both ready, another meeting to be held at War Ministry.

31 Jan 7. **ITALIAN SOLDIER**
Gen PROCHNIK wanted to know how this matter stood. Quoted letter from War Ministry to SMA, dated 14.3.46 ref 7294/DT. (Also letter dated 31.1.47).

31 Jan 8. **OFFICIAL FAREWELL VISIT - GEN CADORNA**
Gen Raffaele CADORNA (Chief of the General Staff in the Ministry of War called at this HQ to bid farewell to GOC and all offrs of the Mission on the occasion of his relinquishing his post in the War Ministry on 31 Jan 47. Acted as Interpreter between GOC and Gen CADORNA who exchanged a few suitable words of mutual appreciation and thanks.

7 Feb 47

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

1398

89 (A)

Liaison with War Ministry (A Sec) 25th Jan

20 Jan

1.

ITALIAN MINING CAMPS FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

Major TRENCARD (I' Office of the Cabinet) here on legal matters, had been requested by Gen MORGAN, to furnish all possible information on this case. (see Log of 18 Jan para 11).

Major TRENCARD referred to Ministry of War's letter of 19th Nov 46 ref 122372/I/1 in which MMIA had been informed that detailed report of the incident could not be found and that the NAPLES Military Court was "reconstructing" the case in order to bring KAPPLER Bettista to trial. He would solicit a report from NAPLES Tribunal as to what stage this matter had reached.

Pointed out that two months had elapsed since then and such delay was unwarrantable.

Major TRENCARD stated that Gen ROMANI had written a very stiff letter to the NAPLES Military Tribunal stressing the urgency of the matter.

20 Jan

2.

RADAR EQUIPMENT FOR ITALIAN ARMY

(a) Capt HATFIELD (PERS) reported to this Br from 2 ARMA to advise on RADAR equipment to be handed over to ITALIAN Army. (Ref 89/109/1 folios 115 - 119).

Informed Gen LUCCI that Capt HATFIELD would proceed to NAPLES at once and would like to contact the respective ITALIAN Offrs in NAPLES at 0930 hrs tomorrow.

Gen LUCCI replied that following Offrs had been detailed for the job :-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lt-Col DEMA | - | Inspectorate of Arty |
| Capt PERO'A. | - | Genio |
| Capt FISSORI | - | Air Force |
| Capt LOMBARDI | - | Navy |

and would proceed to NAPLES at 1000 hrs today.

Passed this information to Capt HATFIELD who will contact these offrs at NAPLES Arty Command through 10 SIU. No Interpreter required as Capt HATFIELD understands ITALIAN.

Neither Gen LUCCI nor Gen GARIANTI thought it necessary to interview Capt HATFIELD before his departure.

21 Jan

(b) War Ministry advised Inspectorate of Arty and Directorate General of Arty of Capt HATFIELD's departure for NAPLES this morning by letter 1/234/Serv signed by Gen LUCCI, copy of this office.

4822

"reconstructing" the case in order to bring Battista to trial. He would solicit a report from NAPLES Tribunal as to what stage this matter had reached.
Pointed out that two months had elapsed since then and much delay was unwarrantable.
Major TREZZANI stated that Gen ZORGNI had written a very stiff letter to the NAPLES Military Tribunal stressing the urgency of the matter.

20 Jun — RADAR EQUIPMENT FOR ITALIAN ARMY

2. (a) Capt MATFIELD (RAMC) reported to this HQ from 2 ASRA to advise on RADAR equipment to be handed over to ITALIAN Army. (Ref SD/109/1 folios 115 - 119).
Informed Gen LUSSU that Capt MATFIELD would proceed to NAPLES at once and would like to contact the respective ITALIAN offrs in NAPLES at 0930 hrs tomorrow.
Gen LUSSU replied that following offrs had been detailed for the job :-

Lt-Col BORSA - Inspectorate of Arty
Capt MANOLA - Genio
Capt PINZONI - Air Force
Capt LOMBARDI - Navy

and would proceed to NAPLES at 1300 hrs today.
Passed this information to Capt MATFIELD who will contact these offrs at NAPLES Arty Command through 10 BIA. No Interpreter required as Capt MATFIELD understands ITALIAN.
Neither Gen LUSSU nor Gen ZANNOTTI thought it necessary to interview Capt MATFIELD before his departure.

21 Jan (b) War Ministry advised Inspectorate of Arty and Directorate General of Arty of Capt MATFIELD's departure for NAPLES this morning by letter 1/238/Gabry signed by Gen LUSSU, copy of this office.

21 Jan — MISSION ARMS TO ALBANIA

3. At request of BAS handed to Capt LEIGHT (for BRITISH Reg) copy of letter Q 155 of 15th Jan to War Ministry.

4827

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

21 Jan — WOOLLEN GLOVES FOR ITALIAN ARMY

4 (c) Introduced CSO LI (2) to Lt-Col MARIONI of The Clothing Section, Commissariat at War Ministry. Obtained copies of final sketches of new ITALIAN khaki woollens; offrs and ORs.

(b) Lt-Col MARIONI availed himself of opportunity to request release to the ITALIAN Army of a quantity of woollen gloves stored in the No 6 Depot in TRASMONDINE near MARINS, originally intended for BRITISH Troops. Passed this request to AQMG this HQ.

22 Jan (c) AQMG issued authority (7 Q/GS) of this date for 5,000 pairs. Advised Lt-Col MARIONI accordingly.

22 Jan — AVAILABILITY OF ITALIAN VEHS

5 (a) Handed to Col BALSAMINO copy of letter to War Ministry ref G/2 Q of 21st Jan on above subject.

(b) Col BALSAMINO asked whether this mission could furnish him with text books and pamphlets, catalogues etc, on BRIT motor vehs and their spare parts, of which vehs the ITALIAN Army possessed a good many. Col BALSAMINO stressed the urgency of his request. He will send a specialist offr to this HQ tomorrow with more particulars.

23 (a) Capt ROLANDO and Capt TONARI, on behalf of Col BALSAMINO, called with detailed list of BRIT vehicles in ITALIAN army (including motor-cycles) on which instructional pamphlets, catalogues and other data required. 4821
Introduced offrs to MAIAC (RASC) and handed him list.
Action being taken.

25 Jan — HAND-OVER TO ITALIAN ARMY

6 Spoke to Gen LIUZZI about report that a certain Lt-Col PIACENTINI of V Corps, Gund attempting to seize a recce of soon which will become available when ALLIED troops leave ITALY, was refused authority to do so.
Informed Gen LIUZZI that GHQ refused to grant such authority to ITALIANS prior to signature of the

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220

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to request [illegible] of woollen gloves stowed in the No 6 depot in FRATTAMAGGIORE near NAPLES, originally intended for BRITISH troops. Passed this request to AMGOT this PM.

22 Jan (c) AMGOT issued authority (7 Q/CC) of this date for 5,000 pairs. Advised Lt-Col MARINI accordingly.

22 Jan AVAILABILITY OF ITALIAN VEHS

5 (a) Handed to Col BALMERINO copy of letter to War Ministry ref G12 Q of 21st Jan re above subject.

(b) Col BALMERINO asked whether this Mission could furnish him with text books and pamphlets, catalogues etc, on BRIT motor vehs and their spare parts, of which vehs the ITALIAN Army possessed a good many. Col BALMERINO stressed the urgency of his request. He will send a specialist offr to this Hqtrs to discuss with more particulars.

23 (c) Capt ROLANDO and Capt TOSATTI, on behalf of Col BALMERINO, called with detailed list of BRIT vehicles in ITALIAN Army (including motor-cycles) on which instructional pamphlets, catalogues and other data required.
Introduced offrs to MTOT (MEMO) and handed him list.
Action being taken.

23 Jan HANDING OVER TO ITALIAN ARMY

6 Spoke to Gen LIUZZI about report that a certain Lt-Col PIACENTINI of V Terr. Comd attempting to make a cache of arms which will become available when ALLIED troops leave ITALY, was refused authority to do so.
Informed Gen LIUZZI that SHC refused to grant such authority to ITALIANS prior to signature of the Peace Treaty. Consequently the proposed visit of Gen SCATTAGLINO, GOC MANTOVA Div must be postponed. Gen LIUZZI will pass this information on to the Command concerned.
Further, informed Gen LIUZZI that MCS was proceeding to CADES shortly and would meet Lt-Col WARNER (V ZLU) at (ZZ) on 31st inst and discuss ITALIAN plan with a view to bringing back all information that may be of assistance to V Terr. Comd and Ministry of War.

4820

.....3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

6 (continued)

24 Jan (b) Dep Cmnd introduced writer to Lt-Col BOCCHINO (P.O. 7105 Regt ALOIA) who would be going to N.ITALY shortly to study the planning for the hand-over. Dep Cmnd suggested that Lt-Col BOCCHINO should meet the person at War Ministry doing the planning for the ITALIAN side, and that appointment be arranged for tomorrow. In view of importance of the matter called on Gen LUCCHI first and explained object of Lt-Col BOCCHINO's trip and desire to meet the right person in Ministry. Gen LUCCHI stressed importance of proper synchronization of the moves so that at no time would premises be left unguarded for even a few hours as looting would take place as happened at CASERTA/CAPUA when all lead-piping and other fixtures were stolen from the "Reserve Pensionali".
Gen LUCCHI then called Col QUERCIA Chief of Operational Office SME and arranged for meeting tomorrow at 1000 hrs.

25 Jan (a) Proceeded with Lt-Col BOCCHINO to War Ministry and introduced him to Col QUERCIA and Lt-Col PUNZO of Operations Section. Discussed with them object of BOCCHINO's trip North and they furnished written particulars and map showing proposed distribution of ITALIAN Troops.
Col QUERCIA stressed following two points :-

(i) that before ALLIED troops completely vacate province a small nucleus of ITALIAN troops be allowed to enter to take over.

(ii) that a responsible ITALIAN Offr be allowed to make a recce of all buildings to be handed over, prior to dates for moves, in order to ascertain nature of accn available, repairs required etc.

23 Jan WD DEPT ARMD MSGS

7. Obtained from Col PIGNATTINI copy sent him about a month ago by G30 I(FD) and handed to latter.

23 Jan 'A' VEHS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

8. Handed to Col BALSAMO letter A 157 of 23 Jan to War Ministry.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

In view of importance of the [illegible]
Gen LUSSU first and explained object of Lt-Col
DOCCHINO's trip and desire to meet the right person
in Military. Gen LUSSU stressed importance
of proper synchronisation of the moves so that at
no time would premises be left unguarded for even
a few hours or looting would take place as
happened at CASERTA/CAPUA when all lead-piping
and other fixtures were stolen from the "Caserma
Funzionali".
Gen LUSSU then called Col QUERCIA Chief of
Operational Office SMG and arranged for meeting
tomorrow at 1000 hrs.

25 Jan (c) Proceeded with Lt-Col DOCCHINO to War Ministry and introduced him to Col QUERCIA and Lt-Col PUDDU of Operations Section. Discussed with them object of DOCCHINO's trip North and they furnished written particulars and map showing proposed distribution of ITALIAN troops.
Col QUERCIA stressed following two points :-

(i) that before ALLIED troops completely vacate premises a small nucleus of ITALIAN troops be allowed to enter to take over.

(ii) that a responsible ITALIAN Offr be allowed to make a recce of all buildings to be handed over, prior to dates for moves, in order to ascertain nature of accn available, repairs required etc.

481)

25 Jan WE BRIT AMBO MGOT

7. Obtained from Col PIACENTINI copy lent him about a month ago by GSO I(M) and handed to latter.

25 Jan 'A' VISAS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

8. Handed to Col SALAZZINO letter G 137 of 23 Jan to War Ministry.

30 Jan 47

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (& SMS) 1. - 8 Jan 47

G

88

13 Jan ARMY DEPOTS

1. By appointment, Lt-Col SAINI ("Ordinamento" section II) called at this HQ to give detailed figures of Army Depots contemplated within the TE of the new Army.
Originally 93 Depots existed, reduced to 72 by elimination of some whose respective units no longer exist.
This number will probably have to be raised to 80 if every regt is to have one, via :-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 each per Inf Div Regt | = | 10 |
| 1 each per Mtn-Div Regt | = | 16 |
| 1 each per Arty Regt (5) | = | 20 |
| 1 each per Recce Gp | = | 1 |
| 1 "Antiaer" Depot per Comiliter | = | 11 |
| 1 "Genio" (Engrs) per Comiliter | = | 11 |
| 1 each per CAR | = | 11 |
| Total | | 80 |

GHQ I(SD) explained to Lt-Col SAINI the working of the new BRIT system of Depots (one for each 5 or 6 Regts), not quite suitable to present ITALIAN method of call-ups, which, for rapidity compared unfavourably with the BRITISH method.
Lt-Col SAINI agreed.

14 Jan BRITISH ARMS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

Acted as Interpreter between BGS, Col MELONI and Col PIACENTINI.
Before submitting definite request wished to see list which this Mission had prepared for forwarding to GHQ.
BGS said list of requirements based on strength of Post Treaty Army had been prepared, together with accompanying letter to GHQ (ref SD/109/2 of 11 Jan 47) and copy would be sent him.
The list drawn up by MMIA and tentative list of requirements drawn up by Col MELONI and handed to BGS were compared and agreed.

4813

14 Jan PUBLIC RELATIONS

(a) Col FREE VENEZIA had been asked by War Minister to prepare some notes on PR and Welfare activities to furnish the Press.
Perused draft memoranda, which seemed to contain more about Welfare and Social work than PUBLIC RELATIONS.

(b) The General Staff has approved the appointment of one PR Officer to each Territorial Comd.

(c) PRO received a visit from a US Press man from LONDON, Mr Bill RICHARDSON, and answered questions on :-

Army Pay & Allowances

1404

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 "Medium" Engrs per Coy | = | 11 |
| 1 "Genio" (Engrs) per Coy | = | 11 |
| 4 each per GAR | | -- |
| Total | | 80 |

GSO I(SD) explained to Lt-Col SALVI the working of the new BRIT system of Depots (one for each 5 or 6 Regts), not quite suitable to present ITALIAN method of call-ups, which, for rapidity compared unfavourably with the BRITISH method. Lt-Col SALVI agreed.

14 Jan **BRITISH ARMS FOR ITALIAN ARMY**

Acted as Interpreter between BGS, Col MELONI and Col PIACENTINI. Before submitting definite request, wished to see list which this Mission had prepared for forwarding to GHQ.
BGS said list of requirements based on strength of Post Treaty Army had been prepared, together with accompanying letter to GHQ (ref SD/109/2 of 11 Jan 47) and copy would be sent him. The list drawn up by MMIA and tentative list of requirements drawn up by Col MELONI and handed to BGS were compared and agreed.

4813

14 Jan **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

(a) Col PIRRI VENTRASCA had been asked by War Minister to prepare some notes on PR and Welfare activities to furnish the Press.
Perused draft memorandum, which seemed to contain more about Welfare and Social work than PUBLIC RELATIONS.

(b) The General Staff has approved the appointment of one PR officer to each Territorial Dept.

(c) PRO received a visit from a US Press man from LONDON, Mr Bill RICHARDSON, and answered questions on :-

Army Pay & Allowances
Economic Situation of the Army
Acon
Epuration
Partisans
Oath of Allegiance
Displaced Persons

and other matters of a general nature.

MMTA - IG
FILE G/32
DATE 13/22/1/47

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5. (d) Col PIOMB VERNARDA drew writer's attention to the article in the paper "AVANTI" (Socialist Party organisation) of 16 Jan entitled "Il Soldato e' un Uomo". (The Soldier is a Man) and said that it was almost a copy of the article which PNO had written for the "Rotisserie dell'Esercito" No 34-35 of Sept 16 - 21

15 Jan 'A' VEHICLES FOR ITALIAN ARMY

4. Informed Col PIACENTINI that by ("CHURCHILL") tanks were unlikely to be available in this theatre and that if ITALIAN Government wanted these they would have to be imported from UK and cost much more.
On the other hand "SHERMAN" (Medium) tanks could be obtained from US surpluses in this theatre.
Col PIACENTINI after discussing the matter with Gen LUSKI, said that circumstances did not allow of a choice being made. The difficulties and lengthy procedure involved in obtaining a grant from the Treasury would make acquisition of the heavy tank from UK almost an impossibility.
Therefore Gen LUSKI had decided to "make do" with SHERMANS; at the same time, if any CHURCHILLS at all were available in this theatre, the Government would take them for training purposes in the Military Schools.

15 Jan BRITISH ARMS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

5. Handed to Col LUSKI copy of letter AD/403/2 of 11th inst to CRS with enclosures (except Appx 'D' which is virtually copy of War Ministry list of Arms requirements submitted to this Mn). 'See Log of 14th, para 2'.

15 Jan WAR CRIMES

6. Ref this Mn letter 215 A of 10 Jan 47. Lt-Col BOSHIER had not yet received news about the document on "Ill-Treatment of Prisoners". He will send reminder. 481

16 Jan ITALIAN ARMS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

7. (a) Asked Lt-Col TORSIELLO whether there was any organisation within the ITALIAN Army which provided training for boys, to suit them for technical and other branches of the Army.
In Fascist days, replied Lt-Col TORSIELLO, this kind of training was partly supplied by the "BALILLA" organisation which also had the advantage of keeping boys "out of mischief", but there was nothing new to replace it.
Lt-Col TORSIELLO would be very grateful for any advice and information (pamphlets, books etc), ~~and~~ of any Boy-Training Scheme in force in the BRITISH Army. He would like to study the possibility of proposing the establishment of training centres on similar lines for ITALIAN Army.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

UK and cost much more.
On the other hand "CHURCHILL" (Mk-IV) tanks could be obtained from US surpluses in this theatre.
Col PEACHMENT after discussing the matter with Gen LUCERI, said that circumstances did not allow of a choice being made. The difficulties and lengthy procedure involved in obtaining a grant from the Treasury would make acquisition of the heavy tank from UK almost an impossibility.
Therefore Gen LUCERI had decided to "make do" with SHERMANS; at the same time, if any CHURCHILLS at all were available in this theatre, the Government would take them for training purposes in the Military Schools.

15 Jan — BRITISH ARMS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

5. — Handed to Col MELONI copy of letter Hy/105/2 of 11th inst to CRS with enclosures (except Appx 'D' which is virtually copy of War Ministry list of Arms requirements submitted to this HQ). 'See Log of 14th, para 2'.

15 Jan — WAR CRIMES

6. — Ref this HQ letter 215 A of 10 Jan 47, Lt-Col SCHMITT had not yet received news about the document on "Ill-Treatment of Prisoners". He will send reminder.

481

16 Jan — TRAINING AIDS FOR ITALIAN ARMY

7. (a) Asked Lt-Col TURCHIO whether there was any organisation within the ITALIAN Army which provided training for boys, to suit them for technical and other branches of the Army.
In Fascist days, replied Lt-Col TURCHIO, this kind of training was partly supplied by the "BALILLA" organisation which also had the advantage of keeping boys "out of mischief", but there was nothing now to replace it.
Lt-Col TURCHIO would be very grateful for any advice and information (pamphlets, books etc), ~~and~~ of any Boy-Training schemes in force in the BRITISH Army. He would like to study the possibility of proposing the establishment of training centres on similar lines for ITALIAN Army.

(b) Lt-Col TURCHIO on this occasion asked if he could be given the names of some publishers in ENGLAND who could furnish military periodicals, books and publications generally, against payment. Already much literature was being received from other countries.

Referred Lt-Col TURCHIO to Col MORONI (Historical Office) who had made a similar request on which this HQ has already taken action.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 735020

17 Jan — ITALIAN ARMY BUDGET 1946 - 1947

8. (a) At request of FRENCH Rep AC, obtained copy of Budget, handed to Capt LAURENT.
The latter now asks for copy of previous budget too.

(b) Capt LAURENT informed writer that the FRENCH Post Treaty organisation for control of Post Treaty Terms in ITALY had practically been decided on. The FRENCH Rep and best part of his staff, some 40 officers, will remain in ITALY and be attached to the FRENCH Embassy.

17 Jan — INTERPRETATION OF ITALIAN MILITARY STIPULATIONS NOW IN ALLIED HANDS

9. (a) Called to see Gen LUSSU in re and to letter ref G 10 of 20 Dec 46 on above subject handed to him by RSS, and War Ministry's reply ref 20042/II of 11th Jan 47 which is somewhat brief and does not furnish information required. Gen LUSSU being engaged in Conference, his Secretary referred writer to Lt-Col MORAGO (Cabinet) who had drafted the letter.
Lt-Col MORAGO stated he could not embody in that letter any definite information re planning and redeployment until the BRITISH withdrawals [illegible] is known, but that V Terr Comd (BRIM) had been given full instructions to carry out moves in accordance with BRITISH withdrawals as notified through V INF.
At the Ministry, said MORAGO, Conferences had been held in which reps of the "Comando" had taken part, when the question of repairs and expenditure had been discussed.
The Treasury had allotted a sum of 70,000,000 lire for necessary repairs etc.

(b) Later, was able to see Gen LUSSU who confirmed above, but added that he had since had talks with Gen ARMELLINI (5th Terr Commander) in NAPLES, who had elaborated the following rough plan which the Minister approved :-

MANTOVA Division will move to VENETO with HQ in UDINE
5th Cavalleer (UDINE) will move to PARMA
8th ALPINI will remain in North on a line approximately TARVISIO - PORDENONE - TOLMEZZO

Wherever male troops are required on frontiers, MANTOVA Div will provide. FOGGIA Div will be moved later.
Gen HARTENSTEIN is expected in ROME tomorrow to discuss details with Gen ARMELLINI, and possibly by Monday or Tuesday Gen LUSSU will be in a position to furnish details of moves planned, down to Bn formations.
It has been agreed with V INF (said Gen LUSSU) that in some cases, where necessary, ITALIAN Tps would move into Barracks before all BRITISH Tps left, as looting (especially of roof tiles) often took place if premises left unguarded for a few hours.

18 Jan — ITALIAN BORDER MARKED FOR CERTAIN BRIDGES

FOIA
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of 30 Dec 46 on above [illegible] Ministry's reply ref 230142/XI of 11th Jan by which it [illegible] brief and does not furnish information required. Gen LUCCHI being engaged in Conference, his Secretary referred writer to Lt-Col MORAGO (Cabinet) who had drafted the letter.

Lt-Col MORAGO stated he could not embody in that letter any definite information, as planning and redeployment until the BRITISH withdrawals [illegible] is known, but that V Year Genl STAFF had been given full instructions to carry out moves in accordance with BRITISH withdrawals as notified through V HQ.

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The Treasury had allotted a sum of 70,000,000 lire for necessary repairs etc.

(b) Later, was able to see Gen LUCCHI who confirmed above, but added that he had since had talks with Gen ARMELLINI (5th Year Commander) in ROME, who had elaborated the following rough plan which the Minister approved :-

MANTOVA Division will move to VERONA with HQ in UDINE
5th Cavalry (UDINE) will move to PADUA
6th ALPINI will remain in North on a line approximately TRENTINO - FERRARA - TORINO

Wherever only troops are required on frontiers, MANTOVA Div will provide. FRIULI Div will be moved later.

Gen [illegible] is expected in ROME tomorrow to discuss details with Gen ARMELLINI, and possibly by Monday or Tuesday Gen LUCCHI will be in a position to furnish details of moves planned, down to Bn formations.

It has been agreed with V HQ (said Gen LUCCHI) that in some cases, where necessary, ITALIAN Tps would move into Barracks before all BRITISH Tps left, as looting (especially of roof tiles) often took place if premises left unguarded for a few hours.

13 Jan
10.

ITALIAN SOLDIERS WANTED FOR [illegible] MURDERS

Handed Gen BONNARI copy of letter ref 001 A of 17 Jan to War Ministry. referring to previous correspondence (incl 201 A of 30 Sep 46) demanding the handing over of [illegible] Battista by the ITALIAN authorities to be tried for the killing of 3 BRITISH Soldiers.

Gen BONNARI said he would make enquiries if he could be told date and place of incident. Gave him these particulars, viz 22nd Aug 1945 on [illegible] - BATTIPAGLIA Road.

Then, said Gen BONNARI the case was probably in the hands of [illegible] Judicial authorities and he would communicate with them.

21 Jan 47

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

1st - 3rd Jan

1. REORGANISATION OF WAR MINISTRY

(a) In conversation with Gen GANDOLA gathered that although Hon PARRIMATTI had not yet put into effect any of the changes recommended by this Mission, a small step in the right direction had been made by the Minister proposing to form a Committee whose function it would be to advise on technical matters (letter from Minister to Chief of Gen Staff No 322091/II of 24 Dec 46). Copy of this letter was sent to this HQ.
The Chief of Staff has drafted a reply to the Minister in which he points out that if this Committee is to be of a consultative nature the Minister and Chief of G.S. should not be members of it.
The Committee already existing in the Naval Ministry is quoted as a suitable model to copy.
Within the scope of the new Committee should also be the task of applying the Armistice Terms and later the Peace Treaty Terms. In all, the letter enumerates 12 items which should be dealt with by the Committee.
As a consultative technical body the heads of the various technical branches should participate in discussions and each Chief bear full responsibility for his statements and advice.
But (it is agreed) before the Chiefs of Branches can be invited to join this Committee these branches must exist, hence the necessity to first reorganise the War Ministry.
This draft letter is still in the hands of Col PARENTINI for revision but it is expected that the Minister will receive it next week.
(b) Asked Gen GANDOLA if this HQ could be given a copy of the Memorandum drawn up by him at the request of the Minister commenting upon the "Aide Memoire" which Admiral STONE had sent to the Prime Minister on this subject. 481
Gen GANDOLA referred writer to Gen CURIEL who readily gave a copy with appendices, now being translated at this HQ.
This document is undated.

4 Jan

2. WAR MINISTRY - PRESENT LAY-OUT

At request of BGS obtained from Lt-Col MONACO a copy of the "Family Tree" of the War Ministry as at present, with 9 appendices, giving details of the various Directorates General. Now being translated.

4 Jan

3. FIAT FACTORY

(See Log 26 Dec 46 para 7). Obtained from Mr BARRETT (at Technical Div. Arty Directorate) more info about these premises, to be passed to Claire & Hirings. The building was requisitioned in Sep 44 as a warehouse for machinery which was never used.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

form a Committee whose function it would be to advise on technical matters (letter from Minister to Chief of Gen Staff No 32393/II of 24 Dec 46). Copy of this letter was sent to this HQ.
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Within the scope of the new Committee should also be the task of applying the Armistice Terms and later the Peace Treaty Terms. In all, the letter enumerates 12 items which should be dealt with by the Committee.
As a consultative technical body the heads of the various technical branches should participate in discussions and each Chief bear full responsibility for his statements and advice.
But (it is agreed) before the Chiefs of Branches can be invited to join this Committee these branches must exist, hence the necessity to first reorganise the War Ministry.
This draft letter is still in the hands of Gen PIASENTINI for revision but it is expected that the Minister will receive it next week.
(b) Asked Gen CADORNA if this HQ could be given a copy of the Memorandum drawn up by him at the request of the Minister commenting upon the "Aide Memoire" which Admiral STONE had sent to the Prime Minister on this subject. Gen CADORNA referred writer to Gen SCIPIO who readily gave a copy with appendices, now being translated at this HQ. This document is undated.

481

4 Jan — WAR MINISTRY - NEW SET-OUT

2. — At request of BSC obtained from Lt-Col ROMANO a copy of the "Family Tree" of the War Ministry as at present, with 9 appendices, giving details of the various Directorates General. Now being translated.

4 Jan — JUTE FACTORY

3. — (See Leg 29 Dec 46 para 7). Obtained from Mr MORETTI (at Technical Div. Arty Directorate) more info about these premises, to be passed to Claims & Wirings. The building was requisitioned in Sep 44 as a warehouse for machinery which was never used.

4 Jan — FRENCH ARMS AND MATERIAL IN SARDINIA

4. — Capt LAMBERT, on behalf of FRENCH Rep to AC., handed writer letter to this HQ (Ref 1038/CAM) RSC of 30 Dec 46) enclosing copy of letter addressed to Ministry of War (Ref 1037 of 30 Dec 46) enclosing list of arms and material discovered in ITALIAN Army Depots in SARDINIA.
The letter quoted this HQ letter Q 135 of 3rd May 46.
Shortly afterwards Capt LAMBERT withdrew letters 1037 and 1038 "to submit for perusal to Admiral STONE".

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

4 Jan — WAR CRIMES — 'A'

5. Obtained from War Ministry address of Gen PAPURI Giuseppe late Commander of 6th CORPS in GREECE, placed on Retired list on 4th Dec 1946, viz :

No 1 Via Montebello,
Piazza Verdi,
ROME.

Passed to AAG.

6 Jan — MILITARY CLOSED

7 Jan — JUTE FACTORY - TERNI — 'A'

6. Handed Mr MORSELL copy of letter dated 6 Jan c 819 addressed to Claims & Hirings on above subject.

7 Jan — GREY ASHES REQUIRED BY ITALIAN ARMY — 'A'

7. With DCG and DAG to Gen CADORNA. DCG asked Gen CADORNA on what basis the Ministry had drawn up the last list of ITALIAN Army requirements in Arms etc., as the figures appeared to be much in excess of what the new Army could possibly need.
Gen CADORNA admitted that the figures were somewhat exaggerated but were based on the assumption that most of this material already existed in ITALY, and possibly in AUSTRIA. Much preferable for the ITALIAN Army to have such material at a cheap price, be said (even though under ALLIED Control) than let it be destroyed (as was done at SPITZBAARDEN) or returned to ENGLAND.
When it was pointed out to him that the quantities in this theatre were small and anything beyond these, to make up regts, would probably have to be sent out from ENGLAND and charged for at much higher prices, Gen CADORNA agreed that figures in the list had better be cut down considerably.
Col MORSELL (Chief of Services Office) was then called in to give expert advice. List was gone through item by item and some cuts made but it was finally arranged that Col MORSELL should come at 4 pm to this HQ to go thoroughly into the matter with DCG. This was done.

8 Jan — VISIT OF MTI ITALIAN ARMY — 'C'

8. Gen MUSSI requested interview with DCG, arranged for 1600 - 1930 hrs.

8 Jan 47 — PUBLIC RELATIONS — 'A'

(a) Acted as interpreter at meeting Col. [illegible] - AAG - PRO (Col FITZPATRICK) at this H.Q.
In view of approaching withdrawal of units, P.R. was asked whether this Service could do anything to assist PRO. P.R.

481

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

7 Jan — TYRE FACTORY - ITALY

6. — Handed to PORRITT copy of letter dated 5 Jan 47 addressed to Claims & Kirings on above subject.

7 Jan — BRIT ARMY REQUIRED BY ITALIAN ARMY

7. — With DOO and DGS to Gen CADORNA. DOO asked Gen CADORNA on what basis the Ministry had drawn up the last list of ITALIAN Army requirements in Arms etc., as the figures appeared to be much in excess of what the new Army could possibly need.
Gen CADORNA admitted that the figures were somewhat exaggerated but were based on the assumption that most of this material already existed in ITALY, and possibly in AUSTRIA. It was much preferable for the ITALIAN Army to have such material at a cheap price, he said (even though under ALLIED Control) than let it be destroyed (as was done at PONTEDAMBRO) or returned to ENGLAND.
When it was pointed out to him that the quantities in this theatre were small and anything beyond these, to make up regts, would probably have to be sent out from ENGLAND and charged for at much higher prices, Gen CADORNA agreed that figures in the list had better be cut down considerably.
Col BELOMI (Chief of Services Office) was then called in to give expert advice. The list was gone through item by item and some cuts made but it was finally arranged that Col BELOMI should come at 4 pm to this HQ to go thoroughly into the matter with DGS. This was done.

8 Jan — POST TREATY ITALIAN ARMY

8. — Gen LUCCI requested interview with DGS, arranged for 1600 - 1630 hrs.

8 Jan 47 — POLITICAL RELATIONS

(a) Acted as interpreter at meeting Col. A/C - AG - PWB (Col FLEMMING) at this HQ.
In view of approaching withdrawal of PWB, F.A., was asked whether this Mission could do anything to assist PWB. F.A. expressed gratitude and said that unfortunately, owing to lack of support from the Minister and Cabinet, he had not been able to make much headway of late. Good work had been done in the initial stages of PWB but there was still much to be done. He said that his hopes of receiving better recognition and more assistance from the new Cabinet (after last been shattered. In the ordinary sense, PWB had exhausted

cc

a. — Reduction of Staff of PWB.
b. — Amalgamation of PWB with Welfare Office.

/3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

3 Jan 47 PUBLIC RELATIONS cont.

9. On the question of keeping P.R. offices in important towns, P.W. stated he was planning to have one each in NAPLES, TURIN (to cover GENOVA too) and BOLOGNA.
Col A/G pointed out that this left the South quite unprovided for and suggested that although the necessity in the South was not so great there might advantageously be a P.R.O. in Naples, and one in Bari which could also cover Sicily. P.W. agreed.
A/G will take the first opportunity of speaking to GRIFFIS and to point out to him the importance of P.R.O. and that although its object is similar to that of Welfare when one uses different methods to that end.
(b) Among the recent activities of P.R.O. may be mentioned :-

(a) Making a film at MONTEBARACCO for a/c of Gen Staff.
(b) Retake, of the film "Formal Training" (for a/c of Gen Staff.

(c) Setting up and translating an training films with the assistance of military personnel from Caserta School and Fr. personnel.

Following broadcasts are contemplated for the near future:-

(a) Army sports news.
(b) Scientific competitions between military and civilians in VARESE organised by Youth Serv. Coad for the latter half of Feb 1947.

9 Jan 47 PEACE TREATY TERMS CONTROL

10. Capt LEQUET (French Rep office - AG) wished to know what kind of organisation was contemplated to control application of peace treaty terms in Italy under SC Ambassador.
Informed LEQUET that this H/Q had so far received no instructions and did not know the answer.
LEQUET volunteered the information that on the Fch side a decision had apparently been taken and that the Fch Rep to A/C with nearly all his staff would be attached to the Fch Embassy for the purpose.
Suggested to LEQUET that French Ambassador should apply to SC opposite number for information required.

10 Jan 47 FRENCH ARMS etc IN SARDINIA

11. Submitted to Gen. de Vaissieu re Villefosse (Fch Rep A/C) draft letter to War Ministry, ref A.156, for perusal.
[illegible] thought this letter met the case admirably.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

and to point out to the [illegible]
although its object is similar to that of [illegible]
uses different methods to that end.

(b) Among the recent activities of P.W.B. may be mentioned :-

(a) Making a film at HEADQUARTERS for a/c of Gen Staff.

(b) Retake, of the film "Formal Training" (for a/c of Gen Staff.

(c) Setting up and translating on training films with the assistance of military personnel from Cesano School and Br. personnel.

Following broadcasts are contemplated for the near future:-

(a) Army sports news.
(b) Scientific competitions between military and civilians in Venice organised by Ellis Terr. Coed for the latter half of Feb 1947. 401 C.

9 Jan 47 10. PEACE TREATY (Resp Control)

Capt LEVASSEUR (French Rep Office - AC) wished to know what kind of organisation was contemplated to control application of Peace Treaty terms in Italy under Br Ambassador.

Informal ADVICE that this HQ had so far received no instructions and did not know the answer.

LEVASSEUR volunteered the information that on the Fch side a decision had apparently been taken and that the Fch Rep to A/C with nearly all his staff would be attached to the Fch Embassy for this purpose.

Suggested to LEVASSEUR that French Ambassador should apply to Br opposite number for information required.

10 Jan 47 11. FRENCH ARMS etc IN SARDEGNA

Submitted to Cap. de Vaisseau de Villefosse (Fch Rep A/C) draft letter to War Ministry, ref [illegible]455, for perusal. De Villefosse thought this letter met the case admirably. Returned to Col A/G for signature then handed same to Gen CADORNA who expressed surprise and promised to investigate.

11 Jan 47 12. WAR CRIMES

Handed Lt Col SCHWARTZ letter ref 215/1750 A of 10th inst concerning report on illtreatment of prisoners. SCHWARTZ said that a request for this document had already gone forward, without results, and that he would take action.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

86
32

Liaison Log with War Ministry (A SMS) 9th - 14th Dec 45

9 Dec — OATH OF ALLEGIANCE - ITALIAN ARMY

1. Lt-Col SALVI called to enquire whether the Mission could help him to obtain a copy of the Oath of Allegiance of the FRENCH Army. The Ministry was preparing the new text of the Oath to be taken by the soldiers of the ITALIAN Republican Army, and wished to have the FRENCH one as a guide.
Accompanied Lt-Col SALVI to the FRENCH Representative, AC, who informed Lt-Col SALVI that there is no Oath of Allegiance in the FRENCH Army.

9 Dec — INTERVIEW DCS - GEN LIUZZI

2. Made appointment with Gen LIUZZI to come to this HQ at 10 am.

11 Dec — POLISH FAMILIES CAMPS - FORLI

3. Capt PANTALEO from the War Ministry called on behalf of Chief of the Cabinet, to make an unofficial enquiry regarding an appeal made by the Communal Council of ANCONA on 25th Nov to the Prime Minister (DE GASPERI) and to the Ministry of Interior against the settlement of a "considerable number of Polish personnel and their Families" in the ANCONA area, which the ALLIES proposed to do.
In this appeal it was pointed out that ANCONA was a very much war damaged city.
Writer accompanied Capt PANTALEO to D.P. Sub Comm, to see Col FINDLAY. In his absence Major HARTMAN was able to give the following particulars :-

In Administrative Instructions No 44 issued by HQ, CMF (ref 1151/2/G) under the heading "INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE OF POLISH FAMILIES CAMPS - FORLI" it was laid down that 2,500 POLISH personnel with their ITALIAN wives and Families would be accommodated in a coastal area extending from FORLI to MACERATA "when accommodation became available". This area included ANCONA

Having explained this to Capt PANTALEO suggested that, the matter having reached the stage it had, all concerned must have known of the plans for some time and objections, if any, must have been put forward by the authorities concerned and dealt with. Nevertheless, if the Prime Minister wished to raise any further objections, HQ CMF at PADUA was the only authority to deal with these.

11 Dec — EQUIPMENT TABLES

4. To War Ministry with Major CORNELL to see Lt-Col de PALMA (Arty Inspectorate) and discuss on above subject.
Lt-Col de PALMA spoke of the difficulties and the concern

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9 Dec — INTERVIEW BGS - GEN LIUZZI

2. Made appointment with Gen LIUZZI to come to this HQ at 10 am.

11 Dec — POLISH FAMILIES CENTRE - FORLI

3. Capt PANTALEO from the War Ministry called on behalf of Chief of the Cabinet, to make an unofficial enquiry regarding an appeal made by the Communal Council of ANCONA on 25th Nov to the Prime Minister (DE GASPERI) and to the Ministry of Interior against the settlement of a "considerable number of Polish personnel and their families" in the ANCONA area, which the ALLIES proposed to do.
In this appeal it was pointed out that ANCONA was a very much war damaged city.
Writer accompanied Capt PANTALEO to D.P. Sub Comm, to see Col FINDLEY. In his absence Major HARTMAN was able to give the following particulars :- HARTMAN/481

In Administrative Instructions No 44 issued by GHQ, CMF (ref 1161/2/4) under the heading "INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE OF POLISH FAMILIES CENTRES - FORLI" it was laid down that 2,500 POLISH personnel with their FASCIST Wives and Families shall be accommodated in a coastal area extending from FORLI to MACERATA "when accommodation becomes available". This area included ANCONA

Having explained this to Capt PANTALEO suggested that, the matter having reached the stage it had, all concerned must have known of the plans for some time and objections, if any, must have been put forward by the authorities concerned and dealt with. Nevertheless, if the Prime Minister wished to raise any further objections, GHQ CMF at PADUA was the only authority to deal with them.

11 Dec — EQUIPMENT TABLES

4. To War Ministry with Major CONNELL to see Lt-Col de PALMA (Arty Inspectorate) and discuss on above subject.
Lt-Col de PALMA spoke of the difficulties and the enormous amount of work involved in attempting to draw up eqpt tables for ITALIAN Arty Formations and then amazing eqpt concerned in amongst the thousands of cases etc lying in No 3 Depot ex 557 BOD.
It was suggested that a RAEE Officer be found to assist in this work.
Various queries on eqpt tables were explained to Lt-Col de PALMA.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

13 Dec GEN MARRAS

5. At request of Dep Comd asked Gen SUPINO whether any action was being taken in connection with GOC's private letter to the War Ministry on above subject (Log of 5 Dec, para 4) as regards appointing new Chief of the General Staff.
Gen SUPINO replied that undoubtedly a formal request for ALLIED approval will be made by Prime Minister to Admiral STARK before any further action is taken.

16 Dec 46

4807

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

G.

2 Dec PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. A The following broadcasts over Italian Radio today :-

(a) "Italian Army in War of Liberation" (text of the broadcast prepared by ISC).

(b) Regulations on the 1925 Class call-ups.

(c) Information about arrivals of pow in the near future.

B The inauguration of the Army Exhibition (which has been touring all over ITALY) took place on SUNDAY 1st Dec 46 in Via Nazionale.
The inaugural speech was made by the Prime Minister DE GASPERI. This speech was later broadcast on three occasions.
All NORTH newspapers gave good accounts of the exhibition and some published the Prime Minister's speech.
It was at first hoped to hold this exhibition in the Palazzo Venezia but PRO met with opposition from the Fine Arts Association

Of foreign representatives visiting the exhibition only the Mil Attaches of SPAIN, SWITZ and USA were seen. No Officer attended from RUSSIA and they asked whether this were not part of RUSSIA policy not to appear to be "panking" the Army unduly.

3. Dec DEFENCE MIL SCHOOL AT ROME

480

2. Informed Lt-Col TOMLINSON that Adm (Adm - Italy) on his recent visit to ROME was able to observe that the accn available there was not suitable, and that any plans for the preparation of the premises for this purpose should be held up. Lt- Col TOMLINSON said that as far nothing had been done and the work would be held in abeyance. He added, however, that the Mil School used to be accommodated at ROME before and he could not understand why the place should not be suitable now.

3 Dec MEETING OF WAR MINISTRY

3. Accompanied CGC to War Ministry where a short meeting took place between him, the Minister and the new Chief of the Cabinet.
Some points in connection with above subject were tentatively discussed and suggestions made as to who should attend the forthcoming meeting on the 6th inst.
Gen PARRINELLI proposed that General MARRAS be invited to attend, as well as Gen Antonio. The former was the officer whom PARRINELLI hoped to appoint shortly as Chief of the

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

(c) Information about arrival of [illegible] future.

8. The inauguration of the Arms Exhibition (which has been touring all over [illegible]) took place on SUNDAY 1st Dec 46 in via Imperiale.
The inaugural speech was made by the Prime Minister De GASPERI. This speech was later broadcast on three occasions.
All [illegible] newspapers gave good accounts of the exhibition and some published the Prime Minister's speech.
It was at first hoped to hold this exhibition in the Palazzo Venezia but PWB not make opposition from the Fine Arts Association

Of foreign representatives visiting the exhibition only the Mil Attaches of [illegible], FRANCE and USA were seen.
No officer attended from [illegible] and was asked whether this was not part of [illegible] policy not to appear to be "pushing" the Army unduly.

480

4. Dec [illegible]

Informed Lt-Col [illegible] that Arts (Army - Navy) on his recent visit to [illegible] was able to observe that the room available there was not suitable, and that any plans for the preparation of the premises for this purpose should be held up. Lt- Col [illegible] said that so far nothing had been done and the work would be held in abeyance. He added, however, that the Mil Council used to be accommodated at Genoa before and he could not understand why the place should not be available now.

5 Dec [illegible]

5. Accompanied CCO to War Ministry where a short meeting took place between him, the Minister and the new Chief of the Cabinet.
Some points in connection with above subject were tentatively discussed and suggestions made as to who should attend the forthcoming meeting on the 6th inst.
Gen MACFARLANE proposed that General [illegible] be invited to attend, as well as Gen Cadorna. The former was the officer whom [illegible] hoped to appoint shortly as Chief of the General Staff to replace Gen Cadorna and it would be well for him to be 'in the picture' especially as he is a member of the original Committee formed in May last to consider ways of War Ministry and was present at the meeting held on 17 May 45 when Gen [illegible](then CSC AAFA) first placed before the War Ministry, this Mission's proposals.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

3 (contd) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

All agreed that the presence of Gen MARSHALL at the next meeting, as an expert, would be appreciated, but that it must not be allowed to imply that he was the future Chief of Staff. It was further agreed that, to "cover" Gen MARSHALL's presence at the meeting one or two other Generals would also be invited to attend; the names of MACARTHUR (Commander-in) and CHENNAULT (all Under Secretary of State) were proposed.

The question arose as to whether the appointment of Gen MARSHALL as Chief of Staff should be officially announced at the meeting. No decision was taken and the matter left to be decided by the Minister.

Sir Earle PAGE thanked CAB for the opportunity afforded him of having this preliminary talk.

5 Dec GEN MARSHALL

4. Handed to the Chief of the Cabinet personal letter from CAB to Gen MACARTHUR suggesting that should it be the intention of officially appointing Gen MARSHALL Chief of the General Staff at tomorrow's meeting the Prime Minister should write to Admiral KING to ask for ALLIED approval, as was done at time of Gen CHIANG's appointment.

Gen CURTIS promised to hand letter to Mr FADDEN at first opportunity but expressed the opinion that the matter was not urgent enough for immediate approval to be obtained (implying that the appointment of Gen MARSHALL would not be made known officially at the meeting).

4883

6 Dec LIGHT TANKS (Mar 30/403/2)

5. Explained to Col HEARN that the 10 Light Tanks known as "STUARTS", model M5, offered to the RUSSIAN Army were of AMERICAN make, and therefore not offered under the same terms as BRIT tanks. The Ministry were to say definitely whether they wished to have them or not.

The data available at this HQ only enabled a very rough description of this tank being given.

Col HEARN said the Ministry were not interested, on the strength of the following 4 points :-

(1) Number available only 10.

(2) Many particulars as to specification and present location.

(3) Unknown financial commitment.

(4) The difficulty of obtaining spares.

6 Dec MEETING OF WAR CABINET - MORNING

6. Meeting held this morning (0930 hrs - 1100 hrs) in the War Ministry's Library. Persons present :-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

The question arose as to whether the appointment of Gen [redacted] as Chief of Staff should be officially announced at the meeting. No decision was taken and the matter left to be decided by the Minister.
Gen MACMILLAN thanked CGS for the opportunity afforded him of having this preliminary talk.

5 Dec — [redacted]

4. Handed to the Chief of the Cabinet personal letter from CGS to Gen MACMILLAN suggesting that should it be the intention of officially appointing Gen [redacted] Chief of the General Staff at tomorrow's meeting the Prime Minister should write to Admiral [redacted] to ask for [redacted] approval, as was done at time of Gen GARDINER's appointment.
Gen [redacted] promised to hand letter to War Minister at first opportunity but expressed the opinion that the matter was not urgent enough for immediate approval to be obtained (implying that the appointment of Gen [redacted] would not be made known officially at the meeting).

6 Dec — LIGHT TANKS (Ref SD/109/2)

5. Explained to Col [redacted] that the 18 Light tanks known as "HUMBERT", model M5, offered to the IRANIAN Army were of AMERICAN make, and therefore not offered under the same terms as BRIT tanks. The Ministry were to say definitely whether they wished to have them or not.
The data available at this HQ only enabled a very rough description of this tank being given.
Col [redacted] said the Ministry were NOT interested, on the strength of the following 4 points :-

(1) Number available only 18,

(2) Scanty particulars as to specification and present location,

(3) Unknown financial commitment,

(4) The difficulty of obtaining spares.

6 Dec — [redacted]

6. Meeting held this morning (0930 hrs - 1430 hrs) in the War Ministry's Library. Persons present :-

| NZ | WAR MINISTRY |
|---|---|
| CGS | Rt Hon MACMILLAN |
| MGS | Gen [redacted] |
| Dep Qmgl | Gen GARDINER |
| Col A/G | Gen [redacted] |
| | Gen [redacted] |
| | Gen [redacted] |
| | Gen [redacted] |
| | Gen [redacted] |
| | Col [redacted] |

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

6 (Contd) MINUTES OF WAR MINISTRY - MEETING

Air. BROOKMAN opened the discussion with a speech in which he referred to the meeting held in May (Gen MORTON, CGS and Air. SHARP, Minister of War) when the subject was first discussed, and to an informal talk on 20th Aug with Gen [illegible] and new CGS.

He said that his predecessor, Air. HANKEY (in conn with Gen GOUGHRY on that occasion) had expressed approval of the proposals made.

The delay in implementing these proposals was due to the heavy burden the military was bearing in the shape of serious problems to be solved.

The Minister could not agree to his "role" being any but the head of the Army. The present administration was considered by some to be chaotic, but (he said) it would certainly become worse if headless.

ITALY (he said) was going through a very critical period (change of regime, naval peace treaty terms, etc). In military circles the retirement of some 5,000 senior officers was creating a bit of a stir and such mutual changes in the War Ministry at the moment would be further complicating an already difficult situation. This did not mean, however, that the reorganization would be postponed for long.

CGS wished to know if there were any objections on the question of the three branches. To this Gen SMUTS remarked that the 3rd ('I') branch appeared to be rather "heavy". However in principle the idea of the 3 branches was acceptable.

The discussion then turned to the Army Council and who should be president of it. The Minister at first said he should be a member of that Council because his presence at the meetings would enable it to make decisions on the spot. 4807

GOC expressed the view that if the Army Council is to be a consultative body only it should be presided over by a person capable of representing military matters to the Minister.

Air. BROOKMAN would study the matter and had no doubt such a solution would be found.

GOC expressed the opinion that should the Minister be president of the Council and not agree with some proposal put forward settlement of the matter would inevitably be postponed.

As to the Under Secretary of State for the Army, the Minister said that he would have to be a military man so long as the Minister is a civilian. This has always been so since 1938.

GOC thought that the Minister should consult the Chief of the General Staff on technical matters; the Minister pointed out that the Under Secretary's functions were "technical - political".

What are the functions of the Cabinet ? (asked SMUTS). The Minister replied that it acted as a [illegible] to the activities of the various [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

serious problems to be solved.
The Minister could not agree to his "role" being any but the head of the Army. The present administration was considered by some to be chaotic, but (he said) it would certainly become worse if headless.
ITALY (he said) was going through a very critical period (change of regime, hard Peace Treaty terms, etc). In military circles the retirement of some 5,000 senior officers was creating a bit of a stir and such radical changes in the War Ministry at the moment would be further complicating an already difficult situation. This did not mean, however, that the reorganisation would be postponed for long.
CGS wished to know if there were any objections on the question of the three branches. To this Gen CADORNA remarked that the 3rd ('I') branch appeared to be rather "heavy". However in principle the idea of the 3 branches was acceptable.
The discussion then turned to the Army Council and who should be president of it. The Minister at first said he should be a member of that Council because his presence at the meetings would enable it to make decisions on the spot. CGS expressed the view that if the Army Council is to be a consultative body only it should be presided over by a person capable of representing military matters to the Minister. A/V. [illegible] would study the matter and had no doubt that a solution would be found.
CGS expressed the opinion that should the Minister be president of the Council and not agree with some proposal put forward settlement of the matter would inevitably be postponed.
As to the Under Secretary of State for the Army, the Minister said that he would have to be a military man so long as the Minister is a civilian. This has always been so since 1883.
CGS thought that the Minister should consult the Chief of the General Staff on technical matters; the Minister pointed out that the Under Secretary's functions were "technico - political".
What are the functions of the Cabinet ? (asked CGS). The Minister replied that it acted as a Secretariat to watch the activities of the various branches and give them its views and decisions. It was admitted that the Cabinet had acquired too much volume and importance, but there was a tendency to reduce it.
Next the duties of Chief of the General Staff were discussed and comparisons made with the RAF and Admiral Chief of Staff. In regard to the latter Col Fiuma remarked that the present status of the Chief of Staff in America only dated back a couple of months.

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480

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

6 (Contd) KINGS OF WAR MINISTRY - HAMPTON.

The Minister said this question would also be studied.
At the end of the Meeting GOC told the Minister that NZMA was always ready to advise and assist on all matters discussed, with a view to a speedy solution of the problems.
The Minister expressed his thanks and declared that the forming of an Army Council would be at once proceeded with.

4803

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison [illegible] with [illegible] Ministry (a) [illegible] 47 - 30 Nov 46

27 Nov — [illegible] - [illegible]

1. Obtained from [illegible] copy of [illegible] which fixes the limits to the amounts which may be allocated for minor expenditures. (Annex to Gen A/[illegible]).

28 Nov — [illegible]

2. At request of [illegible] informed Col [illegible] that a [illegible] Battalion of the Bersaglieri, now on the staff of [illegible] Corps and late of [illegible] Div, might be able to assist or advise on the question of [illegible] which are in the field, so concerned with [illegible] problem.
Major [illegible] and made a very thorough study of the subject, and the committee which it is proposed to form shortly to discuss same; may find his knowledge and experience of some help.
Pointed out that it was not suggested Major [illegible] should be a member of said committee unless Ministry so wished.

29 Nov — [illegible] - VISIT TO [illegible]

3. At 1130 hrs today writer accompanied [illegible] to War Ministry to pay courtesy visit on new Chief of the Cabinet.

(a) Gen [illegible], after the usual compliments, said that his feelings towards the British were always very friendly but had become even more so since he and his family were liberated by the [illegible] Armies.

(b) Broaching the subject of proposed reorganization of the War Ministry, he said that a memorandum drawn up by the CGS, [illegible] had been placed before him by the War Minister.

Gen [illegible] had perused same and would discuss it soon with [illegible] and make his recommendations.

(c) The question of navy [illegible] was then discussed. [illegible] pointed out that before [illegible] could do anything in the matter a decision must come from the [illegible] Government as to whether ships are still [illegible] under the Navy's jurisdiction or the Air Force's.

This info is required by this [illegible] as soon as possible.

(d) The all-important subject of specialists in the Army, and other matters were also discussed.

29 Nov — [illegible]

4. Col [illegible] handed writer letter ref [illegible] of this date from War Ministry re [illegible]

Annex

4803

14261

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

as arose on the question of [illegible] administrative actions in the field, as occurred with [illegible] methods.
Major [illegible] had made a very thorough study of the subject, and the Committee [illegible] as proposed to form shortly to discuss same) any final his knowledge and experience of same help.
Pointed out that it was not suggested [illegible] should be a member of said Committee unless Ministry so wished.

29 Nov — [illegible]

5. at 1130 hrs today [illegible] accompanied [illegible] to [illegible] Ministry to pay courtesy visit on new Chief of the Cabinet.

(a) Gen [illegible], after the usual compliments, said that his feelings towards the British were always very friendly but had become even more so since he and his family were liberated by the [illegible] Armies.

(b) [illegible] the subject of proposed reorganisation of the War Ministry, he said that a memorandum drawn up by the CGS, [illegible] had been passed to him by the War Minister.
Gen [illegible] had perused same and would discuss it soon with [illegible] and make his recommendations.

(c) The question of having an [illegible] Army was then discussed. [illegible] pointed out that before [illegible] could do anything in the matter a decision must come from the [illegible] Government as to whether this arm will come under the Army's jurisdiction or the Air Force's.

This info is required by them [illegible] as soon as possible.

(d) The all-important subject of specialists in the Army, and other matters were also discussed.

29 Nov — [illegible]

6. Col [illegible] handed writer letter ref [illegible] of this date from War Ministry to [illegible] on the subject of "officers i/c AT Service and Base i/c rank".
This letter confirmed conversation between Col [illegible] and the IA (DS) which took place after the meeting held at the Ministry on 14th inst. In reading [illegible] letter Col [illegible] remarked that it was all very well drawing up AT on paper, but where were the men to be found ?

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

29 Nov [redacted]

5. Letter from Sir Stanley Wolf [redacted] of 23 Nov 46 on the above subject, was circulated to Mins (A) "for attention of Major General". Passed copy to [redacted].

29 Nov [redacted]

6. [redacted] briefly told Sir [redacted] that he had discussed with the new Cabinet Chief (see para 3) on the subject. As to whether the Army or the Air Force would be given control, [redacted] thought he had two courses, viz :-

(a) that the war the British practice to apply the Army to the [redacted] ( a practice which can never work) and stipulated that R.A.F. can always control the Air Force as in the British Army. The [redacted] Air Force was not anxious to be given this task as they had not the means of training the necessary personnel. (b) point of fact with war the Air Force personnel is being trained by the Army. After 4 year active service with the Air Force he can remain on instruction at the Air Force (Reserve) for 4 years (age 24 - 28) then report to the Army reserve. [redacted] Therefore think that the [redacted] Air Force will again decline any offer of an Army.

30 Nov [redacted]

7. Gen asked Gen Gervais to give his impressions (obtained during his recent visit), of conditions prevailing among the troops in Malaya. 4807

Gen [redacted] said that none of the units were still deficient in tropical clothing especially among the officers whose clothing was far from uniform.

The physique and morale of the men (recruited mostly from Britain and Malta) were good.

As for on training was concerned there was room for much improvement. The officers lacked the necessary knowledge of modern methods, and ease of turn, about and march, were not of a type to inspire confidence. One exception was to be found in Gds & [redacted] in the 46th Inf Bde, whose training, energy and enthusiasm had inspired all the other officers of his unit, and in turn could been imparted to their men; the good effect on both was also apparent.

His chief (remarked Gen [redacted]) must could be done with a small number of well trained officers as instructors.

The discussion then passed on to heavy [redacted] Army, [redacted] and equipment.

Gen pointed out that there was nothing in the terms of the existing Treaties limiting the supply of such heavy weapons and

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220



30 Nov

2.

[illegible]

[illegible] asked Gen Gavin to give his impressions (privately during his recent visit) of conditions prevailing among the troops in Berlin.

Gen Gavin said that some of the units were still content [illegible] derelict in regard clothing especially among the officers whose clothing was far from uniform.

The physique and morale of the men (especially noticeably here [illegible]) were good.

As far as training was concerned there was room for much improvement.

Officers lacked the necessary knowledge of modern methods, and some of them, apart [illegible] were not of a type to inspire confidence. One exception was to be found in [illegible] in the field and [illegible], where training, energy and enthusiasm had inspired all the other officers of his unit, who in turn looked upon [illegible] with pride. This spread (provided [illegible]) what could be done with a small number of well trained officers as instructors. The discussion then passed on to army [illegible] and equipment.

Gen pointed out that there was nothing in the terms of the Armistice limiting the supply of such army vaccines and equipment. The fact that these were not considered necessary for the war to be done by the "Liberation" army had [illegible] by the Soviets only, was comparable the whole [illegible] having been supplied up to the present. The question of availability had also to be considered.

As regards the future these were the important points to be considered :-

(a) Type and quantity of weapons required by the [illegible] Governments, and

(b) Financial limitations.

[illegible]/3

30 Nov — MEETING GOC - GSO DIVISIONS (Contd)

7. Gen CROCKER will try to submit a definite plan of requirements. He now realised (he said) that AHQ was genuinely anxious to help the impression he had up to the present was that AHQ vacillated in its policy so much so that it had appeared to come to be intentional He was relieved to see this could not have been so, circumstances being entirely to blame.

30 Nov — PUBLIC RELATIONS

8. The following is a summary of the activities of this office during the week :-

Monday 27th Nov — Broadcast over ABC Radio regarding the services rendered by WAC (Medical Corps) to the population of N.SUMATRA; text prepared by PRO.
Visit to Gst of ORMUS by members of the Press from Saigon, Batavia and Kuala, organised by PRO and broadcast text prepared by same.
Circular messages to men in the Services.

Thursday 28th Nov — Public informed (over local radio) of the opening of Army exhibition taking place in Hall on 1st Dec 46.

Friday 29th Nov — Broadcast appeal for information regarding missing WAC personnel. At various times during the day public advised of future opening of Army exhibition.

6 Dec 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison Log with War Ministry (& SMG) 18 - 26 Nov 46

18 Nov — PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. (a) At request of Col A/Q prepared some notes on the activities of PRO.

(b) PRO has approached Comiliters with a proposal for a meeting to take place in ROME shortly, of all the officers at Terr Comds doing PR work.

This meeting would last a few days; its object being to instruct the officers in PR work, coordinate their activities, arrange interchange of material, information etc and make financial arrangements.
The calling of such a meeting is faced by administrative difficulties, the chief one being that some of these officers are welfare officers at Terr Comds HQ and their absence may interfere with their welfare work. This objection was raised by Col FERRARA Chief of Army Welfare Office.
Gen ARMELLINI OC II Comiliter, has addressed a private letter to PRO suggesting that instead of these welfare or PR Officers coming to ROME for a meeting, the Chiefs of Terr Comds should do so, in order to discuss PR and other subjects.

(c) One very important question is that of PRO funds, Up to present no funds for PRO have been officially allocated in the Budget. This office has, however, been enabled to carry on by unofficial and provisional allocation of the following amounts :-

Lire 250,000 monthly to meet cost of producing and publishing "Notiziario dell'Esercito".

Lire 10,000 monthly for the purchase of newspapers.

Lire 20,000 monthly for production and broadcasting of Radio matter.

Above funds are supplemented in a small way by proceeds of sale of the "Notiziario", and small fees charged for the viewing of films, especially where public has access.

18 Nov — INF DIVS - ESTABLISHMENTS

2 — Obtained from War Ministry a copy of above pamphlet and handed to GSO I (MD).

19 Nov — MT SPARES FOR ITALIAN ARMY

3. With ADOS to see Gen ROSSI at the Ministry to inform him (on the Q.T.) of the existence of some 400 tons of MT ~~exp~~ spares at BOLOGNA, which this Mission hoped to make available to the ITALIAN Army.
ADOS was not able to say whether, in this event, the spares would have to be paid for or not.
[illegible] was very pleased, and expressed himself very

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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4793

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18 Nov — INF DIVS - ESTABLISHMENTS

2 — Obtained from War Ministry a copy of above pamphlet and handed to GSO I (MD).

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3. — With ADQS to see Gen ROSSI at the Ministry to inform him (on the Q.T.) of the existence of some 400 tons of MT spares at BOLOGNA, which this Mission hoped to make available to the ITALIAN Army.
ADQS was not able to say whether, in this event, the spares would have to be paid for or not.
The General was very pleased, and expressed himself very grateful.

20 Nov — CABINET AT WAR MINISTRY

4. — The functions of the different offices (I, II and III) of the Cabinet are the following :-

"Ufficio 'I" - deals with all matters of Discipline, Law, Finance, Administration and Personnel (except Generals);

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

20 Nov — CABINET AT WAR MINISTRY (Contd)

4. "Ufficio 'II'" - Foreign Relations, Administration, Assignment of Personnel, Barracks, Accommodation, Materials and Equipment;

"Ufficio 'III'" - undertakes Enquiries, Investigations, "Accertamenti Ufficiali" and Sott'ufficiali.

21 Nov — NEW CHIEF OF THE CABINET

5. Col LOMBARDI who has been Chief of the Cabinet since 15th Jan 1945, will be replaced next week by Gen SUPINO. Col LOMBARDI told the writer that the first he heard of this was when Gen SUPINO walked into his office a day or two ago to make arrangements for the hand-over. Although the Minister had allegedly decided on this change a couple of months ago he did not inform Col LOMBARDI.

Col LOMBARDI remarked that, far from being sorry to give up his post it was a relief to him. During his term of Office, under 4 different Ministers (CASATI, JACINI, RUSSO & PACCIARDI) he never had a moments peace. He was now tempted to give up his military career and devote himself to his private affairs. He owns property in N.ITALY which he has been obliged to neglect during the past two years.
He was particularly relieved to think that this change would obviate the necessity of his signature being appended to the decree which would release some 5,000 senior Officers from the Army.

479

The writer asked Col LOMBARDI at this juncture whether the Minister had done anything about the proposed reorganisation of the Ministry. Col LOMBARDI replied that nothing had been done and that there was not much likelihood of anything being done by the present Minister!

Gen SUPINO is reputed to be a clever man, energetic and pro-BRITISH. Being a Jew he had to leave the Army in 1939 and has not seen any active service since.
It is generally thought in the Ministry that the Minister was influenced by public opinion and pressure from the Republican Party, to effect this change.
Who whose opinion was sought said he knew Gen SUPINO well, as he and Col PIOLA CASELLI attended the Mil Academy at the same time. In his opinion Gen SUPINO was admirably suited for the post, being a man of sound common sense whose civilian political experience during the war years would stand him in good stead in his contacts with the Minister.

22 Nov — CARS ADMINISTRATION

acted as interpreter at meeting which took place on 22nd Nov

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

and Sott'ufficiali.

21 Nov — NEW CHIEF OF THE CABINET

5. Col LOMBARDI who has been Chief of the Cabinet since 15th Jan 1945, will be replaced next week by Gen SORINO. Col LOMBARDI told the writer that the first he heard of this was when Gen SORINO walked into his office a day or two ago to make arrangements for the mand-ver. Although the Minister had allegedly decided on this change a couple of months ago he did not inform Col LOMBARDI.

Col LOMBARDI remarked that, far from being sorry to give up his post it was a relief to him. During his term of Office, under 4 different Ministers (CASATI, JACINI, MESSIO & PACCHIARDI) he never had a moments peace. He was not tempted to give up his military career and devote himself to his private affairs. He owns property in M.ITALY which he has been obliged to neglect during the past two years.
He was particularly relieved to think that this change would obviate the necessity of his signature being appended to the decree which would release some 5,000 senior Officers from the Army.

479

The writer asked Col LOMBARDI at this juncture whether the Minister had done anything about the proposed reorganisation of the Ministry. Col LOMBARDI replied that nothing had been done and that there was not much likelihood of anything being done by the present Minister.

Gen SORINO is reputed to be a clever man, energetic and pro-BRITISH. Being a Jew he had to leave the army in 1939 and was not seen any active service.
It is generally thought in the Ministry that the Minister was influenced by public opinion and pressure from the Republican Party, to effect this change.
Who whose opinion was sought said he knew Gen SORINO well, as he and Col PIERO [illegible] attended the Mil Academy at the same time. In his opinion Gen SORINO was admirably suited for the post, being a man of sound common sense whose civilian political experience during the war years would stand him in good stead in his contacts with the Minister.

22 Nov — CARs ADMINISTRATION

6. Acted as interpreter at meeting which took place on 22nd Nov at the Infantry Inspectorate; the following officers present :-

Gen SCATTINI
Col SIVO
Lt-Col MEDLAM
Lt-Col SOUTHEY
Major [illegible]

...../3

1434
Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

25 Nov — BUFFER OIL

7. Handed to Col MELONI letter 005/Q of this date with Appendix 'A' extracts from "Handbook of Arty Equipments" on the above subject under the heading "LIQUIDS". Col MELONI will pass instructions to all concerned and will also ascertain what stocks of buffer oil are at present available.

25 Nov — CAPRONI CONTRACT

8. The Manager of (CAPRONI / CEMSA) ROME Office, (Ing MAZZACURATI) called on 21st inst. with his technical Manager (Ing. DIFFIDENTE).
The object of the visit was to solist MVIA's assistance in obtaining spares for BEDFORD and DODGE vehicles now under repair at CAPRONI's, MILAN.
Ing. MAZZACURATI had heard of the existence of large quantities of such spares at PONTECAGNANO (557 RD No 2 Sub Dep) and at PORIGLIANO D'ARCO and hoped that the Mission would obtain for him a release. He had heard that ARAR would be taking over this material but feared that the transfer might not take place for some time yet and CAPRONI's had very urgent need of spares.
Writer telephoned CDO who said that no direct transfer could take place but that ARAR would probably take physical possession of this material in about a week's time.
Ing. MAZZACURATI expressed himself satisfied and said he would deal with ARAR.
Writer asked Ing. MAZZACURATI :-

(a) Whether CAPRONI were able to keep all their men fully employed thanks to War Ministry's contract; and

(b) How many vehicles had been repaired so far. 479

The answers were :-

(a) That all the personnel was employed, but not "fully", and

(b) That only about 40 vehicles had gone through the workshops; this, however, was due to 2 facts :-

(1) the vehicles in most cases almost derelicts,

(2) Lack of transport to carry this "old iron" accounted for much of the delay in bringing vehicles to the works.

25 Nov — MOTORIZZAZIONE WORKSHOPS

Acted as Interpreter at meeting between Col A/Q (MVIA) and Gen ROSSI (Director General of Motorization at War Ministry).

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

The object of the visit was to enlist Mil.'s assistance in obtaining spares for SPEWCO+ and DODGE vehicles now under repair at CAPRONI's, MILAN.
Ing. MAZZAGURATI had heard of the existence of large quantities of such spares at PONTECAGNANO (557 BOD No 2 Sub Dep) and at POGGIANO d'ARCO and hoped that the Mission would obtain for him a release. He had heard that ARAR would be taking over this material but feared that the transfer might not take place for some time yet and CAPRONI's had very urgent need of spares.
Writer telephoned CCO who said that no direct transfer could take place but that ARAR would probably take physical possession of this material in about a week's time.
Ing. MAZZAGURATI expressed himself satisfied and said he would deal with ARAR.
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479

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(1) the vehicles in most cases almost derelicts,

(2) lack of transport to carry this "old iron" accounted for much of the delay in bringing vehicles to the works.

25 Nov MOTORISATION WORKSHOPS

Acted as Interpreter at meeting between Col A/Q (Italy) and Gen ROSSI (Director General of Motorisation at War Ministry).

The matters discussed were :-

(Ref letter Q 007 of 5 Nov 46) :-

(a) Efficiency and output of the workshops,

(b) Funds,

(c) Civilian technicians (trade testing etc).

...../4

1436
Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

22 Nov

9. (Contd) As regards (a), MOSAI explained that the apparent decrease in output was due to the fact that whereas in the past many vehicles were sent to the workshops for minor repairs, these are now being carried out by units. Vehicles used to be sent in for such minor servicing as greasing and oiling, which went to swell the monthly "output" figure.

(b), It was very difficult to obtain the sanction of the Minister of the ~~Navy~~ Treasury for financial expenditure. This seriously interfered with the prompt acquisition of spare parts etc from ARAR who prefer to sell to civilian firms paying ready cash.

(c), The trade testing of civilian technicians could be done for the purpose of grading personnel, but the dismissal of inefficient personnel or any reduction in individual pay is out of the question at present. Under existing laws no employee may be dismissed (except for indiscipline or dishonesty).

26 Nov

10. MR OF BRITISH MINE

Acted as interpreter at meeting between BGS and Col FLEMMING. The questions raised by the latter at the Ministry on 16th Nov (see log of that date - para 10) were fully discussed. BGS promised to obtain all possible data. If not available in ITALY, will obtain same from War Office, LONDON.

479

2 Dec 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

82

11 Nov Armistice Day.

12 Nov EXPURATION (A 227 of 13.6.46)

'A'

1. Under Ministry of War letter ref 227130/11 of 8th Nov the War Ministry sent this HQ some details of the work of Epuration which has been done in the Ministry of War and the Army.
The report containing these details is split into two sections viz :-

(a) Explanatory notes on Epuration of mil personnel and of civilians dependent on mil administration.

(b) Details of results obtained since 30th Sep '45 and therefore not yet definite.

Handed report to Dep Comd this HQ for passing on to RCSS reps who originally asked for one early in Jun last.

12 Nov GAM COURSES ENDING

G(Trg)

2. Gen CERRUTI (G.O.C. VI Tors Comd) telephoned from BOLOGNA at 1015 to say that the MODENA GAM completes its course on 17th Nov and FERRARO GAM a few days later.
This information of CCG who hoped to be able to visit one or two GAMs towards the end of training period.

14 Nov MIL PERSONNEL IN VENEZIA GIULIA

'A'

3. Told Col LOMBARDI that this HQ took a serious view of the delay in any apparent action being taken by the War Ministry to remove ITALIAN mil personnel from VENEZIA GIULIA in accordance with request from this HQ made early last month (ref A 228 of 4.10.46).
Col LOMBARDI said that the necessary orders would be issued by the Minister on the lines already explained (see log of 5th Nov para 3).
Requested that confirmation of this be given in writing.
Col LOMBARDI promised to do this.

479

12 Nov CAMP BOLOGNA

'A'

4. Col MALAGUGINO proceeded to BOLOGNA yesterday to visit CAMPS. Expected to return 15th.

13 Nov REORGANISATION OF WAR MINISTRY

5. Asked Col LOMBARDI how this matter stood. He said that the Minister was still studying this HQ's proposals together with a memorandum submitted by Gen CADORNA on the subject and comments by one or two other heads of Directorates in the Cabinet.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(b) Details of results obtained since 30th Sep '45 and therefore not yet definite.

Handed report to Dep Cond this HQ for passing on to NCOR reps who originally asked for one early in Jan last.

12 Nov — CAR JOURNEY ENDED — G(Trg)

2. Gen GERICA (G.C. VI Terr Cond) telephoned from BOLOGNA at 1015 to say that the MODENA CAR completes its course on 17th Nov and FERARO CAR a few days later. This information of GOC who hoped to be able to visit one or two CARs towards the end of training period.

11 Nov — MIL PERSONNEL IN VENEZIA GIULIA — 'A'

3. Told Col LOMBARDI that this HQ took a serious view of the delay in any apparent action being taken by the Italian Ministry to remove FRIULIAN mil personnel from VENEZIA GIULIA in accordance with request from this HQ made early last month (ref A 028 of 4.10.46). Col LOMBARDI said that the necessary orders would be issued by the Minister on the lines already explained (see Log of 5th Nov para 3). Requested that confirmation of this be given in writing. Col LOMBARDI promised to do this.

12 Nov — CARS BOLOGNA — 'A'

4. Col GALANTINO proceeded to BOLOGNA yesterday to visit CARS. Expected to return 15th.

13 Nov — REORGANISATION OF WAR MINISTRY

5. Asked Col LOMBARDI how this matter stood. He said that the Ministry was still studying this HQ's proposals together with a memorandum submitted by Gen CADORNA on the subject and comments by one or two other heads of Directorates in the Cabinet. Asked if he could say how long this would take he explained that owing to the Minister's bad eyesight the perusal of these documents was very laborious but that he hoped the Minister would be able to arrange a meeting with GOC early next week.

14 Nov — 'A' VENEZIA - BADOGS

6. Handed Lt-Col OLIVETTI letter 137 Q of 13th Nov on above subject and explained contents.

...../2

4797

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 735020

'A'

14 Nov PUBLIC RELATIONS

7. (A) Radio Broadcasts on the following mil subjects were transmitted over ROMA Radio this week :-
(a) Examinations for admission to the mil academy at LIVORNO;
(b) Scope and activities of Schoolof Arty at BRAGUIANO;
(c) Talk on the recognition of Partisan ranks;
(d) Greetings to Gen ANDERS, Commanding POLISH CORPS;
(e) Commemoration ceremony and inauguration of the Castel del Rio Cemetry in memory of the fallen of the "FOLGORE" Div.
(f) Constitution of the Infantry Inspectorate (2nd broadcast).

All the script for above was prepared by PRO.

Photographic publicity in the following subjects:-
(a) Ceremony at 8 CAR GENIETO; (Benediction of the "Drappello" (Regimental Pennants);
(b) Final Gymnastic display of the CREMO pupils at ROME Gymnasium;
(c) Gen JUIN's visit to ITALIAN Mil Club;
(d) Commemoration ceremony at the Unknown Soldier's Grave on 4th Nov 46.

(B) Visit to II CAR at SUESO on 12th Nov by 8 journalists from GENOVA. 3 Brit offrs from 2 BIU also present.
The PRO staff photographer obtained some good "shots" which will be published in the "Notiziario dell Esercito" and a ROME Weekly.
Mention of this prospected visit was made on 6th Nov under para "d".

(C) The writer was informed by PRO that the request for 50,000 lire was to meet cost of transport, board and lodging of the journalists making the visit and other incidentals.

15 Nov STORING OF AMMUNITION

8. Acted as interpreter at a meeting between Gen PROSPERI and Col SACCO of the Arty Directorate at the War Ministry, and AQMG MMIA accompanied by Capt WARD.

16 Nov TRAINING PUBLICATIONS

9. Handed Col PERSICHILLO letter of this date ref TRG/63. Explained to him and Maj MERRY at the object of letter

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c)
GORPS;
(e) Commemoration ceremony and inauguration of the Castel del Rio Cemetry in memory of the fallen of the "FOLGORE" Div.
(f) Constitution of the Infantry Inspectorate (2nd broadcast).

All the script for above was prepared by PRO.

Photographic publicity in the following subjects:-
(a) Ceremony at 5 CAR CREMINO; (Benediction of the "Drappelle" (Regimental Pennants);
(b) Final Gymnastic display of the CREMO pupils at ROMA Gymnasium;
(c) Gen JUIN's visit to ITALIAN Mil Club;
(d) Commemoration ceremony at the Unknown Soldier's Grave on 4th Nov 46.

(3) Visit to II CAR at CREMO on 12th Nov by 8 journalists from GENOVA. 3 Brit offrs from 2 HQ also present.
The PRO staff photographer obtained some good "shots" which will be published in the "Notiziario dell Esercito" and a ROME Weekly.
Mention of this prospected visit was made on 6th Nov under para "3".

(c) The writer was informed by PRO that the request for 50,000 lire was to meet cost of transport, board and lodging of the journalists making the visit and other incidentals.

15 Nov — STORING OF AMMUNITION

8. Acted as interpreter at a meeting between Gen FRIGERIO and Col SECCO of the Arty Directorate at the War Ministry, and Asst MAIA accompanied by Capt WARD.

16 Nov — TRAINING PUBLICATIONS

9. Handed Col TORSIELLO letter of this date ref TRG/63. Explained to him and Maj MERSU ex the object of letter and list of pamphlets which had been passed to War Ministry from time to time.
Maj MERSU will carefully peruse list and advise this HQ which of the pamphlets have been received, which have been translated into ITALIAN and which not received.

...../3

479

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

16 Nov

10.

HE OF BRIT DIVS

Asked Col PIACENTINI to explain the request contained in War Ministry letter ref 5255/I of 2 Nov 46.
He said the request arose out of the fact that although the Ministry had from time to time made alterations in the MI of Inter in Army Units, according to AMIA Directives and advice, it was not in a position to say which formations were entirely BRIT in character, which partly half and which simply ITALIAN basic formations slightly modified according to BRIT TE.
If the permanent Army is to take shape on BRIT lines it were well for the Ministry to know what these lines are. Col PIACENTINI thought it would considerably assist the various departments of the Ministry to have a more accurate idea of what they were aiming at.
In due course, he believed, there would be ITALIAN Armd Divs. It would be useful to know now, what their TE would be.
Col PIACENTINI had no knowledge of the BRIT "Services" as compared with ITALIAN "Servizi", BRITISH system of recruiting and drafting to units.
The organisation of Territorial Army; how formed and distributed.
He suggested that the presence of 13th Corps in ITALY offered the opportunity of attaching a group of ITALIAN officers to it for instruction in the various branches.

16 Nov

11.

REORGANISATION OF WAR MINISTRY

(a) The personal opinion of Col PIACENTINI is that there was no serious intention on the part of the Minister to carry out the changes proposed by this Mn.

(b) Much time had been wasted submitting CGS's proposals to various Ministers, heads of Sections in the Ministry and one or two personal friends for their views.

(c) Some of the changes proposed did not suit the books of the one or the other, and there was a tendency to pick the proposals to pieces.

(d) The Minister himself had raised no definite objections to the proposals being adopted, and SMA were all in favour, yet no orders had been given and nothing done.

(e) It was not too late, Col PIACENTINI thought, for AMIA to be more insistent and bring pressure to bear in the proper quarter.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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(c) Some of the changes proposed did not suit the books of the one or the other, and there was a tendency to pick the proposals to pieces.

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(e) It was not too late, Col PIACENTINI thought, for MMIA to be more insistent and bring pressure to bear in the proper quarter.

26 Nov 46

479

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison Log with War Ministry (AGAS) 28 Oct - 2 Nov

28 Oct — Writer Absent.

29 Oct — PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. (a) Col FIORE VERNAZZA had an interview last week with the Editor of the "Risorgimento Liberale" in regard to the article published in that paper on 20th Oct entitled "TODAY'S AND TOMORROW'S ITALIAN ARMY" signed "G.B.". The Editor refused to divulge name of author explaining that when the paper accepts an article for publication it assumes responsibility for same and undertakes not to give author's name without latter's consent.
Col FIORE VERNAZZA pointed out some of the inaccurate statements contained in the article and the Editor promised to put that right.
/appropriate An/insertion appeared in the same paper on 27th Oct to the satisfaction of PRO.

(b) The following broadcasts, sponsored by PRO took place during the week :-

Monday 28 Oct

1. The origin of the "Mameli" hymn (patriotic song about ITALIAN "Risorgimento")

2. Answers to enquiries about mil personnel.

3. Messages from relatives to POW.

Thursday 31 Oct

1. Announcement on behalf of Welfare Office.

2. Reconstitution of the Inf Arm Inspectorate.

(c) The Cine-photo sec of PRO has been very active during the week, the following "shots" having been taken :-

1. Polo match BRIT - ITALIAN Teams, Rome Polo Ground.

2. Arty School BRACCIANO.

3. S & T School at RIETI.

4. 81 mm and 3 in mortar tests.

5. Panoramic views of CASSINO.

4791

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

publication it assumes responsibility for facts and undertakes not to give author's name without latter's consent.
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4. 81 mm and 3 in mortar tests.

5. Panoramic views of CASSINO.

6. Printing and preparing short cine-film of "Foreign Mil Missions at 8 CAR, ORVIETO"(Film now showing at 8 CAR).

7. Short film of explosions at sea (81 mm and 3 in mortar tests) prepared for MGB.

8. Preparing and translating English Trg Films for MGB.

...../2

4791

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

30 Oct — APPLICATION FOR "MILITARISATION" BOGGIANO GIOVANNI

2. Handed Col PIGENTINI letter A 212 of 29 Oct together with copies of correspondence (8 documents) relating to BOGGIANO's request that the War Ministry furnish him with a certificate of service with the ALLIES during the period when he should have been serving in the ITALIAN Army.
Col PIACENTINI promised to look into the case but warned that this could not be treated individually. He would bring it to the notice of Gen RICCI who would no doubt consider it in conjunction with hundreds of similar applications.

30 Oct — MAINT OF BRIT UNITS (See log of 25Oct para 6)

3. Col MARONI, by a letter dated 25 Oct 46 ref 1/3501/Serv has advised all Terr Comds that requests from BLOs for supplying and fixing heating stoves etc in Offrs and ORs billets should be complied with as far as possible, against signature of the proper receipt form.

1 Nov — MINISTRY CLOSED - ALL SAINTS DAY

2 Nov — INTERVIEW GOC - ITALIAN CHIEF OF STAFF

4. Accompanied GOC to War Ministry to keep appointment with Gen CARBONA.
During about one hours conversation the following subjects were discussed, relating to GOCs recent visit to SICILY :-

4787

(a) Clothing

GOC drew attention to the variety of uniforms worn by troops in SICILY and the inferior quality. Gen CARBONA was aware of this and added that even some of the new clothing was of bad fit, due chiefly to the manufacture of same being in the hands of Contractors whose lowest tenders had been accepted.

(b) MT

Inadequate number of vehicles and varied types.

(c) Flies

SICILY seemed particularly affected by swarms of flies, said GOC, and asked if DDT not available. Gen CARBONA was of opinion that the small quantity available was being saved for use by Hospitals and to fight malaria.

(a) Senior Offrs

WO 204/7850 20
Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO.

We would bring it to the notice [illegible] would no doubt consider it in conjunction with hundreds of similar applications.

30 Oct — MAINT OF BRIT UNITS (See log of 23Oct para 6)

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4783

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SICILY seemed particularly affected by swarms of flies, said GOC, and asked if DDT not available. Gen CADORNA was of opinion that the small quantity available was being saved for use by Hospitals and to fight malaria.

(d) Senior Offrs

Senior Offrs of Inf Regts apparently ignorant of modern methods.

(e) Lieuts & Capts

Poor; trg with Divs.

(f) Arty

Two Groups now equipped, with Howitzer guns were awaiting 25 prs. Gen CADORNA would find out from Col MELONI "Ufficio Servizi" how matters stood.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

4. (Contd)

(g) Ex Mess

Agreed that the whole Army should be trained to meet necessity of IS if this should arise.

2 Nov

"INCIDENTS" - POLISH TROOPS

5. Public Security Section, Ministry of Interior in their reports to War Ministry stress the frequency and seriousness of cases of misdemeanour (drunkenness, assault looting, damage to property and "beating up") on the part of POLISH soldiers.
The above merely for information of MMIA.

9 Nov 46



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Visit to [redacted] (A Div) 21 - 25 Oct

21 Oct

1. Obtained from [redacted] (Top Sec Sit) a copy of Instructional Pamphlet published by the War Ministry on map reading for [redacted] Army and a copy of pamphlet (also published by the Ministry) describing the [redacted] field system. Handed these to CSO 2(Org).

22 Oct

2. Accompanied DSO to War Ministry and discussed with Gen [redacted] the manner in which this Mission could assist [redacted] Army to acquire heavy AA and Radar equip. Gen [redacted] (Inspector of Army) also took part in the discussions. Understandings were reached both for AA and Radar equip. This Mission would approach ATM with a proposal that specialist offrs be attached to MTM. It was suggested there should be one each for AA and Radar, and one specialist for eqpt for the weapons. It was further suggested that an offr well acquainted with Radar eqpt be sent from U.K. first to inspect Radar eqpt at [redacted] accompanied by an offr from the Ministry who has had some experience in Radar.

23 Oct

3. Visit to [redacted] with two Z (Ops & Tr) to the Ministry.

(a) Informed Gen [redacted] of the disappointing visit of AOC to [redacted] where he inspected twin 40s and found that only a small proportion of the vehicles were serviceable, viz :-

| | |
|---|---|
| [redacted] | 6 |
| [redacted] | 199 |
| SP A Tk Guns | 9 |

4781

It was agreed that the above should be taken up by the [redacted] Army as soon as practicable so that enquiries be made as to the reasonable existence of more efficient vehicles elsewhere. Meanwhile a selection would be made from the unserviceable vehicles, which could be used for training purposes, especially gunnery, and eventually rehabilitated. Gen [redacted] suggested that the number of these to be transferred should be:-

| | |
|---|---|
| [redacted] | 50 |
| [redacted] | 30 |
| SP A Tk Guns | 30 |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2.

[redacted] Commander [redacted] to discuss with him the manner in which this request could best be met. Commander [redacted] undertook to acquire heavy AA and radar equipment [redacted] Army to acquire heavy AA and radar equipment. Gen [redacted] (Inspector of Army) also took part in the discussions.

Instructions were required both for AA and Radar tgs. This Division would approach AFHQ with a proposal that specialist units be attached to [redacted]. It was suggested there should be one each for AA and Radar, and one specialist for ops for the weapons.

It was further suggested that an offr well acquainted with Radar ops be sent from H. [redacted] to inspect Radar ops at [redacted] accompanied by an offr from the industry who has had some experience in Radar.

23 Oct

3. [redacted] WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY

With Gen [redacted] to the Battery.

(a) Informed Gen [redacted] of the disappointing visit of [redacted] to [redacted] where he inspected tanks etc and found that only a small proportion of the vehicles were serviceable, viz :-

| | |
|---|---|
| [redacted] | 6 |
| [redacted] | 150 |
| [redacted] | 9 |

478

It was agreed that the above should be taken over by the EIGHTH Army as soon as practicable and that arrangements be made as to the possible existence of more efficient vehicles elsewhere.

Inevitable a selection would be made from the unserviceable vehicles, which could be used for training purposes, especially convoy, and eventually cannibalised. Gen [redacted] suggested that the number of these to be transferred should be:-

| | |
|---|---|
| [redacted] | 50 |
| [redacted] | 50 |
| [redacted] | 90 |

Next the question of means of transport was discussed. It was general agreement that an alternate number of tank transporters be provided, to effect the transfer, and/or trained drivers. [redacted] is prepared to pass this on to AFHQ with a request for the loan of drivers.

[redacted]/2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

23 Oct (contd)

3. (b) Authentic Reference for Chinese Life

Gen LEMAY has asked whether the issue of 1,500 of these was one (from ENGLISH Army stocks) to Chinese Life would adversely affect the number completed by Boeing Bombers. Gen LEMAY replied that this number could well be spared. Above enquiry was received at about 2000/23 of 17. 10. 46 from Col LEMAY (Chief of Cabinet) when on a visit to U. S. A.

24 Oct Self-propelled Carriage

4. LE CAO DA V. ARMED called for necessary low order to enable him to travel to CHINA (see log of 7 Oct 46 para 2).
He stated he would be travelling in a Jeep, REMAIN Army property and would this necessitate issue of a special pass. He could not give particulars of the vehicle, but will call again with same. They will then be entered up on low order. Matter in hands of MAAG (K).

25 Oct WAR CRIMINAL TRIALS

5. Handed IA-Col MORRIS letter A 215/1541 of 22 Oct re HIROTA (JG) and DOIHARA (Gen).

25 Oct PAINTING OF DEAD BODIES

6. Col HEARN had received an enquiry from NIT Corr Dept HQ as to whether NIT HQ present for the exhibiting of electric stoves and four coal stoves in office and NCO Billets was in order. Col HEARN asked this HQ to advise such work was included in the conditions agreed upon for the return of DEAD BODIES by ENGLISH Corr Dept (vide 2 SCAP of 23.9.46).
After consulting AG he confirmed that such a request was quite in order.

25 Oct/26 Oct RETURN OF REPATRIATES

7. Hon Miss TSUNEKO (JG) returned from leave on 25 Oct.
Enrolments from NIT Station, on behalf of HQ now only take place twice weekly, viz, on Tuesday and Thursday. The following is this week's programme:-

Tuesday 29th Oct.

(a) Answers to queries from soldiers

(b) Progress from relatives of troops still

4787

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020



23 Oct

4. [illegible] called for necessary low cover to enable him to travel to Gestapo (see log of 7 Oct 46 para 2).
He stated he would be travelling in a Jeep, REGULAR Army property and would thus necessitate issue of a special pass. He could not give particulars of the vehicle, but will call again mid. next. They will then be entered up as here under. Letter in hand of [illegible] (2).

23 Oct

5. Sealed [illegible] SECRET letter A 253/1011 of 22 Oct to [illegible] (2) and [illegible] (Germ).

23 Oct

6. Col [illegible] had received an enquiry from XXX Tour Cond Off as to whether XXX Off required for the map and finding of electric stoves and four coal stoves in office and [illegible] to order. Col [illegible] asked this Pl to check up such work was included in the conditions agreed upon for the right of XXX units by [illegible] Tour Cond (vide 2 App of 25.6.46). After consulting AFO confirmed that such a request was quite in order.

23 Oct 46

7. Col [illegible] (HQ) returned from Leave on 22 Inst.
Broadcasts from AFO Station, on behalf of HQ now only take place twice weekly, viz, on Sunday and Thursday. The following is this week's programme:-

Sunday 27th Oct.

(a) Answers to queries from soldiers

(b) Messages from relatives of troops still [illegible].

Thursday 31st Oct

(a) Answers to queries from soldiers

(b) Messages from relatives of troops still [illegible].

24 - 26 Oct 46. - Leave Cpl.

2 Nov 46:

79

14 Oct — [illegible]

1. The tests being carried out on the 45 mm Pz are virtually complete, but the question of substitution is still in dispute, the advantages of one type over the other still being discussed.
The shots shells fired from the 45 mm are inferior than the 2 in at the longer ranges.
The estimated number required of either weapon is 600, including 20% as reserve.
This provides for: 16 per Tank Regts, 2 per Bde, and 1 per Army Troops, AB for each GAB.

15 Oct — VISIT OF GOC PALMER (SOUTH THIRD ARM)

2. Acted as interpreter at interview Gen PALMER - GOC.
The conversation was general. GOC mentioned his visit North and of meeting Gen MARTSON of the RANCHA Div and Col ARDENTI, G.C. Corpbinderi.
GOC expressed the desire to visit the GAR at CUNEO which was reported to be very good.
Gen PALMER expects to be coming to ROME again in Dec and will then visit the Dolomite.

15 Oct — VISIT TO BRACIANO

3. Col BURNS of the War Ministry asked whether GOC was going to visit the School of Arty at BRACCIANO on the 24th inst. Col WILKES and Major MC of US Army were visiting it on the same day.
Replied that GOC would be out of ROME on that date but that Dep Chief would be glad to come.

478

16 Oct — VISIT TO NAPLES

4. Informed Ministry of availability of 2 seats on plane leaving CERTOCELLI airport for NAPLES on 18th inst, at disposal of any 2 offrs who might wish to visit 10 Corps Cmd and at 557 Bde.
Explained that these passengers were not expected to be attendant on GOC and Col A/A who were travelling on same plane.
The reply to this offer was that if GOC and Col A/A required the assistance of 2 offrs they would gladly accompany them; otherwise there was no necessity to make this journey.

17 Oct — SHOOTING AT ADAM RANGE

5. Lt-Col MARINI (Commissariat) called to say it was reported from NAPLES that a quantity of ...

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

15 Oct — DATE OF [redacted]

2. Acted as interpreter at interview (on private) - GOC. The conversation was general. GOC mentioned his visit North and of meeting Gen MAKARIOS of the NEKOVA Div and Col ANDREOU, G.C. Gunfighters. GOC expressed the desire to visit the CAN at CYPRO which was replied to be very good. Gen HILLING expects to be coming to ROME again in Nov and will then visit the Cyprus.

15 Oct — VISIT TO BRACKNELL

3. Col HANCOCK of the War Ministry asked whether GOC was going to visit the School of Arty at BRACKNELL on the 26th inst. Col WILKES and Major NIX of GI Secretary were visiting it on the same day. Replied that GOC would be out of town on that date but that Dep Comd would be glad to come. 478

16 Oct — FLIGHT TO ROME

4 Informed Ministry of availability of 2 seats on plane leaving CENTOCELLI airport for ROME on 19th inst, at disposal of any 2 offrs who might wish to visit 40 Corps Comd and at 357 Bde. Explained that these passengers were not expected to be attendant on GOC and Col A/Q who were travelling on same plane. The reply to this offer was that if GOC and Col A/Q required the assistance of 2 offrs they would gladly accompany them; otherwise there was no necessity to make this journey.

17 Oct — CLEARING AT ADAR HEIGHTS

5. Medical CARRIER (Commercial) called to say it was reported from ROME that a quantity of :-

(1) Blouses
(2) Trousers } part worn
Overcoats
Boots (new)

were lying in ADAR Dump at HADDINGTON (NEAR PORTSMOUTH) but that ADAR would not release to the Army because held on brief for C.D.C. As these articles are just what the Army is "thinning out" (said MAJOR) could ROME do anything in the matter.

cvrrrr./2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 735020

5. (Contd) CLEARING AT ADAR MAINE

Enquired of O.D.C. by phone and was told that the disposal of this material had not yet been decided and instructions were awaited from LONDON as to whether it should be shipped elsewhere or disposed of locally. O.D.C. would inform this HQ on receipt of these instructions.
Explained this to MAJOR H and suggested printing direct with ADAR should the goods be released to them for disposal as this Mission could not intervene.

17 Oct

6. BAR CRITERIA OF TYRE.

United Nations Letter A 213/1536 of 16 Oct giving names of 2 persons about to be tried and asking whether these can would be required by the Ministry in event of acquittal.

17 Oct

7. ARMS WITH ZOR MEL DAIRY.

United Nations Letter SD/109/4 of this date in reply to Ministry's letter 2163/XI of 14/10. Lt-Col HERMOD said that the Mission's reply was just what he expected and hoped for viz refusing to authorise the temporary issue of Arab fighting vehs to Public Safety.

18 Oct

8. MILITARY ACADEMY - ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL

4787

Capt HUSSEY of Finnish Mission wished to be given details about RAF Academy and Offrs Cadet Schools i.e., number of recruits,
rate of intake
period of courses
location of schools, etc.

Referred him to O(Trng) Branch.

19 Oct

9. TANK FOR 'A' TYRE - LEBANESE ARMY

Col BALLENTINE was now able to inform this HQ as to conclusion of the veh which it was proposed to issue for provisionally to LEBANESE Army.
When FIRST they will be transferred to unit area known as the "Depositio Integrati" at S.2[illegible].
It is situated near the BEIRUT Marshalling Yard and has a rly siding running into it.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 78502-0

[illegible] already with ARMA should [illegible]
them for disposal as this mission [illegible]

17 Oct — MEW CREDENTIALS OF BRAZIL

6. Buried Lt-Col SCHMIDT letter A 215/1536 of 16 Oct giving names of 2 persons, about to be tried out asking whether these men would be required by war Ministry in event of acquittal.

17 Oct — ARMS WITH FOR ITS BATTLE

7. United Kingdom Mission letter 39/403/5 of this date in reply to Ministry's letter 2222/3/11 of 14/10. Lt-Col MEIRO said that the Mission's reply was just what he expected and hoped for via refusing to authorise the temporary issue of Arms fighting to to public safety.

18 Oct — MILITARY ATTACHE - BRITISH MILITARY MISSION

8. Capt ILLIGAN of BRITISH Mission wished to be given details about Mil Academy and Arts Cadet Schools i.e., number of examins.
date of intake
period of courses
location of schools, etc.

Referred him to G(Trng) Branch.

19 Oct — ARMS FOR 'A' VEH - BRITISH ARMY

9. Col BALDWIN was now able to inform this HQ as to destination of the rpts which it was proposed to tran. for purchase by the BRITISH ARMY.
These RPTS they will be transferred to what was known as the "Deposito Integrato" di S.PAULO.
It is situated near the RAILWAY Marshalling Yard and has a big siding running into it.

4783

24 Oct 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison Log with War Ministry (A SUB) 20th Bde - 5 Oct 46

30 Sep — HQ OF ALPINE BDES

1. Col PIACENTINI stated that although the present HQ of ALPINI Regts is similar to that of ordinary Inf Regts as recommended by this HQ about a year ago with a view to "standardisation", it will be found in practice that the units so constituted are unwieldy in really mountainous country. So far this has not become very apparent during training because this has generally taken place where the "terrain" is not as difficult as it is in the Alps.
The mortar arty formations are not suitable, and one mule transport unit per regt is quite inadequate.

30 Sep — CAUCINO - BOSS CORRIERE

2. Acted as Interpreter at Meeting between Brig KING, Col A/A and 2 Directors of CAUCINO when the latter intimated that a cable from their LONDON rep had led them to believe that the matter was not definitely closed.
After explaining that AC had done all they could in the matter to convince CAUCINO of the advisability of granting CAUCINO an extension the Brig said he saw no objection to CAUCINO's suggestion that they should cable their LONDON rep to again approach the MO with the object of persuading the latter to instruct CAUCINO accordingly.
Sig. PERONI of CAUCINO immediately drafted a message to LONDON, which was submitted to Col A/A for approval. (78)

1 Oct — RE ARTY EQUIP

3. Accompanied Gen II (SD) and Major ALEXANDER (SD BDE) to Ministry of War and discussed with Col PIACENTINI the proposed change over to new TE and causes of delay in the provision of necessary Arty equipment to go with the guns already in the hands of ITALIAN Army.
Agreed on the advisability of postponing the formation of the new regts.
Lt-Col GERVETTI (Arty and Engrs Section of "Ufficio Servizi") and Lt-Col DE PALMA (Arty Inspectorate) were called in by Col PIACENTINI to discuss ways and means of hastening the acquisition of the necessary equipment.

1 Oct — MOVEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

4. (a) Handed to Gen PERRONE (Secretariat) letter ~ 1/8 of 28 Sep 46 relating to equipment already transferred from 997 BDE to CASTIGLIONE D'AVERSA.

(b) Handed to Lt-Col GERVETTI (replacing Col MARZI on leave) at the Service Office MoD, letter ~ 1/8 of 30 Sep relating to equipment transferred from 20 & 21 Bdes POTENZA to CASTIGLIONE D'AVERSA.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

because this has generally taken place where the "terrain" is not as difficult as it is in the Alps.
The mortar arty formations are not suitable, and one mule transport unit per regt is quite inadequate.

30 Sep — CASERTA - ROME (AIRLIFT)

2. Acted as Interpreter at Meeting between Brig WEIL, Col A/C and 2 Directors of CASERTA when the latter intimated that a cable from their LONDON rep had led them to believe that the matter was not definitely closed.
After explaining that AC had done all they could in the matter to convince CASERTA of the advisability of granting CASERTA an extension the Brig said he saw no objection to CASERTA's suggestion that they should cable their LONDON rep to again approach the WO with the object of persuading the latter to instruct CASERTA accordingly.
Maj. PERRIN of CASERTA immediately drafted a message to LONDON, which was submitted to Col A/C for approval. 478

1 Oct — RE ARTY REGTS

3. Accompanied CMO II (ID) and Major ALEXANDER (10 DEC) to Ministry of War and discussed with Col VENDITTI the proposed change over to new TO and causes of delay in the provision of necessary Arty equipment to go with the guns already in the hands of ITALIAN Army.
Appeal on the advisability of postponing the formation of the new regts.
Lt-Col OLIVIERI (Arty and Engrs Section of "Difesa Servizi") and Lt-Col DE PALMA (Arty Inspectorate) were called in by Col VENDITTI to discuss ways and means of hastening the acquisition of the necessary equipment.

1 Oct — DISPOSAL SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

4. (a) Memo to Gen MORGAN (Commonwealth) Letter A 438 of 29 Sep 46 relating to equipment already transferred from 337 BOD to GUGLIONESI D'ANCONA.

(b) Memo to Lt-Col OLIVIERI (replacing Col SPANO on leave) of the Service Office CAS, Letter A 438 of 30 Sep relating to equipment transferred from No 3 ASD Dep FOGGIA/MACCARESE to GUGLIONESI D'ANCONA.

.....2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDS No. 735020

2 Oct TRAINING - ITALIAN CADRES

5. Accompanied G30 I(Trg) to War Ministry and discussed with Gen LUCCHI the proposed period of OCTU training course and dates for entry to [illegible], and procedure for change over LEGGE - [illegible].
G30 I conveyed CGS's approval to 4 year period, divided into Cadet period and Advanced Training period. He advanced CGS's opinion that each of these periods should be preceded by a non academic period, i.e., prior to Academy training at OMS, prior to Advanced Course and Service in Unit.
Gen LUCCHI in full agreement as to principles expressed by G30 I, but uncertain whether preliminary OMS course could be introduced immediately.
G30 I stressed CGS's opinion as to absolute need for such procedure.
Gen LUCCHI will study whole problem and submit concrete proposals to Mission.

3 Oct MIL ATTACHE - [illegible]

6. Capt [illegible] of FRENCH Mission wished to have particulars about the new Academy (date of opening, number of cadets, period of training etc) and if possible visit same.
Consulted G30 I(Trg) and replied that no definite information could be given at present as the subject was under discussion with our Ministry.

5 Oct 957 BCD - ARAR

7. By previous arrangements Lt-Col CLEVERLY came to this HQ [illegible] discuss with Col A/C manner in which this Mission would assist in the identification of Field Artly equipment and spare parts required by ITALIAN Army.
Lt-Col GIBBS, Major [illegible] and Maj ALEXANDER later joined in the discussion.
It was decided that two officers from the Artly Directorate be sent to MILAN on Monday 7th inst. to contact Capt [illegible] of 10 REME who would make arrangements for them to visit 957 BCD and ARAR Depot in company with Major [illegible] (12 REME) and Capt [illegible] proceeding from ROME, later to be joined by Major ALEXANDER.
On his part, Lt-Col CLEVERLY would request each of the Artly Dirn to send one Officer and four Specialist NCOs to [illegible].

4 Oct ITALIAN OFFICERS TO VISIT 12 VEH PK - [illegible]

8. Lt-Col PALLOT (Serv Offins) expressed intention of sending two or three officers to visit 12 Veh Pk REME, and requested that they be supplied with permits to do so. (Not Practicable at Any Rate)
Besides Major [illegible] already at [illegible], Lt-Col [illegible] of the "Genio" would be leaving ROME for BOLOGNA on 7th inst. These might be joined by a Lieut from each DIVISION, on arrival

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

Gen KEIGHLEY in full agreement as to principles involved
GSO I, but uncertain whether preliminary LOI course could be introduced immediately.
GSO I stressed CAS's opinion as to absolute need for such procedure.
Gen KEIGHLEY will study whole problem and submit concrete proposals to Division.

3 Oct — MIL ACADEMY - INDIA

6. — Capt KNIGHT of INDIAN Mission wished to have particulars about the new Academy (date of opening, number of cadets, period of training etc) and if possible visit same. 'G'
Consulted GSO I(Org) and replied that no definite information could be given at present as the subject was under discussion with our Ministry.

5 Oct — 557 MAG - ARAK

7. — By previous arrangements Lt-Col GILCHRIST came to this H.Q. 4777
discuss with Col A/Q matter in which this Mission would assist in the identification of Brit Army equipment and spare parts required by IRANIAN Army.
Lt-Col GILCHRIST, Major DAWSON and Maj ALEXANDER later joined in the discussion.
It was decided that two officers from the Army Directorate be sent to TEHRAN on Monday 7th inst. to contact Capt GILCHRIST of 40 RAU who would make arrangements for them to visit 557 MAG and ARAK Depot in company with Major ALEXANDER (12 RAU) and other Units proceeding from ADEN, later to be joined by Major ALEXANDER.
On his part, Lt-Col GILCHRIST would request each of the Army Divs to send one officer and four Specialist NCOs to TEHRAN.

4 Oct — IRANIAN OFFICERS TO VISIT 42 YEH RI - ESFAHAN

8. — Lt-Col MIAMI (Serv Office) expressed intention of sending two or three officers to visit 42 Yeh Ri ESFAHAN, and requested that they be supplied with permits to do so. (FOR REMARKS SEE PARA 10)
Besides Major FORD already at QUETTA (QUETTA), Lt-Col MIAMI of the "Cents" would be leaving HERE for QUETTA on 7th inst. These might be joined by a Lieut from CAIRO DEPOT, an expert on internal combustion engines.
Above information passed to DMTD and Col A/Q. Signal sent to C IRAN to facilitate these visitors.

4 Oct — INTERVIEW CIGS - GEN GROVES

9. — Accompanied DCI to War Ministry and interpreted at this interview. After touching on various subjects (Cairo, Mil Academy, Offr Cadets etc) the problem of Reorganisation of War Ministry was discussed at length.
CIGS expressed his regrets at the news of Gen GROVES's resignation as Chief of the Gen Staff. GROVES explained why he had taken this step.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

4 Oct — RELEASE - BEN NEVISH

10. Serial L6-301 OLIVETTI letter Q 150 of 3rd Oct - Release of 2,000 Bren Magazines.

4 Oct — [illegible] PERSONNEL RETURNS IN VENICIA CRISIS

11. Serial Col LEONARDI letter A 020 of 4th Oct addressed to Ministry regarding Army personnel on effective strength resulting in Zone 'A' contrary to the terms of the MESALI Convention. Col LEONARDI explained that the withdrawal of this personnel before the terms of the Peace Treaty were known would have caused adverse criticism, but that the matter was already receiving attention and Gen ROSSETTI, who will take action, has not yet decided which alternative, suggested by this HQ, he will adopt.

4 Oct — CARONI - NEW CONTRACT

12. Major MORONI Manager of CARONI's Rome office telephoned to say that the MD in LONDON had granted one month's extension of the rescinded contract, till 2nd Nov 1946.
This was covered in a letter dated 24th Sep addressed to CC, RUNE in PROVA.
The telegram from CARONI in MILAN informing MORONI of above stated further that steps were being taken to resume work at the factory immediately.
Mr MORONI expressed his gratitude to this HQ and begged that the Field's thanks be conveyed to Brig LUSH for his kind intervention.
This message was conveyed to the Brig by Col A/G.

5 Oct — ARMS AND AMMO FOR CIVIL GUARD

4773

13. Referring to "SUBORDINATE UNIFORM" of 3rd Oct No 225077/12 from Ministry to this Mission about Ministry of Interior's request ; Suggested to Col LEONARDI that this message had evidently crossed this HQ's letter of same date (30/109/2A) authorizing issue of 10,000 Carbines No 91, and did this not cover above requirements ? Col LEONARDI passed the question to Lt-Col HOWARD who replied that there should be sufficient and that anyhow they would have to do. Informed Lt-Col HOWARD that CC GGs would not be authorized to have machine carbines, but that there was no objection to CC GGs being armed with Pistols of under 7.5 mm calibre, and shot guns (see File Q 123).

MEDAL RELATIONS

(a) Col FIORE VENEZIA recapitulated activities of the past month. Most important, the Army Exhibition which opened in TURIN on 25 Aug 46 and closed on 8th Sep (anniversary of the Armistice). It then opened in VENICE on 15th Sep and remains on 30th. In due course the exhibition will appear in FLORENCE, ROME, NAPLES, BARI and MILAN.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Col [illegible] explained that the [illegible] would have before the hour of the Peace Treaty were [illegible] caused adverse criticism, but that the matter was already receiving attention and Gen [illegible], who will take action, has not yet decided which alternative, suggested by this HQ, he will adopt.

4 Oct — CANADA - WAR CRIMINAL

12. Major [illegible] Manager of CANADA's [illegible] Office telephoned to say that the SO in LONDON had granted one month's extension of the remained contract, till 2nd Nov 1946. This was conveyed in a letter dated 26th Sep addressed to CO, [illegible] in PRAGUE.
The telegram from CANADA in HOLLAND informing [illegible] of above stated further that steps were being taken to restart work at the factory immediately.
Mr [illegible] expressed his gratitude to this HQ and begged that the Firm's thanks be conveyed to Brig [illegible] for his kind intervention. This message was conveyed to the Brig by Col A/G.

5 Oct — ARMS AND AMMO FOR CIVIL CLIENTS — 4773

13. Referring to "PURCHASES UNDERTAKEN" of 3rd Oct No 225077/11 from Ministry to this Mission about Ministry of Interior's request; Suggested to Col LINDAHL that this message had evidently crossed this HQ's Letter of same date (SD/109/2A) authorizing issue of 10,000 carbines No 91, and did this not cover above requirements? Col LINDAHL passed the question to Lt-Col [illegible] who replied that there should be sufficient and that anyhow they would have to do. Informed Lt-Col MORGAN that CAs CRs would not be authorised to have machine carbines, but that there was no objection to CAs CRs being armed with Pistols of under 7.5 cm calibre, and shot guns (see File ? 123).

[illegible] RELATIONS

(a) Col [illegible] recapitulated activities of the past month. Most important, the Army Exhibition which opened in TURIN on 25 Aug 46 and closed on 8th Sep (anniversary of the Armistice). It then opened in VENICE on 15th Sep and BOLOGNA on 30th. In due course the exhibition will appear in FLORENCE, ROME, NAPLES, BARI and MILAN.
PRO sent Journalist to follow the Exhibition and write up suitable material for the Press and Radio. By contacting various important industrial concerns, visits by large parties of labourers were organised.
The local press responded well, and some RSI papers also devoted space to the subject.

(b) Recent broadcasts from [illegible], sponsored by PRO Initaled :-

23rd Sep
1. Treatment of POWs in the Army.
2. 501 Camp Hospital MANTOVA Div, at VIALE MARTE.
3. Replies to enquiries for news of relatives.

...../2.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

14. (Contd)

26 Sep

1. Explanations on the 1924 and 1925 call-ups.
2. " of Decree No 418 of 5th May 46.
3. Points of interest on Welfare and the Women's Assistance Corps.

30 Sep

1. An episode of the War - FOLGORE Div.
2. Announcing opening of Exhibition in BOLOGNA

Over Radio - BOLOGNA

Announcement and description , opening of Exhibition.
Talk drafted by special representative of the PRO.

10 Oct 45

477"

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

23 Sep MAINTENANCE FOR ARMAM MENT

1. Asked Gen PELLEGRA Chief of the Commissariat Dept, what the situation was as regards skis, boots, saddlery etc, for the ARMIR.
The General described the situation as good and said that his Dept, was already attending to the wants of the ARMIR. Lt-Col SPINELLI (LO War Ministry - ARAM) will be leaving for RUSSIA to visit 537 MOD now in the process of being handed over to ARAM and he would look out for such mountain equipment.

24 Sep ARAM DUMP - ROMA

2. Lt-Col PANCRAZI has received a telephone message from VI Tour Command BOLOGNA to say that the contents of the above Dump (Armd Cars and other military equipment) had been blocked in accordance with instructions from the War Ministry.

25 Sep TWO MORE TANKS SEEN IN ROMA

3. Informed Lt-Col PANCRAZI of the two tanks seen in the vicinity of Via VENETO at about 0830 hrs and asked him whether he could say where they came from.
After enquiring of the Carabinieri, the "Scuola Centrale di Motorizzazione" and the School at Tor di Quinto, he came to the conclusion that they must have been two tanks from the Tor di Quinto School, the drivers being trained to negotiate City Streets and Squares.

25 Sep 537 MOD - HANDING OVER TO ARAM (see log of 21 Sep para 15).

4. The two Officers sent to NAPLES from the War Ministry, Motorization Directorate, have returned and submitted a report to the Director of Motorization, on the material they saw in some of the Dumps and the deplorable state of confusion prevailing there. A translation of this report has been handed to Col A/G. The main points of this report are :-

(a) The MOD at MONTEDORVINO, which should only contain material returned by disbanded units, or for repair or because u/s did in fact contain a quantity of new material as well, all in great confusion, with signs of pilfering having taken place (cases broken open, equipment strewn all over the place, parts missing off brand new motorcycle engines etc.)

(b) The Dump at PIGNOLI contains spare parts and tyres, the former mostly new and in cases.

(c) "No 1 Camp" contains about 170,000 tyres, serviceable, repairable and unserviceable.

(d) The Director of Army at NAPLES Ing. BORDINI wanted to be certain over the acquisition of material, suggesting, for

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Dept, was already attending to the wants of the ARTINI. Lt-Col SPINELLI (Lo ter Ministry - ARAR) will be leaving for MARIBO to visit 557 BOD now in the process of being handed over to ARAR and he would look out for such mountain equipment.

24 Sep ARAR DUMP - FORLI

2. Lt-Col FANGRAZI has received a telephone message from VI Terr Command BOLOGNA to say that the contents of the above Dump (Armd Cars and other military equipment) had been blocked in accordance with instructions from the War Ministry.

25 Sep TWO HEAVY TANKS SEEN IN PRATO

3. Informed Lt-Col FANGRAZI of the two tanks seen in the vicinity of Via VENTO at about 0830 hrs and asked him whether he could say where they came from.
After enquiring of the Carabinieri, the "Scuola Centrale di Motorizzazione" and the School at Tor di Quinto, he came to the conclusion that they must have been two tanks from the Tor di Quinto School, the drivers being trained to negotiate City Streets and Squares.

25 Sep 557 BOD - HANDING OVER TO ARAR (see log of 21 Sep para 15).

4. The two officers sent to MARIBO from the War Ministry, Motorisation Directorate, have returned and submitted a report to the Director of Motorisation, on the material they saw in some of the Dumps and the deplorable state of confusion prevailing there. A translation of this report has been handed to Col A/O. The main points of this report are :-

(a) The BOD at MONTECUTTINO, which should only contain material returned by disbanded units, or for repair or because u/s did in fact contain a quantity of new material as well, all in great confusion, with signs of pilfering having taken place (cases broken open, equipment strewn all over the place, parts missing off brand new motorcycle engines etc.)

(b) The Dump at FOGGIA contains spare parts and tyres, the former mostly new and in cases.

(c) "No 1 Dump" contains about 170,000 tyres, serviceable, repairable and unserviceable.

(d) The Director of ARAR at MARIBO Ing. BONDINI wanted to bargain over the acquisition of material, suggesting, for instance a 50/50 share out of the tyres. Such stipulations are contrary to the conditions agreed upon between the Ministry and ARAR at the Conference held on the 28th Aug (resulting from the one held at AO, HQ on 23rd).

(e) No time must be wasted, as pilfering is apparently rampant. For this ARAR personnel blame German POW employed in the Dump !

4773

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 7350220

4. (Contd)

(f) In view of the confused conditions prevailing at the Dumps the work of selecting the material required by the Army would entail the use of numerous personnel with technical experts for a long period of time.

(g) Therefore it is proposed that :-

(i) the ALLIED Authorities request AMAB Hq Office, ROME to instruct their NAPLES Office not to allow anything to be removed from the Dumps before the military have made their selection.

(ii) place Carabinieri (and not only civilian armed guards) inside the Dumps.

(iii) suitable premises provided for the effective warehousing of material for the Army. If possible the "Caserma te Funzionali" near PORTICI/NAPOLI, about to be vacated by ALLIED troops. AMAB intervention is requested.

(iv) simultaneously with the transfer to the "Caserma te" the various units and QMGs could be placing their indents and drawing their requirements.

On the part of the Commissariat Directorate, and the "Genio" selected officers have been sent to NAPLES and will make it their Hq whilst the having over proceeds. They will report to their respective Directorates on their work of inspecting and selecting their requirements. The Artillery Directorate has not yet sent a representative.

26 Sep THEFT OF DEMILITARISED ARTY PIECES

5. Lt-Col PANCRAZI enquired of the ultimate destination of 4777 tyres. Consulted MAJOR this Hq and gave the answer.

26 Sep 927 SOD - AMAB

6. (a) Assisted at lengthy discussion between Lt-Col PANCRAZI, Major CATELANO and Gen ROSSI, on above subject. Gen ROSSI was much concerned over Major CATELANO's report (see 4 above) and favoured taking action on the lines suggested. He would handle the matter through AMAB Head Office in ROME.

27 Sep

(b) Accompanied Col A/Q to the War Ministry and acted as interpreter in connection with Gen ROSSI and Lt-Col PANCRAZI.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(ii) place Carabinieri (and not only [illegible] inside the Dumps.

(iii) suitable premises provided for the effective rearmouring of material for the Army. If possible the "Caserratte Funaioli" near PORTSCHACHEN, about to be vacated by Allied troops. SHAEF intervention is requested.

(iv) simultaneously with the transfer to the "caserattes" the various units and CMAG would be placing their indents and drawing their requirement.

On the part of the Commissariat Directorate, and the "Genio" selected officers have been sent to MERANO and will make it their HQ whilst the handing over proceeds. They will report to their respective Directorates on their work of inspecting and selecting their requirements. The Artillery Directorate has not yet sent a representative.

26 Sep TYRES OFF DEMILITARISED ARMY PLANT

5. Lt-Col PANCRAZI enquired of the ultimate destination of 477 tyres. Consulted Dadjo this HQ and gave the answer.

26 Sep 357 SUB - AREA

6. (a) Assisted at lengthy discussion between Lt-Col PANCRAZI, Major CATALANO and Gen ROSSI, on above subject. Gen ROSSI was much concerned over Major CATALANO's report (see 4 above) and favoured taking action on the lines suggested. He would handle the matter through AMAU Head Office in ROME.

27 Sep (b) Accompanied Col A/Q to the War Ministry and acted as interpreter at conversation with Gen ROSSI and Lt-Col PANCRAZI.

27 Sep GENERAL GARDINER

7. Left ROME to visit Area Commands of MILAN and GENOA, also CMAG, CCMO. The General is expected to return to Area on 2nd Oct.

28 Sep RELEASE OF 'A' VEHICLES

8. Handed Lt-Col PANCRAZI letter VK/8947 of 23 Sep informing Ministry of the release of 7 "Stagnouse" to the ITALIAN Army.

2 Oct 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDX NO. 785020

1 Sth Sqn - 14th Sep 45

(AND SEE)

9 Sep

1. DISTRIBUTION OF TRACTOR PARTS

- 0 -

Lt Col [redacted] gave writer copy of letter 61001 of 20 Aug and 6233.3 of 6 Sep instructing Arsenal Turin to hurry up with the dismantling of the 5 Italian tanks and destroying all but spare parts and metals that are of value. The last letter requests early confirmation.

2. [redacted] A.F.A.S. DEPOTS

- 0 -

Lt Col [redacted] personally visited A.F.A.S. Depot at Leghorn about a fortnight ago and found that the 90 Dodge engines reported to be there had already been sold. However, he found in the Depot about 450 Jeep engines; some new, some reconditioned and some to be overhauled. He had 50 new engines 'earmarked' for the Army and will send an officer to take delivery.
There was also much other material and spares which this officer would look at with a view to acquiring some.

3. [redacted] TO AWARD TO AMERICAN OFFICERS

- A - 0 -

Handed Col [redacted] list of American officers (prepared by Asst G-1) who are eligible to receive the "CROCE DI GUERRA".
Col [redacted] said it would please the Italian Government to grant the award to these officers and would like to be furnished with particulars of the merits of each case in support of the application.
Asst G-1 is obtaining the necessary particulars.

4772

10 Sep

4. [redacted] OF CO-BELLIGERENTS

At the request of AFHQ (main) obtained from Col [redacted] copy of letter from War Ministry to [redacted] ref 27021 dated 27th Apr on the subject of 1.1.44
administration generally. Marked copy to AFHQ.

5. LIST OF ALL ITALIAN OFFICERS IN ITALIAN ARMY

- A - 0 -

At request of PWB (It) asked Col [redacted] for an up-to-date list as above.
[redacted] wanted to know whether the list should include offrs on the reserve as well. Replied only offrs on effective strength.
List promised for next week.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 735020

1469

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

477

requests early confirmation.

2. GENERAL VIEW A.M.A.F. DEPOT

- 2 -

Lt Col PANCRAZI personally visited A.M.A.F. Depot at Lecce about a fortnight ago and found that the 50 Dodge engines reported to be there had already been sold. However, he found in the Depot about 450 Jeep engines, some new, some reconditioned and some to be evacuated. He had 50 new engines "earmarked" for the Army and will send an officer to take delivery.
There was also much other material and spares which this officer would look at with a view to acquiring same.

3. FIAT AWARDS TO AMERICAN OFFICERS

- 4 - 6 -

Handed Col MERRIAM list of American officers (prepared by Asst G-1) who are eligible to receive the "CROCE DI GUERRA".
Col MERRIAM said it would please the Italian Government to grant the award to these officers and would like to be furnished with particulars of the merits of each case in support of the application.
Asst G-1 is obtaining the necessary particulars.

10 Sep

4. CENTRE OF GRAVITY QUESTION

A/ the request of AMMI (RCAF) obtained from Col BALANCHINO copy of letter from War Ministry to HQ/A ref 27221 dated 27th Apr on the subject of Administration generally. Handed same to AMMI.

5. LIST OF ALL ITALIAN OFFICERS IN ITALIAN ARMY

- 4 - 5 -

At request of MAB (It) asked Col PANCRAZI for an up-to-date list as above.
PANCRAZI wanted to know whether the list should include offrs on the reserve as well. Replied only offrs on effective strength.
List promised for next week.

FIXED ASSETS IN DERELICT BARRACKS

6. - 6 - Asked Lt Col MERRIAM whether the Ministry was satisfied that when barrack premises are derequisitioned by the Allies the fixed assets therein are not removed by A.M.A.F., if required by Italian Army.
MERRIAM's reply was in the affirmative. He added that upon notice being received of barracks being derequ'd, an officer from the "Direzione Generale del Genio" is sent to inspect the premises. If the fixed assets are required by the Army, the inventory and "hand-over" are arranged between the Genio and A.M.A.F., prises estimated and the fixtures "bought" by the Army from A.M.A.F., who cannot remove anything without Genio's approval. Requested that above be confirmed in writing. MERRIAM promised to do this.

2/.....

11 Sep

7.

## AMERICAN EQUIPMENT FOR ITALIAN ARMY

- Q -

Col HEADON (Services Office of USE) agreed for an interview with Rep Comds to discuss possibilities of Italian Army acquiring some American Army supplies equipment.
Arranged interview for 1430 hrs on 12th at MEDA HQ.

8.

## LIST OF ITEMS IN ARMS SUPPLIED BY ITALIAN ARMY

- Q -

Pointed out to Lt Col MEDA certain discrepancies between the figures in the column "already in possession of Italian Army" in above list, and figures as known to this HQ.
By a reconciliation of our War records MEDA was able to reduce the differences somewhat. The only discrepancy of any importance is now between MEDA figure of 368 Pistols and RHQ War Min figure, a shortage of 368 mortars which MEDA will try to find explanation for. As the war Min were given to understand that Dr Army with the It Army were only on temporary loan, the keeping of proper records on paper has not been very carefully done. The Ministry enquired of MEDA some time ago how arms are "taken on charge" in the Dr Army. No reply has yet been received by War Ministry.

9.

## INFORMATION FOR THE DEPT OF STATE (U.S.A.)

- A -
- C -

The U.S. Embassy, through this HQ, has asked War Ministry for certain information such as "Peak mobilisation figure" of It. Army in March World War, for all arms, "Strength figures for each year from 1942 to Sept 1943 and other statistical information. Ministry sent an officer (Col DI MARCO, to this HQ to obtain full details of information required. Mark C.S (SD) gave necessary details.

4773

10.

## CHIEFS COUNCIL - [illegible]

- Q -

held an interpreter at meeting held at this HQ today.
Present for MEDA: AGHO
LIEU
for CHIEFS:
Maj Reginald [illegible]
Maj Roger [illegible]
Lt Darke [illegible]
Maj Fernando [illegible]

the following points were discussed in detail:

(a) The effect of the sudden termination of the [illegible] on 4th October after the firm

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 735020

1470

[illegible] able to reduce the discrepancy [illegible]
discrepancy of any importance is now between WIRA
figure of 30% WIARs and 70%. Per this figure, a
shortage of 300 mortars which WIRA will try to
find explanation for. As the war min were given
to understand that Dr Arms wish the Fr Army were
only on temporary loan, the keeping of proper
records on paper has not been very carefully done.
The Military attaché of WIRA some 6 weeks ago has
now arr "taken on charge" in the Dr Army. No
reply has yet been received by War Ministry.

INFORMATION FOR WAR DEPT GEN STAFF (U.S.A.)

- 5 -
- 6 -

The U.S. Embassy, through this HQ, has asked for
Ministry for certain information such as "work
mobilisation figure" of It. Army in First World
War, for all arms. Strength figures for each year
from 1932 to Sept 1943 and other statistical
information. Ministry says an officer (Maj XX
IAGHQ) to this HQ to obtain full details of
information required. Asst C S (IA) gave necessary
details.

4773

- 9 -

Acted as interpreter at Meeting held at this HQ
today.

Present for WIRA: Adjt
Offr

for CROWN:
Maj Eugenio PARESCHI
Maj Cesare ZANELLA
2nd Lieut Pietro MARCHESANI
Maj Fernando MARCHESANI

The following points were discussed in detail:

(a) The effect of the sudden termination of the contract on 24th October after the firm, acting upon verbal assurances, had made provision to carry on until 31st Dec 46.

(b) Anxiety of the firm to continue repair of the vehicles and to obviate the necessity of discharging some 4,000/5000 workmen.

(c) The possibility of making use of a considerable quantity of spare parts for "Lancia" and "Bolge" vehicles which the War Min had waiting to be received.

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDB No. 785020

10 (Contd) (d) Proposed contract between War Ministry and [illegible] which NYPA would endeavour to bring about in early date. - 0 -
Informed Col [illegible] (War Min) of above.

MATTERS DEALT WITH BY D.M.I. (ref. Q 290)

11. Col [illegible] called at this HQ and handed to AMIS letter ref 1/1905/Serv. dated 10th inst agreeing to provision and reader marine services to NYPA after closing down of Allied base installations. - 0 -
He also submitted for perusal by AMIS draft circular to all Zone Cmds instructing them to render these services when called upon, giving details of method of indenting and accounting.
Letter noted as inaccurate at this interview.

12 Sep

PROPOSED INTERVIEW BY WAR MINISTER

12. Handed Lt Col [illegible] copy translation of Agenda regarding proposed conference as suggested by AMIS (W) Section in their letter G-S 936.63 of 20th Aug 1946. [illegible] will take the matter up with Min of Interior and Min of Foreign Affairs and will advise this HQ of result. - A -

[illegible] FROM ARMY

13. Submitted to War Min (Secretariat - Maj [illegible]) List of 7 letters addressed to the War Ministry by this HQ on 20/8/46 one of which (HQ/105) had been rec'd by War Office LONDON. - 0(WO) -
War Min records showed that 2 of the 7 letters had NOT been received, viz

HQ/105 original of which has now been handed to Maj [illegible], and

HQ/109/1 of which a copy has now been furnished. 477.

[illegible] - VISIT TO [illegible]

14. The D.M.I. (Col [illegible]) called on the Manager of the "[illegible]" on Monday 9th inst. the conversation was long but quite amicable. The Manager promised to have a paragraph published in his paper to correct inaccurate statements, and apologise for any derogatory remarks made in the "[illegible]" of 5 Sep about the foreign attaché's visit to Corinto on 4th Sep. - A -
However, to date no such paragraph has appeared in spite of the Manager's repeated promise.
D.M.I. is of the opinion that the Manager (a Royalist) genuinely desired to put things right but that his editor (leftist) lost no such intention.
D.M.I. has therefore prepared a report on the matter.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

indexing and accounting.
Orient subject as interpreted at this interview.

12 Sep

[redacted]

12. Handed it Col [redacted] copy translation of Agenda regarding proposed conference as suggested by Alb (G) Section in their letter D-; 976.63 of 28th Aug 1946. [redacted] will take the matter up with Min of Interior and Min of Foreign Affairs and will advise this (G) of results. - A -

[redacted]

13. Submitted to Sur Min (Secretariat - Maj [redacted]) 14th of 7 letters addressed to the Sur Ministry by this (G) on 20/8/46 one of which (SD/105) had been rec'd by Sur Office London. - C(SD) -
The Min records showed that 2 of the 7 letters had NOT been received, viz

SD/103 original of which has now been handed to Maj [redacted], and
SD/103/1 of which a copy has been furnished.

477

[redacted] - VISIT TO [redacted].

14. The P.M.O. (Col [redacted]) called on the Manager of the "[redacted]" on Monday 9th inst. the conversation was long but quite amicable. The Manager promised to have a paragraph published in his paper to correct inaccurate statements, and apologise for any derogatory remarks made in the "[redacted]" of 6 Sep about the foreign minister's visit to Arvieto on 4th Sep.
However, to date no such paragraph has appeared in spite of the Manager's repeated promise.
P.M.O. is of the opinion that the Manager (a Royalist) genuinely desired to put things right but that his editor (leftist) had no such intention.
P.M.O. has therefore prepared a report on the matter, quoting the offensive passages, which he will hand to the Sur Ministry with a request that the matter be brought before the Council of Ministers at their next meeting. - A -

[redacted] FOR [redacted] TO [redacted].

15. Informed Lt Col [redacted] (yesterday 11th) that the above unit was scheduled to hand over this depot at [redacted] to [redacted] on 15th inst. - C -
Pointed out that this unit handed all stores [redacted] when for [redacted] weeks and that therefore these should be more useful stores for [redacted].

[redacted]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

15 (Contd) [illegible] would signal immediately to Tour Ocad Milan to send officers on the spot with a view to acquiring any useful spares etc. - O -

13 Sep

16. [illegible] Handed Maj [illegible] (accelerated) letter ref Q 136 of 12 Sep to Mar Min on the above subject. This will be translated and passed to Min Def Arfg. - O -

14 Sep

17. [illegible] informed Col [illegible] that ARMY signalled confirmation of a tough conversation with ARMY, when the latter was informed that the agreement with CAIRNCROSS were now available as they were required for ARMINIA. The same as regards machinery. - O -
[illegible] expressed disappointment inasmuch as his negotiations with CAIRNCROSS had progressed very favourably towards conclusion of a suitable working arrangement, which would now fall through (see log of 11th last para 10).
[illegible] stated that Brig [illegible] had given CAIRNCROSS reason to hope that a portion of the spares might be made available.

[illegible] - [illegible]

18. It [illegible] spoke to Minister of Interior and Minister of Foreign Affairs, who both agreed to a conference being held. They however asked to be informed in good time of the points which will come up for discussion. Suggested three.
Date of conference first two [illegible] as [illegible]
Min. Min to be accompanied by two Min in addition.
[illegible] will advise him 2 ministers concerned.

4770

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 735020

Log 2n  cp - 7th Sep 46

LIAISON WITH WAR MINISTRY
(AND SMS)

2 Sep  LIST OF KIT REQUIRED BY ITALIAN ARMY

1. Ref SD/109/2 of 26 Aug 46 and War Ministry 1/2817/Serv of 31 Aug 46.
Lt-Col NIGRA (replacing OLIVETTI-on leave) handed writer detailed list of ITALIAN Army requirements in Army and MT equipment. Passed to AMG. A separate list of Naval War requirements will be submitted later.

2 Sep  PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE - Lt-Col NIGRA VERNAZZA

2. The "Notiziario dell'Esercito" the weekly paper published by this office has developed recently both in size and popularity.
Originally of 4 pages it now consists of 8.
Owing to a recent reduction in the amount earmarked in the Budget, it has been necessary to reduce number of copies printed; now between 12, 000 and 14,000.
A certain proportion of these is sold at 5 lire each, the rest distributed free to CMAs, Welfare Office, etc.
Membership fees collected monthly amount to about 40,000 lire. A further small revenue is derived from small adverts.
1 Copy is now being sent to each MLU through respective Terr Comd.

2 Sep  RETURN OF STENS - Lt-Col NIGRA

3. Again remined Lt-Col NIGRA of the urgency of this matter, and he said that Div Gen of Arty was given the order on 23rd Aug to hand in all Stens. Div Gen of Arty only issued his orders (by a circular to all Terr Comds) on 27th Aug to "immediately hand in ....."
Lt-Col NIGRA will follow the matter up.

2 Sep  PROJECTED CMA FOR SARDINIA - Gen LIUZZI
Col QUERCIA

4. It is now considered fairly certain (said LIUZZI) that the project of establishing a CMA in Sardinia will be abandoned. Sardinia is a very peaceful province and number of troops required there very small not justifying expense of buildings and personnel.
At present there are in Sardinia 1 Inf Bde of 2 Regts and a small Arty Group. It is proposed to reduce these to 1 Regt only.

2 Sep 46  PROPOSED VISIT TO CMA - ORVIETO

5. Advised Gen LIUZZI names of Russian and French Reps who will visit ORVIETO on 4th Sep, viz.,

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 735020

Owing to a recent reduction in [illegible] Budget, it has been necessary to reduce number of copies printed; now between 12,000 and 14,000.
A certain proportion of these is sold at 5 lire each, the rest distributed free to CAMs, Welfare Offices, etc.
Membership fees collected monthly amount to about 40,000 lire. A further small revenue is derived from small adverts.
1 Copy is now being sent to each EDU through respective Terr Comd.

2 Sep — RETURN OF STENS - Lt-Col MICCA

3. Again remined Lt-Col MICCA of the urgency of this matter, and he said that Div Gen of Arty was given the order on 23rd Aug to hand in all Stens. Div Gen of Arty only issued his orders (by a circular to all Terr Comds) on 27th Aug to "immediately hand in ....."
Lt-Col MICCA will follow the matter up.

4761

2 Sep — PROJECTED CAR FOR SARDINIA - Gen LIUZZI
Col QUERCIA

4. It is now considered fairly certain (said LIUZZI) that the project of establishing a CAR in Sardinia will be abandoned. Sardinia is a very peaceful province and number of troops required there very small not justifying expence of Buildings and personnel.
At present there are in Sardinia 1 Inf Bde of 2 Regts and a small Arty Group. It is proposed to reduce these to 1 Regt only.

2 Sep 46 — PROPOSED VISIT TO CAR - ORVIETO

5. Advised Gen LIUZZI names of Russian and French Reps who will visit ORVIETO on 4th Sep, viz.,

| | |
|---|---|
| Russians | Col SAVKO<br>Lt George FILATOV ADC<br>Capt Michael VEDENEEV |
| French | Capt ISAAC<br>Lt GRIMALDI |

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2 Sep STRENGTH RETURN - ITALIAN ARMY

6. Col PIACENTINI complained that the monthly strength return as now rendered, a very detailed document, meant much work for already overworked staffs at Terr Comds and asked if the return could not be acceptable in a more condensed and simplified form. Maj PINOZZI of the "Situazione" Section at SMG called at this HQ and discussed this change with DAAG (It) and it was agreed that as from 1st Sep only total figures would be given as follows :- 'A'

| | Offrs | ORs |
|---|---|---|
| ITALIAN Army | ..... | ..... |
| BR-ITI | ..... | ..... |
| US-ITI | ..... | ..... |
| Carabinieri | ..... | ..... |
| Total | | |

2 Sep HQ V TERR COMD - UDINE - Gen LIUZZI

7. Informed the General (on 31 Aug) that according to sig 71157 dated 29 Aug from AFHQ the above HQ are NOT required to move from UDINE but that it might be necessary to move certain units in order to effect essential minor adjustments in accn. Gen LIUZZI was very pleased to hear this and expressed warm thanks to BGS for so promptly acquainting him of this news.

2 Sep TEMPORARY OFFRS ELIGIBLE FOR REGULAR ARMY

8. Col PIACENTINI.

4766 'A'

Although the draft decree submitted by Gen CADORNA to the War Minister on the 8th March 46 (see Log 9 - 16 Jul 46) has not yet been approved, the Minister has authorised the granting of Regular Commissions to 150 Temporary offrs. The qualifications required are :-

(1) Age :- 26 years for 2nd Lieuts
28 years for 1st Lieuts

(2) Rank :- 1st Lieuts revert to 2nd Lieut rank.

Thus any temporary offr of higher rank than 1st Lieut and/or older than 26 and 28 years respectively, is NOT eligible.

(3) The 150 offrs selected must attend a course of the Mil Academy.

2 Sep 46 6 PR GUNS - Lt-Col NIGRA

9. The cancellation of the order to transfer the 6 pr guns

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Italian Army | ******* | ********* |
| BR-ETI | ******* | ********* |
| US-ETI | ******* | ********* |
| Carabinieri | ******* | ********* |
| Total | | |

2 Sep — HQ V TERR COMD - UDINE - Gen LIUZZI

7. Informed the General (on 31 Aug) that according to sig 71157 dated 29 Aug from AFHQ the above HQ are NOT required to move from UDINE but that it might be necessary to move certain units in order to effect essential minor adjustments in area. Gen LIUZZI was very pleased to hear this and expressed warm thanks to BGS for so promptly acquainting him of this news.

2 Sep — TEMPORARY OFFRS ELIGIBLE FOR REGULAR ARMY

8. Col PIACENTINI. 476 'A'

Although the draft decree submitted by Gen CADORNA to the War Minister on the 8th March 46 (see Log 9 - 16 Jul 46) has not yet been approved, the Minister has authorised the granting of Regular Commissions to 150 Temporary offrs. The qualifications required are :-

(1) Age :- 26 years for 2nd Lieuts
28 years for 1st Lieuts

(2) Rank :- 1st Lieuts revert to 2nd Lieut rank.

Thus any temporary offr of higher rank than 1st Lieut and/or older than 26 and 28 years respectively, is NOT eligible.

(3) The 150 offrs selected must attend a course at the Mil Academy.

2 Sep 46 — 6 PR GUNS - Lt-Col NIGRA

9. The cancellation of the order to transfer the 6 pr guns to CRICCICHANO reached Terr Comds after some of them had already arrived there. These will be sent to MARINA (Direzione Artiglieria) temporarily for eventual transfer to PIACENZA Arsenal with the rest of them. Here those requiring overhaul can be dealt with. 'B'

2 Sep — DRIVERS FOR STAGHOUNDS (4 157 of 22 Jul 46)

10. Advised Lt-Col NIGRA NOT to borrow drivers from CAR to drive Staghounds to their destinations, as which would cause an interruption in their training.
Lt-Col NIGRA was doubtful whether suitable drivers could be found elsewhere as all units were very short of drivers.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

2 Sep (a) MAINTENANCE OF ER UNITS (letter Q 290 of 31 Aug) 'Q'

11. (b) TRANSPORT - MAINT OF BY ITALIAN ARMY (Q 284 of 26 Aug addressed to LIST 'B', 4 BIU and 12 RGU) 'Q'

(c) REPAIR FACILITIES ITALIAN ARMY FOR ER VEHS

Handed Col BALABRINO copies of above 3 letters (a, b, and c) with enclosures and explained contents.

2 Sep CASSALAGUA BARRACKS - TORTONA - Lt Col MONACO

12. The Ministry wished to know definitely whether these barracks were required for D/P; because No I Terr Comd had signalled that the civil authorities urgently needed them to accommodate refugees from VENEZIA GIULIA. Some time back a commission consisting of 3 offrs (1 from Terr Comd, 1 from 1 BIU and 1 from D/P) was to inspect these barracks. This commission never materialised. ITALIAN civil authorities are pressing for a quick decision. Told Col MONACO that Ministry could decide. If placed by the Ministry at the disposal of civil authorities for VENEZIA GIULIA refugees it was hoped the Ministry could suggest alternative accn if required by D/P - UDINE. Col MONACO will make enquiries. 'Q'

5 Sep RETURN OF ARMS - Lt-Col NEGRA

13. (a) No further news about the present position. Lt-Col NEGRA promised to telephone NAPLES and find out.

(b) RELEASE OF ER MEN 'A'

Handed Lt-Col NEGRA letter Q 138 of 29 Aug. Suggested that in spite of bayonet shortage in units, the 38,748 now issued with same number of rifles should not be separated from them. 470

4 Sep VISIT TO CAR - CERVETO

14. Accompanied BGS to CERVETO. Whole day visit.

5 Sep DEMILITARISATION OF THREE ITALIAN TANKS

Reminded Lt-Col PANCRAZI that this HQ had not yet received confirmation of the dismantling of the three ITALIAN tanks at TURIN Arsenal. 'Q'
Lt-Col PANCRAZI stated that TURIN Arsenal had not yet informed the Ministry. He would immediately send them a reminder.

5 Sep DRAFT DECREE ON ITALIAN MIL TRIBUNALS

16. (a) Telephoned Gen BORSARI to ask what progress had been made. He stated the matter was now in the hands of [illegible] (Office I). 'A'

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 735020

12. The Ministry wished to know definitely whether these barracks were required for D/F; because No I Term Comd had signalled that the civil authorities urgently needed them to accomodate refugees from VENEZIA GIULIA. Some time back a commission consisting of 3 offrs (1 from Term Comd, 1 from 1 BLN and 1 from D/F) was to inspect these barracks. This commission never materialised. ITALIAN Civil authorities are pressing for a quick decision. Told Col MONACO that Ministry could decide. If placed by the Ministry at the disposal of civil authorities for VENEZIA GIULIA refugees it was hoped the Ministry could suggest alternative accn if required by D/F - UNRRA. Col MONACO will make enquiries.

3 Sep — RETURN OF STORES - Lt-Col NIGRA

13. (a) No further news about the present position. Lt-Col NIGRA promised to telephone NAPLES and find out.

(b) RELEASE OF BR ENFT

Handed Lt-Col NIGRA Letter Q 138 of 29 Aug. Suggested that in spite of bayonet shortage in units, the 38,718 now issued with same number of rifles should not be separated from them.

4 Sep — VISIT TO CAR - ORVIETO

14. Accompanied BGS to ORVIETO. Whole day visit.

5 Sep — DEMILITARISATION OF THREE ITALIAN TANKS

Reminded Lt-Col PANCRAZI that this HQ had not yet received confirmation of the dismantling of the three ITALIAN tanks at TURIN Arsenal.
Lt-Col PANCRAZI stated that TURIN Arsenal had not yet informed the Ministry. He would immediately send them a reminder.

5 Sep — DRAFT DECREE ON ITALIAN MIL TRIBUNALS

16. (a) Telephoned Gen BORGHI to ask what progress had been made. He stated the matter was now in the hands of The Cabinet (Office I).

(b) Called on Lt-Col SILLI, IC Office I, who referred matter to Maj TRINGALI, the officer handling the matter. Maj TRINGALI stated that the draft decree had been submitted to the "Ufficio Legislativo" of the Cabinet, whose duty it was to obtain the approval (or otherwise) of the various Ministries.

...../4

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

16 (Contd)

(c) This had been done, only 2 Ministries had any remarks, viz :- 'A'

(1) Ministry of Justice confirmed their orginal view that accused should have the option of calling a civilian lawyer as defending counsel if he wishes.

(2) Ministry of Finance opined that until the strength of the new ITALIAN Army, to be laid down at the Peace Conference, is known the financial commitments involved are uncertain and therefore the time was not ripe for the making of any changes.

(d) Comments such as the above are then submitted to the "Procuratore Generale Militare" (BOMBARI) who decides whether they should be further considered or not.

6 Sep GOC MEETS - VISIT TO GRANATIERI REGT ETC

17. Acted as interpreter during GOCs visit to "Margherita" Granatieri Barracks, 8 Terr Coml Repair Workshops, 8th QM and other stores, and the "Celio" Principal Military Hospital.

7 Sep INTERVIEW GOC - GEN CADORNA

18. Accompanied GOC to the War Ministry at 1030 hrs and acted as interpreter. The subjects discussed included :-

(a) Views on PARIS Conference

(b) CARs lack of good instructors

(c) GOCs suggestion that Ministry should aim at turning out offrs of the same age as the men they are to command. 4766

(d) The Partisan question.

(e) "Democracy" interpreted, by Partisans and others, to mean permission to indulge in bad manners and slovenliness.

7 Sep PRESS COMMENTS ON VISIT TO ORVIETO

19. Col, FIORE VERNAZZA (PRO) who was present at ORVIETO and had made arrangements for 14 Press reps and photographers to attend, gave his views on the comments which appeared in the ITALIAN Press on the following day.
All papers except the "TEMPO" published articles which briefly described the visit of the "Foreign Reps" to the ORVIETO CAR with little but favourable comment.
The "TEMPO's" attempt at adding a humorous touch to its report is considered to be of extremely bad taste.
The article by "UNITA'" was good, although here again the humorous element was discernable.
On the whole the result of these Press Comments may be considered

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

involved are uncertain [illegible]
ripe for the making of any changes.

(d) Comments such as the above are then submitted to the "Procuratore Generale Militare" (ROMANI) who decides whether they should be further considered or not.

6 Sep — GOC MALTA - VISIT TO GRANATIERI REGT ETC

17. Acted as interpreter during GOCs visit to "Margherita" Granatieri Barracks, 8 Terr Cond Repair Workshops, 8th QM and other stores, and the "Celio" Principal Military Hospital.

7 Sep — INTERVIEW GOC - GEN ORDONA

18. Accompanied GOC to the War Ministry at 1030 hrs and acted as interpreter. The subjects discussed included :-

(a) Views on PARIS Conference

(b) ORAs lack of good instructors

(c) GOCs suggestion that Ministry should aim at turning out offrs of the same age as the men they are to command. 4768

(d) The Partisan question.

(e) "Democracy" interpreted, by Partisans and others, to mean permission to indulge in bad manners and slovenliness.

7 Sep — PRESS COMMENTS ON VISIT TO ORVIETO

19. Col, FIORE VERNAZZA (PRO) who was present at ORVIETO and had made arrangements for 14 press reps and photographers to attend, gave his views on the comments which appeared in the ITALIAN Press on the following day.
All papers except the "TEMPO" published articles which briefly described the visit of the "Foreign Reps" to the ORVIETO CAN with little but favourable comment.
The "TEMPO's" attempt at adding a humorous touch to its report is considered to be of extremely bad taste.
The article by "UNITA'" was good, although here again the humorous element was discernable.
On the whole the result of these Press Comments may be considered of "positive value" (said the PRO) as they attracted the public's attention to the Army.
PRO is to meet the Editor of the "TEMPO" on Monday (9th) to discuss the tone of his article.

10 Sep 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Log Liaison with the Ministry (c 2000) 25th - 31st Aug 46

26 Aug "SECRETO DI SAVOIA" BARRACKS NEAR - Lt-Col [illegible]

1. Normal Lt-Col [illegible] copy (received by [illegible]) of letter from Chief of Legal Services, Dr Ziletti, to the War Ministry ref 02915 of 19th Aug., asking for above barracks to be placed at disposal of UNRRA for Displaced Persons. Lt-Col [illegible] pointed out the irregularity of this application, which should NOT have been made direct to the Ministry but to AFHQ Territorial Command concerned. He further stated that on arrival of this letter at the Ministry it would have been forwarded to AFHQ Territorial Comd, most competent to decide of any requirements in that area.
In due course the contents of the Territorial Comd would reach the Ministry (Gen) but whether Comd raised any objection or not the matter would be referred by this to the "SECRETO" for examination of the premises with a view to ascertain structural suitability, supplies required, etc. The latter's report would then go before the new Minister who would have the final word. This procedure is necessarily a lengthy one.
Lt-Col [illegible] emphatically declared, however, that these barracks will undoubtedly be required for the Army.

INFORMATION - MESSAGES OF 5 GENERALS - De Rinaldi (Ambrose)

2. Colonel from Dr RINALDI (chief of personal staff - Casardis - in the Cabinet) Christian names, all status and present residential addresses of the following officers :-

Gen Antonio SANTORO
Giovanni VACCA
Paolo CANEVARI
Alfredo DI DIANI
Mario ROSI (alternatively Captain [illegible] on active list)

4765

FULL DETAILS [illegible] to add.

27 Aug [illegible] (Lt-Col Fenwick)

3. Accompanied Major and Capt Fenwick (I Sqn) to War Ministry and acted as interpreter to discuss, with above offr (employing Col Affairs on leave) the nature of the work to be done by the respective Missions. Copies are handed on all points.

27 Aug "SECRETO DI SAVOIA" BARRACKS NEAR - Lt-Col [illegible]

4. Handed Lt-Col [illegible] copy of signal [illegible] of 26 Aug addressed by this HQ to 5 SAU.
Lt-Col [illegible] confirmed that the Army Medical Stores premises will be able to operate the units which would occupy them, viz.,

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

1484

[illegible]
have been forwarded to [illegible] in that area.
to decide of Army requirements in that area. [illegible] Territorial Comd would
In due course the comments of [illegible] Territorial Comd raised any objection
reach the Ministry ([illegible]) but whether Comd raised any objection
or not the matter would be referred by [illegible] to the "GENIO" for
examination of the premises with a view to ascertain structural
suitability, repairs required, etc. The GENIO's report would
then go before the War Minister who would have the final word.
This procedure is necessarily a lengthy one.
Lt-Col [illegible] emphatically declared, however, that these barracks
would undoubtedly be required for the Army.

DEMOBILIZATION - [illegible] OF 5 GENERALS - Dr [illegible] (Cabinet)

2. Obtained from Dr [illegible] (chief of personnel office - Generals - in the Cabinet) Christian names, [illegible] status and present residential addresses of the following officers :-

Gen Ettore [illegible]
Giovanni [illegible]
[illegible]
Alfredo [illegible]
Mario [illegible] (alternatively Guglielmo [illegible] on reserve list)

4763

Full [illegible] passed to [illegible].

27 Aug [illegible] - [illegible] (Lt-Col [illegible])

3. Accompanied [illegible] and Capt [illegible] ([illegible]) to War Ministry and acted as Interpreter to discuss, with above offr (replacing Col [illegible] on leave) the nature of the work to be done by the respective [illegible]. Agreement reached on all points.

27 Aug "[illegible] DI SAVOIA" [illegible] - Lt-Col [illegible]

4. Handed Lt-Col [illegible] copy of signal [illegible] 4039 of 26 Aug addressed by this [illegible] to 5 [illegible]. Lt-Col [illegible] confirmed that the Army needed these premises and was able to specify the units which would occupy them, viz.,

the three regts of Army included in one of the newly formed Inf Divs on [illegible], in this case the [illegible] Div.

Lt-Col [illegible] therefore begged that [illegible] should strongly oppose [illegible]'s request.

....../2

27 Aug — ITALIAN LIAISON MISSION WITH HAQR - Col FIORE VENTAGLIA(PRO)

5. (a) This HQ wished to know whether such a Mission was still in existence and functioning in GERMANY for the Repatriation of ITALIAN POW.
Col FIORE VENTAGLIA who was at one time in comd of this Mission in GERMANY was able to state that it was still carrying on its activities. He gave the following brief history of this organisation :-

(b) In May 45 33 ITALIAN Offrs were sent to GERMANY at the request of UNRRA to be placed under the orders of SHAEF who attached them to various units as LOs for the repatriation of ITALIAN POW.
On 3rd Jul 45 Col FIORE VENTAGLIA was appointed Chief ITALIAN LO at SHAEF and all other ITALIAN Offrs came under his orders. This group was given the name of "Allied Contact Section". Then on 14 Jul 45 SHAEF was abolished and GERMANY split into three zones (with Russia +) (American, British and French) this organisation was given the name of "ITALIAN Liaison Mission" its members being distributed in the three zones.
In Jan 46 the Americans decided to reduce the personnel of their portion of the "Mission" and called it "ITALIAN Liaison Sec" the other two retaining the titles of BRIT and FRENCH Liaison Mission respectively. HQ of the Mission are at WIESBADEN on MAINS under Col ATTILIO BRUNO and personnel now about 15 Offrs.

28 Aug — CAR V TERRITORIAL COMD - Gen ARBELLINI

6. Acted as Interpreter at Interview between COL WICK and Gen ARBELLINI CO V Territorial Comd (USFET) in COLs Offices at 1030 hrs.
(a) Conversation dwelt chiefly on the efficiency of CAR and progress and excellent material of the recruits in Org.

(b) Lastly the COL referred to the serious allegation about ARC supplying arms to unauthorised persons in the USFET area. COL impressed on Gen ARBELLINI the importance of a very searching enquiry into the case being instituted as soon as possible and result reported to this HQ. Gen ARBELLINI promised to sig immediately to USFET accordingly.

28 Aug — BRIT TANK & TRUCK ARRIVALS

7. Referring to log entry, para 6 page 2 (16th - 24th Aug) the information required by the Ministry has been supplied to Col BALANZINO.

28 Aug — COLs VISIT TO VIII TERRITORIAL COMD

8. Accompanied COL to 8 Territorial Comd HQ and acted as [illegible]

'B'
CO.XX
476

'C'

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 735020

(b) In May 1945 33 ITALIAN Offrs were sent to CHUNKY at the request of ENLA to be placed under the orders of CHUNK who attached them to various units as LOs for the repatriation of ITALIAN POW. 'A'
On 3rd Jul 45 Col FIORE VILLAROSA was appointed Chief ITALIAN LO at CHUNK and all other ITALIAN Offrs came under his orders. This group was given the name of "Allied Contact Section". When on 14 Jul 45 CHUNK was abolished and GERMANY split into three zones (with Russia ed) (American, British and French) this organisation was given the name of "ITALIAN Liaison Mission" its members being distributed in the three zones.
In Jan 46 the Americans decided to reduce the personnel of their portion of the "Mission" and called it "ITALIAN Liaison Sec" the other two retaining the titles of BRIT and FRENCH Liaison Mission respectively. 8 of the Mission are at WIESBADEN, on HQMG under Col ARTILIO BRUNO and personnel now about 12 Offrs.

28 Aug CAE V TERRITORIAL COMD - Gen ARMELLINI

6. Acted as Interpreter at Interview between GOC NENA and Gen ARMELLINI GC V Territorial Comd (MUNI) in GOCs Office at 1030 hrs. 'C'
GS.IH
(a) Conversation dealt chiefly on the efficiency of CAE and progress and expellect material of the recruits in trg. 476

(b) Lastly the GOC referred to the serious allegation about CAE supplying arms to unauthorised persons in the MUNI area. GOC impressed on Gen ARMELLINI the importance of a very searching enquiry into the case being instituted as soon as possible and result reported to this HQ. Gen ARMELLINI promised to sig immediately to MUNI accordingly.

29 Aug BETT CAIRO & THEIR ANSWERS

7. Referring to log entry, para 6 page 2 (16th - 23rd Aug) the information required by the Military has been supplied to Col BALANZINO.

28 Aug GOCs VISIT TO VIII TERRITORIAL COMD

8. Accompanied GOC to 8 Territorial Comd HQ and acted as Interpreter in conversations with Territorial Comd Gen GOLDAMMER.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNIG NO. 785020

28 Aug THREE ITALIAN TANKS FOR DESTRUCTION

9. Told Col BALDWIN of Inf's received from 1 BDE that the three ITALIAN Tks (whose destruction had been ordered sometime back) were in fact still in the TOWN AREA. BALDWIN expressed surprise to find out why his orders had not been carried out. I promised

29 Aug DESIGNATION OF GOL HEADQUARTERS

10. Capt ZAMIT of 6oth Gen SEC called at this HQ with a request to be put in touch with Col BERGAMINI (in the Office of the Div Gen of Army & Reinforcements at the War Ministry) with a view to questioning him on his activities in ASMARA.
Arranged for this interview at this HQ and Cpl TI(Int) acted as Interpreter.

30 Aug ARMY EXHIBITION TURIN - Col Frere Wyndham

11. The Officer sent by HQ to TURIN to visit the above exhibition returned to ASTI and gave a very favourable account of it.
A wireless technician and a speaker were placed at the disposal of this Officer, and he was given 6 recordings of speeches etc made at the exhibition, which recordings will be broadcast by ASTI Radio.
Nearly all TURIN papers devoted space to accounts of the proceedings, and some published photos.
The "Stampa Sventi" which was known to be anti-Army made favourable comments in an article on the 27th Aug.
Even the Communist paper "UNITA" commented favourably.
On the whole it is thought that the exhibition was a great success and should have good results.

4763

30 Aug REORGANISATION OF GOL HEADQUARTERS

12. Acted as Interpreter at discussion on above subject between Col A/G and Col FISCHETTI.

31 Aug 46 PHOTOGRAPHING OF NEW ITALIAN ARMY UNIFORMS

13. As regards of the American Mission arranged with Lt-Col CELLI at the Ministry for the taking of photos of Officers and Men wearing the new pattern uniforms.
The date fixed is 15th Sep. Time and place will be notified to this HQ later.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

as Interpreter.

30 Aug ARMY EXHIBITION TRAIN - Col Fiske Wellington

11. The officer sent by HQ to Perth to visit the above exhibition returned to Natl and gave a very favourable account of it.
A wireless technician and a speaker were placed at the disposal of this officer, and he was given 6 recordings of speeches etc made at the exhibition, which recordings will be broadcast by Natl Radio.
Nearly all Perth papers devoted space to accounts of the proceedings, and some published photos.
The "Sergeant Awanti" which was known to be anti-Coy made favourable comments in an article on the 27th Aug.
Even the Communist paper "Unity" commented favourably.
On the whole it is thought that the exhibition was a great success and should bear good results.

4763

30 Aug REPATRIATION OF WAR PRISONERS

12. Acted as Interpreter at discussion on above subject between Col A/S and Col Pinsent.

31 Aug 46 RECOMMENDATIONS OF NEW ITALIAN ARMY UNIFORMS

13. At request of the American Embassy arranged with Lt Col. ELLI at the Ministry for the Saving of Stores of Officers and one wearing the new pattern uniforms.
The date fixed is 15th Sep. Time and place will be notified to this IO later.

A Sec 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Log. Liaison With War Ministry (A SECT) 16 - 24th Aug

Col FIORE-VERNAZZA (PRO)

1. War Ministry had been notified of the forthcoming International Conference on SOCIAL WELFARE which is to take place in BRUSSELS on 25th - 28th Sep and asked to send a rep. Col FIORE - VERNAZZA hoped to be nominated for this and asked whether in such case this HQ could assist in obtaining necessary authority for an Air Passage to BRUSSELS.
The main items on the Agenda, for discussion are :-

1. Sessions of Perm. Executive Committee
2. Urgent problems of Social Services
3. Relations between Social Service and the Economic & Social Council of United Nations.

Consulted Col A/Q on the matter and conveyed his reply to Col FIORE - VERNAZZA, viz., that as this had nothing to do with the ALLIES, the ITALIAN Army or Public Relations MMIA could not intervene.

Dr FUCCI - Returns of ALLIED Arms Collected

2. Ref War Ministry letters No 52183/11573 and 54182/11572 both of 17th Jul giving short lists of ALLIED Arms collected. Asked Dr FUCCI to render a consolidated return, say, fortnightly. This he promised to do and would include above mentioned lists in a consolidated return up to 15 Aug which would be ready about 21st Aug.

4762

Capt VINCI - Personnel Section of Interpreters at SA

3. Informed Capt VINCI of Chief Disposals Officers desire to retain the services, for some time longer, of Capt Silvio SKLOWITZKI, Interpreter and LO at Surplus Disposal Office. VINCI explained that this could not be done unless MMIA annulled their request made under a 250 dated 10 Aug for this Officer to be taken off the strength of No 861 Pool of ITALIAN LOs (a NR-ITI Unit) and returned to the War Ministry. This automatically makes him ineligible for employment by the ALLIES. CMO informed.

Capt [illegible] - French Mil Mission

4. Asked this HQ for a list of Arms and Munition Factories in ITALY, particularly as to locations and potentialities. Replied that in view of the importance of this request, it should preferably be put in writing.

Col PIACENTINI
Lt-Col D'ALESSANDRO } - Reorg of War Ministry

1. [illegible] Sessions of Perm.
2. " Urgent problems of Social Services
3. Relations between Social Service and the Economic & Social Council of United Nations.

Consulted Col A/Q on the matter and conveyed his reply to Col FIORE - VERNAZZA, viz., that as this had nothing to do with the ALLIES, the ITALIAN Army or Public Relations MMIA could not intervene.

Dr FUGGI - Returns of ALLIED Arms Collected

2. Ref War Ministry letters No 52165/11573 and 54182/11572 both of 17th Jul giving short lists of ALLIED Arms collected. Asked Dr FUGGI to render a consolidated return, say, fortnightly. This he promised to do and would include above mentioned lists in a consolidated returns up to 15 Aug which would be ready about 21st Aug. 4762

Capt VINCI - Personnel Section of Interpreters at MI

3. Informed Capt VINCI of Chief Disposals Officer's desire to retain the services, for some time longer, of Capt Silvio PULEMIVICI, Interpreter and LO at Surplus Disposal Office. VINCI explained that this could not be done unless MMIA unrolled their request made under A 230 dated 16 Aug for this Officer to be taken off the strength of No 861 Pool of ITALIAN LOs (a BR-ITI Unit) and returned to the War Ministry. This automatically makes him uneligible for employment by the ALLIES. CCO informed.

Capt LACHENAL - French Mil Mission

4. Asked this HQ for a list of Arms and Munition Factories in ITALY, particularly as to locations and potentialities. Replied that in view of the importance of this request, it should preferably be put in writing. 'G' 6 'G'

Col PIACENTINI
Lt-Col D'ALESSANDRO - Recrg of War Ministry

5. Acted as Interpreter for the above Officers and Col A/Q at a Meeting held at this HQ on 16th Aug. After discussing proposed changes in detail it was agreed that PIACENTINI should further study the matter and submit the proposals to Heads of all Directorates concerned for their views, after which the matter could be further discussed at a subsequent meeting. Mtg 21st Aug was fixed. 'A'

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Col BALANKIN - Supplies of Spare Parts

6. Accompanied DADMI to War Ministry on 19 Aug and acted as Interpreter at discussions on above subject. 'Q'

BALANKIN asked for information on types of tanks now in use in BRIT Army and their armament. This request was referred to GSO I (SD) who consulted BGS, who saw no objection to the request being granted. GSO I(SD) will obtain this information for the Ministry.

Col VITTORIA - Epuration - Carabinieri

7. At request of AAG obtained from this officer full particulars as to :-

(a) Numbers of Officers & NCOs sent before the Epuration Committees

(b) Numbers still to be examined 'A'

(c) Whether number of Epuration Committees (now 2) could be increased in order to speed up the work.

The answers were :-

(a) Officers 2639
NCOs 4777

(b) Officers 185
NCOs 3457

(c) Not advisable as tending to cause variation in the method of judging similar cases and administering different punishments for the same offence.

4762

Fuller particulars given to AAG.

Col PIACENTINI )
Lt-Col GUIDA ) - Reorg of Internal Security Divs

8. Obtained from Lt-Col GUIDA, and passed to G30 I(SD) particulars as to how the original 24 Bns of Inf Divs have been changed into 18 Bns of the new 3 Internal Security Bdes.
Six of the 24 Bns have been disbanded, viz.,

145th "Caltanisetta" and 16th "Siracusa" (Arty) Bns
159th "Palermo" and 22nd "Agrigento" (Arty) Bns
236th "Tempio Pausania" (Sassari) and 40th "Sassari" (Arty) Bns

Personnel of the disbanded Arty Bns has been assigned to the various Arty Groups; any surplus (mainly Offrs & NCOs) is retained in the Depts of Inf Divs.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

7. At request of AAG obtained from this officer full particulars as to :-

(a) Numbers of Officers & NCOs sent before the Epuration Committees

(b) Numbers still to be examined

(c) Whether number of Epuration Committees (now 2) could be increased in order to speed up the work.

'A'

The answers were :-

(a) Officers 2659
NCOs 4777

(b) Officers 185
NCOs 3437

(c) Not advisable as tending to cause variation in the method of judging similar cases and administering different punishments for the same offence.

4761

Fuller particulars given to AAG.

Col PIACENTINI
Lt-Col GUIDA } - Reorg of Internal Security Divs

8. Obtained from Lt-Col GUIDA, and passed to G30 I(SD) particulars as to how the original 24 Bns of Inf Divs have been changed into 18 Bns of the new 3 Internal Security Bdes.
Six of the 24 Bns have been disbanded, viz.,

145th "Caltanisetta" and 16th "Siracusa" (Arty) Bns
139th "Palermo" and 22nd "Agrigento" (Arty) Bns
256th "Tempio Pausania" (Sassari) and 40th "Sassari" (Arty) Bns

Personnel of the disbanded Arty Bns has been assigned to the various Arty Groups; any surplus (mainly Offrs & NCOs) is assigned to the Regts of Inf Divs.

Lt-Col NIGRA
Lt-Col OLIVETTI

9. (a) Surplus 6 pr Guns

Verbal instructions given to OLIVETTI to transfer the 94 surplus 6 pr guns to MANFREDINI Gun Pk for 557 BGD (This order was subsequently cancelled)./

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9. (Contd)

(b) Return of Stens

Suggested to OLIVIERI that all Sten MC be centralised at AVERSA for eventual handing over to RSD, BGD MANLEB. Stressed the importance of having every weapon well cleaned and greased before packing. NIGRA promised to issue implicit instructions accordingly.

Gen CORSELLI

10. On 21 Aug this Officer called on BGS to ask him to intervene on behalf of a young Italian Naval Officer who had "inadvertently" shot and killed an American soldier about a year ago. The General hoped that the young officer, still under arrest, could be released under the terms of the Armistice.
BGS referred the matter to Naval Sub Com AC.

Gen ROSSI
Col MILONI
Col BALDACCINO

Meeting to discuss Disposal of Brit Surplus Eqpt

11. Ministry were asked to send a rep (preferably officer of high rank) to a meeting to be held at 1630 hrs on Friday 23 Aug in the Offices of the Chief Commissioner, AC.
The Ministry sent the above mentioned three officers.
Other reps invited were from :-

Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Ministry of Finance
ARAR.

Lt-Col SORMANI - Search for Wanted War Criminals

12 (a) In view of delay in tracing wanted men, this HQ offered to assist in any way it could, notably by having lists and photos printed for wide distribution by War Ministry. SORMANI assured writer that names submitted by MMIA had already been very widely circulated to all Carabinieri Stations and Prefects all over ITALY. He could suggest no other action, but would be glad to accept 100 copies of complete lists, which he would send out as "reminders" to all concerned.
Asked whether it would help if a reward were offered for any information leading to arrest. He expressed doubt that anything would be achieved.

4760

(b) Ministry had received advice from Prefect of PADOVA that ZUCCOLO Giovanni (wanted for War Crimes) had been transferred on 27 Jul from Prison at PADOVA to 209 Camp at AFRAGOLA (NAPLES).

Lt-Col LABARINO (AO War Ministry ARAR)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

10. On 21 Aug this Office [illegible] on behalf of a young Italian Naval Officer who had "inadvertently" shot and killed an American soldier about a year ago. The General hoped that the young officer, still under arrest, could be released under the terms of the Amnesty.
BGS referred the matter to Naval Sub Com HQ.

Gen ROSSI
Col MELONI
Col BALARDINO } Meeting to discuss Disposal of Polit Surplus Eqpt

11. Ministry were asked to send a rep (preferably officer of high rank) to a meeting to be held at 1630 hrs on Friday 23 Aug in the Offices of the Chief Commissioner, AC.
The Ministry sent the above mentioned three Officers.
Other reps invited were from :-

Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Ministry of Finance
ARAR.

Lt-Col SORMANNI - Search for Wanted War Criminals

12 (a) In view of delay in tracing wanted men, this HQ offered to assist in any way it could, notably by having lists and photoes printed for wide distribution by War Ministry. SORMANNI assured writer that names submitted by MMIA had already been very widely circulated to all Carabinieri Stations and Prefects all over ITALY. He could suggest no other action, but would be glad to accept 100 copies of complete lists, which he would send out as "reminders" to all concerned.
Asked whether it would help if a reward were offered for any information leading to arrest. He expressed doubt that anything would be achieved. 4760

(b) Ministry had received advice from Prefect of PADOVA that ZUCCOLO Giovanni (wanted for War Crimes) had been transferred on 27 Jul from Prison at PADOVA to 209 Camp at AFRAGOLA (NAPLES).

Lt-Col IASMARINO (LO War Ministry ARAR)

13. Handed IASMARINO following Lists of Surplus Stores which CCG was about to hand over to ARAR, under cover of MMIA letter Q 132 of 20 Aug 46 :-

| Ref | Date |
|---|---|
| 10090 | 1. 8. 46 |
| 10057 | 22. 7. 46 |
| 10074 | 25. 7.46 |
| AMG/DIS/0085 | 1. 8. 46 |
| 10098 | 2. 8.46. |

...../4

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

To Lt-Col SPINELLI :-

14. the following lists :-

| Ref | Date |
|---|---|
| 10060 | 25. 7. 46 |
| 10071 | 25. 7. 46 |
| 10065 | 25. 7. 46 |
| 10058 | 22. 7. 46 |
| 10053 | 20. 7. 46 |

Lt-Col OLIVETTI - Surplus arm at MESTRE

15. Informed OLIVETTI of the existence of considerable quantities of arm at disposal of ITALIAN Army at 12 GAC MESTRE (vide C 159 of 23 Aug 46).
Suggested that transfer to suitable location near MESTRE be effected at an early date.
Fort MARGHERA at San.Guiliano, 2½ kms from MESTRE was given as destination. Ministry would issue relative instructions to Directorate of Arty VENICE.

Lt-Col MORROD - Barracks at CECCHIGNOLA

16. The Buildings in the "Citta" Industriale Militare, vacated by GT Coy (black ops) are being placed at the disposal of DP. This is confirmed by War Ministry letter ref 221309/XI of 23 Aug 46.

Col FIORE-VERNAZZA (FRC)

17. Army Exhibition TURIN - 25 Aug 46

(a) This exhibition has been organised by Gen PRINETTI (ex Commander Territorial Command TURIN) under the orders of I Territorial Command HQ, and financed by the Cabinet. Col FIORE VERNAZZA was consulted by the Cabinet after all had been "cut & dried" and gave ~~when~~ his favourable opinion. FR Office only holds a "watching brief" and has sent an Officer to TURIN to keep contact and report.
Col FIORE-VERNAZZA thinks the exhibition has a "positive value" especially in view of unsatisfactory FR conditions in TURIN and GENOVA.
Col FIORE-VERNAZZA does not know who first proposed that this exhibition should take place.
He knows, however, that it is the outcome of the various similar exhibitions that have taken place recently in other parts, i.e.,

1. ROME - "Mostra dei Balcani"

(Activities of ITALIAN Partisans contributing to liberation of the Balkans) visited by KGS and Dep Cmd (C-in-C FRC).

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

15. Informed GLAVERI of the [illegible] of arms at disposal of ITALIAN Army at 12 Gps Armies (... of 25 Aug 46).
Suggested that transfer to suitable location near TURIN be effected at an early date.
Fort MARGHERA at San.Guiliano, 2½ kms from TURIN was given as destination. Ministry would issue relative instructions to Directorate of Army VEHICE.

Lt-Col MORGOO - Barracks at CHIVASSO

16. The Buildings in the "Città" Industriale Militare, vacated by GE Coy (black ops) are being placed at the disposal of DP. This is confirmed by War Ministry letter ref 221309/II of 25 Aug 46.

Col FIORE-VERNAZZA (PRO)

17. Army Exhibition TURIN - 25 Aug 46

(a) This exhibition has been organised by Gen PRINCIPI (ex Corsanier Territorial Command TURIN) under the orders of I Territorial Command MQ, and financed by the Cabinet. Col FIORE VERNAZZA was consulted by the Cabinet after all had been "cut&dried" and gave ~~him~~ his favourable opinion. PR Office only holds a "watching brief" and has sent an Officer to TURIN to keep contact and report.
Col FIORE-VERNAZZA thinks the exhibition has a "positive value" especially in view of unsatisfactory PR conditions in TURIN and GENOVA.
Col FIORE-VERNAZZA does not know who first proposed that this exhibition should take place.
He knows, however, that it is the outcome of the various similar exhibitions that have taken place recently in other parts, i.e.,

1. ROME - "Mostra dei Balcani"
(Activities of ITALIAN Partisans contributing to liberation of the BALKANS) visited by SOE and Dep Comd (Col KEMP).

2. A private exhibition held in MILAN. "Partisan Contribution" to Liberation of ITALY".

3. PARIS - Exhibition organised by the "Comitato Liberazione dell'Alta ITALIA".

It is also, in part, result of pressure of Public opinion.

(b) Invited Col FIORE-VERNAZZA to come and have a "progress" talk with Col A/Q on 3rd or 4th Sep 46.

...../5

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 78502

Gen LUZZI - USSR Rep To visit CAMS
(SIS)
Col BOMBARDI (Cabinet)

18. USSR Rep having called upon SCC this HQ to express wish to visit a Trg Centre (Ministry having raised no objection) it has been agreed that an escorted visit shall be arranged for Wed 4th Sep at 0900 hrs. The CAR to be visited is CHIERI. Invitations have been issued also to Mil Attaché's of following Powers :-

GREECE
FRANCE
SPAIN
USA

no other Powers having accredited Mil Representatives in ROME.

Avv PACCIARDI -(War Minister) - SCC MMA

19. Accompanied SCC MMA to War Ministry and acted as Interpreter at interview with the Minister which lasted about an hour.-

(a) The main object of the visit was to bring to the notice of PACCIARDI the unsatisfactory situation prevailing in the Army as regards Pay of Officers and NCOs (especially of Junior Officers and Senior NCOs) and the importance of improving their economic outlook. SCC advocated immediate action should be taken if the present spirit and morale of the new Army were to be maintained.
PACCIARDI fully agreed and said that he had already drawn the Governments attention to the matter, but that the latter was unfortunately more concerned with the economic conditions of the civilian population who had the backing of the Trade Unions and other such organisations able to bring pressure to bear on the Government.
However, he expressed the hope that the Government could be made to realise the importance of an immediate improvement of Army Pay and Allowances and would endeavour to formulate adequate amendments to the present scale. 15th of Sep was mentioned, as a suitable date for the publication if not actual application of a new scale, this being the date on which a large number of Senior Officers are due for release, thereby lightening the financial burden on the Government Treasury.

(b) The Minister, who had returned from PARIS only the day before, was asked to express his views on the Peace Treaty conditions and describe his impression of the general attitude towards the ITALIAN Rep at the Conference. This he proceeded to do at some length.

(c) The provision of Married Officers' Quarters was also discussed. This subject, said the Minister, had already received his personal attention.

(d) Towards the end of the interview SCC touched upon the subject

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 735020

no other Powers having access

ARV PAGCHINTEN -(War Minister) - GOC INDIA

19. Accompanied GOC INDIA to War Ministry and acted as Interpreter at Interview with the Minister which lasted about an hour:-

(a) The main object of the visit was to bring to the notice of PAGCHINTEN the unsatisfactory situation prevailing in the Army as regards Pay of Officers and NCOs (especially of Junior Officers and Senior NCOs) and the importance of improving their economic outlook. GOC advocated immediate action should be taken if the present spirit and morale of the new Army were to be maintained.

PAGCHINTEN fully agreed and said that he had already drawn the Governments attention to the matter, but that the latter was unfortunately more concerned with the economic conditions of the civilian population who had the backing of the Trade Unions and other such organisations able to bring pressure to bear on the Government.

However, he expressed the hope that the Government could be made to realise the importance of an immediate improvement of Army Pay and Allowances and would endeavour to formulate adequate amendments to the present scale. 15th of Sep was mentioned as a suitable date for the publication if not actual application of a new scale, this being the date on which a large number of Senior Officers are due for release, thereby lightening the financial burden on the Government Treasury.

(b) The Minister, who had returned from PARIS only the day before, was asked to express his views on the Peace Treaty conditions and describe his impression of the general attitude towards the ITALIAN Repn at the Conference. This he proceeded to do at some length.

(c) The provision of married officers' quarters was also discussed. This subject, said the Minister, had already received his personal attention.

(d) Towards the end of the interview GOC touched upon the subject of Public Relations and praised the work of the new PRO. The Minister concurred and intimated his intention of broadening the scope of this office and establishing branch offices in all the important towns. On both sides appreciation was expressed on the efficiency of the PR Officer Col PIGEE-VENTRY.

27 August 1946

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 735020

Leg. London with Col Minister (& DEFM) 5 - 11 Aug 46

Col BALANTINE

1. (a) Lt-Col [illegible] (re ¶ 15A of 3.6.46 to H of O)

Regarding the 3 ITALIAN Army War referred to in above mentioned letter (to which no reply appears to have been received by this HQ) Lt-Col [illegible] said he had made enquiries and so far has not been able to get definite info as to whereabouts of these vehs. The AFM Vehs have not got them, nor are they at the TURIN Arsenal. QMGS have been asked to find out from Public Security what has become of the vehs.

(b) 170 Carriages for ITALIAN Army

Col BALANTINE stated that 12 vehs at PARMA had not yet (10 Aug) received authority to hand over these guns to info Col BALANTINE that relative release note was handed to Lt-Col GRIVEGNEE on 30th Jul. This has eventually cleared and fwd to PARMA.
Delays of this kind are frequent in the Min due to documents being held up in Commissioners offices. (3)

Lt-Col GRIVEGNEE

2. Report of Internal Security Divs (D/13/2 of 25.7.46)

Lt-Col GRIVEGNEE quoted figures given in the above mentioned letter for 25 pdrs released to ITALIAN Army. Nominal files with 20 'C' to discover source of discrepancies and finally agreed figures. (3)

Col FLEMMING
Col BALANTINE — Call Up Regulations - Exemptions

3. (a) Asked whether any recent regulations had been drawn up affecting exemption; obtained 1 carbon copy of Appendix No 1 to Recruiting Regulations. Had been translated and handed to AMG.

(b) The above Offrs both expressed themselves satisfied that the regulations as amended by Appx 1 seemed to provide for every contingency.

(c) As regards dealing with requests on the part of AMG, UNRRA or other Allied Orgs for exemption from call service of men in their employ with such requests, but points out that it is difficult to judge the importance of the work being done by such employees for the Allied and thinks that in many cases suitable substitutes could be found. (3)

Col MACDONALD — Vehicles

ø due to be called up W.Min has therefore endeavoured to comply

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(b) 17/0 Garrison for Falkland Islds

Col Hildebrand stated that 12 Veh pk at Perm had not yet (10 Aug) received authority to hand over these surplus. Info Col BALLANTYNE that relative release note was mailed to Lt-Col CARVELL on 30th Jul. This was eventually traced and fwd to Perm. Delays of this kind are frequent in the UK due to documents being held up in translators office. (a)

Lt-Col CARVELL

2. Return of Internal Security Stre (G/13/2 of 26.7.65)

Lt-Col CARVELL quoted figures given in the above mentioned letter for 25 pdrs released to Jordan Army. Examined files with GS I (a) to discover causes of discrepancies and finally agreed figures. (b)

Col MACDONALD
Offg DEPUTY

Call Up Regulations - Exemptions

3. (a) Asked whether any recent regulations had been drawn up affecting exemption; obtained 4 copies copy of Appendix No 4 to Recruiting Regulations. Vol came examined and handed to AAG.

475

(b) The above Offrs both expressed themselves satisfied that the regulations as amended by Appx 4 seemed to provide for every contingency.

(c) As regards dealing with requests on the part of ABC, WRNS or other AFCO Orgs for exemption from NS service of civs in their employ with such requests, Col MACDONALD pointed out that it is difficult to judge the importance of the work being done by such employees for the Armed and think that in any case suitable substitutes can be found. (c)

Col MACDONALD
Lt-Col CARVELL

Vol Maint

4. (a) Pamphlet on Vol Maint is expected to be out of printer's hands at end of next week.
It has been possible to incl in this pamphlet the appendices giving English and Italian tyre pressure equivalents and lubricating oil equivalents table.

.../2

ø due to be called up W.Min has therefore endeavoured to comply

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

4. (Contd)

(b) On 6th Aug asked as Interpreter at Interview Panel - Lt-Col MORRIS re discuss disbandment of No 980 Unit Det and setting up of the mechanics for units at new Sqn. Details of Interviews discussed fully. (b)

Gen KEIGHLEY - Selection of Personnel
Lt-Col CHAPMAN (A 011 of 10th Jul)

5. (a) As regard of AM asked KEIGHLEY what progress had been made in connection with the scientific method of selection proposed by this Sqn and asked for reply to above mentioned letter.

(b) KEIGHLEY said a reply was sent on 16th Jul (ref 01/2500 Misc). This having apparently gone astray, obtained copy and handed same with translation to AM. Letter explains what steps this matter has reached.

(c) Regarding the suggestion to send party of English-speaking RNZAF Officers to UK for a course, it is thought that for financial and other reasons this is not practical at present. But the MA could do with the scientific instruments used in the tests. The method of selection by psychological tests is well known in RNZAF. (c)

Lt-Col CHAPMAN - Reference (a 136 of 7 Aug)

6. (a) Handed Lt-Col CHAPMAN above "Release" of RNZAF Sqn Vin :-

| Item RNZAF for | By Gen RAF Schools (SSAFO) |
|---|---|
| Pistols, Webley | ? |
| Pistols | ? |
| Rifles .22 | ? |

/40 Tour Gend
CHAPMAN will notify destination of last 3 items 475

(b) "Release" of Tuamarina MTC (a 136 of 7 Aug)-handed to CHAPMAN

Same remarks as above for Item 2, i.e. 20621 refer. (b)

Gen CHAPMAN - Bill Inn of Thorpe
Sqn Ldr GARDNER of Raymond Byrne (Colombia)

7. (a) At request of Gen CHAPMAN a Flight Lieut arranged for the completion of the extension of the MT park

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

been made in connection [illegible] of selection prepared by this HQ and asked for reply to above mentioned letter.

(b) [illegible] will a reply was sent on 19th Jul (ref G1/2903 MGB). This having apparently gone astray. Original copy and handed same with correlation to Adm. Letter explains some steps this matter has reached.

(c) Regarding the suggestion to send party of englishspeaking Soviet officers to UK for a course, it is thought that for financial and other reasons this is not practical at present. But the aim could do with are scientific interests used in the tests. The method of selection by psychological tests is well known in Army. (2)

Lt-Col [illegible] - Release (i 438 of 7 Aug)

6. (a) Remind Lt-Col [illegible] above "release" of [illegible] vis :-

| | Destination |
|---|---|
| Wpns [illegible] for | To Con Sch Colombo (ESSAYO) |
| Pistols, 45cal | 2 |
| Stens | 2 |
| Rifles MI | 2 |

[illegible] will notify/destination of load. 3 items /40 Tons (max)

(b) "Release" of Pioneer Sec (i 438 of 7 Aug)-buried to [illegible]

[illegible]
Same remarks as above for item 2, i.e. 2321 trans. (2)

Gen [illegible] - Dirt [illegible] of Secret
Sol to Rabat to Personnel Server (Colorado)

7. (a) At request of Gen Gale a Flying Office enquired into the possibility of the retention of Col Miller (due to retire on 9th Aug - age limit) for short another month, as his uninterrupted collaboration was important at the present juncture.

(b) First called on Col Miller to ascertain details, then spoke to Gen [illegible] who expressed himself quite willing to retain Miller if possible.
Gen [illegible] accompanied writer to see Gale to whom position was explained.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

7.(Contd)

(c) Requests for extension of service for an indefinite period could not be considered (he said) as this would cause discontent among other officers retaining age limit and not being allowed to stay on, but for a limited period (which can be treated as the "leading over" period) DG NAVY could use his discretion and would not demand retirement of Col MILLIKA before end of Sep.

(d) Made it clear that NAVY was not taking any request but merely asked to know the outcome of Col MILLIKA's own application for retention. (B)

8. Lt-Col SAVAGE - Retirement (1.132)

(a) Handed him following Declarations of Surplus Stores which Disposals Office would be transferring to ARAD in the near future :-

7.8.46 for material at KANGAROO
Ref AD1/11703/47 of 8.8.46 for material at PARADO.

(b) told SAVAGE that at 10 with ARAB it would be well for him to be present at ARAB Depot on day material arrives, in order to inspect for possible materials to meet Army requirements.
Date of next ever would be notified him with this object in view (a).

Lt-Col LANDSBURG (10 Stages - ARAB)

9. Handed him the following Declarations of Surplus Stores about to be market transferred to ARAB Depot :-

(1) Ref 516/130 att to Q 132 of 1.8.46
(2) Ref 536/129 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46
(3) Ref Mag/bis.0079 - Sug 51 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46
(4) Ref 536/157 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46

4755

(E)

Lt-Col MITCHELL (10 Coys, Det 3 Med Regiments - ARAB)

10. Handed him following Declarations of Surplus Stores going from Disposals Office to ARAB shortly :-

Ref 10029 att to Q 132 of 8.8. 46
Ref 10025 att to Q 132 of 8.8. 46

(E)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

8. Lt-Col [illegible] - Reference (1.12)

(a) Handed him following Declarations of Surplus Stores which Disposals Office would be transferring to ADAD in the near future :-

7.8.46 for material at [illegible]
Ref [illegible]/11703/47 of 8.8.46 for material at [illegible].

(b) Told [illegible] that at 10 with ADAR it would be well for him to be present at ADAR Depot on day material arrives, in order to inspect for possible materials to meet Army requirements. Date of next ever would be notified him with this object in view (a).

Lt-Col [illegible] (AD Equip - ADAR)

9. Handed him the following Declarations of Surplus Stores about to be turned transferred to ADAR Depot :-

(1) Ref 536/130 att to Q 132 of 1.8.46
(2) Ref 536/128 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46
(3) Ref Eng/Dis.0379 - Eng 51 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46
(4) Ref 536/137 att to Q 132 of 7.8.46

(1)

Lt.Col [illegible] (AD Comm.Veh & Mot Services - ADAR)

10. Handed him following Declarations of Surplus Stores going from Disposals Office to ADAR shortly :-

Ref 10029 att to Q 132 of 8.8. 46
Ref 10025 att to Q 132 of 8.8. 46
Ref 10027 att to Q 132 of 8.8. 46 (2)

Capt [illegible] (AD Army - ADAR)

11. Handed him following Declaration of Surplus Stores shortly going to ADAR :-

Ref [illegible]/2982/6 ) att to Q 132
Ref [illegible]/2982/7 ) of 7.8. 46
Ref [illegible]/2982/8 )

(3)

...../4

475[illegible]

1504

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Lt-Col TARRANTINO

12. The Min of War received a written request from MEST (Civilian Liaison Section) ARC.757 US Army dated 5th and 16 inst to allow a certain Mr TREBEL to visit BERLIN and FRANKFURT to examine lots of C.I.M. Building materials to BAVARIA" whose being returnable ordered by 5th Army to 3rd Army.
Pointed out that such a request should have come through MGCA and suggested replying to this effect, and that when Mr TREBEL turned up he should be referred to this HQ. Copy of correspondence will be sent to MGCA. (E)

Lt-Col TARRANTINO

13. With CSO I(Eng) at Ministry on 13 Aug acted as interpreter in discussions.

At end of meeting TARRANTINO expressed the hope that ARAR would intervene in regard to the Section "POLO GROUNDS" reverting to the Army (who owned it up to 1939 when taken over by the Socialists) as soon as decontaminated. It is feared that Ministry of Interior and the "Post War" Ministry had their eye on it. (E)

Dr WEST (Chief Personnel Office - Germany)

14. Obtained particulars and last known address of Dr [redacted] wanted in connection with the Gribaco investigations. Learnt that [redacted] is brother of Don [redacted] Territorial Counsel PALERMO, who was never a Fascist. (E)

| | |
|---|---|
| Lt-Col SPINELLI<br>Lt-Col MARCHANT<br>Lt-Col TARRANTINO<br>Capt WAGNER | } The Ministry of War - ARAR |

15. Called on each of the above mentioned officers separately to obtain their personal views and comments on actual relations between Min and ARAR in regard to obtention of materials required by the Army.
Each one, in similar terms, expressed himself dissatisfied with ARAR obstructionist attitude.
The scheme set out in directive issued by the Min under ref 215200/II dated 5.6.46, does not work smoothly in practice. ARAR tend to avoid giving Min any opportunity of acquiring materials.
This is not surprising, because :-

(a) Better prices are obtainable from civilian purchasers.

(b) These can generally pay cash whereas the Min can only offer a Treasury Credit, and often after months of delay.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

475

[redacted]

13. with G30 I(Erg) at Ministry on 13 aug acted as interpreter in discussions.

At end of Meeting [redacted] expressed the hope that HMG could intervene in regard to the Station "Villa Margarita" reverting to the Army (who owned it up to 1925 when taken over by the Fascists) as soon as Quadripartitional. [redacted] charged that Ministry of Interior and the "Post War" Ministry had their eye on it. (S)

re [redacted] (Chief Personnel Officer - Generals)

14. Obtained particulars and last known address of Gen [redacted] connection with War Crimes investigations. Learnt that [redacted] is brother of Gen [redacted] who was never a Fascist. (S)

| | |
|---|---|
| [redacted] | } Ufficio Ministry of War |
| [redacted] | } - ARAR |
| [redacted] | } |
| [redacted] | } |

15. Called on each of the above mentioned officers separately to obtain their personal views and comments on actual relations between HQ and ARAR in regard to obtention of materials required by the Army. 475

Each one, in similar terms, expressed himself dissatisfied with ARAR obstructionist attitude.

The scheme set out in direction issued by the Min under Ref 2150/6/21 dated 3.6.46, does not work smoothly in practice. ARAR tend to avoid giving HQ any opportunity of acquiring materials.

This is not surprising, because :-

(a) Better prices are obtainable from Civilian Purchasers.

(b) These can generally pay cash whereas the Min can only offer a Treasury Credit, and often after considerable delay.

(c) Collusion between officials of ARAR and their friends and relations is suspected. Large sums in "Commission" probably change hands.

...../3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

15.(Contd)

Each of the above officers is interested in his own particular sphere only (i.e. Commissariat etc, Reinstitution, Images, Army) and knew nothing of his colleagues requirements, difficulties or successes.
Suggested they should get together periodically and compare notes and inform each other of the existence of material likely to be of interest.
Handed for notes on the subject to ADM. (A)

Col BALDWIN

16. Had been asked by Lt Col of the SCAP Disposals Mission whether Ferr Repair Units could undertake repair and maint of vehs belonging to Disposal Mission. It concerned 6 Italian vehs and ½ Brit.
BALDWIN gave a non-committal reply as he disliked refusing outright, having known Lt Col when Major in Brit. All the Ferr Coal Depts were very much overburdened with work, were short of mechanicians tools and spares, and could really not undertake new work.
Suggested to BALDWIN that Lt Col should be asked to apply through this HQ who could handle the matter centrally. (B)

Col FRANKLIN - Distribution of Recruits 1925 Class

17. Obtained (and handed to ADM) copy of letter addressed to all MIL Commands (ref 04/2525/Gen dated 25.7.46) with 4 enclosures viz :-

(1) Tables showing assignments of 1925 class recruits of the first Assembly call-up classified according to Arms and Services.

(2) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Inf & Arty).

(3) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Engrs & Armoured Cars).

(4) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Med & Supplies).

(B)

Capt KEITH

18. Obtained nominal list of Generals who have applied for transfer to reserve. Longer ranks list will be ready

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

likely to be of interest.
Handed for notice on the subject to hand. (J)

Col [illegible]

16. Had been asked by Mr [illegible] of the [illegible] Shipwreck Mission (Mariner Terr Nephin Quite could undertake repair and paint of yacht belonging to Shipwreck Mission. It consisted 6 Italian subs and 14 Brit.
[illegible] gave a non-committal reply as he disliked refusing outright, having known Mr [illegible] when Major in 1918. All the Navy Dept Stage were very much overburdened with work, were short of technicians tools and spares, and could really not undertake more work.
Suggested to [illegible] that Mr [illegible] be asked to apply through this HQ who would handle the matter tactfully. (H)

Col [illegible] - Distribution of recruits 1925 class

17. Obtained (and handed to AAG) copy of letter addressed to all Mil Districts (ref G4/2709/Gen dated 25.7.46) with 4 enclosures viz :-

(1) Tables showing assignments of 1925 class recruits of the first 4-monthly call-up classified according to Arms and Services.

(2) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Inf & Army).

(3) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Engrs & Reconstruction).

(4) Tables showing classification according to trades and occupations. (Med & Supplies).

4753

(2)

Lett [illegible]

18. Obtained nominal list of Generals who have a claim for transfer to reserve. Lower ranks list will be ready shortly. (F)

Lt-Col [illegible]

19. Handed to him various letters re persons carried by the Allied authorities. Now in preparation a number of replies to our recent enquiries. (F)

Col [illegible]

20. Obtained full particulars of Rates of Pay and Allowances for all Ranks of Italian Army. (F)

...../6

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Col PIACENTINI

24. The application for exemption from Military Service which have been made through HQ on behalf of employees of UNRRA or other Allied Organisation c ne to inconvenience or trouble to the Ministry.
The number of the men available as records is greatly in excess of requirements and it has been laid down in Calling Up Instructions that exemption may be granted to non pers nnel employed by such Allied Organisations. Their applications for exemption are to be satisfactorily authenticated. (P)

Col LAMBERT

25. No project for the adjustment of Army Pay and Allowances is under consideration. Some proposals have been made and a rough memo drawn up. The trend is that no increases for UKE are possible because of financial difficulties neither are they essential as UKE are provided with every necessity.
Officers however have a number of unavoidable commitments such as the necessity to provide themselves with appropriate uniforms in good condition; expenses involved in moving family and belongings on the frequent transfer of station; the high cost of such lodgings; expenses when sent on duty to outpost or other cities etc.
The proposals therefore are to increase officers' allowances. They have not yet been put before the Minister. (P)

Col MEWBURN

26. Combined list of officers below the rank of General who have applied for transfer to the Reserve since Gun 1st 46. (P)

Col PENDERGRASS

27. Re our letter No/ S/1 dated 30.7.46 to Genie Sar Office. 475
The project to repair buildings of UNRRA at BERGEN has been drawn up, after approval by the Departments concerned. As the estimated expenditure is like £1,000,000 it must be signed by the Minister who is at present in EGYPT. When he returns and signs the project work will begin immediately. (P)

Col FURZER

28. The Award to all members of the Allied Forces in ITALY of the "STELLA DI LIBERAZIONE" ribbon and certificate, which was suspended as per Italian War Office letter 105 1/4.2/4 dated 2nd Jan 46, will now be undertaken, it being understood that the objections of the Allied Command have been withdrawn (verbal UNRRA - Col Van Kirk). Col FURZER asks that a letter be sent to him stating the number of persons entitled

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

1501

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

4753

authorities. (P)

Col [illegible]

22. No project for the adjustment of any pay and allowances is under consideration. Some proposals have been made and a rough case drawn up. The trend is that no increases for the are possible because of financial difficulties neither are they essential as (We are provided with every necessity.
Officers however have a number of unavoidable commitments such as the necessity to provide themselves with appropriate uniforms in good condition; expenses involved in moving family and belongings on the frequent transfers of station; the high cost of such lodgings; expenses when sent on duty to outpost or other cities etc.
The proposals therefore are to increase officers' allowances. They have not yet been put before the Minister. (P)

Col [illegible]

23. Detailed list of officers below the rank of General who have applied for transfer to the Reserve since Jan 1st 46. (P)

Col [illegible]

24. Re our letter AV/ 9/4 dated 20.7.46 re Genio War Office. The project to restore buildings of GENIO at BOLZANO has been drawn up, after approval by the Departments concerned. As the estimated expenditure is Lire 33,000,000 it must be signed by the Minister who is at present in PARIS. When he returns and signs the project work will begin immediately. (P)

Col [illegible]

25. The Award to all members of the Allied Forces in ITALY of the "CROCE DI GUERRA" Ribbon and Certificate, which was suspended as per Italian War Office Letter 123 1/A. 2.4 dated Jan 22nd 46, will now be undertaken, it being understood that the objections of the Allied General have been withdrawn (verbal MEMSA - Col Van Kirk). Col [illegible] asks that a letter be sent to him stating the number of persons entitled to the award and the required quantity of certificates and ribbon will then be supplied. (P)

Col [illegible]

26. Attended Meeting of Col [illegible] and Col [illegible] in the Minister's office. Reorganisation of the Italian War Office.

...../7

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020



[illegible]

27. Asked for the US ex ante [illegible] to dealing with the proposal.

[illegible]

28. [illegible] Boundary is marked on Map of Bill Schedule. The Middle - South Boundary is marked by a dotted line as a suggestion to extend the Arab territory in under consideration. Requested 20 copies of this Map. As another interview later to discuss disagreements with Ambassador that Levant shown on this map as a Schedule, is actually part of Arab District; this matter was settled will be passed by Arabic [illegible] Accounts in more detail.

16 August 1946

Liaison with [redacted] Ministry (& [redacted])

27 Jul - 2 Aug 46

Col LOMBARDI

1. Gave him sight of signal from Bergamo re Ordnance Base (MT spares etc) to be established at Monza, and requested that the application for approval be treated as a matter of urgency. Promised. (P)

Col PASQUALIN

2. Submitted request of the Screening Committee to retain the services of Ten D'ALAURO, contrary to their letter of Jul 11 which assented to his withdrawal.

It could be assumed that no objection would be made to his employment by the committee for a further period (say about two months) unless other instructions were issued in the meantime. (P)

T/Col ALESSANDRO

3. Discussed an apparent discrepancy in the figures of strength variations due to demobilisation and intakes which will occur during August.

Also obtained state showing present strength of Reg. Army Officers, and NCOs and that of classes 1920, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25. (P)

Gen LIUZZI

4. Accompanied Brig HOLE who communicated to Gen LIUZZI decisions re HQ 5th Terr Comd. (P)

T/Col GORMANNI

5. Further to request for the transfer to Allied custody of alleged War Criminal TROCHONI, T/Col GORMANNI states this man is not being held by the Mil authorities. Reference has been made to the Min of the Interior and search is proceeding.

Suggest Direct communication from A.C. to Min of Interior might be helpful. (P)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

6. (a) Release of Tech Eqpt (Q 136 of 25 Jul 46): Handed Olivetti a/m letter re release of armourer's tools from 16 Base Wksps MANFREDI.

Olivetti would take necessary action.

(b) Releases 'A' Vehicles (Q 137 of 29 Jul 46): Handed Lt Col Olivetti a/m letter re vchs to be collected from 12 Veh Pk FORLI. Olivetti taking action and will notify HQ 6 Terr Comd of destination. (P)

Col BIANCARDI (Chief Engr of Works Dept, Engrs Direct-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

his employment by the committee for a further period (say about two months) unless other instructions were issued in the meantime. (P)

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Also obtained state showing present strength of Reg. Army Officers, and NCOs and that of classes 1920, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25. (P)

Gen LIUZZI

4. Accompanied Brig ROPS who communicated to Gen LIUZZI decisions re HQ 5th Terr Comd. (P)

T/Col SORMANTI

5. Further to request for the transfer to Allied custody of alleged War Criminal TROGNONI, T/Col SORMANTI states this man is not being held by the Mil authorities. Reference has been made to the Min of the Interior and search is proceeding.

Suggest direct communication from A.C. to Min of Interior might be helpful. (P)

4751

Lt Col OLIVETTI

6. (a) Release of Tech Eqpt (Q 136 of 25 Jul 46): Handed Olivetti a/m letter re release of armourer's tools from 16 Base Wksps NAPLES.

Olivetti would take necessary action.

(b) Releases 'A' Vehicles (Q 137 of 29 Jul 46): Handed Lt Col Olivetti a/m letter re vehs to be collected from 12 Veh Pk FORLI. Olivetti taking action and will notify HQ 6 Terr Comd of destination. (E)

Col BIANCARDI (Chief Engr of Works Dept, Engrs Directorate)

7. Re repairs to reqd bldgs Rome Area: -Q-

(a) Called on Col Biancardi at War Min briefly outlining the matter for discussion with D. Comdr vis repairs to the ex "Circolo della Stampa" in Piazza Colonna ROME (Q 001 of 26 Feb 46).

(b) Accompanied Biancardi to office of D. Comdr at 1030 hrs to keep appt made by phone previous day. (E)

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Lt Col OLIVETTI

-Q-

8. Re Arty Tools:

(a) The Min having received no reply to their letter of 4 Apr 46 ref 4/797 and reminder of 4 Jul 46, Oliv--etti did not know whether MMIA could assist in prov--iding necessary tools for 25 pr, 17 pr, 6 pr and 40 mm guns. MMIAs suggestion that such tools be obtained from Inf Divs could not be acted upon (said Olivetti) because the Inf Div Wksps needed the tools.

Asked whether the Min could have necessary tools made, Olivetti said he would make enquiries.

(b) Handed Lt Col Olivetti the following letters and enclosures:

Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases 'B' vehs from 9 Veh Pk CAPUA)

Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases of 'B' vehs from 18 Veh Pk CASARSA)

Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases [illegible] from 9 Veh Pk CAPUA)

Olivetti will take action and see that destinations are notified to 5 and 10 Terr Comds.

(c) Transfer of Ammo to IT Army: Copy of Q 139 of 24 Jul 46 handed to Olivetti for perusal. Original had not yet reached him. He noted contents and will reply in due course. (S)

Lt Col TORSIELLO (SHAEF Trg)

9. Min of War is carrying out tests on the 81 mm and 45 mm mortars with a view to standardising in IT Army in lieu of 2" and 3" Mortars (BR) which are not available.

47[illegible]

1st test completed; results awaited
2nd (ballistic)tests will begin next week; it will be carried out by a Commission of SHAEF offrs. (S)

Gen PELLIGRA (Chief, Commissariat)

10. Asked Pelligra whether, in view of closing down of Allied Base Installations, Terr Comds could assist MMIs in:

(a) provision of local meat and veg;

(b) baking of bread;

(c) repair of MT;

Pelligra replied that as regards (a) and (b) most certainly this could be arranged and he would instruct Terr Comdrs accord--ingly. (c) concerned Director of Motorisation.

Min of War will in due course inform MMIA as to maintenance

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(b) Handed Lt Col Olivetti the following letters and enclosures:

Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases 'B' vehs from 9 Veh Pk CAPUA)
Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases of 'B' vehs from 18 Veh Pk CASARSA)
Q 202 of 29 Jul 46 (Releases [illegible] from 9 Veh Pk CAPUA)

Olivetti will take action and see that destinations are notified to 5 and 10 Terr Comds.

(c) Transfer of Ammo to IT Army: Copy of Q 139 of 24 Jul 46 handed to Olivetti for perusal. Original had not yet reached him. He noted contents and will reply in due course. (E)

Lt Col TORSIELLO (SMRS Trg)

9. Min of War is carrying out tests on the 81 mm and 45 mm mortars with a view to standardising in IT Army in lieu of 2" and 3" Mortars (BR) which are not available.

1st test completed; results awaited
2nd (ballistic) tests will begin next week; it will be carried out by a Commission of SMRS offrs. (E)

Gen PELLIGRA (Chief, Commissariat)

10. Asked Pelligra whether, in view of closing down of Allied Base Installations, Terr Comds could assist ZNUS in:

(a) provision of local meat and veg;

(b) making of bread;

(c) repair of MT;

Pelligra replied that as regards (a) and (b) most certainly this could be arranged and he would instruct Terr Comdrs accordingly. (c) concerned Director of Motorisation.
Min of War will in due course inform MMIA as to maintenance charges etc. (E)

Col BALANZINO (Motorisation Div)

11. Re 10 (c) above: Balanzino says that Terr Comd Wksps are at disposal of ZNUs for any repair work required. No need to give further instructions.
If at any time there should be a hitch he is to be immediately informed. (E)

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Lt Col OLIVETTI

12. Ammo for IT Army (Q 137 of 22 Jul 46): The ammo referred to in a/m letter available shortly at 12 D.A.C. MESTRE, will be removed to the Directorate of Artillery stores, VENICE. (E) -Q-

Lt Col BALANZINO

13. Re Electrolyte (Q 138A fol 19): The Min has never had any difficulty in obtaining ELECTROLYTE, which is plentiful. -Q-
The "Genio", Arty and MT make their own arrgts to purchase locally. (E)

14. M.M.G. for Inf Regts (ref SD/109/2 of 27 Jul 46): Arranged for, and attended meeting at the War Min at 1015 hrs on 30 Jul 46 with GSO I (SD) to discuss suitability of the BREDA MG as compared with the Vickers to equip MG Coys at Inf Regt HQ, and if fmn of such MG Coys was practical and advisable. -G-
The following IT offrs were present:

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI
Col QUERCIA
Lt Col OLIVETTI

These offrs expressed themselves very satisfied with BREDA's efficiency and general performance, which compared favourably (on paper) with Vickers.
LIUZZI was of the opinion that owing to shortage of water in some parts of Italy, air-cooled BREDA would require less elaborate "service", other points in favour of BREDA being:

(a) heavier projectile.

(b) longer range.

(c) can be manufactured in Italy.

Quantity of BREDA MGs immediately available 2500 approx. It was therefore tentatively agreed that BREDA should be adopted as the standard MG for Inf Bns and that the matter of forming MG Coys be discussed further at some future date. Shortage of personnel makes it inadvisable at present. (E)

Gen ROSSI
Col BALANZINO

15. REME equpt handed to CARE: On 1st Aug called on these offrs with DADME this HQ and acted as interpreter. -Q-
Explained system of vouchers and submitted vouchers for signature relating to REME Wkshps equipt handed to CARE.
Col Balanzino promised to have all vouchers signed and ready next morning. (E)

Gen LIUZZI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Regt HQ,
-visable.
The following at

Gen LUZZI
Col FRACCHIA
Col QUENDA
Lt Col OLIVETTI

These offrs expressed themselves very satisfied with HMDA's efficiency and general performance, which compared favourably (on paper) with Vickers.
LUZZI was of the opinion that owing to shortage of water in some parts of Italy, air-cooled HMDA would require less elaborate "service", other points in favour of HMDA being:

(a) heavier projectile.

(b) longer range.

(c) can be manufactured in Italy.

Quantity of HMDA offs immediately available 2400 approx. It was therefore tentatively agreed that HMDA should be adopted as the standard MG for Inf Bns and that the matter of forming MG Coys be discussed further at some future date. Shortage of personnel makes it inadvisable at present. (E)

-9-

15. Gen ROSSI
Col BALANCINO

RMMM equpt handed to CAME: On 1st Aug called on these offrs with DADME this HQ and acted as interpreter.
Explained system of vouchers and submitted vouchers for signature relating to RMMM items equipt handed to CAME.
Col Balancino promised to have all vouchers signed and ready next morning. (E)

Gen LUZZI

16. Weapons Policy for the IT Army (SD/109 of 2 Aug 46): Accompanied BGS and Col A/Q to War Min at 1030 hrs 2 Aug 46 and acted as interpreter in conversation with Gen Liuzzi. A/m letter (from GOC MMLA) was handed personally to Lt Gen LUZZI and contents carefully explained to him.
Gen LUZZI expressed appreciation for the help MMLA were giving the Min and was pleased to hear that the transfer of any weapons would be effected direct from Br Army to IT Army without ARAR acting as middle-man. He would have letter translated and submitted to Chief of GS. At the first opportunity would inform this HQ of date and time when Gen CADORNA and GOC MMLA could meet for further discussion on the subject if necessary. Conversations ended at 1100 hrs. (E)

jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

(C)

Maj MATTI (SMRE)

1. A 331 of 18 Jul 46, visit of Gen A. CERICA: Asked Matti to inform Chief of Gen Staff of Gen Cerica's approaching visit to GOC NMLA and explained why request for such interviews did not go through "proper channels". (S) -A-

Col FIORE VERNAZZA (PRO or "UCEP")

2. During the last 4 weeks PRO has been very active. The following are among the activities: -A-

(a) He has prepared and submitted to the War Minister a full and detailed report on the formation, scope and work of the "UFFICIO COLLEGAMENTO ESERCITO - PAESE" (Liaison Officer-Army Population)

(b) On the occasion when the outgoing War Minister BROSIO introduced to the new Minister all officers of the Cabinet ~~the "CHIEF"~~ BROSIO explained in a few words the functions of this new office.

(c) The new Minister G. PACCIARDI is President of the National Press Federation, and therefore is likely to take particular interest in the "UCEP" from a journalistic angle. He promised to give it personal support.

(d) With the assistance of the Press Attache at the Br Embassy, the representatives of the "UCEP" in all the large towns in Italy have made contact with the PROs in these towns. This will enable exchange of mutual infom, assistance etc.

(e) Gen de Castiglioni held a Press Conference in Palermo recently at which were invited proprietors of all the chief newspapers in SICILY, when he spoke of the scope and activities of the new PRO.

(f) Col Fiore Vernazza visited the PT School at CERANO on 22 June. Prize giving took place.

(g) On 19 June had another interview with Press Attache (Br Emb). Attended private showing of the film "THUS GLORY" some other 40 - 50 It Offrs and members of the press also attended.

(h) During the Elections PRO organised local excursions for troops sent to ROME from SARDINIA for Int Sec duties.

(i) On 27 June he visited the Signals School at CESCHINA-MOLA.

(j) In connection with the approaching 1925 call-up PRO circulated a memo to all Terr Comdrs as a guide on what to say to members of the local press to enable them to explain to the public the working of the new "National" system of the call-up.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(Liaison Officer Army Department)

(b) On the occasion when the outgoing War Minister PROSIO introduced to the new Minister all officers of the Cabinet ~~who were~~ PROSIO explained in a few words the functions of this new office.

(c) The new Minister G. BACCHELLI is President of the National Press Federation, and therefore is likely to take particular interest in the "UCSE" from a journalistic angle. He promised to give it personal support.

(d) With the assistance of the Press Attache at the Br Embassy, the representatives of the "UCSE" in all the large towns in Italy have made contact with the PROs in these towns. This will enable exchange of mutual info, assistance etc.

(e) Gen de Castiglioni held a Press Conference in Palermo recently at which were invited proprietors of all the chief newspapers in SICILY, when he spoke of the scope and activities of the new PRO.

(f) Col Fiore Vernazza visited the RT School at ORSANO on 22 June. Prize giving took place.

(g) On 19 June had another interview with Press Attache (Br Emb). Attended private showing of the film "THE GLORY" some other 40 - 50 It Offrs and members of the press also attended.

(h) During the Elections PRO organised local excursions for troops sent to ROME from NAPOLI for Int Sec duties.

(i) On 27 June he visited the Signals School at ORVIETO-
-ROMA.

(j) In connection with the approaching 1925 call-up PRO circulated a memo to all Terr Comdrs as a guide on what to say to members of the local press to enable them to explain to the public the working of the new "National" system of the call-up.

(k) On 15 July attended the Fete of the Finance Guards. Photos taken on this occasion were published in various newspapers, including the Communist paper "UNITA".

(l) On 9 July a 15 min talk was broadcast from ROME Radio describing the formations of the "UCSE" (PWB).

(m) Col Fiore Vernazza will shortly visit MMLA HQ to pay his respects to GOC. (S)

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/32
DATE 29/4/46.

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1747

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Lt Col MONACO (Cabinet)

3. Re ARAR: The question was put to Monaco as to whether there was any person in the War Ministry detailed to co-ordinate the requirements of the various bchs of the Army and to deal direct with ARAR in regard to the acquisition of vehs, arms, equpt etc from that source. In reply Monaco stated that the Min had drawn up a directive on the subject which was circulated to all concerned (except MMIA) under No 215200/II dated 5 June 46 whereby 2 offrs were detailed as co-ordinating liaison offrs i.e. -O-

(a) To deal with requirements of Commissariat Med and Vet Services and

(b) for Arty, MT and Engr requirements.

In practice, however, it was decided to have one offr for

(a) Lt Col SPINELLI - Comm Med and Vet Serv

(b) (Lt Col PANDRAZI - Motorisation
(Lt Col IANNARINO - Engineers
(Capt VARINI - Artillery

These offr's duties include inspection of ARAR dumps to ascertain contents and report existence of any suitable material to the depts concerned.

It Mil equipment found in ARAR dumps automatically becomes the property of the War Ministry; other materials thought suitable for the Army, can be acquired by purchase and War Ministry holds first priority with a 15 day's option. This option is intended to give the Min time to inform the various branches and collect their indents. However, even after the expiring of this period War Min can "block" the materials they are particularly interested in, simply by instructing the guards on the dumps (through Comilitere under whose orders they are) to prevent the issue of such materials. -O-

Thus, in case of delay through difficulties with the Treasury or belated indents the Min can still have a lien on what are considered materials useful to the It Army.

Translation of the circular directive, mentioned above, was handed to AMMG. (B)

Gen PROPERZI
Lt Col MOJA

4. Recovery of Italian Army vehs in Civ hands - Q 205 & 031: -O-

(a) This matter has reached a satisfactory conclusion, as a result of the meeting held at War Min on 2 Feb 46, by the Treasury granting a credit of lire 2,250,000,000 to the War Min in lieu of and as representing the esti-mated value of some 1,800 It Mil vehs in the hands of civilians.

4746

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(a) Lt Col SPINELLI - Comm Mil and Vet Serv

(Lt Col PANCRAZI - Motorisation
(b) (Lt Col IMBARIENO - Engineers
(Capt VARINI - Artillery

These offr's duties include inspection of ARAR dumps to ascertain contents and report existence of any suitable material to the depts concerned.

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Thus, in case of delay through difficulties with the Treasury or belated indents the Min can still have a lien on what are considered materials useful to the It Army.

Translation of the circular directive, mentioned above, was handed to AFHQ. (E)

Gen FRONTERO
Lt Col MOJA

4. Recovery of Italian Army vehs in Civ hands - Q 205 & 051:

(a) This matter has reached a satisfactory conclusion, as a result of the meeting held at War Min on 2 Feb 46, by the Treasury granting a credit of lire 2,250,000,000 to the War Min in lieu of and as representing the esti-mated value of some 1,000 It Mil vehs in the hands of civilians.

(b) The civilian holders of such vehs are to be made to pay for the privilege, so that the Treasury may in time, be reimbursed. But as neither the Treasury nor Min of Tpt have the necessary org for the collection of the money Min of War will undertake the task.

(c) The problem of recovery of It Army vehs is, however, not entirely disposed of by the above solution, which only applies to 1,000 vehs part of a total of 12,195 vehs, considered CRM, ceded to the Min of Tpt and now operating in civilian hands (incl ex partisan tpt org) in the N (LIGURIA, LOMBARDIA, PIEMONTE and VENETO).

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

A good proportion of these are Mil vehs, and it is suggested that they be treated in the same manner as the 1900 above, as and when the War Min can lay hands on them.

(e) Time is a factor against the War Min in this matter, as deterioration of material and decline in prices due to increase of new vehs coming on to the market, will rapidly reduce the intrinsic value of the vehs in question. The quicker a decision is made and action taken the larger the credit sum which can be obtained from the Treasury.

(f) Gen Properzi asks for MMIA approval.

(g) The Gen further suggested that ARAR be left out of this transaction if possible, so that the Min may collect the proceeds from the civilian veh holders and administer these funds.

(h) On the 8 of Aug a meeting will take place at the Ministry of Post War Assistance (Ministero dell' Assistenza Post bellica) at which the question of ex partisans and ex POW holders of vehs will be discussed. If MMIA's views on the above suggestions could be given soon they will be of great assistance to Gen Properzi when putting forward his proposals at the meeting. (S)

Lt Col BONFANTI

5. Equipment - Info required by USSR Repr: The work of collec- -S-
-ting this infmn is proving a formidable task, some 296,000 "dossiers" have to be examined. The work is straigthforward enough in regard to regular offrs, but becomes complicated when it concerns temp offrs, NCOs and Civ employees of the War Min.
It is hoped that the work will be accomplished within next week (28 Jul - 3 Aug). (S)

4745

Lt Col ALOIA

6. Releases 'A' Vehs: Handed Aloia 3 letters Q 137 dated 22 -S-
Jul concerning total of 48 "Staghounds" available for collection from NAPLES and FOGLI. Aloia would see to informing respective Terr Comds of destination. (S)

Lt Col CARRACINI (Recruiting and Mobilisation Office-SMRS)

7. (a) Asked Carracini for figures showing general distr- -S-
-ibution of recruits of the last call-up. Actual figures are not yet available, they will be compiled towards the end of Aug when returns from Terr Comds have all been received.

(b) A forecast of the figures was submitted to this Mission by the Min under ref 01/619/Mob dated 2 Feb 46. Whether in practice these have worked out as on paper

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

collect the proceeds from the civilian veh holders and administer these funds.

(h) On the 8 of Aug a meeting will take place at the Ministry of Post War Assistance (Ministero dell' Assistenza post bellica) at which the question of ex partisans and ex POW holders of vehs will be discussed. If AMGOT's views on the above suggestions could be given soon they will be of great assistance to Gen Prunas when putting forward his proposals at the meeting. (S)

Lt Col SOMMARIVA

5. -1- Equation - Info required by USSR Regs: The work of collecting this infmn is proving a formidable task, some 296,000 "dossiers" have to be examined. The work is straightforward enough in regard to regular offrs, but becomes complicated when it concerns temp offrs, NCOs and Civ employees of the War Min.

It is hoped that the work will be accomplished within next week (29 Jul - 3 Aug). (S)

Lt Col ALOIA

6. -2- Releases 'A' Vehs: Handed Aloia 3 letters Q 137 dated 22 Jul concerning total of 42 "Staghounds" available for collection from NAPLES and FORLI. Aloia would see to informing respective Terr Comds of destination. (S)

Lt Col CARRACCINI (Recruiting and Mobilization Office-SHAEF)

7. -3-4- (a) Asked Carraccini for figures showing general distribution of recruits of the last call-up. Actual figures are not yet available, they will be compiled towards the end of Aug when returns from Terr Comds have all been received.

(b) A forecast of the figures was submitted to this Mission by the Min under ref 01/619/Mob dated 2 Feb 46. Whether in practice these have worked out as on paper cannot yet be ascertained.

(c) The call-up of the first batch of 2nd and 3rd 4 months of 1924 class will begin on 5th Aug. The same for 1st batch of 1925 class the distribution of which is being worked out.

(d) A margin of 5% over requirements has been added to cover deficiencies due to unfitness, failure to report for duty etc.

(e) It is estimated that, against a call-up of some 42,000 men,

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

Pn 7 (e) (Cont

50,000 of all call-ups will be released, including some 4,000 of the 1924 class who have completed 38 months service. So that the overall figure (at present 148,000 approx, will be reduced by about 8,000 to the ceiling figure, if not slightly below. (E)

Lt Col BULGARELLI (Supplies Section Min of War)

8. Discussed suggestions set out in letter from S MLU ref S/S/14 of 3 July about SOAP.

The stumbling block to the provision of more soap to the troops is funds. The War Min is having great difficulty already in having money earmarked for more important things than soap.

However, the importance of cleanliness is apprec--iated, and instructions have been circulated to make a substitute by boiling wood-ash then filtering it, which produces a viscuous liquid with high cleaning properties. (E)

Gen CERRICA (G.O.C. VI Terr Comd)

9. Acted as interpreter at interview between Gen Cerica and GOC MELA on Friday morning 26 July 46. (E)

Lt Col MORACO

10. 6.5 mm It carbines: There are fairly large quantities of these guns, now obsolete as far as the Army is con--cerned, which could be used by P. Security, Communal Guards, Forest Guards, nightwatchmen etc. War Ministry requests authority from this HQ.

Accurate figures will be furnished shortly. (E)

11. Mine Clearance - MONT CENIS District: French Liaison Offr Capt LOUJET states: 23 July 46

It is reported that mine clearance has not been effected in the MONT CENIS Section of Italian territory which will be ceded to France. 474

Permission to send French mine clearing sections to do the work was requested through the Italian Embassy Paris and refused as Italian units had already completed the task.

The French believe their own information and would prefer to clear up the mines before the signature of the Peace Treaty as snow will then prevent operations until June 1947. The French Mission suggests that Allied and for French Offrs be sent to the district to confirm whether or not the mines have been cleared. (F)

12. Welfare Centre RIETI: The order to de-requisition the sugar refinery property takes effect Sept 15th 46. Alternative premises for welfare could be available in the Caserma Allievi Sottufficiale, an advantage being that fixtures and fittings installed would be the perm- 26 July 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

difficulty already in having money earmarked for more important things than soap.

However, the importance of cleanliness is appreciated, and instructions have been circulated to make a substitute by boiling wood-ash then filtering it, which produces a viscuous liquid with high cleaning properties. (E)

Gen CERICA (C.C.C. VI Terr Comd)

9. Acted as interpreter at interview between Gen Cerica and COC MMIA on Friday morning 26 July 46. (E)

Lt Col MONACO

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Accurate figures will be furnished shortly. (E)

11. Mine Clearance - MONT CENIS District: French Liaison Offr Capt LOQUET states: 25 July 46

It is reported that mine clearence has not been effected in the MONT CENIS Section of Italian territory which will be ceded to France.

Permission to send French mine clearing sections to do the work was requested through the Italian Embassy Paris and refused as Italian units had already completed the task.

The French believe their own information and would prefer to clear up the mines before the signature of the Peace Treaty as snow will then prevent operations until June 1947. The French Mission suggests that Allied and/or French Offrs be sent to the district to confirm whether or not the mines have been cleared. (P)

12. Welfare Centre RIVOLI: The order to de-requisition the sugar refinery property takes effect Sept 15th 46. Alternative premises for welfare could be available in the Caserma Allievi Sottufficiale, an advantage being that fixtures and fittings installed would be the permanent property of the War Office. Estimates of the cost of adapting these premises have been asked for. 26 July 46

The civil authorities, i.e. Min of the Interior, Prefect Sindaco, C of Commerce, insist that it is essential to release the building to the Refinery Coy. It is the only suitable accn for the admin and tech staffs. The production of the refinery is a ~~national~~ NATIONAL necessity.

The opposition is so strong that the War Office consider it would be a mistake to insist on retaining the premises, and foresee possible popular demonstrations if the refinery fails to operate with consequent unemployment, owing to the impossibility to accommodate ADS and

5/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

1526

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020



Para 12 (Contd)

tech staffs and their families.

The legal position is that the power to requisition ceases on Sept 15th 1945, and premises still requisitioned on that date must be released, at the earliest possible moment thereafter. (F)

JW 29/7/46

47½

Liaison with War Ministry (A SMGE) 9/32 2 - 16 July 46

Lt Col MONACO

1. Barracks at NOVARA: The Passalacqua Barracks at Novara are still occupied by refugees. No effort seems to have been made to vacate them or find suitable substitute. -Q-

Terr Comd TURIN have told Monaco over the phone that these bks cannot be vacated for several reasons, one important one being that it would cause discontent among the troops (trained recruits) returning to duty after their period of leave if they were given accn considerably below the standard of the CARs.

The Chief of Staff, TURIN Terr HQ had ordered and obtained the evacuation of the barracks at RIVOLI but does not feel justified (according to Monaco) in ordering the evacuation of those at Novara as well, in view of the circumstances, and thinks MMIA and DPWD might make the concession of allowing the bks at Novara to remain in the hands of the present occupiers.

Writer told Monaco that as the Mission had promised the bks in question to DPWD it wished to keep that promise. In the writer's opinion nothing will be achieved unless the matter is taken up at a higher level. (E)

Col MELONI
Lt Col OLIVIERI

2. Letter 89/103/2 of 14 June 46: The War Min accepts the substitution of Thompson Machine carbines for the Stens which are required for the Brit Army. -Q-

Dates and procedure of exchange to be fixed by MMIA. Letter from the Min of War to the above effect will follow. (E)

Col PIACENTINI

3. Cremona Workshops personnel (1 MIS report of 1 July 46 page 7): In reply to the query as to the reason why some WOs and NCOs with tech qualifications and wishing to remain in the Army should not be allowed to do so, Piacentini said that this was not the case. -A-

By a circular letter (No 42002/4 of 22 June 46) the various Terr Comds, branches of the War Min and SMGE were informed (inter alia) that NCOs could apply to be retained in the Army subject to their having certain qualifications.

Handed circular, with translation to AAG. (E)

Col VITTORIA (III Office Cabinet)
Lt Col SORMANI

4. Epuration (A227 of 13 June 46): Some notes are being compiled by the III Office in the Cabinet, for handing to the USSR representatives, as requested by them. These notes will be ready on about 20 July. (E) -A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

does not feel justified (according to Monaco) in ordering the evacuation of those at Novara as well, in view of the circumstances, and thinks MMIA and DPSC might make the concession of allowing the bks at Novara to remain in the hands of the present occupiers.

Writer told Monaco that as the Mission had promised the bks in question to DPSC it wished to keep that promise. In the writer's opinion nothing will be achieved unless the matter is taken up at a higher level. (E)

Col MELONI
Lt Col CLAVETTI

2. Letter 30/100/2 of 14 June 46: The War Min accepts the substitution of Thompson Machine carbines for the Stens which are required for the Brit Army. -G-

Dates and procedure of exchange to be fixed by MMIA. Letter from the Min of War to the above effect will follow. (E)

Col PIACENTINI

3. Cremona Workshops personnel (1 BIU report of 1 July 46 page 7): In reply to the query as to the reason why some WOs and NCOs with tech qualifications and wishing to remain in the Army should not be allowed to do so, Piacentini said that this was not the case. -A-

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Handed circular, with translation to AAG. (E)

Col VITTORIA (III Office Cabinet)
Lt Col NORMANNI

4. Epuration (A227 of 13 June 46): Some notes are being compiled by the III Office in the Cabinet, for handing to the USSR representatives, as requested by them. These notes will be ready on about 20 July. (E) -A-

Col CASOLI (through Lt Col NORMANNI) POW office War Ministry.

5. Obtained two copies of plan of Camp PG70 at FERMO and one copy of plan of Camp PG59 at SERVIGLIANO, for purposes of War Crimes trials. (E) -A-

Lt Col LA SCALA
Lt Col PANCRAZIO

6. Q 207 of 11 July 46 to LO:

| | |
|---|---|
| [illegible] | [illegible] |
| G(SO) I (SI) | [illegible] |
| Dep G (O) | |
| G(SO) II (SI) | |
| G(SO) II (P) | |
| G(SO) II (C) | |
| G(SO) I (M) | |
| G II (L) | |

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/32.
DATE 18/7/46

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Para 6 (Contd)

(a) The Ministry are not obtaining any repair facili- -Q-
-ties from Pirelli, MILAN but are negotiating with Pirelli, ROME (whose premises in Via Asciai were recent-ly decapitalitioned ). The factory is now functioning and could meet War Min requirements in all sizes of tyres.

About 1000 tyres are being handled in and work on them is expected to begin this week.

Lt Col La Paola is attending to the question of tyre repairs, and is now awaiting Pirelli's quotations. He has also asked for quotations from two other firms in ROME for comparison, Lucceni Paolo and Feliciando Alberto.

Q 207 of 20 May 46:

(b) War Min request MMIA approval to change 1000 tyres (sizes 40,000 x 24 and 10,000 x 22) unsuitable for It mil vehs received from Portocaguese approval granted and points arising out of the financial aspect of stock transaction explained, with an equivalent number of suitable tyres held by the Min of Ind and Commerce.(3)

Col FIORENTINI

7. Regular Commission: Italian Officers (letter ref A/26 -A-
of 9 July 46 from II HQ): Piacentini confirmed that officers due for release were not being given the option of competing in the exams for regular commission.

The Chief of the Gen Staff (Gen Cadorna) on the 8th March 46 submitted to the War Minister for consideration a draft decree setting out a scheme for the recruiting of suitable men to be given the rank of 2nd Lts in the following branches of the Regular Army:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Infantry | Artillery |
| Engineers | MI |
| Commissariat | Administrative |

According to this scheme top officers of the rank of 2nd and 1st Lts would be eligible, the latter in any case reverting to the former rank. Age limit 26 yrs at 31 Dec 45 for 2nd Lts and 28 yrs at 31 Dec 45 for 1st Lts.

This draft decree has NOT yet been approved by the Min who considers present circumstances (political and financial) inopportune. 4731

Even were this decree brought into force, officers of higher rank than Lts, or over 28 yrs of age would not be eligible. If this privelege were extended to them it would obviously not be in their interest to apply.

Col AVALONE

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

tyre repairs, all in the meantime.
He has also asked for quotations from two other firms in ITALY for comparison, Ingenieri Paolo and Rolando Alberto.

Q 207 of 28 May 46:

(b) War Min request IMMA approval to change 1000 tyres (sizes 40,000 x 24 and 10,000 x 22) unsuitable for Tk mil vehs received from Purbeckgunns approval granted and points arising out of the financial aspect of stock transaction, explained, with an equivalent number of suitable tyres held by the Min of Ind and Commerce.(E)

Col FIACCHINI

7. Regular Commission: Italian Officers (letter ref A/26 of 9 July 46 from II REG): Fiacchini confirmed that officers due for release were not being given the option of competing in the exams for regular commission.
The Chief of the Gen Staff (Gen Cadorna) on the 8th March 46 submitted to the War Minister for consideration a draft decree setting out a scheme for the recruiting of suitable men to be given the rank of 2nd Lts in the following branches of the Regular Army:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Infantry | Artillery |
| Engineers | RE |
| Commissariat | Administrative |

According to this scheme two officers of the rank of 2nd and 1st Lts would be eligible, the latter in any case reverting to the former rank. Age limit 26 yrs at 31 Dec 45 for 2nd Lts and 28 yrs at 31 Dec 45 for 1st Lts.
This draft decree has NOT yet been approved by the Min who considers present circumstances (political and financial) inopportune.
Even were this decree brought into force, officers of higher rank than Lts, or over 28 yrs of age would not be eligible. If this privilege were extended to them it would obviously not be in their interest to apply.

Col AVALLONE

8. Re Arms Factory TORRE (Q 249 of 7 June 46): Discussed the future of this factory recently decreed. The intention of the Min is to develop existing facilities in order to cope with repair of Allied and Italian Arms under War Min control. (E)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

9. Berretta pistols and ammo (Q 126 of 3 July 46):

(a) The request for 700 x 9 mm pistols and 70,000 rds of ammo had been met in part, viz
280 pistols and 70,000 rds supplied. Balance of 420 pistols not yet available. This is due in part to strike at Berretta factory which began some 10 days ago.

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 9 (Contd)

(b) Contract for the supply of 2000 pistols for Cara-binieri is also held up. (E)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

10. Transfer of Arty Eqpt to It Army (ref W/27/197 of 9 Jul 46 from 557 BOD):
Contents of above letter comd to Olivetti who said that Terr Comd NAPLES had already informed Ministry and the latter had issued instrs as to distribution. (E)

Col AVALLONE

11. Maint. and preservation of Br wpns (Q 002 of 9 Jul 46): Explained verbally to Avallone contents of above letter stressing importance of using right type of lubricant. (E)

Lt Col PANCRANI

12. Italian tanks - disposal of (Q 154 of 10 Jul 46 to AC for Pub Safety S/C): Pancrani made notes and promised to write Min of Int confirming War Min disinterestedness in the matter of repair charges.
War Min would also request TURIN Arsenal (when rendering tanks innocuous) NOT to destroy any parts which could be made use of by the Army (such as motors, elec eqpt etc).(E)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

13. Releases Br eqpt (Q 158 of 9 Jul 46):

(a) The 17 pr, 25 pr and trailers referred to have been withdrawn. Destination given in distribution plan att to War Min letter 4/1954/Serv of 5 Jul 46 to the Directorate General of Artillery and Motorisation.

(b) The situation as regards War Min requirements of above equipment is the following:-

| | 17 prs | 25 prs | Trls |
|---|---|---|---|
| Requirements | 116 | 322 | 576 |
| Availability | 113 | 303 | 573 |
| Shortage | 3 | 19 | 3 |

The above figures of 17 and 25 prs include 6 each as reserve equipment.

(E)

473

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (A SHAEF) 1 - 6 July 46

Col PIACENTINI

1. Forthcoming call-up: In the course of conversation Piacentini mentioned that the call-up operations were held up pending MMIA reply to the letter of the Gabinetto of 22 June , and that time was getting short. The call-up had already had to be put back one week. Discussed with Col A/C and infd Piacentini that MMIA having put forward their observations on the question of specialists and NCOs did NOT propose to go into the matter further. As far as MMIA was concerned the matter could proceed. -C-A-

2. Unauthorised unit in XIII Corps Area: Piacentini referred to MMIA letter MD/40/1 of 28 Jun 46, and said he wished to explain that the sole purpose of moving 2 Recovery Section to UDINE as a unit was to enable 5 Terr HQ to have the benefit of the specialists, who were badly needed in that area. Piacentini said he did not expect objections would be made over 14 all ranks. Had the unit been disbanded by 5 Terr HQ they would automatically have posted the specialists to their own units. Orders had been issued automatically to 5 Terr HQ to disband the unit on arrival. -C-

Don CADORNA
Gen LIUZZI

3. Reorg of War Ministry: Accompanied POG for discussion of certain aspects of the org of the British War Office, with particular ref to the proposals put fwd for the Italian War Ministry. A useful meeting which helped to dispel certain misgivings in CADORNA's mind. -Cont-C-

However, the Chief of Staff still has a complex over the post of Secretary of the Army Council, since he fears that an ambitious holder of this post would succeed in resuscitating the present powers and authority of the Capo di Gabinetto. Cadorna also considers that in the event of disagreement between the Military Members of the Council, the civilian non-technical War Minister would be called upon to settle the issue, which would be tantamount to the Secretary of the Army Council overruling the CMBS, since Cadorna sees in the Secretary the personal advisor of the War Minister.

It was pointed out to Cadorna that the activities of the Secretary of the Army Council could be curtailed by regulations and by the WS Committee, and that even such a psychological matter as the location of the Secretary's office in relation to the War Minister's could have an important bearing on the issue.

In conclusion Cadorna stated to POG that in his opinion unless the Mission and the Allies insisted on this reorg of the War Ministry the matter would be pigeon-holed by the

473

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2. Unauthorised unit in XIII Corps Area: Piacentini referred to MMIA letter M/10/1 of 28 Jun 46, and said he wished to explain that the sole purpose of moving 2 Recovery Section to UDINE as a unit was to enable 5 Terr HQ to have the benefit of the specialists, who were badly needed in that area. Piacentini said he did not expect objections would be made over 34 all ranks. Had the unit been disbanded by 5 Terr HQ they would automatically have posted the specialists to their own units. Orders had been issued automatically to 5 Terr HQ to disband the unit on arrival.

Gen CADORNA
Gen LIUZZI

-Cond-6-

3. Reorg of War Ministry: Accompanied SCS for discussion of certain aspects of the org of the British War Office, with particular ref to the proposals put fwd for the Italian War Ministry. A useful meeting which helped to dispel certain misgivings in CADORNA's mind.

However, the Chief of Staff still has a complex over the post of Secretary of the Army Council, since he fears that an ambitious holder of this post would succeed in resuscitating the present powers and authority of the Capo di Gabinetto. Cadorna also considers that in the event of disagreement between the Military Members of the Council, the civilian non-technical War Minister would be called upon to settle the issue, which would be tantamount to the Secretary of the Army Council overruling the CGS, since Cadorna sees in the Secretary the personal adviser of the War Minister.

It was pointed out to Cadorna that the activities of the Secretary of the Army Council could be curtailed by regulations and by the WE Committee, and that even such a psychological matter as the location of the Secretary's office in relation to the War Minister's could have an important bearing on the issue.

In conclusion Cadorna stated to SCS that in his opinion unless the Mission and the Allies insisted on this reorg of the War Ministry the matter would be pigeon-holed by the political people.

Gen LIUZZI
Col MELONI
Lt Col MUSIA

-C-C-

4. QM.MR. Tpt: Requested LIUZZI if there had been a change in policy regarding MT for the Carabinieri, in view of the small number of load carriers allocated in June. Liuzzi said that apart from the scaling down of cats which had been agreed with Gen MONTEZEMOLO there had been no change that he knew of.

Contd.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/32.
DATE R/8/7.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 4 (Contd)

On being asked for, Meloni and Alois produced the following figures for veh deliveries to O.M.R during the past three months:

| | Apr | May | June |
|---|---|---|---|
| MCs | 74 | 97 | 61 |
| Cars | 15 | 13 | 2 |
| Load-Carriers | 92 | 66 | 4 |
| Jeeps | 125 | 54 | 52 |

Meloni explained that the big fall in the load-carriers was due to the failure of manufacturers to effect further deliveries of new vehs, nor was he in a posn at the moment to say when further consignments could be expected. In reply to the writer's question it was stated that in June 66 load-carriers were delivered to the Army. Meloni thought this a fair proportion.

The posn of vehs held by the O.M.R against est is, according to ~~[illegible]~~ latest figures.

| | WE | Held |
|---|---|---|
| Cars | 340 | 887 |
| Hy Load-Carriers | 961 | 515 |
| Lt Utility | 138 | 34 |
| MCs | 1661 | 1325 |

It was stated that in addition to the above the O.M.R were holding numerous vehs unofficially, particularly cars, which had been requisitioned from civilians etc. Figures corresponding to the above for the Army were not available, but Meloni promised to have them prepared for comparison purposes.

The moral of all this appears to be the same old story of lack of co-operation and co-ordination between O.M.R and the War Ministry. Until such time as O.M.R staff, or at least their reps sit in the War Ministry there is always likely to be this discord.

3 July

Col [illegible]
Mil Attaché

5. Shunting engines of [illegible] origin: In response to our hastening action Meloni produced copies of letters from military authorities in MILAN and PIACENZA purporting to show that the origin of the engines was obscure. It is evident that the Italians will do their best to allow the enquiry to die a natural death.

3 July

Col [illegible]

6. Requisitioning of cars: In the absence of Cons [illegible] and



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

deliveries of new vehs, nor [illegible] to say when further consignments could be expected. In reply to the writer's question it was stated that in June 66 load-carriers were delivered to the Army. Meloni thought this a fair proportion.

The posn of vehs held by the CC.RR against est is, according to latest figures.

| | RE | Held |
|---|---|---|
| Cars | 940 | 867 |
| Hy Load-Carriers | 961 | 545 |
| Lt Utility | 138 | 34 |
| Misc | 1401 | 1325 |

It was stated that in addition to the above the CC.RR were holding numerous vehs unofficially, particularly cars, which had been requisitioned from civilians etc. Figures corresponding to the above for the Army were NOT available, but Meloni promised to have them prepared for comparison purposes.

The moral of all this appears to be the same old story of lack of co-operation and co-ordination between CC.RR and the War Ministry. Until such time as CC.RR staff, or at least their reps sit in the War Ministry there is always likely to be this discord.

3 July

Col [illegible]
Maj [illegible]

- 9 -

5. Shunting engines of [illegible] origin: In response to our hastening action Rossi produced copies of letters from military authorities in MILAN and PIACENZA purporting to show that the origin of the engines was obscure. It is evident that the Italians will do their best to allow the enquiry to die a natural death.

473

3 July

Col [illegible]

- 9 -

6. Manufacture of arms: In the absence of Gens [illegible] and MESSE, I did the above that until policy is clarified on the Govt/AG level no authority can be given by MMIA for manufacture or distribution of arms of any kind whatsoever, other than the few already approved for the Army and CC.RR. Once details of the course things are lacking.

3 July

Col [illegible]

- A -

7. Alexander certificates: Ref log 24-29 June para 7, repeated Forte to have the 15000 certificates delivered to MMIA 'A' Branch office No 30

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

I 7 July

8. 'XXXX' and 'XXXXXX' cases: requested hastening action on both these cases. - A -

Capt VIRGI 5 July

9. 86th Pool of Lt. Medical Officers: requested further details of units for about a dozen names whose addresses on the original list could NOT be traced at GHQ. - A -

Lt Col GIOLI
Lt Col PRINCIPI

10. Amnesty for Army personnel: Principi explained that of the six thousand men serving sentences at the time of the amnesty (5 April 46) about 3500 had been released as coming within the terms of the decree. This left 2500 still in detention. - A -

The vast majority of the outstanding (untried) cases concerned personnel NOT apprehended. The amnesty decree was applicable only to those who voluntarily gave themselves up within three months of the publication of the decree in the Official Gazette - i.e. by 5 July 46. The closing date had since been extended to 10 July. Those who will have come fwd by this date will have their sentences remitted, though the details of their "crime" will remain on record. Those who fail to come fwd will NOT benefit by the amnesty.

Incidentally, there are numerous applications being made to the mil authorities under the terms of the amnesty by "deserters" who are not even on the official records. This has come about through the great confusion in official records, loss of archives etc at the time of the first call-up after the Armistice.

11. Courts martial procedure: Both GIOLI and PRINCIPI were under the impression that arrangements for the introduction of the new procedure were going fwd quite satisfactorily, and as quickly as possible under the circumstances. - A -

The exact stage reached is that the draft decree and explanatory notes for the Council of Ministers have been prepared by the War Ministry (copy of both herewith for 'A' Branch) and the final observations of the Ministry of Grace and Justice and of the other two Service Ministries are now awaited to enable the project to go before the Govt.

GIOLI said that considering that the scheme was only launched in February he thought it was remarkably good going.

4737

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with [illegible] Ministry (& SMRE) 24 - 29 June 46

Col LOMBARDI

1. ZUCCOLO case: Spoke Lombardi 25 June about Ministry of Interior letter of 21 June (folio 1138 - A/215), and subsequently also to Lt Cols MONACO, NORMANNI and Major ANASTASIO. War Ministry had NOT recd copy of this letter. Saw Lombardi again 28 June, at which date no further progress had been made by War Ministry, and stressed that ZUCCOLO must be made available to the Allies without further delay. Requested Lombardi to urge the matter fwd. Info AMG of action taken.

2. Ref Col MALINIA: Lombardi made enquiries and stated that this offr does NOT appear on any list of senior offrs due to be retired. It can only be surmised that IntOs interest in the matter arises out of the officer himself wishing to reinsure his post against the time when the whole-sale retirements take place. This is a long way off, however, as Lombardi reckons that ⅔ of the cols still have to be classified. Lombardi has made a note that the Allies are "interested" in MALINIA.

3. Gen UCELLI: Lombardi denied that any appointment in connection with MT spares had been given to UCELLI, and stated that in point of fact he was due to move on 1 July, to ROME, where accomodation had been found for him. UCELLI would remain at the disposal of War Ministry for the present. Lombardi stated that his services would be useful if any special committees were required, for such purposes as the investigation into the reorg of the War Ministry, etc.

4. Stores of FRENCH origin: General talk to Lombardi about the present situation:

- French Recovery Commission had compared list of stores seised by the Italians in France with the lists of stores returned to them by the Italian Army since the Armistice. The French were NOT persuaded that the Italians had yet handed over all the French materials held by them. They had pointed out that the only materials of any consequence (other than mun) which they had got back were the ones found by their own search parties earlier this year.

- On the other hand the Italian War Ministry (in the person of Lt Col MONACO) had stated that no further stores of French origin were held in Italian Army depots or installations, beyond what had already been declared or was in the process of being handed over to the French.

Told Lombardi that MSLA had absolutely no direct interest in the matter whatsoever, but were acting as the authorised channel for the settlement of the question. It was a matter of reconciling the two points of view.
[illegible] if there would be any difficulty on their

4730

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

2. Ref Col MALIZIA: Lombardi made enquiries and stated that this offr does NOT appear on any list of senior offrs due to be retired. It can only be surmised that MALIZIA interest in the matter arises out of the officer himself wishing to reinsure his posn against the time when the whole-sale retirements take place. This is a long way off, however, as Lombardi reckons that ½ of the cols still have to be classified. Lombardi has made a note that the Allies are "interested" in MALIZIA.

3. Gen ITELLI: Lombardi denied that any appointment in connection -0-0-0- with MT spares had been given to ITELLI, and stated that in point of fact he was due to move on 1 July, to ROME, where accomodation had been found for him. ITELLI would remain at the disposal of War Ministry for the present. Lombardi stated that his services would be useful if any special committees were required, for such purposes as the investigation into the reorg of the War Ministry, etc.

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- On the other hand the Italian War Ministry (in the person of Lt Col MORABITO) had stated that no further stores of French origin were held in Italian Army depots or installations, beyond what had already been declared or was in the process of being handed over to the French.

Told Lombardi that MMIA had absolutely no direct interest in the matter whatsoever, but were acting as the authorised channel for the settlement of the question. It was a matter of reconciling the two points of view.

Asked Lombardi if there would be any difficulty on their part to the release of a declaration over the War Minister's signature to the effect that the Italian Army had no further stores of French origin.

After speaking to Monaco over the phone Lombardi stated there would be no trouble over this, but that he would first prefer to signal all territorial comds to secure their confirmation that nothing further had been found.

Also suggested to Lombardi that the French might be allowed to make a spot check in one or two depots just to satisfy their minds. Thereafter the matter to be considered closed once and for all.

Told Lombardi that the question had been discussed with

4730

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Para 4 (Continued)

the French along the same lines and it was believed that they would be satisfied with this solution.

Col CALARESU

5. Honours and Awards: Collected infmn required to complete list for AAG - partly out of the Italian Army list and partly through CALARESU. -A-

Col PIACENTINI

6. Requested Piacentini to supply the following infmn for 'A' Branch: -A-

- WCs of Welfare org in the Italian Army;
- Nominal roll of offrs in the 076 Italian L.O. Pool, by units.

Later handed the infmn to DAAGs office.

Col FORMATO

7. 'Alexander' certificates: Enquired of FORMATO whether he could spare 15,000 certificates for the Italian Air Force, out of the total supplied to the Italian Army. The reply was in the affirmative, and 'A' Branch infd accordingly. Action with 'A' Branch. -A-

Lt Col CARLI

8. French stores: Spoke to Carli (in Monaco's absence) about the [redacted] bridge over the ADIGE at LEGNAGO. The French want it back, and the Italians had fixed a date by which they would have a new bridge in place. The date had passed and nothing appears to have been done. Carli promised to enquire, but pointed out that action rests with another Ministry. -A-

Gen LEUSSI

9. Amn: Delivered message from BGS and enquired about certain infmn of operational nature. Infd BGS. -G-

10. Reorg of War Ministry: Arranged appointment for BGS for 1100 hrs 1 July to discuss examples of typical situations in connection with reorg of War Ministry which are worrying [redacted]. CADORNA will also be there. -Joint-G-

4723

Lt Col ALOIA

11. Maps for Allied vehs: Arranged appointment for AMGS for 1030 hrs 1 July. -A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

6. Requested Piacentini to supply the following infmn for 'A' Branch: -A-

- Hqs of Welfare org in the Italian Army;
- Nominal roll of offrs in the 846 Italian L.C. Pool, by units.

Later handed the infmn to DAAGs office.

Col FORMATO

7. 'Alexander' certificates: Enquired of FORMATO whether he could spare 15,000 certificates for the Italian Air Force, out of the total supplied to the Italian Army. The reply was in the affirmative, and 'A' Branch infd accordingly. Action with 'A' Branch. -A-

Lt Col CARLI

8. French stores: Spoke to Carli (in Monaco's absence) about the MERANO bridge over the ADIGE at LEGNAGO. The French want it back, and the Italians had fixed a date by which they would have a new bridge in place. The date had passed and nothing appears to have been done. Carli promised to enquire, but pointed out that action rests with another Ministry. -C-

Gen LUSSU

9. Amn: Delivered message from BGS and enquired about certain infmn of operational nature. Infd BGS. -G-

10. Reorg of War Ministry: Arranged appointment for BGS for 1100 hrs 1 July to discuss examples of typical situations in connection with reorg of War Ministry which are worrying SIFFE. CADORNA will also be there. -Gen-G-

Lt Col ALGIA

11. Wkops for Allied vehs: Arranged appointment for ADMS for 1030 hrs 1 July. -A-

JK
1 July 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War ... try (& SHAEF) 17 - 22 June 46

Lt Col NORMANTI

1. War Crimes (BAINS case): Passed to Normanti modifical instrn regarding persons to be brought to trial in this case, i.e.

- men to be held in civil prisons where they now are,

- women to be transferred to civil goal HOLLOWAY.

Normanti feared that these new instrs might be too late, and males already transferred to RAF PW Camp. He will investigate and advise pers, also date and place where males can be collected by BRITISH mil, if not already transferred. Confirmed to NORMANTI that GRANZI and PETRACCHINI are both wanted, and GIBERTINI NOT wanted.

Col PIACENTINI

2. CO.HQ LO for JAG's Branch (BR): Intd Piacentini that a CO.HQ offr was needed at CMF to speed up the apprehension of persons wanted by the BRITISH authorities in connection with War Crimes. Piacentini promised to start enquiries for a suitable ENGLISH-speaking offr. Piacentini is to have a note for the offr selected to take to HAYES with him.

3. Bersaglieri Regt: Discussed with Piacentini the case put up by 5 BSD for forming this regt round the 67 Inf Regt LEGNANO Div and later interchanging with 3 Inf Regt, instead of as now planned, transferring the "GUIDO" Bn forthwith from LEGNANO Div to 3 Inf Regt and converting the latter into the Bersaglieri Regt.

Piacentini stated that 5 Terr HQ had already granted these instrs direct and had a prompt rejoinder from the latter to obey orders. 5 Terr HQ had since acknowledged that the orders were being put into effect. Piacentini explained that coad 67 Inf Regt had been to ROME and put up a case for forming the Bersaglieri Regt at MILAN instead of PARMA, as originally planned. This was accepted, and according to Piacentini the details were gone into at the same time and agreed by Col DE MADDALENA, exactly as now ordered by SHAEF. Lt Col CUDA had since been to MILAN and discussed the procedure with 5 Terr HQ, without any objections by the latter.

The way the question has been raised at the eleventh hour seems to have got the backs up of SHAEF.

The writer told Piacentini that quite frankly the "method" they had chosen for the conversion seemed to be a much longer way round of achieving the object, but that in view of the stand SHAEF had had to take it was unlikely that the Mission would want to interfere.

4723

Col FERRARA

4. Welfare for Central Schools: Arranged for the head of the Welfare Branch War Ministry to attend meeting at 1100 hrs 25 June ... from the Central Schools.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

males already transferred to 209 PW Camp. He will investigate and advise poss, also date and place where males can be collected by BRITISH mil, if not already transferred. Confirmed to SORRENTI that CERATI and PETRACCHINI are both wanted, and CHERUBINI NOT wanted.

Col PIACENTINI

2. CO.PW LO for MAC's Branch (HQ) told Piacentini that a SO.PW offr was needed at Bari to speed up the apprehension of persons wanted by the BRITISH authorities in connection with War Crimes. Piacentini promised to start enquiries for a suitable ENGLISH-speaking offr. Piacentini is to have a note for the offr selected to take to NAPLES with him. -A-

3. Bersaglieri Regt: Discussed with Piacentini the case put up by 5 BDE for forming this regt round the 67 Inf Regt LEGNANO Div and later interchanging with 3 Inf Regt, instead of as now planned, transferring the "GUIDO" Bn forthwith from LEGNANO Div to 3 Inf Regt and converting the latter into the Bersaglieri Regt. -B-

Piacentini stated that 3 Terr HQ had already queried these instns direct and had had a prompt rejoinder from the latter to obey orders. 3 Terr HQ had since acknowledged that the orders were being put into effect. Piacentini explained that coed 67 Inf Regt had been at NOLA and put up a case for forming the Bersaglieri Regt at MILAN instead of NAPLES, as originally planned. This was accepted, and according to Piacentini the details were gone into at the same time and agreed by Col DE MICHELIS, exactly as now ordered by AMGOT. Lt Col CHIBA had since been to MILAN and discussed the procedure with 3 Terr HQ, without any objections by the latter.

The way the question has been raised at the eleventh hour seems to have got the backs up of AMGOT.

The writer told Piacentini that quite frankly the "method" they had chosen for the conversion seemed to be a much longer way round of achieving the object, but that in view of the stand AMGOT had had to take it was unlikely that the Mission would want to interfere.

4723

Col FERRARA

4. Welfare for Central Schools: Arranged for the head of the Welfare Branch War Ministry to attend meeting at 1100 hrs 25 June at NOLA to discuss welfare arrangements for the Central Schools. -D-

Arranged with G II 8 BDE that the local welfare offr shall also be present.

Col MORGAN

5. Stores of FRENCH origin: At the request of Capt LUQUET of the FRENCH Mission, A.C. took up with MORGAN the question of the lists of stores to be handed over to the FRENCH, which were promised a month ago and according to LUQUET have not yet materialised. MORGAN later produced a note of the cases from the War Ministry on the subject, which was handed to LUQUET for checking. -E-

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col LOMBARDI

6. Hotel VITTORIO, VENICE: Requested Lombardi to expedite a decision as to the future of this Rest Hotel for ITALIAN Army personnel, which is run under the auspices of 5 Terr Hq. The building has been derequisitioned by the Allies and it is a question of immediate re-requisitioning by the ITALIAN authorities if it is to continue in its present role for the ITALIAN Army. The application is strongly supported by 5 Terr Hq and 5 MLL.

Lombardi later phoned to say that the matter had been agreed by the War Ministry and that he had already been in touch with 5 Terr Hq about the necessary arrangements.

Col PIACENTINI

7. BRITISH spare parts: SD Branch HQMS know nothing about the three Ord Depn to be set up in ROMAN for dealing with spares being delivered to the ITALIAN Army from BRITISH Ord Depots.

Explained to Piacentini that the mess would deal with:

(a) MT parts,

(b) spares for weapons and Allied eqpt,

(c) sig spares,

and that it was the opinion of the Mission that as soon as practicable the mess should be moved to alongside their main stops, respectively at BOLOGNA, PIACENZA and PAVIA.

The Mission also considered it imperative that personnel experienced in handling BRITISH eqpt, such as existed only in the Combat Gps, should be assigned to the mess.

Piacentini agreed and promised to initiate action at the staff level.

4725

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

1. Lt Col MONACO
Barracks at NOVARA and RIVOLI - Q CO1

(Signal from 1 BLU dated 12/5).
The Barracks at NOVARA and RIVOLI cannot be vacated yet. MONACO spoke to Terr Comd TURIN who say it would be extremely awkward to give up these barracks as there is no other suitable accomodation for CREMONA Div.
The barracks at ALESSANDRIA and TORTONA are suggested; the latter could accommodate 2000 D/P. (E)

- Q - Q

2. Col BALANZINO
Q 137 of 3/6/46. 170 Carriers ex 12 Veh Pk FORLI'.
(see IAG 4-10 June para 4)

(a) BALANZINO again spoke to the director of ARAR who disclaims all knowledge of 12 Veh Pk or the 170 Carriers. An Officer from VI Terr Comd will be sent to FORLI' to investigate.

- Q -

Q 137 ref Q/4/5 of 6/6/45 from 6 BLU

(b) Ministry of War know nothing about handing over of 12 Veh Pk "in toto" to Ministry of "Supply" or any other Ministry. Ministry of Supply (Ministero dell'Alimentazione) only deals with food.
BALANZINO will ask VI Terr Comd to enquire.

(c) Was given by BALANZINO the proposed plan of Whelps at CEC-CHIGNOLA and handed same to ADQ. (E)

3. Gen PELLIGRA
Control of manufacture of clothing, eqpt etc for It Army.

- Q -

War Ministry control only exists where Army contracts are concerned. The "Direzione Commissariato" of the Terr Comd of the area where factory is situated sees to the proper execution of contracts. Otherwise all factories are free to work on private contracts and endeavour to meet market requirements. (E)

4. Col VITTORIA III Office - Cabinet
Enquiry by USSR re Epuration. A 227 of 15/6/46

Handed Col VITTORIA this enquiry. He would reply through this HQ giving a few particulars which would interest USSR. (E)

5. Col FIORE-VERNAZZA (P.R.O.)

(a) Arranged meeting with Major LEKAKOS (P.R.O., AC.) 14 June. Major RAVENNA, asst to Col F.V., was also present. Col A/Q attended.
Col F.V. had not much to learn from PRO AC.

(b) Handed P.R.O. portrait of COC for publication in the "Notiziario dell'Esercito" with suitable caption announcing [illegible] Mention will be made of

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2. Q 137 of 5/6/45. 170 Carriers [illegible]
(see IOC 4-10 June para 4.)

- 2 -

(a) BALANCINO again spoke to the director of ANAR who disclaims all knowledge of 12 Veh Pk or the 170 Carriers. An Officer from VI Terr Comd will be sent to FORLI' to investigate.

Q 137 ref Q/4/5 of 6/6/45 from 6 BLU

(b) Ministry of War knew nothing about handing over of 12 Veh Pk "in toto" to Ministry of "Supply" or any other Ministry. Ministry of Supply (Ministero dell'Alimentazione) only deals with food.
BALANCINO will ask VI Terr Comd to enquire.

(c) Was given by BALANCINO the proposed plan of Wkshps at CEC-CHIGHOZA and handed same to AMIE. (E)

Gen PELLEGRA
Control of manufacture of clothing, eqpt etc for It Army.

3. - 2 -

War Ministry control only exists where Army contracts are concerned. The "Direzione Commissariato" of the Terr Comd of the area where factory is situated sees to the proper execution of contracts. Otherwise all factories are free to work on private contracts and endeavour to meet market requirements. (E)

Col VITTORIA III Office - Cabinet
Enquiry by USSR re Epuration. A 227 of 13/6/46

4. Handed Col VITTORIA this enquiry. He would reply through this HQ giving a few particulars which would interest USSR. (E)

Col FIORE-VENIAZZA (P.R.O.)

5. (a) Arranged meeting with Major LIKAKOS (P.R.O., AC.) 14 June 172
Major RAVENNA, asst to Col F.V., was also present. Col N/Q attended.
Col F.V. had not much to learn from PRO AC.

(b) Handed P.R.O. portrait of GOC for publication in the "Notiziario dell'Esercito" with suitable caption announcing GOC's approaching departure. Mention will be made of Italian decoration awarded. (E)

6/32.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

LOG 4/6 - 10/6/46

(G)

1. Lt-Col AVALLONE
Powder Factory at Capua

Ministry seemed to know nothing about the taking over of this factory by ARAR. - Q -
AVALLONE will look into the matter and see that necessary steps are taken to acquire it for the war Ministry. (E)

2. Lt-Col MCNACO
Reorg Directorate of Motorisation

(a) MCNACO did not entirely agree with the proposed amendments of the lay-out for the new Directorate General of Motorisation. The appoint of a vice Director Gen. /ment would, he said, cause Directors Generals of other branches to ask for vice-directors too. Already there were 126 generals on Min of War Est. and an increase would not be looked upon favourably by the Cabinet. Suggested to MCNACO that any objections be put in a letter addressed to this HQ. - G - Q -

German Arms in ARAR Dumps

(b) In a letter addressed by ARAR to war Ministry (1. R/15535/S.Q.M. of 29/5/46) assurances are given that any arms sold to civilian firms as scrap could not possibly be rendered even remotely serviceable. However, ARAR did not give any information as to location of dumps where these German arms are lying, nor the source. - Q -

(E)

3. Col LOMBARDI
Reduction of Senior Officers

The decree published on the above come into force on the 1st of June. Senior officers (majors and upwards) may tender resignations within three months. - A -
Committees have been set up to examine the cases of these officers who, not willing to resign, have for various reasons rendered themselves liable to be placed on the "Reserve" or " Auxiliary" list according to the terms of the Decree.
The Committees are three (one to examine generals and colonels, one - lieut colonels, and one- majors) with 5 a/o to each.

(E)

4. Col BALANZINO
Q 157 of 5/6 (170 carriers)

4723

(a) Informed BALANZINO of contents of a/q letter on 4th inst. Two days later he said he had spoken to ARAR by 'phone and was told that no carriers had been received by ARAR from 12 Veh Pk FORLI'. Enquiries would be made. - Q -

(b) Claim by SPA for repair of 3 lt. tanks.
Handed Col BALANZINO letter Q 154 of 3/6. He knew nothing

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(a) MONACO did not entirely agree with the proposed amend- - C - Q -
ments of the lay-out for the new Directorate General
of Motorisation. The appointment of a vice Director Gen. /ment
would, he said, cause Directors Generals of other
Branches to ask for vice-directors too. Already there
were 126 generals on Min of War Est. and an increase
would not be looked upon favourably by the Cabinet.
Suggested to MONACO that any objections be put in a
letter addressed to this HQ.

German Arms in ARAR Dumps

(b) In a letter addressed by ARAR HQ to War Ministry (1. - Q -
A/15655/O.Q.G. of 29/5/46) assurances are given that
any arms sold to civilian firms as scrap could not
possibly be restored even remotely serviceable.
However, ARAR did not give any information as to
location of dumps where these German arms are lying,
nor the source.

(E)

Col LOMBARDI
5. Reduction of Senior Officers

The decree published on the above came into force on the 1st of - A -
June. Senior Officers (majors and upwards) may tender resigna-
tions within three months.
Committees have been set up to examine the cases of these officers
who, not willing to resign, have for various reasons rendered
themselves liable to be placed on the "Reserve" or " Auxiliary"
list according to the terms of the Decree.
The Committees are three (one to examine generals and colonels,
one - lieut colonels, and one- majors) with 3 s/c to each.

(E)

Col BALANZINO
4. Q 137 of 3/6 (170 carriers)

4723

(a) Informed BALANZINO of contents of s/q letter on 4th inst. - Q -
two days later he said he had spoken to ARAR by 'phone
and was told that no carriers had been received by ARAR
from 12 Veh Pk FORLI'. Enquiries would be made.

(b) Claim by SPA for repair of 3 lt. tanks.
Handed Col MELONI letter Q 154 of 3/6. He knew nothing
of this claim and suggested finding out who gave original
instructions for these reppirs to be carried out.

(E)

Col. CALARESU SMRE
5. (i/c Records - Personnel)

Obtained full names and brief history of the following officers
(info required by USA Military Attache) :-

Gen PIAZZONI
Col de MICHELIS
Col RAVNICH
Col CAMOSSO
Col BIZARRI
Lt Col de MARINO

14/82

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

Gen PROPERZJ

6. Fixed appointment for 1100 hrs Tuesday (11st inst) between the Gen and ADMS.

Lt Col SILLI

7. re Maltese who served in the Italian Army (IWT/218 of 3 May)

Record of Service Certificates have been asked for from the competent authorities but none received yet.
It looks as if War Ministry are trying to avoid giving Allies the information.



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col VELONI

1. 3" Mortar Bombs

Handed VELONI letter Q 139 of 30/5 and stressed importance of instructions re charges for 3" mortar bombs.
It re wire, if possible, that weights and measures referred to in correspondence be on the decimal system, ex. 100 grains = 7.48 grams. (E)

Lt Col MORRICO

Circular on leave scheme for It Army troops.

2. Returned the circular after perusal by Colonel A/ and AAG, for ex Minister's signature, printing and distributing. (E)

Major BATTI

Recovery of Army vehicles in possession [illegible]
(C 20[illegible] /2)

3. Handed letter to Major B.N.I for immediate translation and passing to Motorization Directorate. (E)

Lt Col TORANI

4. Was given a copy of circular "questionnaire" addressed to Corps of all Divs and dated 27/5/46 Ref 3820/2 requiring particulars of all allied vehs held by It. Army. Handed same to ADV's. TORANI would appreciate if this HQ would furnish basic characteristics, as the circular has produced no replies yet from any of the Divs. (E)

4713

Col PIOLA CASELLA (I.N.C.)

5. (a) The price of the "Rotiziario dell'Esercito" (weekly journal published by the M of ) has been fixed at 5 lire per copy. A certain number of copies is distributed free. 1500 copies were distributed free to the troops drafted into Rome for the election period.

(b) The single copy publication was generally

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Lt Col MORASCO
Circular on Leave Scheme for It army troops.

2. Returned the circular after perusal by Colonel A/C - A -
and AAG, for the Minister's signature, printing
and distributing. (S)

Major RATTI
Recovery of Army vehicles in possession PUBLIC
(Q 205 A/.)

3. Handed letter to Major RATTI for immediate translation - B -
and passing to Motor Action Director to. (S)

Lt Col MORANI

4. Has given a copy of circular " questionnaire" - C -
addressed to Comdrs of all Div and dated
27/5/46 Ref 3820/2 requiring particulars of all
allied vehs held by U.S. Army. Handed same to
AMMB. MORANI would appreci te if this MB could
furnish basic characteristics, as the circular
has produced no replies yet from any of the Divs. (S)

4713

Col PIOLI (MARINA (U.S.C.)

5. (a) The price of the "Gazzettino dell'esercito " - A -
(weekly journal published by the W of I)
has been fixed at 5 lire per copy. A certain
number of copies is distributed free. 1500
copies were distributed free to the troops
drafted into Rome for the election period.

(b) The King's proclamation was generally
commented upon favourably; leftist news-
papers published disparaging comments but
without any sound background.

(c) Reports received from many parts of Italy
up to noon today (3/6) indicate calmness
during the voting. (C)

/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

STATE INSURANCE for the Armed Forces

6. The P.R.C. wishes to promote discussions on the above subject, amongst the members of the Army, Navy and Air Force and in the Ministry, by publishing in his weekly paper articles, correspondence and information about the advisability of formulating an Insurance scheme. - G -
In this connection he would like to have any printed matter giving details of State Insurance as applied in the British and American Armed Forces. (E)

Lt Col CAVALE (Cabinet)

7. Asked for movement orders for the following two officers proceeding to Germany on 10 June for duty: - A -
Major Gianfranco CONATI
authority: ACS USFET 3460/G of 17/5/46

Capt Giorgio SOFFER 3645/G of 25/5/46
Movt. Orde Nos 582 and 581 respectively were today issued by this HQ. (E)

Gen BORSARI

8. Was asked to supply figures showing how many people have been released under the terms of the Amnesty, up to date. - A -
2512 was given as the number of people released in April. These had been imprisoned for Military offences. The release of political prisoners is going on, but no figures are yet available. (E)

471

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

It Col MONACO

1. (a) (Q 215 of 17 May). Conveyed to MONACO verbally, contents of signal from 1 BLU (220930) requesting postponement handing over of Rivoli barracks pending full details by letter from 1 BLL. - Q -

(b) Barracks at ALESSANDRIA require major repairs amounting 3 million lire and are not immediately available. Furthermore the Communal authorities of ALESSANDRIA require these barracks for their refugees.

(c) Repair work on MODENA barracks has already begun. The War Ministry must have the barracks ready by 1 Oct so that preparation may go ahead for beginning Academy courses on 1 Nov.

Lt Col MORANI

2. Vehicle maintenance (LOG 21 - 24 para 3). The pamphlet proof prepared by MORANI was perused by ADME who drew up list of corrections and suggested alterations. At invitation of ADME MORANI called at this HQ on 26/5 1130 hrs and discussed lubricating oils and tyre pressures ITALIAN-ENGLISH equivalents. Writer then went over list of corrections etc with MORANI, who agreed to all and will revise proof accordingly. - Q -

Lt Col MONACO

3. German weapons in ARAR dumps. MONACO has spoken to Gen BIGHINO, Chief of the Commission Formed to look after safety of the dumps, their guards etc.
Gen BIGHINO told him that all the German weapons in ARAR dumps have been handed in by British and American units who had very effectively damaged them to render them absolutely useless as arms and quite unrepairable. A list of dumps is being prepared, giving locations. - Q -

Lt Col AVALLONE
Major SERCIO

4. (Q 136 of 16/4/45). National Arms Factory BRESCIA. The F.N.A. (Fabbrica Nazionale Armi) at BRESCIA is not under the control of War Ministry. When Allies occupied N.ITALY Min of War learned that some stocks of arms (in serviceable condition and under repair) existed at this factory and wrote to FNA saying that all stocks of serviceable arms were to be considered property of the War Ministry. FNA replied that all stocks had been blocked by AMG and none could be released without AMG authority. Was shown copy of letter dated 1/12/45 to FNA blocking all stocks. The letter is signed by Lt G.C. DONALDSON AMG BRESCIA. - Q -

Lt Col MONACO Circular re "LEAVE"

5. Draft circular compiled by the Cabinet, after agreement with SMHQ and all the interested Chiefs of Sections in the Ministry. The circular is based on directives issued by the Minister and is now - A -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Ministry must have the barracks ready by 1 Oct so that preparation may go ahead for beginning Academy courses on 1 Nov.

Lt Col MORANI

2. Vehicle maintenance (ACC 21 - 24 para 3). The pamphlet proof prepared by MORANI was perused by ADME who drew up list of corrections and suggested alterations. At invitation of ADME MORANI called at this HQ on 28/5 1130 hrs and discussed lubricating oils and tyre pressures ITALIAN-BRITISH equivalents. Writer then went over list of corrections etc with MORANI, who agreed to all and will revise proof accordingly. - Q -

Lt Col MONACO

3. German weapons in ARAR dumps. MONACO has spoken to Gen BIGLINO, Chief of the Commission formed to look after safety of the dumps, their guards etc. Gen BIGLINO told him that all the German weapons in ARAR dumps have been handed in by British and American units who had very effectively damaged them to render them absolutely useless as arms and quite unrepairable. A list of dumps is being prepared, giving locations. - Q -

Lt Col AVALLONE
Major SERGIO

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471

Lt Col MONACO  Circular re "LEAVE"

5. Draft circular compiled by the Cabinet, after agreement with SMRE and all the interested Chiefs of Sections in the Ministry. The circular is based on directives issued by the Minister and is now submitted to this HQ for perusal before it is signed by the Minister. It should be printed ready for distribution by about 10 June so that its provisions may come into force as from 15 June. - A -

Col LOMBARDI  Return of Italian Army Forces.

6. Informed LOMBARDI that the rendering of these returns may be discontinued. - A -

C/82.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Lt Col MONACO Rivoli Barracks

7. (Q 215 of 17 May). Informed MONACO that Rivoli Barracks would be retained until 10 June and thereafter subject to 7 days notice. - Q -

Lt Col SORMANTI

8. Min of Justice and Gr letter 291.15.987/46 of 14 May. - A -
CATTANI Maria, to be tried for war crimes. Misunderstanding this HQ written request (A 215 of 12/5/46) SORMANTI instructed Minister of Justice to hand over this woman to the Allied authorities in NAPLES.
SORMANTI today (29/5) informing Ministry of Justice that CATTANI is to be held in Civil gaol NAPLES, "at the disposal of the Allies" until asked for.

Col PIACENTINI

9. On 25/5 handed him letter A890 of 24/5 proposing that Liaison Officer - A -
Lt WAR Eugenio be assigned to 5th Br Armd Div LEGNANO.

Maj PINTOMAI

10. Obtained from this Officer IT Army strength figures as at 1 May 46.

Lt Col C. SIMONETTI
Maj MINUTTI (SMRE)

11. (Q 140 folio 296). Railway facilities for troops Rome-Bracciano - Q -
see ICC 21-24/5, Arty School Bracciano has been asked to give number of troops requiring transport. When this information obtained War Min will approach State Rlys.

471

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Liaison with War M[illegible]istry (& SMRE) 21 - 24 May 46

Lt Col GUIDETTI
Lt Col MICCA

-2-

1. Arms, equipment and Ammunition for CARs:

(a) All CARs complain of the bad condition in which arms and equipment are being received from 557 BAD, and much trouble is being experienced by these two offrs in attempting to compile a comprehensive list of shortages and deficiencies owing to the different names or descriptions (of possibly the same articles) given by the various CARs.
Some of the rifles contained in the cases were found to have broken butts or sights missing.
Cartridge pouches were often of the wrong pattern.

(b) The position as regards ammo appears to be the follo-wing:-

(i) No hand-grenades type 77 have been received yet. 27,500 had been allotted, to be supplied by 504 BAD of Bitonto (BARI). All the rest except HE and illuminating 2" mortar bombs, of which none in stock, has been supplied.

(c) CC.RR. ammunition for "STARCHOUNDS":

The ROME Legion has received its quota of .300 ammo. PALERMO's quota is on the way by rail and that for N. ITALY destinations has been sent by road trans-port. All is expected to be in the hands of the various Legions before the 2nd June.
No 37 mm ammo has been supplied. (E)

Gen PELLIGRA
Lt Col MARIOSI

2. Shirts for CC.RR.: Recent deliveries to CC.RR. have been:-

| | |
|---|---|
| In Dec 45 | 30,000 shirts |
| " Jan 46 | 10,000 " |
| On Apr 3rd 46 | 15,000 " |
| " " 18th 46 | 35,000 " |

It is probable, says Pelligra that owing to the precarious transport situation the shirts destined for Legions in the South have not yet been delivered.
There is no shortage of shirts or material, and Gen Pelligra says he will promptly deal with any indents. (E)

Col SCARPELLINI
Lt Col MORANI

3. Vehicle Maintenance (J 209 of 23 Apr and Appx): Long discussion on the subject, particularly regarding certain points in proposed pamphlet to be distributed, proof of which had just come in from the printers. Compared with directive and pointed out one

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(3) The position as regards ammo appears to be the follo-
-wing:-

(i) No hand-grenades type 77 have been received yet. 27,500 had been allotted, to be supplied by 501 AAD of Bitonto (SARI). All the rest except HE and illuminating 2" mortar bombs, of which none in stock, has been supplied.

(c) CC.RR. ammunition for "BLOODHOUNDS":

The ROME Legion has received its quota of .300 ammo. PALERMO's quota is on the way by rail and that for N. ITALY destinations has been sent by road trans-
-port. All is expected to be in the hands of the various Legions before the 2nd June.
No 37 mm ammo has been supplied. (E)

Gen PELLIGRA
Lt Col MARIOSI

2. Shirts for CC.RR.: Recent deliveries to CC.RR. have been:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In Dec 45 | 30,000 | shirts |
| " Jan 46 | 10,000 | " |
| On Apr 3rd 46 | 15,000 | " |
| " " 18th 46 | 35,000 | " |

It is probable, says Pelligra that owing to the precarious transport situation the shirts destined for Legions in the South have not yet been delivered.
There is no shortage of shirts or material, and Gen Pelligra says he will promptly deal with any indents. (2)

Col SCARPELLINI
Lt Col MORANI

3. Vehicle Maintenance (Q 209 of 25 Apr and Appx): Long discussion on the subject, particularly regarding certain points in proposed pamphlet to be distributed, proof of which had just come in from the printers. Compared with directive and pointed out one or two omissions.
Obtained loan of proof and handed to ADME for perusal. (E)

Lt Col SIMONETTI (SARE)

4. 12 RLU letter ref AG/12/1/1586 of 17 May (Q 140 - 296): Railway facilities ROME-BRACCIANO:

Simonetti took note of suggestions made in memorandum signed by Col Palma (OC Artillery School, Bracciano) and said he would communicate with State Rlys. Results expected in 2 or 3 days. (E)

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Lt Col SILLI

5. Left message from Deputy Comd MMIA ref Lt BARBARIGH and MICOSA letter of 17 May (B). -2IC-

Gen CADORNA

6. Reorg of War Ministry: Cadorna expressed himself very favourably and in full agreement with the MMIA proposals. He even went so far as to say that he considered it the most important single contribution which the Mission had made. The C of S's chief preoccupation is that the Minister may try and postpone a decision until the new Govt is formed. (B) -Comd-

Lt Col SILLI

7. 808 CS Bn: Discussed the financial difficulties which have arisen following the refusal of the Treasury to approve the 'vote' requested for I.A.I. The War Ministry is pressing the matter with the Treasury and SILLI is hopeful of reaching agreements without further difficulty. -G-
The writer is pointing out to SILLI that although 808 CS Bn appears in the ORBAT as an ITI-ITI unit, it is still directly under AIRCENT operational comd as defined in Directive No. 1 para 5 (c), and as such is in no way different from other BR-ITI and US-ITI units. (B)

Capt CASAGRANDE

8. Range Tables: Arty Inspectorate have requested copies of range tables for 17 pdr and 40 mm pieces. Passed to G Trg for action. (B) -G-

Gen LIUZZI

9. Reorg of War Ministry: Liuzzi said he had studied COC's address and the proposals, with which he was in general agreement. He had also discussed the matter with Col CERROLA. No major obstacles in the way, as far as SMRE are concerned. (B) -Comd-

10. HQ FRIULI Div: LIUZZI agreed that LEVICO was no longer the best location for this HQ and admitted that a move had been delayed solely because of the difficulty of finding a suitable alternative. -2IC-G-
The traditional will HQ building in TRENTO had been given to the Bank of ITALY and for political reasons it was undesirable to alter this. He promised to go into the matter again. (B)

Col PIACENTINI

11. (a) Plan of new CC.RR Legions: Piacentini confirmed that SMRE is in agreement in principle with the proposal to form four new CC.RR. legions, and is NOT opposed to implementing them forthwith. However the Ambassador and the Minister are against any increases in ceiling at this present. Undoubtedly, according to Piacentini, /to take advantage -Comd-G-A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

'vote' requested for I.A.I. The War Ministry is pressing the matter with the Treasury and SILLI is hopeful of reaching agreements without further difficulty.
The writer is pointing out to SILLI that although GOC CS Bn appears in the ORBAT as an INT-ITI unit, it is still directly under SILLIMD operational cond as defined in Directive No. 1 para 5 (c), and as such is in no way different from other NR-ITI and MR-ITI units. (B)

Capt CASACRANDE

8. Range Tables: Arty Inspectorate have requested copies of range tables for 17 prs and 40 mm pieces. Passed to G Trg for action. (B) -G-

Gen LIUZZI

9. Reorg of War Ministry: Liuzzi said he had studied GOC's address and the proposals, with which he was in general agreement. He had also discussed the matter with Col GUASCO. No major obstacles in the way, as far as SMRE are concerned. (B) -Cond-

10. HQ FRIULI Div: LIUZZI agreed that LEVICO was no longer the best location for this HQ and admitted that a move had been delayed solely because of the difficulty of finding a suitable alternative. -2IC-C-
The traditional mil HQ building in TRENTO had been given to the Bank of ITALY and for political reasons it was unadvisable to alter this. He promised to go into the matter again. (B)

471

Col PIACENTINI

11. (a) Plan of new GC.MR Legions: Piacentini confirmed that SMRE is in agreement in principle with the proposal to form four new GC.MR. Legions, and is not opposed to implementing them forthwith. However the Cabinetto and the Minister are against any increases in ests at this moment. Undoubtedly, according to Piacentini, the GC.MR. are keen/to expand their cadres and strengthen their pcsn. He agreed that it might be feasible to assign Lt Cols to cond the smaller Legions, thus avoiding over inflation of the higher ranks. But for the moment the proposition is shelved. -Cond-C-A-C- /to take advantage of the moment

(b) With regard to boundaries, no exact comparison had been made with the military regions, but Piacentini was under the impression that with certain exceptions they corresponded. He agreed that this was a most important aspect of the question and promised to have a detailed study undertaken. He personally concurred that they should agree. (B)

5/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

60.

Allied (C)

Col PIACENTINI

1. Offrs - ITALIAN Army: Collected from Piacentini the figures he had had prepared at the writer's request, showing numbers of offrs by ranks and arms of the service planned for an army of 180,000 and similar figures extended for an Army of 200,000. Passed to Col A/Q. -Cond-C-A-

A comparison between those figures and the actual strengths should make interesting reading. Under the Armistice terms it is questionable whether they are entitled to more offrs than strictly necessary to cond an Army of 180,000. It might be in the interests of the ITALIAN Army itself if MMIA were to give an order for the retirement of all surplus offrs and call for a nominal roll of all offrs concerned.

A staff study of NCOs is also being prepared by PIACENTINI. (S)

2. US-ITI & BR-ITI Units: Piacentini pointed out that the bulk of the men still serving under ALLIED cond would be affected by the forthcoming demobilisation commencing July 1st. He anticipated no difficulty in holding back the men concerned until 31 July, which is the date by which War Ministry hope the last US-ITI and BR-ITI units will be disbanded. -C-

Piacentini is keen to ensure that there shall be no further postponement of the winding-up date for BR-ITI and US-ITI units, because of the effect on those men whose release will already have been put off one month. (S)

3. Disbandment of units: To avoid further complications over the voting of tps a standstill order has been issued by the Min-ister, cancelling all tp moves of every kind, incl leave, releases etc. One result of this is to delay the disbandment of units being broken up just now until after 2 June. -C-

Piacentini gave assurances that the matter would be proceeded with immediately afterwards. (S)

Gen PELLIGRA

4. Gaiters for GC.RR (Q 104 of 10 May): -S-

(A) The General said that short puttees would not be practical and that gaiters would be preferred - 30,000 or more if possible.

(b) Gen Pelligra had just returned from the GOC's Conf-erence on reorg of War Ministry (17/5/46) and expressed himself highly satisfied and impressed by what had been suggested and explained by GOC. (S)

Col SECCO (Inspection's Office - Gen. Dir. Arty & Motor's)

5. Ref Q 154 of 22/2 and 14/3, Receipts for OMM: Discussed the necessity of having consolidated receipts. Col Secco explained that this would be practical only as far as material rec'd -S-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

-plus Gr...
A staff study of ...

(B)

2. US-III & BR-III Units: Piacentini pointed out that the bulk of the men still serving under ALLIED cond would be affected by the forthcoming demobilization commencing July 1st. He anticipated no difficulty in holding back the men concerned until 31 July, which is the date by which War Ministry hope the last US-III and BR-III units will be disbanded.

Piacentini is keen to ensure that there shall be no further postponement of the winding-up date for BR-III and US-III units, because of the effect on those men whose release will already have been put off one month. (B)

-G-

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Piacentini gave assurance that the matter would be proceeded with immediately afterwards. (B)

-I-

Gen PELLIGRA

4. Gaiters for CC.RR (@ 10% of 10 Bty):

(a) The General said that short puttles would not be practical and that gaiters would be preferred - 30,000 or more if possible.

47 Gaiters -G-A-G

(b) Gen Pelligra had just returned from the GOC's Conf-erence on recpt of War Ministry (17/5/46) and expressed himself highly satisfied and impressed by what had been suggested and explained by GOC. (B)

Col SMOOO (Inspection's Office - Gen. Dir. Arty & Motor'n)

-J-

5. Ref @ 15% of 22/2 and 14/5, Receipts for CCC: Discussed the necessity of having consolidated receipts. Col Scuce explain-ed that this would be practical only as far as material rec'd direct from this Mission was concerned, but quantities had been received (after selection) from AMAM depots and respective receipts had gone to AMAF.

CCC is still coming in. About 60% By waggon loads recently arrived in ROME from [illegible] where it had been collected from all over N. ITALY. It is being unloaded, sorted and stored, and therefore some time would have to elapse before consolidated receipt could be prepared.

Agreed that present system of rendering individual receipts could continue. (B)

2/.....

C/32.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Lt Col BADOGLIO (Arms, Munitions & Chemical Div)

6. Re Disposal of Ammunition - Q 131 of 16/5/46: Writer explained contents of above letter stressing importance of careful selection of arms by experts, destruction of ALL ammo not suitable for Br weapons now in use by IT Army and any judged to be dangerous to handle. (E) -Q-

Col AVALLONE
Major SERGIO

7. Control of BERRETTA Arms Factory - Q 009 of 7/5/46 to A.C.: Writer was shown a letter dated 29/4/46 from War Ministry to BERRETTA Factory at GALDRONE VALTROMPIA, through the F.A.R.E. (Fabbrica Armi Regie Esercito) branch depending from TERNI, which made it quite clear to them that no arms whatsoever, with the exception of sporting shot-guns, must be manufactured for or sold to civilian firms or individuals. -Q-

The BERRETTA factories are controlled by F.A.R.E. personnel.

Mr BERRETTA was expected in ROME on Monday (20/5) and had been requested to call at the Ministry, when above instructions would be conveyed to him personally.

One request for arms (turned down by the War Ministry) had been received through the Ministry of the Interior from the Bank of ITALY, for 150 pistols, to arm bank night-watchmen etc. (E)

Col SCARPELLINI )
Lt Col MORANI )

8. Vehicles Maintenance: -Q-

(a) The "Divisione Corpo Automobilistico" at the Directorate General of Artillery and Motorisation (War Min) have been working on the organisation of an efficient vehicle maint--enance service in the Army for some time.

(b) A very detailed instructions booklet is being printed and 20,000 copies of this will soon be ready for distribution, about one to every vehicle in the Army.
The last pamphlet of its kind was issued in July 1943.

(c) On 9 July 1945 a circular was printed and distributed to heads of comds concerned, under "Regulations on maint--enance of Vehicles, control of execution of same and technical inspections of material".
On 10 August 1945 another circular was printed and dis--tributed more widely than the first and referring thereto with as subject "Motor Vehicle Maintenance". 4710

(d) In theory this paper work looks well, but the above two officers fear that, for 2 main reasons, the regulations will not be applied in practice, viz

(i) Shortage of vehicles, and therefore little or no time for maintenance;

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDS NO. 785020

7. Control of BERRETTA Arms Factory - Q 009 of 7/5/46 to A.C.:
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(d) In theory this paper work looks well, but the above two officers fear that, for 2 main reasons, the regulations will not be applied in practice, viz

(i) Shortage of vehicles, and therefore little or no time for maintenance;

(ii) Generally bad condition of vehicles. (E)

4710

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (ASHCR)

11 - 16 May 45

G

Gen MUZZI
Col DE LUCA DI
Lt Col SILLI

1. Reduction of Budget 808 CS Bn (A/010 of 4 and 6 May to War Ministry: and signal of 10 May):

(a) Gen Muzzi stated that the budget reduction ordered by the Ministry of Finance affected the whole Italian Army Budget, which, originally voted at 90,000,000 lire had been cut down to 10,000,000 lire and later increased by 5,000,000 to 23,000,000.

(b) The cut in the funds to be earmarked for 808 CS Bn (from 6,000,000 to 2,000,000 lire) is not due to direct action on the part of the Treasury but to a decision by Col Pasquale, chief of the "SERVIZIO [illegible]" as his share in the general cut to be borne by 808 CS Bn.

(c) Writer pointed out that as regards this particular unit no cut in the budget could be made without the approval of the Supreme Allied Command, and that such approval had not been asked for or obtained.

(d) Lt Col Silli promised to speak to Col Pasquale to ascertain on whose authority he was proposing this cut and meanwhile the War Min would write to the Min of Finance in regard to the indivisibility of reducing the Army Budget.

Gen MUZZI
Lt Col [illegible]

2. Release of about 10,000 tons ammo at 501 B.A.D. (see LO "Log" of 19 - 27 Apr para 5):

(a) The delay in release of ammo for CC.NN. and Trg Centres is causing grave anxiety at the War Ministry.

(b) 5 lorries of the FOLGORE Div have already made a fruitless trip to BARI, and are still there. A Staff Offr from the Ministry proceeded to BARI some days ago to ascertain real cause of delay and reported by telephone to War Ministry that latest instructions received by 501 B.A.D. were to the effect that requirements of Italian Army could not be given priority.

(c) War Min point out that the Carabinieri who have recently been issued with "STAG HOUNDS" have no ammo for same and this is a very serious state of things in view of the approaching elections and possible disturbances.

(d) Min of War would like to be given approximate date of release of the ammo so that transport and guards may be provided at the proper time and so avoid wasting time of vehicles and personnel.

4709

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(b) The cut in the funds to be earmarked for SOS CS Bn (from 6,000,000 to 2,000,000 lire) is not due to direct action on the part of the Treasury but to a decision by Col Pasquale, chief of the "SERVIZIO INFORMAZIONI" as his share in the general cut to be borne by SOS CS Bn.

(c) Webber pointed out that as regards this particular unit no cut in the budget could be made without the approval of the Supreme Allied Command, and that such approval had not been asked for or obtained.

(d) Lt Col Silli promised to speak to Col Pasquale to ascer-tain on whose authority he was proposing this cut and meanwhile the War Min would write to the Min of Finance in regard to the inadvisability of reducing the Army Budget.

Gen LIUZZI
Lt Col OLIVERIO

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(d) Min of War would like to be given approximate date of release of the ammo so that transport and guards may be provided at the proper time and so avoid wasting time of vehicles and personnel.

(e) Was given letter signed by Gen LIUZZI to the above effect, addressed to Land Forces S/C dated 12 May 46. Handed same to A.D.L.S.

3. Radio broadcast or recording taken when P.M.G. visited C.A.R., CERVETO 26 Apr 46 (ref Log 5 - 10 May para 3 and 7 - 4 May para 8 (c)+
Listened in to broadcast on 13th inst at 1230 hrs from Monte Mario Sta on F.M. 309.9.

4709

2/.....

C/32.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Page 1

(a) The programme opened with eagle call which was followed by troops singing an "Aryan" song.
The announcer then gave a short talk on the object and scope of the U.S.A., ending with the words "Recruits are not conscripts" (a term which used to be applied derisively to a recruit, then outlawed because of the connotation it came to have locally in connection with).
The talk was followed by martial music played by the Waffen S.S. band, and one also heard the regular tramp of troops marching. The sound effect was excellent.
As the scene of the last col marching troops faded away the announcer was again heard, this time addressing various people and making comments (here is an offr who recalled giving some details of the U.S.A., i.e. that recruits were given 4 weeks training, after which some were given a specialist training and the infantry ones were kept a further 2 months at the U.S.A., one soldier, replying to question stated that the recruits would get baths regularly with plenty of soap, & daily shave and were not subjected to a close crop as to having their head shaved as in the past. This soldier was then given the opportunity of sending greetings to his family over the radio.
Col [illegible] then addressed greetings to "all parents of recruits at the U.S.A." and stated, "Inter alia" that some 75,000 recruits had on the ground through that camp. Several more recruits were then allowed to say a few words into the microphone, mainly greetings to families.
The 20 minutes programme closed with a song (in harmony) by Aryan recruits and another "march past" by the band, the sound of which gradually faded into the distance.
The impression made on the writer was that both the setting out of the programme and the resulting were excellent and well calculated to convey to the public a bright picture of life at a U.S.A.

(b) The recording of the above programme will be sent on to Allied to be broadcast from that station as it is thought that reception in U. [illegible] was not very good.

4706

4. (a) Col [illegible] (P.R.O.) was received by Dr [illegible] Library on 10 May (Log 5-10 May page 2 a). Dr [illegible] showed keen interest in the P.R.O.'s activities and promised to keep him supplied with photos and newspaper articles from [illegible], likely to be suitable for publication in "[illegible]".

(b) On Monday 30 May the Nazi broadcasting organization "Radio Caracas" will send a car to [illegible] to carry out a programme at [illegible] (as it is on the same lines as, but not quite similar, to Caracas programme. The

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 78502

[illegible] the medical wing were double of the C.A.M.C. i.e. that recruits were given 4 weeks training, after which some were given specialist courses; but for the infantry major were kept a further 2 months at the C.A.M.C. the soldier, applying to question stated that the recruits would get baths regularly with plenty of soap, a daily shave and were not subjected to a close crop so to having their head shaved as in the past. This soldier was then given the opportunity of sending greetings to his family over the mike.

Sgt [illegible] (CC) then addressed greetings to "all parents of recruits at No 2 C.A.M.C." and stated, "Later still" that over 70,000 recruits had on the ground through that camp. Several more recruits were then allowed to say a few words into the microphone, mainly greetings to families.

The 20 minutes programme closed with a song (in harmony) by Alpini recruits and another "march past" by the band, the sound of which gradually faded into the distance.

The impression made on the writer was that both the setting out of the programme and the speaking were excellent and well calculated to convey to the public a bright picture of life at a C.A.M.C.

(b) The recording of the above programme will be sent on to [illegible] to be broadcast from that station as it is thought that reception in [illegible] was very good.

4. (a) Sgt PIERO TRENTA (P.W.C.) was received by Mr [illegible] HOWARD at the Embassy on 10 May (Log 5-10 May, page 2 a). Mr HOWARD showed keen interest in the P.W.C.'s activities and promised to keep him supplied with photos and newspaper articles from [illegible], likely to be suitable for publication in "[illegible] NEWSLETTER".

(b) On Monday 20 May the Rome broadcasting organisation "Radio Oronzo" will send a rep to [illegible] to carry out a programme at [illegible] Camp 21 on the same lines as, but not quite similar, to [illegible] programme. The rep will later attend the ceremony to be held in the main square in [illegible] when Gen de Gaulle is expected to hand out awards to men of the [illegible] Div. (A)

5. [illegible]

6. Accession for C.A.M.C.: 14 civilian specialists complete an 8 day course today (10th) for RP etc at [illegible].

They will be sent to all the C.A.M.C. (1 each) locations for 3 detachments, viz (11 x 3). (B)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (& CMHQ) 8 - 10 May 46 58

Gen LIMONI

1. FOLGORE Div: Found Limoni in conference with Gen PEARKES, -Cont-d-
cond FOLGORE Div. A proposal is about to be put up to the Minister by CMHQ that the FOLGORE Div be concentrated for 2/3 weeks training during the second half of May. Suggested locations: S. MARCELLO (L 4,702) and FOLIGNO (L 5012). The objects of the move, apart from training, are stated to be:

(a) to move the tps of the FOLGORE out of the towns and inhabitated centres for the period of the elections.

(b) to conc the div in case of need.

(c) to have the div in a suitable loca for moving at short notice into MILAN in the event of trouble SOUTH of the PO.

The proposal in being put up to the Minister. Infn GOC and requested LIMONI to advise MMA in writing as soon as a decision is taken.

2. Tps for the elections: In addition to the requirements of -Cont-d-
rqs of tps for maintaining law and order at the time of the elections, subject of recent conversations with the War Ministry, the Ministry of the Interior has made a demand on the Army for 60,000 tps, in addition to Navy and Air Force personnel and CC.RR, GDF, and Civil Police, for the purpose of representing the law at the polling booths and ensuring that the voting procedure is fairly adhered to.

There will be 36,000 polling booths and the intention of the Ministry of the Interior is to have available at each a mixed force of four men from the various armed forces. This calls for a total of 144,000 men. Limoni added that 60,000 tps represented the total of the Army's available operational personnel, which was out of the question.

Accordingly the Army had negotiated with the Ministry of the Interior for the reduction of the Army's contribution to 40,000, and proposed to meet this with the courses at the CMAC and General Schools. It would entail their being away from trg for several days, and was NOT an ideal solution, but the best that could be arranged under the circumstances. The Ministry of the Interior had accepted this solution, which had also been agreed by ZHUKOV.

Infn GOC and requested LIMONI to have the detailed plan confirmed in writing to MMA.

3. CESANO Camp Site: Discussed the contents of 42 and letter -O-
of 5 May (AG/1/1503). Limoni readily agreed to take the matter up with the DG of the Central Schools.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(a) to move the ops of the forsons out of the towns and inhabitated centres for the period of the elections.

(b) to cone the div in case of need.

(c) to have the div in a suitable loca for moving at short notice into KHARTOUM in the event of trouble SOUTH of the BG.

The proposal is being put up to the Minister. Infd GOC and requested LIEUT to advise MMIA in writing as soon as a decision is taken.

2. Ops for the elections: In addition to the requirements of -Good-C- use of ops for maintaining law and order at the time of the elections, subject of recent conversations with the War Ministry, the Ministry of the Interior has made a demand on the Army for 60,000 ops, in addition to Navy and Air Force personnel and GD.RE, GOFF, and Civil Police, for the purpose of representing the law at the polling booths and ensuring that the voting procedure is fairly adhered to.

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Accordingly the Army had negotiated with the Ministry of the Interior for the reduction of the Army's contribution to 40,000, and proposed to meet this with the recruits at the OCUs and Central Schools. It would entail their being away from trg for several days, and was NOT an ideal solution, but the best that could be arranged under the circumstances. The Ministry of the Interior had accepted this solution, which had also been agreed by BRITUK.

Infd GOC and requested LIEUT to have the detailed plan confirmed in writing to MMIA.

3. GSSAFO Camp Gen: Discussed the contents of IS BNI letter -G- of 5 May (AG/1/1509). Lieut readily agreed to take the matter up with the IG of the Central Schools.

Brig Gen MORRI Silvio

4. Gen MORRI called on GOC (6 May) prior to taking up his appoi--Good-G- -ntment as head of the new Inspectorate of Motorisation.

5. Accompanied GOC MMIA to War Ministry to discuss org of new -Good-G- Inspectorate of Motorisation (9 May). A draft of the org- -anizational chart tentatively agreed will be submitted to MMIA for official approval. Gen MORRI will call on GOC 11 May to discuss further pts.

2/.....

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e/R2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col PINCHER II

6. Rate of inf divs: In answer to enquiry as to why the rate of the inf divs had been held up for so long, PINCHER stated that there had been considerable discussion (which was still going on) within AMMS on matters of small detail, that he and MGF understood that there was any particular urgency on the part of MGIA, that it was just as well to get the WDs right the first time instead of having several bites at the cherry, and that he personally saw no pressing need, with things as they stood, for altering the existing situation in the divs. -C-

Explained to Piacentini that MGIA was in fact most interested in getting these things settled without further delay, and he promised to table the WDs of the various arms of the service without further delay. It was agreed that C II (CD) MGIA would contact Piacentini and work out a tentative programme of dates for the committee to table the different arms.

7. Discussed Italian equivalents for several technical terms required for org chart for meeting on 17 May. -C-A-

8. Call-up system for CARs: Reminded Piacentini of conversation held 2/3 months ago on need for eventual revision of call-up system and informed him that down on this subject was on its way from MGIA. -C-A-

Piacentini himself is quite convinced of the need for the change. Examined together various possibilities.

9. Monthly Strength State: Piacentini asked if this is still needed by MGIA. He says he is endeavouring to reduce the number of returns which units are required to send in. He asks if the monthly strength state is required in addition to the ration return made by the Commissariat branch, and if the latter, possibly supplemented by additional infan, cannot be made to do. -A-

10. Next call-up: AMMS has in mind to hold the next call-up (first half 1925 class) between 1 - 15 July, which brings it fwd two weeks on the original plan. This will entail demobilising the 1922 class and part of the 1923 class. The matter has been put up to the War Minister for official sanction. -C-A-

11. Specialists: Piacentini pointed out that with the demobilisation of the above classes ('22 and part '23) the Army will lose most of its remaining specialists. No decision is yet forthcoming on the proposals for pay for the 10,000 specialists required this year. What is going to happen to the Army's wksps, MT and Sigs etc after July is a matter for speculation. -C-A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison with W.. Ministry (& SMRs) 5 - 10 May 46

57

Lt Col MONACO

1. Handed him copy of letter # 155 of 5 May re CCM of French origin. -A-

(a) As regards copies of receipts for materials already handed to the French (including some material legally acquired) none has so far been received. A signal was sent by Col MONACO on 1st inst. to:-

Terr. Comdy. of GENOVA
" " " NAPLES
" " " BOLZANO
" " " MILAN

again demanding production of these receipts (in duplicate). The material so far handed over does not amount to much.

(b) What the French most urgently want is bridging material, much of which happens to be in actual use. The M of W would be prepared to purchase this but the French refuse to sell. Col MONACO states that lists of such material are being prepared.

(c) As this has dragged on for some months it was brought to the attention of Col LOMBARDI (Chief of the Cabinet) (by this LO) who will follow the matter up personally (B)

Lt Col SORIANI

2. Tracing of persons wanted in connection with War Crimes. -A-

(a) Daily visits at SORIANI's office have produced some results and information as to the whereabouts of several "wanted" persons has been furnished to MMLA.

(b) The apparently unwarrantable delay in the transfer of a number of persons (supposed to be in Italian custody) to No. 209 PGW Camp NAPLES, is explained as being due to the fact that majority of said persons is no longer in custody, or cannot be traced owing to insufficient data furnished by MMLA. Ministry of Interior has instructed all prefects to energetically pursue their search. (B)

4705

Col FIORE VENEZIA (Public Relations Officer)

3. (a) Through a technical hitch the broadcast which was to have taken place on 5th inst. from the Sta Palomba Station was cancelled. Col FIORE VENEZIA thought right to cancel broadcast which was to take place the following day from the smaller station at Monte Mario. -A-

These broadcasts are now scheduled to take place
on Sunday 12 May at 1435 hrs on KL 420,8 Sta PALOMBA Sta.
on Monday 13 May at 1230 hrs on KL 309.9 MONTE MARIO -

(b) Interest of the Air Force and the Navy in the publication "[illegible]" has been enlisted. Their financial

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(b) that the French most urgently want is bridging material, much of which happens to be in actual use. The A of W would be prepared to purchase this but the French refuse to sell. Col LOMBARDO states that lists of such material are being prepared.

(c) As this has dragged on for some months it was brought to the attention of Col LOMBARDI (Chief of the Cabinet) (by this IO) who will follow the matter up personally (S)

Lt Col [redacted]

2. Tracing of persons wanted in connection with War Crimes. -A-

(a) Daily visits at [redacted] office have produced some results and information as to the whereabouts of several "wanted" persons has been furnished to MGIA.

(b) The apparently unwarrantable delay in the transfer of a number of persons (supposed to be in Italian custody) to No. 20 POW Camp, NAPLES, is explained as being due to the fact that majority of said persons is no longer in custody, or cannot be traced owing to insufficient data furnished by MGIA. Ministry of Interior has instructed all prefects to energetically pursue their search. (S)

Col [redacted] (Public Relations Officer)

3. (a) Through a technical hitch the broadcast which was to have taken place on 5th inst. from the [redacted] station was cancelled. Col [redacted] thought right to cancel broadcast which was to take place the following day from the smaller station at Monte Mario. -A-

These broadcasts are now scheduled to take place
on Sunday 12 May at 1830 hrs on M. 420.8 SE PALOMBA STN.
on Monday 13 May at 1230 hrs on M. 309.9 MONTE MARIO

(b) Interest of the Air Force and the Navy in the publication "NOTIZIARIO DELL' ESERCITO" has been enlisted. Their financial contribution will enable this periodical being published on better paper and larger number of copies. PRO proposes to charge the troops 2 lire per copy, and 8 lire per copy to the public.

A column for small advertisements is proposed. Advts. will be charged for.

2/.....

4705

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c) On Monday (6th) a recording was taken of welcome to POW arriving in MALTA. PRO will censor this (speeches etc) before broadcasting.

(d) On 16th May the chiefs of the Fere Bands have been invited to meet the Minister to discuss plans for 2nd June.

(e) Writer fixed appointment for 1200 hrs 10 inst. with Mr. MICHAEL STUART ( i/c Press and Information Office, Br. Embassy) to receive Col FIORE VERNAZZA (E)

Col SORMANI re HQ/216 of 5 May 46.

-4-

4. Maltese who served in Italian Armed Forces: The Certificates of Service required may take some considerable time to trace . The Ministry holds no records of ORs except specialists; only records of officers and NCOs of regular Army.

Can MEGA furnish further particulars to assist in tracing; i.e. unit, detachment or district in which the man served. (E)

4704

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (A [illegible])

G — 1 - 5 May 44

56

Col [illegible]

1. Meeting SOS/War Minister: Discussed agenda of meeting for 3 May, which is brought forward to 1600 hrs. (S)

Lt Col [illegible]

2. Discussed interference of the political agencies with the recruits in the North and various lines of action which might be taken by the Govt and War Ministry in this connection, and particularly with ref to the elections. (S)

Gen [illegible]

3. General talk on subjects of current interest. Lincol expressed concern of SCAC and Territorial Comds over the possibility at the time of the elections, of available all forces being dispersed in party members, leaving no res for the Territorial Comd in the event of a real emergency. It is anticipated that the prefects will be jittery and will ask for dets of tps all over the place "just in case". (S) —Cont'd—

Col PIACENTINI

4. Reorg of Div Arty: Piacentini wishes to incr AA reaction to the immediate reorg of div arty by splitting existing arty regts into two: one FA regt and one combined A/Tk and AA regt. This would be a first step towards implementing the new divisional ests.
For the time being the FA regts would continue to be commanded by cols, while the A/Tk and AA regts would be commanded by Lt cols. (S) —C—

5. Absenteeism et cetera: Piacentini has been asked to produce weekly figures of AWOL's for each div. These given below are men who actually went absent during the period stated. It is believed that the majority has since returned, but exact details are NOT available and this info is being obtained and will be rendered in future: (S) —A—

| G A R | Up to 20 April | 21 - 27 April |
|---|---|---|
| 1 ([illegible]) | 12 | 31 |
| 2 ([illegible]) | 192 | 12 |
| 3 ([illegible]) | 43 | 17 |
| 4 ([illegible]) | 151 | 20 |
| 5 ([illegible]) | 20 | 6 |
| 6 ([illegible]) | 69 | 9 |
| 7 ([illegible]) | 185 | 28 |
| 8 ([illegible]) | 111 | 40 |

4702

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen [redacted]

3. General talk on subjects of current interest. Minch expressed concern at [redacted] and Territorial deals over the possibility at the time of the elections, of available mil forces being dispersed in pouty numbers, leaving no res for the Territorial Coal in the event of a mnal emergency. It is anticipated that the workers will be jittery and will ask for deta of the all over the place "just in case". (B) -Cont'd-

Col PLACENTINI

1. Reorg of Div Arty: Placentini wishes to have full reaction to the immediate reorg of div arty by splitting existing arty regts into two: one fd regt and one combined A/Tk and AA regt. This would be a first step towards implementing the new divisional octs.
For the time being the fd regts would continue to be command-ed by cols, while the A/Tk and AA regts would be commanded by Lt cols. (S) -do-

5. Absenteeism at dates: Placentini has been asked to produce weekly figures of AWOL's for each div. These given below are men who actually went absent during the period stated. It is believed that the majority has since returned, but exact details are NOT available and this index is being ob-tained and will be rendered in future: (B) -do-

4702

| G A R | Up to 20 April | 21 - 27 April |
|---|---|---|
| 1 ([redacted]) | 12 | 31 |
| 2 ([redacted]) | 192 | 12 |
| 3 ([redacted]) | 43 | 17 |
| 4 ([redacted]) | 151 | 20 |
| 5 ([redacted]) | 20 | 6 |
| 6 ([redacted]) | 69 | 9 |
| 7 ([redacted]) | 140 | 28 |
| 8 ([redacted]) | 111 | 40 |
| 9 ([redacted]) | 226 | 37 |
| 10 ([redacted]) | 106 | 61 |
| 11 ([redacted]) | 340 | 91 |
| TOTALS | 1447 | 312 |

6. Army vote: [redacted] has now completed his private calculations of what an army of 140,000 would cost on the basis of reasonable economic conditions for after war men, and comprising only those item of expenditure of a purely mil nature. In order to minimise the incidence of capital expenditure for arms and spt on the other items of current Army expenditure, they have spread the capital expenses over a number of years. Placentini agreed to draw up a comparison, under major headings only, of the [redacted] calculations and the official War Ministry -Cont'd-

6/32.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

P/.....

Para 6 (Contd)

budget about to be submitted to the Govt. (S)

7. Split of ENJO and AIO in the Italian Army: SHAEF proposes to implement the split in two stages:

- First stage - all operational units, including Territorial Services;
- Second stage - navy and air branches at war (Interior and POW).

This method is proposed for tactical reasons, so as to avoid complications and manoeuvres by personnel in the Directorate and Inspectorate. (S)

Col Piero Vernoni (P.R.O.)

8. (a) This officer visited Caserta on 25th of April accompanied by a photographer and 2 officials from the Rome broadcasting office, both with respective paraphernalia.
Many photos were taken, some of which will be published in the "Epoca" (illustrated daily) and the "Domenica" (illustrated weekly). Several soldiers at the C.A.S. were invited to speak into the microphone, and parcels the C.A.S. comforts, food etc. Col Vernoni also spoke.

(b) On 27th April a P.R.O. conference was held at which some 30 senior officers from the Directorate General of the Army were present. Col Piero Vernoni explained the object and scope of P.R.O. and stressed the importance of every-ones support and co-operation on the part of heads of sections in our Ministry.

(c) A broadcast from Rome will be made shortly from a recording of the talks at Caserta on the 25th.

(d) On the 20th April Florence radio spoke of the Polyglot Div's contribution to the liberation of Italy. (S)

Brig Gen [illegible] (MANTOVA)
Brig Gen [illegible] (CREMONA)
Brig Gen [illegible] (FRIULI)
Brig Gen [illegible] (LEGNANO)

9. Above called on CCS 19 Apr prior to taking up appointments on Comds of Inf Divs (as shown above) w.e.f. 3 May 45. The outgoing Comds are placed at disposal of CCS for emp., except BOLOGNA who is retired on reaching age limit. (S)

AVF RADIO

10. Accompanied CSO for meeting with our Minister. Following subjects were discussed:

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

470

and ATS.

This method is proposed for tactical reasons, so as to avoid complications and manoeuvres by personnel in the Directorate and Inspectorate. (S)

Col Piero VERNARA (P.W.B.)

8. (a) This officer visited Orvieto on 26th of April accompanied by a photographer and 2 officials from the news broadcasting office, both with respective paraphernalia.
Many photos were taken, none of which will be published in the "Espresso" (illustrated daily) and the "Quisisana" (illustrated weekly). Several soldiers at the C.A.S. were invited to speak into the microphone, and praised the C.A.S. comforts, food etc. Col Gatto also spoke.

(b) On 27th April a P.W.B. conference was held at which were 30 senior officers from the Directorate General of the Army were present. Col Piero Vernara explained the object and scope of P.W.B. and stressed the importance of energetic support and co-operation on the part of heads of sections in War Ministry.

(c) A broadcast from Rome will be made shortly from a recording of the talks at Orvieto on the 26th.

(d) On the 20th April Florence radio spoke of the Folgore Div's contribution to the liberation of Italy. (S)

Brig Gen [redacted] (MANTOVA)
Brig Gen [redacted] (CREMONA)
Brig Gen [redacted] (UDINE)
Brig Gen [redacted] (LEGNANO)

9. Above called on Gen 29 Apr prior to taking up appointments as Comds of Inf Divs (as shown above) w.e.f. 3 May 46. The outgoing Comds are placed at disposal of Brig for exp., except [redacted] who is retired on reaching age limit. (S)

Avv [redacted]

10. Accompanied CAC for meeting with the Minister. Following subjects were discussed:

(a) Inspector-Gen of Motorisation: The Minister explained that Gen [redacted] had just been appointed as head of the new Mine Clearance org, while Gen [redacted] was stationed with his family at [redacted], and a transfer to [redacted] would be a hardship to the Gen and [redacted] acceptable to him.
[redacted] had turned the offer down for the same reasons. On the other hand the Minister said he would very much like CAC to reconsider the case of Gen [redacted] Sikorin. After discussion of this offr, CAC agreed in the circumstances to withdraw his objection, but wished to see Gen [redacted] before he takes up the appointment.

/ secret

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

From 10(Contd)

(b) Peace project: The Minister agreed to the first meeting for Friday 17 Sep.

(c) Public Relations Offr: Major was in full agreement with the memorandum submitted by HQLA. He was trying to find a suitable Italian name corresponding to the term PRO which would convey the idea without being an exact copy of the English.
She also mentioned importance of PRO confirming with Press Office, the good start and impression made by Col Fluet, Vatican, and the need for office space outside the War Ministry itself, adequate staff and transport.

(d) Financial progress: AMGOT was able to state that the decree for the retirement of the 5,000 surplus senior offrs had been agreed by the cabinet that very morning, although he could not be certain that the terms would be implemented before the elections. He thought a start might be made. The Minister proceeded to explain the provisions of the decree, which make no differentiations between those offrs who were involved in some illegal way with the Republican Govt and those who had an entirely clean bill. This was unfortunate but unavoidable. General terms were: two years on full pay, and thereafter four-fifths pay, until three years after normal retiring age. The age limits of the 'male assault' have been raised to those of the 'sole M'.
Arising out of the above measure, it will be necessary to retire compulsorily a large number of junior offrs who were accepted back into the Army despite the fact that they were partly compromised with the 'other side'. Those offrs (& NCOs) are not surplus, and their removal will leave a deficiency in the junior commissioned ranks and senior non-commissioned ranks of the Army cadres. The terms of their retirement are still under discussion.
10,000 specialists: the Minister was confident that the Treasury would eventually agree to the special rates of pay, but it was a slow business, and he could not say when it would be.

(e) Political interference with recruits: CCG informed the Minister that reports had been received from Bari in the form of unrest and disturbances at the Camp at Modugno, Andria, Altamura, Corato and Molfetta. The cause of the trouble had been ascribed primarily to the recruits being got at by local political orgs, during their periods off-duty in the town. The Chief Commissioner had been about this and had called for infrm, and would very likely mention the matter to De Gasperi in the near future. This would be in support of such action as Scelba himself would be taking (or had already taken) in the Cabinet. Minister indicated that he was fully informed about the whole situation and had already taken the following action:

4697

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(d) Financial programme: Minister was able to state that the decision for the retirement of the 5,000 surplus senior officers had been agreed by the cabinet that very morning, although he could not be certain that the terms would be implemented before the elections. He thought a start might be made. The Minister proceeded to explain the provisions of the decree, which make no differentiations between those officers who were involved in some slight way with the Republican Govt and those who had an entirely clean bill. This was unfortunate but unavoidable. General terms were: two years on full pay, and thereafter four-fifths pay, until three years after normal retiring age. The age limits of the trade commds' have been raised to those of the 'sole M'.
Arising out of the above measure, it will be necessary to retire compulsorily a large number of junior officers who were accepted back into the Army despite the fact that they were partly compromised with the 'other side'. These officers (& NCOs) are NOT surplus, and their removal will leave a deficiency in the junior commissioned ranks and senior non-commissioned ranks of the Army cadres. The terms of their retirement are still under discussion. 40,000 specialists: The Minister was confident that the Treasury would eventually agree to the special rates of pay, but it was a slow business, and he could not say when it would be.

4693

(e) Political interference with recruits: Gen informed the Minister that reports has been received from Kano in the North of unrest and disturbances at the camps at Kaduna, Makurdi, Ibadan, Ogoja and Enugu. The cause of the trouble had been ascribed primarily to the recruits being got at by local political orgs, during their moments off-duty in the town. The Chief Commissioner had been above this and had called for infm, and would very likely mention the matter to be imparted in the near future. This would be in support of such action as Ironsi himself would be taking (or had already taken) in the cabinet. Having informed this he was fully informed about the trade situation and had already taken the following action:

(i) discussed the matter energetically both with the Head of the Govt and at a meeting of the cabinet;

(ii) despatched the Civil Commissioner to visit Kano at Kaduna and Ibadan. On his return had reported very favourably on the situation at both these centres, where things were now back to normal.

b/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

Rome 10 (Gental)

(f) GOU mentioned that he had been pleased to see the four senior offrs designated to command NAPOWA, DANDA, KAUNDA and LEGHAIA drive m.c.f. 3 May, and that they had impressed him favourably. The Minister said he had particularly stressed to them the need for getting a proper grip and control over the tps under their cmd before the elections. He anticipated no trouble, but one had to be prepared. (S)

(g). Reg of tps for maintenance of public order at the elections: GOU mentioned potential danger of over-dispersal of tps through excessive nervousness on the part of the Prefects. (vide para 3 above) - not good move to allot all tps in small dets scattered through the territories and have none in reserve for real emergency.
MICHIO replied that our Ministry is really in the hands of the Ministry of the Interior and Prefects in this matter, but that he would mention it to MUNGA. He agreed with the suggestion that a plan for dep of tps ought to be worked out by the Territorial Comds in conjunction with the Prefects, taking into account the overall requirements of the civil and mil administration.
MICHIO added that he had convened a conference of Territorial Comds in KAMPALA for mid-May, at which he would give them his directives on this and other subjects connected with the elections.

4697

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (MMIA) 1 - 27 Apr 46

Col FIORE VERNAZZA (Public Relations Officer)

1. Discussed P.R.O. office accommodation, staff, vehicles etc with Col Pilsley. (S)

Maj ATTANASIO
Lt Col SORIANI

2. Writer asked for reply to various enquiries about men wanted for War Crimes. Was shown copies of letters dated 15 Apr addressed to MMIA giving information about a number of men "wanted".

No such information received at MMIA HQ up to date (25 Apr).

Suggested that in future a copy of all letters addressed to MMIA be sent to AD when original has been sent to Cabinet for signature. This was agreed. (Suspected that delay caused by letters for signature waiting for days on "Capo di Cabinetto's desk). (S)

Col FIORE VERNAZZA (P.R.O.)

3. Fiore Vernazza stated that the "Istituto Nazionale per le Biblioteche dei Soldati" which was founded in 1908 to provide reading matter to the troops, has recently been re-organised in Turin.

Col Fiore Vernazza, through "Officio Distribuzione Libri", had made arrangements for the distribution of books etc by the Welfare Officer, to the various Terr Comds. (S)

Lt Col MENAGO

4. Re married quarters for officers and NCOs: Acted as interpreter at meeting in the office of A/Q at 0930 on 26 Apr. Lt Cols GILLMORE and CURTISS present. (S)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

5. Re 45mm Mortars:

(a) Italian Army stocks at present: 45mm mortars 730 (efficient)
1,460,000 rounds for same.

(b) Re A/739/SUR 13 of 6 Apr 46 and Lt Col OLIVETTI's talk with Lt Col CURTISS.

27,000 tons ammo - now 10,000.

Informed Olivetti that issue orders for the 12 months maintenance (bulk transfer) are on the way. That approx 10,000 tons could be handed over immediately. This does not include 4.2" and 2" mortar ammo. Additional stocks could be made available later.

Pointed out that it was essential A of S rep should deal direct with SOI R&D.

55

4693

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

No such information received at MAIA HQ up to date (2) Apr).

Suggested that in future a copy of all letters addressed to MAIA be sent to LO when original has been sent to Cabinet for signature. This was agreed. (Suspected that delay caused by letters for signature waiting for days on "Capo di Cabinetto's desk). (S)

Col FIORE VERMASCA (P.W.C.)

3. Fiore Vermasca stated that the "Istituto Nazionale per le Biblioteche dei Soldati" which was founded in 1908 to provide reading matter to the troops, has recently been re-organised in Turin.

Col Fiore Vermasca, through "Ufficio Distribuzione Libri", had made arrangements for the distribution of books etc by the Welfare Officer, to the various Terr Comds. (S)

Lt Col MONACO

4. Re married quarters for officers and NCOs: Acted as interpreter at meeting in the office of A/G at 0950 on 26 Apr. Lt Cols GILLMORE and CURTISS present. (S)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

5. Re 45mm Mortars:

(a) Italian Army stocks at present: 45mm mortars 730 (efficient) 1,460,000 rounds for same.

(b) Re 4/789/SEC 15 of 6 Apr 46 and Lt Col OLIVETTI's talk with Lt Col CURTISS.

27,000 tons ammo - now 10,000.

Informed Olivetti that issue orders for the 12 months maintenance (bulk transfer) are on the way. That approx 10,000 tons could be handed over immediately. This does not include 4.2" and 2" mortar ammo. Additional stocks could be made available later.

Pointed out that it was essential A of W rep should deal direct with 501 BAD.

Olivetti stated that direct contact had been tried (on 5 Mar 46) by rep of Terr Comd Bari who was told by a Major Stephens at 501 BAD that no instructions had been received.

Olivetti seemed to deplore the delay, for which he blames "Bureaux"

The ammunition required (and allocated) for Mar and Apr requirements had not been received. Only DARs had recently got their quotas.

Olivetti preparing copies of statements showing breakdown of requirements and priority lists for Terr Comd sent to Direzione Generale Artiglieri. (S).

4696

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

27 Apr 46

Col BALANZINO

6. Re tyres for the Army: Assured Balansino that MMIAs wish was that all tyres now in the dumps at Verona and Milan should be for the Italian Army.
If the Navy and the Air Force had appropriated tyres from these dumps, MMIA wished to have a list giving names of units or individuals who had helped themselves, and quantities taken. (S)

Col FORMATO

7. Re American decoration to Italian Officers and ORs, A/245 of 9 Apr and 1198/45 of 26 Feb 46: Formato had informed all units concerned, particularly in regard to last para of a/m letter to Ministry, by letter dated 27 Apr ref 116/45.
Furnished Col Formato with copy of itinerary of Col Kerr and Major Van Kirk (A351 of 24 Apr). Formato will inform all Terr Comds accordingly.
Suggested that Formato, should contact Public Relations Off-icer Col Fiore Vernasca. (S)

Gen PROPERZI

8. The tyre situation is still unsatisfactory. Ministry of Industry and Commerce appear to have control of all production and Army has not been given priority of deliveries.
The suggestion that a percentage of all Italian production be allotted to the Army was favourably received by the General.
A letter will be addressed to MMIA to the above effect to enable MMIA to take the matter up on a high level. (M)

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jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison w[illegible] War Ministry (A-SIME)

15 - 12/4/54

Lt Col SILLI

1. Re Ten D'AMURO Giovanni: Ref A/231 of 24 Mar and Ministry of War letter 13424/PAV/2 of 25 Mar 46 addressed to Allied Screening Commission No 2 Section (c/o 7 AGRA).
Silli produced relative dossier from which it transpires that the main charges against this officer are:

(a) Mutiny ("Revolta") in that he disobeyed an order from his superior officer Col Bonomi, to hand over arms and ammunition.

(b) Desertion and passing over to the enemy.

(c) Instigating others to commit military offences.

These charges have been preferred against D'AMURO jointly with some 27 officers of the "Nembo" Division.
Silli promised to enquire from the proper authorities as to what stage has been reached in the proceedings.
D.A.A.G. (Z6) informed of above. (K)

2. Application by Lt LEONE Arturo (Sicily) for repatriation of wife and family from Negatteto (Classified).
This officer should have applied to the Post War Assistance Ministry (Ministero dell'Assistenza Post-Bellica). Apparently no such application has been made. Col Silli will forward the application to that authority. It has to be informed of above, copy to War Ministry. (Z)

Col SORRENTI

3. Officers, witnesses for War Crimes Tribunals: Sorrenti asked whether the following questions:
In the event of a prospective witness being an officer of high rank serving in some unit or in any official capacity, some distance from location of tribunal, could his written statement be accepted as evidence or could a person be sent to interrogate him? Col Sorrenti gave two main reasons why the calling of such officers away from their duties should be avoided if possible:

(a) The officer's period of absence from duty may be prolonged and seriously interfere with his work.

(b) It is usual for such witnesses to be accommodated in camps (internment or concentration) during trials. This is considered rather demoralising and detrimental to peace of mind.

Answer given: Generally speaking, the officer concerned would have to present himself wherever requested to do so, to give evidence. However, should any case arise in the future where an officer's absence from his duties would cause serious dislocation, his particular case, all circumstances considered, would be referred to AFHQ for a decision. (Z)

-A-

-A-

-A-

4691

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c) [illegible] to normal military offences.

These charges have been preferred against D'ALESSIO jointly with some 27 officers of the "Nembo" Division.

Gilli promised to enquire from the proper authorities as to what stage has been reached in the proceedings.

D.A.A.G. (K) informed of above. (E)

2. Application by Lt [illegible] Arturo (Sicily) for repatriation of wife and family from Mogadiscio (Somaliland). -d-

This officer should have applied to the Post War Assistance Ministry (Ministero dell'Assistenza Post-Bellica). Apparently no such application has been made. Col Gilli will forward the application to that authority. If NAD to be informed of above, copy to War Ministry. (A)

Col [illegible]

3. Germans, witnesses for War Crimes Tribunals: Tomanti asked -h- 4697
written the following questions:

In the event of a prospective witness being an officer of high rank serving in some unit of in any official capacity, some distance from location of tribunal, could his written statements be accepted as evidence or would a person be sent to interrogate him? Col Tomanti give two main reasons why the calling of such officers away from their duties should be avoided if possible:

(a) The officer's period of absence from duty may be pro-tracted and seriously interfere with his work.

(b) It is usual for such witnesses to be accommodated in camps (internment or concentration) during trials. This is considered rather demoralising and detrimental to peace of mind.

Answer given: Generally speaking, the officer concerned would have to present himself wherever requested to do so, to give evidence. However, should any case arise in the future where an officer's absence from his duties would cause serious dis-location, his particular case, all circumstances considered, would be referred to AFHQ for a decision. (E)

Lt Col MONACO

4. Barrack accomodation 7 HDU: Ref G/216 (Col SC) signal from -g-
7 HDU dated 13 Apr 46.

7 HDUs suggestion to transfer CCIU from Caltanissetta Barracks to Cascina has been acted upon by Col Monaco who approached Air Ministry. Air Ministry replied verbally that they could not give up Cascina.

War Ministry suggest that temporary constructional alter-ations be made at Caltanissetta barracks to keep CCIU separate from 7th Inf Regt. (C)

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Major [illegible]
Major [illegible] (sgnd)

5. Ref M322 of 4 Apr 46 - Armourers: It is admitted that the men sent for trg in the use of the arms were mainly new artillerymen but none better could be found.

Major Reynolds suggested these should be kept on to complete the course and eventually become assistant armourers under a number of MOOs (about 20) to be put through another course later.

War Ministry has approached HQ at Caserta to know how soon such MOOs are likely to be available. (R)

-Cond-(2)-(1)-

Col Blackwell

6. Recruiting poster direct to units: In reply to the writers enquiry, Lieutenant confirmed that a certain number of recruits had been enlisted in excess of 40,000 (in order to be on the safe side), and that the surplus at each C.A.R. has been posted direct to units which most needed rifles. In all cases men with previous mil trg were selected.

Actual figures are as follows:

| Unit | Troops Recruited | Posted to |
|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | 150 | Pritli Div |
| [illegible] | 200 | Folgore Div |
| [illegible] | 165 | Cremona Div |
| [illegible] | 90 | Legnano Div |
| [illegible] | 50 | Mantova Div |
| [illegible] | 50 | 2 Inf Regt |
| | 705 | |

-S-(1)-

Lt Col LA ROSA
Major [illegible]

463

7. Clothing of instructors under trg at [illegible]: Ref the complaint that Italians are sent on courses partly or wholly dressed in civilian clothes, action has been taken by [illegible] as follows:

- Instrs have been issued to all Units that in future all trainees be inspected before being sent on courses and their kit made up to scale.

- 500 sets of clothing have been sent to [illegible] for dealing with the existing situation. (R)

-S-(1)-

jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (& SHAEF) 11 - 15 April 45

G

Col SORMANI

1. (a) Ref A/215 of 19 March 46 to Ministry of War. -A-
Persons wanted in connection with the death of Sgt Banks in December 44.
Sormani blames "Comando Generale" of the Carabinieri for delay in reply to above letter, particularly as to para 3. A reminder is being sent to C.C. of Carabinieri for the information required.

(b) Information about War Criminals wanted by Italian authorities.
Sormani, having been furnished by the "Procura Generale" with scanty particulars about a number of persons (chiefly German) wanted in connection with War Crimes against Italians, would appreciate Allied assistance in amplifying these particulars if possible.
Suggested that MSS be furnished with a list of such persons, showing in columnar form what further particulars are required, and MSS will see what can be done. (E).

Col ROMANO (i/c Honours and Awards office - Cabinetto) -A-
Certificates of Merit for members of the St Marco (Marine) Battn.

2. Romano gave assurance that this certificate was about to be distributed to the members of the a/b unit. (E).

Col PIACENTINI

3. Accompanied ALEXS for discussion on org of new Intelligence Corps of Motorized Inf. -Contd-2-A-2-
Piacentini said he had three alternative proposals to consider, submitted by:

- Col BALANKINO
- Gen PROSPERI
- [illegible]

4687

The first had much to commend it, and provided a sound basis for future development and expansion. We knew, also, that it agreed with the general ideas of MMIA. On the other hand it required more personnel, and not only was this contrary to the Minister's directive but there was an acute shortage of the right type of technical staff just now.
PROSPERI's project followed the Minister's directive quite literally, and was no more nor less than the existing branches of the combined Direzione detached and placed under an independent Inspector General. It had the merits of great simplicity, and ease of implementation, but rather missed the object of the reorg.
[illegible] to BALANKINO, but made provision

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(b) Information about War Criminals wanted by Italian authorities.
Sarmenti, having been furnished by the "Procura Generale" with scanty particulars about a number of persons (chiefly German) wanted in connection with War Crimes against Italians, would appreciate MFAA assistance in amplifying these particulars if possible.
Suggested that MFAA be furnished with a list of such persons, showing in columns form what further particulars are required, and MFAA will see what can be done. (E).

Col [redacted] (i/c Honours and Awards office - Caserta) -A-
Certificates of Merit for members of the 91 Area (Marine) Batln.

2. Formato gave assurance that this certificate was about to be distributed to the members of the s/m unit. (E).

Col PIACENTINI

3. Accompanied ADME for discussion on org of new Inspectorate of Materiassistance. -Cond-C-A-C-
Piacentini said he had three alternative proposals to consider, submitted by:

- Col BALAMINO
- Gen [redacted]
- [redacted]

4681

The first had much to commend it, and provided a sound basis for future development and expansion. He knew, also, that it agreed with the general ideas of MFAA. On the other hand it required more personnel, and not only was this contrary to the Minister's directive but there was an acute shortage of the right type of technical staff just now.
PROFUMO's project followed the Minister's directive quite literally, and was no more nor less than the existing branches of the combined Directions detached and placed under an independent Inspector General. It had the merit of great simplicity, and ease of implementation, but rather missed the object of the reorg.
[redacted]'s ideas were akin to BALAMINOs, but made provision for a slightly less expanded org to start with. The principle of having three main branches

- Personnel, MT units and inspection;
- Technical and Wkgs;
- Adm (Finance) inspection (civilian)

was common to both proposals.
Various points of interest were discussed by ADME and Col Piacentini, and agreement was reached on a solution combining the ideas of [redacted] and Col BALAMINO.
This will now be submitted to the Minister.(E).

jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

8 - 10 Apr 46

G

C/82

52

Gen LIUZZI

1. (a) MI for CC.RR: Liuzzi said he had already signed a comn to MVIA on the subject of vehs to be assigned to the CARABINIERI. This did NOT incl delivery dates, and he promised a seperate note on the subject. -o-

(b) He had heard nothing about the 70 Jeeps made avail-
-able to the CC.RR NOT in proper running order and prom-
-ised to make enquiries.

Col BALANZINO

2. 70 Jeeps for CC.RR: Balanzino stated that these vehs had been driven up from the ARAR camp at AVERSA after summary overhaul and repairs and placed immediately in the M.V.P. They were runners in the sense that they were actually capable of moving under their own power. In no sense were they "efficient" vehs in the wimp meaning of the term. They were handed over to the CC.RR because of orders received from above that urgency of delivery was to have priority over all other considerations. Balanzino was unable to say who had given this order but prom-
-ised to find out. He is now having them mechanically checked and tool-kits and spares provided and hopes to hand them over in four or five days. -o-

(8 Apr)

Col AMBROSIO

3. '8' Coup Taranto: As a result of Gen Mannerini's visit to ATHENS 8 Apr it was arranged that the hand-over should take place not later than 15 Apr. Instrs to this effect have been given by the Cabinetto to 9 TMA. Mannerini plans to be back in ROME 9 Apr and to proceed to TARANTO a day or two later. -o-

Col PIACENTINI

4. MP Inspectorate: SMAN is preparing in conjunction with the existing Directorate of Arty and MP, a project of org for the new Inspectorate. -o-

The combined proposal will be presented to the Minister on 15 Apr. Piacentini has agreed to discuss the draft proposed with ADHB on 13 Apr.

4683

5. (a) SMAN Trg Branch letter 25%/R/4 of 30 Mar: Detailed discussion of the proposed method of allotting specialist rfts after trg at Central Schools. Briefly, the proportion of designated specialists which each CAR sends to Central Schools after the first month, is laid down in 01/619/Mob of 28 Feb 46. These figures are supposed to represent one third of total WIm of the units and items for which each CAR supplies rfts. The figures are given by arms of the service and NOT by type of specialist within the arm of the service. -o-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

2. 70 Jeeps for CC.RR: Balancing Branch [illegible] summary overhaul driven up from the ARAR camp at AVEZZA after summary overhaul and repairs and placed immediately in the E.V.P. They were runners in the sense that they were actually capable of moving under their own power. In no sense were they "efficient" vehs in the wkmp meaning of the term. They were handed over to the CC.RR because of orders received from above that urgency of delivery was to have priority over all other considerations. Balancing was unable to say who had given this order but promised to find out. He is now having them mechanically checked and tool-kits and spares provided and hopes to hand them over in four or five days.

(8 Apr)

Col AMPOSTO

-A-Q-

3. 'S' Camp Taranto: As a result of Gen Mannerini's visit to AFHQ 2 Apr it was arranged that the hand-over should take place not later than 15 Apr. Instr to this effect have been given by the Cabinetto to G THQ. Mannerini plans to be back in ROME 9 Apr and to proceed to TARANTO a day or two later.

Col PIACENTINI

-Q-

4. MI Inspectorate: SMME is preparing in conjunction with the existing Directorate of Army and MI, a project of org for the new Inspectorate.

The combined proposal will be presented to the Minister on 15 Apr. Piacentini has agreed to discuss the draft proposed with ARMS on 13 apr.

4683

-I-A-

5. (a) SMME Trg Branch letter 220/A/4 of 30 Mar: Detailed discussion of the proposed method of allotting specialist rfts after trg at Central Schools. Briefly, the proportion of designated specialists which each CAR sends to Central Schools after the first month, is laid down in G1/619/Mob of 28 Feb 46. These figures are supposed to represent one third of total RMs of the units and fmns for which each CAR supplies rfts. The figures are given by arms of the service and NOT by type of specialist within the arm of the service.

(b) Each CAR therefore sends to each of the Central Schools (and assigns for posting to RMs and fmns on completion of trg) a number of trainees corresponding to the figures in the above quoted circular of 28 Feb. The breakdown by type of specialist within the arm of the service will be based on infmn requested in the letter of 30 Mar.
The posting by name will be done by Central Schools on completion of trg.

(c) Piacentini agreed that the breakdown by type of specialist should also be available at SMME, being the detail work on which the figures for arms of the service must have been based in the first place. He justified the letter of 30 Mar because of the need of having a check of SMME figures.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 5 (Contd)

(5) The point arose in the course of discussion as to whether any account should be taken of:

(i) Arms or HQs particularly weak (by comparison with the others) in certain types of specialists,

(ii) Arms or HQs where such a condition is likely to develope through the loss of a disproportionate number of specialists by the demobilisation of one of the remaining classes.

The ideal from the GS point of view is to assign a straight third to all alike, as any other system will have repercussions later on (vide AIFEMI para 4 Log 1/6 Apx. Pincentini will be getting out figures in a day or two which will serve as a basis for an appreciation.

Avv PRCSIO (War Minister)

6. (a) 'S' Camp TARANTO: The Minister stated that the news of the forthcoming hand-over to the Italian authorities having leaked out, he was being assailed on all sides for the release of the internees. There were numerous and strong complaints about the conditions in the camp, particularly the inadequacy of the rations. These allegations had been confirmed to him by an Italian Army officer who had been to TARANTO. PRCSIO said that while he had no sympathy with the internees themselves there were two aspects of the situation that had to be considered:

- political pressure and repercussions in relation to the general elections, as affecting himself and the Liberal party;
- adverse and hostile criticism of the Allies for the conditions in the camp.

Whatever the merits of the allegations, the fact was that much political capital was being made out of the present situation.

(b) The writer explained to the Minister the background and Allied policy with regard to the general question of internees, incl the directive issued by CCS which was formally acknowledged by the Head of the Italian Govt in 1945. The case of the GUIDONIA camp was mentioned as was also the procedure adopted for dealing with the internees held there, as a result of negotiations between the Allies and War Minister JACHINI. An attempt was now being made by META to obtain the sanction of the British Authorities at CMF for a similar arrangement at TARANTO, since the latter camp was a British responsibility.

(c) PRCSIO concluded that he would greatly appreciate an early decision on the lines now being sought.

7. Financial matters: PRCSIO is planning to see SCELBA (Treasury) 11 April to discuss the Army vote, funds for repairs to Central Schools, and rates of pay for specialists.

468

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

serve as a basis for an appreciation.

Gen BROSIO (War Minister)

6. (a) 'S' Camp TARANTO: The Minister stated that the news of the forthcoming hand-over to the Italian authorities having leaked out, he was being assailed on all sides for the release of the internees. There were numerous and strong complaints about the conditions in the camp, particularly the inadequacy of the rations. These allegations had been confirmed to him by an Italian Army officer who had been to TARANTO. BROSIO said that while he had no sympathy with the internees themselves there were two aspects of the situation that had to be considered:

- political pressure and repercussions in relation to the general elections, as affecting himself and the Liberal party;
- adverse and hostile criticism of the Allies for the conditions in the camp.

Whatever the merits of the allegations, the fact was that much political capital was being made out of the present situation.

(b) The writer explained to the Minister the background and Allied policy with regard to the general question of internees, incl the directive issued by SCC which was formally acknowledged by the Head of the Italian Govt in 1945. The case of the GOLFERO camp was mentioned as was also the procedure adopted for dealing with the internees held there, as a result of negotiations between the Allies and War Minister JACINI. An attempt was now being made by M-TA to obtain the sanction of the British authorities at CMH for a similar arrangement at TARANTO, since the latter camp was a British responsibility.

(c) BROSIO concluded that he would greatly appreciate an early decision on the lines now being sought.

7. Financial matters: BROSIO is planning to see CORBINO (Treasury) 11 April to discuss the army vote, funds for repairs to Central Schools, and rates of pay for specialists.

8. MI Inspectorate: Confirmed to the Minister that SCC does NOT consider Brig Gen ROSSI Silvio as suitable candidate for new Inspector General of Mobilization.

9. Ent for CO.ER: The Minister confirmed that, knowledge of the continued delays, he had himself insisted on the immediate delivery of the Jeeps to the CARABINIERI, which gave rise to the incident now being investigated (see 1 (b) above). X Deplorable as it was that the Jeeps should have been made available to the CO.ER in this way, the occurrence did at least serve to draw attention to the rather stale of the vehs being issued to the Army by AMAM. X

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Para 9 (Contd)

The moral of all this, continued BROSIO, was that unless Allied vehs were in good shape and with adequate supply of spares it would NOT be in the interests of the Italian Army to negotiate or accept further deliveries. This particularly with ref to the redundant types about to be discarded by GHQ. BROSIO said he was prepared to sponsor the delivery of further Allied vehs to the Army, but it must be a sound proposition.

(Note: opinions at the War Ministry is solid on this pt, MUSSI, MELONI and BALANZINO having expressed identical independent views).

10. Org project: BROSIO confirmed that he is prepared to go ahead on the basis agreed as soon as GOC returned, or is ready to start. -Comd-G-A-Q-

Col BALANZINO

11. Jeeps for CC.RR: A statement has been submitted as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Jeeps delivered to E.V.P. ROME | 131+ |
| Jeeps in hands of 10 WAAF | 119 |
| Jeeps being selected from AVARSA ARAR Park | 150 |
| | 400 |
| Comd care for later delivery | 100 |
| | 500 |

+ of 131 Jeeps in E.V.P. [illegible]:-

| | |
|---|---|
| delivered to CC.RR | 13 |
| delivered to sundry Army units | 17 |
| repairs in hand at 8 WEAP | 46 |
| in 8 E.V.P. awaiting repairs | 55 |
| | 131 |

Spare wheels are being despatched from NAPLES by first available means; Tool-kits: 100 already supplied. 468

Programme of repairs:

10 Jeeps per day for 5 days commencing 15 Apr

thereafter 6 - 8 per day.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

51

C

Col [illegible]

1. (a) Designation of ALPINI Regts: Piacentini stated that there was a general desire to assign to the three ALPINI Regts the numbers of the former regts with the best traditions.
The specific proposals are to convert:

1 Alpini Regt to 4 Alpini Regt
4 " " to 6 " "
5 " " to 8 " "

Piacentini admitted that in themselves the changes were of limited practical significance, but were psychologically important as contributing to build up the morale of the Army. A similar change of designation would be proposed in the course for the GRANATIERI and BERSAGLIERI Regts in MILAN and ROME respectively. This implied divorcing regts from the numbers of the Territories, but Piacentini considered this unimportant, especially as there were already sixteen regts in the dive with a variety of numbers entirely disconnected with any sequence or plan - in fact it would probably be necessary to review all regimental numbers in due course.

(b) Discussed new designations of ALPINI Regts with G 1 SD and subsequently informed Piacentini that the new numbers were agreed.

- G -

2. Regular NCOs: As the result of complaint by Eng Branch AMMG that large proportion of regular NCOs were NOT employable, being senior NCs and unwilling to leave their families and centres of residence, Piacentini submitted the following figures:

- A -

4683

Strength of regular NCO's as 1 Mar 45

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aiutanti di battaglia ) Marescialli maggiori ) | WO I | 131<br>2369 |
| Marescialli capi ) Marescialli ordinari ) + Sergenti maggiori ) | WO II<br>CCRS | 1369<br>1323<br>4744 |
| | | 10,036 |

+ (Lowest rank of regular NCO in Italian Army)

In addition, the following NCO's were retained beyond their term of service with a view to their accept-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Alpini | Regt | to | 4 | Alpini | Regt |
| 4 | " | " | to | 6 | " | " |
| 5 | " | " | to | 8 | " | " |

Piacentini admitted that in themselves the changes were of limited practical significance, but were psychologically important as contributing to build up the morale of the Army. A similar change of designation would be proposed in due course for the CACCIATORI and BERSAGLIERI Regts in MILAN and ROME respectively. This implied divorcing regts from the numbers of the Territories, but Piacentini considered this unimportant, especially as there were already sixteen regts in the dive with a variety of numbers entirely disconnected with any sequence or plan - in fact it would probably be necessary to review all regimental numbers in due course.

(b) Discussed new designations of ALPINI Regts with G-1 AD and subsequently informed Piacentini that the new numbers were agreed.

- 4 -

2. Regular NCOs: As the result of complaint by the French that large proportion of regular NCOs were NOT employable, being senior NCs and unwilling to leave their families and centres of residence, Piacentini submitted the following figures:

4683

Strength of regular NCO's at 1 Mar 46

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Aiutanti di batta lia<br>Marescialli maggiori | NO I | 151<br>4569 |
| Marescialli capi<br>Marescialli ordinari<br>+ Sergenti maggiori | NO II<br>CQMS | 1369<br>1823<br>4314<br>10.056 |

+ (Lowest rank of regular NCO in Italian Army)

In addition, the following NCO's were retained beyond their term of service with a view to their assistance in the regular cadres when vacancies occur:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sergenti maggiori<br>Sergenti | (NO II)<br>(Sgts) | 1520<br>5390 |

As in the case of surplus senior regular offrs, a scheme is required to retire the surplus NCs before they reach the statutory age-limit.
A breakdown is also being prepared of the ages of regular NCO's (B).

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

- G - A -

3. Cpls for CARs: in order to meet the serious deficiency of junior NCO's at the trg centres, GENOA, MILAN and BOLZANO THQs were authorised to assign cpls from the divs to their respective CAR for one month. The MANTOVA Div has loaned 40 cpls to GENOA CAR on this basis, while the LEGNANO and FRIULI Divs were unable to spare any NCOs. To remedy the situation for the next call-up a project is on foot to authorise CARs to select suitable personnel from the present recruits (probably recruits with previous mil experience) and give them the necessary trg on a junior NCO's cadre course at the CAR itself. No decision has yet be taken, but Piacentini foresees two difficulties in the above proposals:

- the most promising recruits will be selected for the instructors cadres, and will be lost to the specialist arms of the service,

- CARs will try to hold on to those cpls they train themselves, which will cut across the present intention of posting recruits away from their "home" territory once their basic trg is completed.

However, a solution of some sort will have to be found quite soon. (B)

4. Additional ALPINI recruits for 5 THQ: Piacentini stated that the Direzione Generale L.S. e T. had authorised UDINE THQ to call up the extra 200 ALPINI asked for. This meant that this number more men would be recruited in the hills and correspondingly fewer in the mil districts situated in the plain. Since these ALPINI "types" would obviously be assigned to the ALPINI Regt in 5 MD, the practical result would be to give this Regt 200 more rfts at the expense of other units drawing their rfts from 5 CAR. Conversely, in twelve months time, this ALPINI Regt will lose a correspondingly higher proportion of its trained personnel when the time comes to demobilise the present recruits.
Inf'd Piacentini that while SMA recognised that this might interfere with the smooth working of the "master plan" it was considered that the effects would be so slight as not to cause serious inconvenience (B).

5. Org of div arty: Touching on this subject, Piacentini said that if the comds of all arty regts were Lt Cols, there would remain no cols appointments for arty offrs in the Italian Army (other than staff appointments). Later discussed a suggestion that a col be appointed to coordinate adm of the fd regts in a div. SMRE latest line of thought is that fd regts be commanded by cols and A/Tk and A/A regts by Lt Cols. (B)

Gen LIUZZI

- G - A -

4682

- G - A -

- G - A - 2 -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

a junior [illegible]. No decision has yet be taken, but Piacentini foresees two difficulties in the above proposals:

- the most promising recruits will be selected for the instructors cadres, and will be lost to the specialist arms of the service,

- CARs will try to hold on to those cpls they train themselves, which will cut across the present intention of posting recruits away from their "home" territory once their basic trg is completed.

However, a solution of some sort will have to be found quite soon. (B)

- G - A -

4. Additional ALPINI recruits for 5 TMR: Piacentini stated that the Direzione Generale L.D. e T. had authorised UDINE TMR to call up the extra 200 ALPINI asked for. This meant that this number more men would be recruited in the hills and correspondingly fewer in the mil districts situated in the plain. Since these ALPINI "types" would obviously be assigned to the ALPINI Regt in 5 TMR the practical result would be to give this Regt 200 more rfts at the expense of other units drawing their rfts from 5 CAR. Conversely, in twelve months time, this ALPINI Regt will lose a correspondingly higher proportion of its trained personnel when the time comes to demobilise the present recruits.
Ind Piacentini that while SMA recognised that this might interfere with the smooth working of the "master plan" it was considered that the effects would be so slight as not to cause serious inconvenience (B).

468
- G - A -

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- G - A - Q -

Gen LIUZZI

6. Booklet on Italian Army for distribution to recruits at CAR: owing to delays all along the line this publication will not be out of the printers hands until 15 Apr at the earliest. (B)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 735020

Col PIASENTINI re- telegram from Ministry of War ( ...ill
enclosed No 1113/25 of 7/3/46

- 4 -

7. Piacentini explained fully the letter and the spirit of this telegram, the sending of which prompted by the fact that civilians were being taken on by the various combatant indiscriminately, and often in excess of the number provided for by TE. Thus, commitments were being entered into that the Army Budget or even the Treasury itself could not provide for. The rules laid down by the Minister in this telegram, were found, in practice to be too drastic and it has been agreed (between AMG and the Minister) that a certain amount of elasticity be allowed.
The discharge of civilian personnel will be carried out when and where possible but causing undue hardship to the civilian concerned or interfering with the efficient working of the unit.
Each case will have to be examined individually.
Some time may elapse between date of request for a suitable replacement ex POW and the day of his reporting for duty (depending on period employed in finding, posting and posting him to a unit). To fill this gap, temporary civilian technical personnel is to be transferred from other units where they happen to be in excess.
No new regular or daily civilian employees will be taken on without special permission of the SACMED.
Transfers from one unit to another will be arranged, where possible, by Tor Comds. The channels of communication will be the "proper military channels".
Information of any such transfer will immediately be passed to "Direzione Generale Personale Civile e Affari Generali" at the M of W (Co-ordinators LEONCINO).
These transfers will be considered permanent. Civilians or repatriated POW transferred in this manner will not be treated as "mobile" labour.
Should a man prove unsatisfactory at his work he may be dismissed without ceremony. This is not likely to prove a frequent occurrence as the men are vetted by the various ex POW employment organisations, local employment committees and "Camere di Lavoro" before joining a unit.
At present the personnel of supply depots is almost entirely civilian, the more can be said of MT drivers. By gradual replacements, as many as possible should be substituted with returned POW.
The employ of such large numbers of civilians is a heavy burden on the Budget.
All dismissals of personnel have been suspended until 30 June. This may be considered as 3 month's notice.(S)

Gen PIASENTINI ref LO "IAM" 24-25 Feb '46 para 6

- 5 -

8. The information required on the Italian warlike industry and the convertibility to peacetime products, would have to be obtained from the "Comitato Tecnico di Ricostruzione" (General Piacentini head of the Comittee) in the Palazzo Indipendenza.

4683

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

The discharge of civilian personnel will be carried out when and where possible - but causing undue hardship to the civilian concerned or interfering with the efficient working of the unit.
Each case will have to be examined individually.
Some time may elapse between date of request for a suitable repatriated ex PoW and the day of his reporting for duty (depending on period employed in finding, testing and posting him to a unit). To fill this gap, temporary civilian technical personnel is to be transferred from other units where they happen to be in excess.
No new regular or daily civilian employees will be taken on without special permission of the CinC.
Transfers from one unit to another will be arranged, where possible, by Por Comds. The channels of communication will be the "proper military channels".
Information of any such transfer will immediately be passed to "Direzione Generale Personale Civile e Affari Generali" at the M of W (Commandatore LAURIENTO).
Those transfered will be considered permanent. Civilians or repatriated PoW transfered in this manner will not be treated as "mobile" labour.
Should a man prove unsatisfactory at his work he may be dismissed without ceremony. This is not likely to prove a frequent occurrence as the men are tested by the various ex PoW employment organisations, local employment committees and "Camere di Lavoro" before joining a unit.
At present the personnel of supply depots is almost entirely civilian, the same can be said of MT drivers. By gradual replacements, as many as possible should be substituted with returned PoW.
The employ of such large numbers of civilians is a heavy burden on the Budget.
All dismissals of personnel have been suspended until 30 June. This may be considered as 3 months notice. (E)

Gen PROPERTI ref IG "LAG" 21-26 Feb '46 para 6

6. The information required on the non warlike industry and its convertibility to peacetime products, would have to be obtained from the "Comitato Tecnico di Ricostruzione" (General Carrocini head of the Comitee) in the Piazza Indipendenza. The vice-president of this Committee is the Minister of Industry. - Q -
Approach through Industry, s/c A.C., would seem to be the "proper channel". (E)

Lt Col AIGIA re Empty Oil drums for War against Locusts

9. On 3rd Apr a wireless signal was sent to Sardinia asking for confirmation of delivery of these drums. AIGIA will notify MFEA on receipt of reply. - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

6 - 4 - 46

Lt Col MONACO Ref Q/23/1 of 3/5/45 and Q 155 of 5/11/45 to War Ministry and 221706/11 of 19/10/45 210.6.15 from War Ministry.

10. So far only a very small quantity of French material, chiefly naval ammo., has been recovered and handed to the French. Monaco will write to Comiliter Genova asking for particulars about quantities and for copies of any receipts. - Q -
Bridging material not in actual use is being taken over by the French, who, by arrangement between a Captain of the French Mission and Comiliter Milan will meet transport expenses. No news yet of what has been recovered or of relative receipts.
Bridging material in use will be recovered gradually.
The process of recovering other material is held up for 2 reasons: a-) financial b-) political. Before work can proceed the question as to who will pay for packing, loading and transport will have to be settled. This question has been submitted to the President of the Council of Ministers as regards the financial aspect, and to the Foreign Ministry as regards the political aspect, i.e., which country has proprietary rights over material which, although of French origin was either acquired legally or manufactured in Italy before the war with France's consent. The 81 mm mortar is quoted as an example.
Ministry would like MMIA's opinion on above, but this request is not to be considered official. (E)

Lt Col de la FORET (Ispettorato del Servizio Ippico e Veterinario) ref private letter of 16 Mar Brig Hope to Brig. Bastin H.Q. 13 Corps, reply from Brig. Bastin dated 27 Mar and official letter Q 2 x 0 of 5 Apr '46 (LF S/O to 5 BLU)

11. The question of the recovery of Italian Army horses dates back to 10 Dec 1945 when the above "Ispettorato" wrote, over the signature of Gen MEL FANTA (ref No 2830/ip). - Q -
Col de la Foret admitted that no horses were required for the non-existent Cavalry, but for mounted officers Training Schools which were very short of horses. (E)

Col LOMBARDI 4679

12. New MP Inspectorate: confirmed to Lombardi that the choise of Brig Gen ROSSI Silvio to comd the new Inspectorate was NOT considered satisfactory by MMIA, in view of this offr's poor showing over ANNAMOLA camp during his period of comd of 227 Adm Div. (B) - A -
SMRE has objected to the alternative name proposed by Lombardi, and the net is now being cast wider. (B)

13. Financial arrangements: Lombardi stated that up to 6 Apr the War Minister had been unable to see the - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

news yet of what has been recovered.
Bridging material in use will be recovered gradually.
The process of recovering other material is held up for 2 reasons: a-) financial b-) political. Before work can proceed the question as to who will pay for packing, loading and transport will have to be settled. This question has been submitted to the President of the Council of Ministers as regards the financial aspect, and to the Foreign Ministry as regards the political aspect, i.e., which country has proprietary rights over material which, although of French origin was either acquired legally or manufactured in Italy before the war with France's consent. The 81 mm mortar is quoted as an example.
Ministry would like MAIA's opinion on above, but this request is not to be considered official. (E)

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- Q -

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467

Col LOMBARDI

- A -

12. New MF Inspectorate: confirmed to Lombardi that the choise of Brig Gen ROSSI Silvio to comd the new Inspectorate was NOT considered satisfactory by MAIA, in view of this offr's poor showing over ASTAGNOLA camp during his period of comd of 227 Adm Div. (B)
SMRE has objected to the alternative name proposed by Lombardi, and the net is now being cast wider. (B)

- Q -

13. Financial arrangements: Lombardi stated that up to 6 Apr the War Minister had been unable to see the Minister of the Treasury about funds for the Army. One gathers that the financial situation is becoming more critical, in fact De Gasperi has issued a "round robin" to all Ministers instructing them to stop worrying CORBINO (Treasury) with their applications and pressure for funds. (B)

Col ANFOSSO

- A -

14. '8' Camp TARANTO: Various phone conversations with Anfosso, who stated that instrs has been issued to BARI THQ for the taking over of the comd of this camp, but that it could NOT yet be confirmed that this would be practicable by 10 Apr. (B)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

. Liaison with Ministry (& SMRE) G 22 - 30 Mar 46 50

Major MERKEL (SMRE Trg Sec)

1. Discussed delay in release of barracks seen in Bari. The latest information received is that 3 of the 6 buildings in the "MILANO" barracks have been vacated and handed to the Italian Army. -Q-
The other 3 bldgs (still occupied by Air Force) are ex-pected to be vacated very shortly, the present occupants having received orders to move to Lecce. (S)

Lt Col AIOLA (Art & Motor)

2. Re vehs for Div di Cuneo School. Was informed that one 3-ton lorry and a jeep had been allotted and that it was proposed to allot 2 motor-cycles. (S) -Q-

Col di SARNO (Personnel Rch)

3. Obtained from him list of colonels nominated as Commanding offrs of Units and he was of the opinion that no further amendments would be taking place. -Q-
Passed list to D.A.A.G. (It) (S)

Lt Col AIOLA

4. Ref letter dated 27/2/46 from Bolzano Terr C. (S) to No 2 BLO about the 50 vehs required by Bolzano CAR. -Q-
The 16th Repair Unit at Verona had promised some 3 weeks ago to deliver 50 vehs but up to date (27/3/46) only 10 vehs have been delivered.
The 16th Repair Unit's detachment at Vicenza and the 1st mobile motor pl at Peschiera are both in full working order and have a good output.
Between 12/2/46 and today 24 lorries have been turned out, 15 for CAR and 9 for various other units (reparti) at Bolzano. (S)

5. Conference re selection of offrs (28/3/46). Acted as int- -Q-A-
-erpreter. Italians present were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lt Col | VASSALLO | (SMRE) |
| Lt Col | SPATOFORA | (Central School at Cesano) |
| Capt | RITERALI | (Engineers School, Civitavecchia) |
| Lt | PISANELLI | (Medical Officer) |
| Prof. | BAGNOSCHI | (Psychologist, National Research Council). |

(S)

Lt Col MARESI & Col EGIDI (Clothing and Equipment Div of Gens. Directorate)

6. Ref letter CAR/Q/2 of 26/3/46 from 10 BLO. -Q-
Discussed with these offrs the reasons why the Ministry is averse to acquiring the 52,000 British pattern packs and [illegible] for [illegible] by the RAF, and

467

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

are proposed to allot 2 motor-cycles. (E)

Col Ii S PRO (Personnel Sec)

3. Obtained from him list of colonels nominated as Commanding offrs of D.Rs and he was of the opinion that no further amendments would be taking place. -A-
Passed list to D.M.A.G. (It) (E)

Lt Col ALOI

4. Ref letter dated 27/2/46 from Bolzano Serv C. (E) to No 2 BLU about the 50 vehs required by Bolzano CAR. -B-
The 16th Repair Unit at Verona had promised some 3 weeks ago to deliver 50 vehs but up to date (27/3/46) only 10 vehs have been delivered.
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Between 12/2/46 and today 24 locales have been turned out, 15 for CAR and 9 for various other units (reparti) at Bolzano. (E)

5. Conference re selection of offrs (28/3/46). Acted as int- -C-
-erpreter. Italians present were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lt Col | VASSALLO | (SMRE) |
| Lt Col | SPATOFORA | (Central School at Cesano) |
| Capt | SIFERALI | (Engineers School, Civitavecchia) |
| Lt | PISANELLI | (Medical Officer) |
| Prof. | BATTISONI | (Psychilogist, National Research Council). |

4674

(E)

Lt Col BARBESI & Col SCIDI (Clothing and Equipment Div of Comm. Directorate)

6. Ref letter CAR/Q/2 of 26/3/46 from 10 BLU. -D-
Discussed with these offrs the reasons why the Ministry is averse to acquiring the 52,000 British pattern packs and mess-tins offered by AFHQ for adoption by the DRUs, and strongly urged acceptance of the offer.
The reasons put forward by these offrs for non-acceptance of the offer are:-

(a) There are hundreds of thousands of Italian Army pattern packs and mess-tins lying in various depots, incl the 600,000 mess-tins delivered by the British authorities, not very long ago, out of stocks at Leg--horn.

(b) Lack of funds. These would be required to meet more urgent needs.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

(c) It would not tend towards uniformity of equpt throughout the Army.

(d) It would mean scrapping of the Italian packs and mess-tins, a serious financial loss, whereas the 52,000 Br pattern packs can always be used by the Br Army.

(e) The Br Army pack is not essential for training purposes.

(f) If MMIA can put forward any strong reasons why the Br pack should be adopted, the matter will re--ceive further consideration. (S)

Gen LIUZZI
Col PISCHEDDA
Col QUARCIA

7. Minutes of meeting (attended by SCS) 11 Mar: -Cond-C-A-
Liuzzi readily agreed to amend certain paras in the SCS minutes to correspond more exactly with what was actually said or intended, namely:

(a) Page 1 (Premise): that the meeting was held solely with a view to commenting on the document prepared by the Cabinet to dated 8 Feb

(b) Page 2, para 3 : that in addition to the mob fmns at full strength there should be a number of fmns whose cats are only partly implemented, the difference being accounted for by recruits under trg;

The following MMIA reservations were noted:

(c) Page 2 last para (covering tps): that MMIA is contrary in principle to the creation of any special units of covering tps for the frontier with particular cats different from the rest of the Army, but is of the opinion that units or parts of units from regular fmns should be assigned in rotation for frontier duties.

(d) Page 3 (trg of regular offrs): that MMIA does NOT agree with tech instr being given at the special course projected for the 1,000 backward offrs. If it is felt that a six month refresher course on general subjects is essential, then MMIA raises no objections, but instruc--tion in tech subjects must be given at the Central Schools.

In amplification of (c) it should be noted that there is a def--inite divergence of opinion on the org of covering tps. SCS is firmly convinced that special tps on special cats are indis--pensable, because of the need for expert and very detailed knowledge of the terrain. In their experience ops in high moun--tains require a degree of specialisation which can only be

467

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Col Pratchett
Col Quilici

-Cont-Cont-

7. Minutes of meeting (attended by DCS) 11 Mar:
Liuzzi readily agreed to amend certain paras in the above minutes to correspond more exactly with what was actually said or intended, namely:

(a) Page 1 (Premise): that the meeting was held solely with a view to commenting on the document prepared by the Cabinet to dated 8 Feb

(b) Page 2, para 3 : that in addition to the nob fmns at full strength there should be a number of fmns whose ests are only partly implemented, the difference being accounted for by wastage under trg;

The following MMA reservations were noted:

(c) Page 2 last para (covering tps): that MMA is contrary in principle to the creation of any special units of covering tps for the frontier with particular ests different from the rest of the Army, but is of the opinion that units or parts of units from regular fmns should be assigned in rotation for frontier duties.

(d) Page 3 (trg of regular offrs): that MMA does NOT agree with tech instr being given at the special course projected for the 1,000 backward offrs. If it is felt that a six month refresher course on general subjects is essential, then MMA raises no objections, but instruction in tech subjects must be given at the Central Schools.

In amplification of (c) it should be noted that there is a definite divergence of opinion on the org of covering tps. SMAB is firmly convinced that special tps on special ests are indispensable, because of the need for expert and very detailed knowledge of the terrain. In their experience ops in high mountains require a degree of specialisation which can only be acquired by semi-permanent stationing in situ. This is the old argument which has been discussed many times already. Luizzi maintains that

(a) Allied ops in the GOTHIC line (mere hills) bear no relation to requirements and conditions of ops in the ALPS, and

(b) that a very thin covering screen calls for a much higher degree of specialisation on the part of the individual than in the case where masses of tps are employed.

3/.....

467

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Para 7 (Contd)

O On the question of the 1,000 backward boys and young offrs gen-
-erally, we are again beating on the rocks of "general culture".
There appears to be genuine alarm at the low standard of ed-
-ucation of the cadets now at IEDOR, the result of shortcomings
in the general system of education of the country. Herein probably lies
~~lies~~ the secret of so much insistance on application courses.
It would seem desirable to face and solve this issue now, once
and for all, or general culture will continue to be a bone of
contention for ever and a day. (E)

Col MELONI

8. Vehs for CCRR: Meloni stated that there had been no change -1-
of plan for the allotment of vehs to the CARABINIERI, and he
renewed his assurances, that everything was being done to effect
distribution as rapidly as possible.
The general plan is as follows:

Jeeps : about 250 will ultimately become available and about
75% will go to the CCRR. The vehs are coming through
slowly in small batches, as there is a great deal of
work to be done on them.

SPA 38 (2½ Ton trucks) : about 550 are expected to be available
this year from new production. It is a type of veh
suitable for tpt of personnel, and Meloni estimates that
60% to 90% will go to the Carabinieri.

5 Tonners : about 100 expected from new production and a pro-
-portion will be destined to CCRR.

At the writers request Meloni phoned Col CARLI at CCRR GHQ to find
out who started the "hare" of a change in plan in veh distribution.
CARLI appeared to agree that there was nothing to it.

9. MEDIUM TAA MGs : Explained MAAG policy to Meloni (and Liuzzi), -1-
i.e. that there was no authority for distributing MMGs outside the
army and Carabinieri.

4673

Note on para 8 above.

The contents of para 8 are not

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

8. Vehs for CCRR: Meloni stated that [illegible]
of plan for the allotment of vehs to the CARABINIERI, and he renewed his assurances, that everything was being done to effect distribution as rapidly as possible.
The general plan is as follows:

Jeeps : about 250 will ultimately become available and about 75% will go to the CCRR. The vehs are coming through slowly in small batches, as there is a great deal of work to be done on them.

APA 38 (2½ Ton trucks) : about 550 are expected to be available this year from new production. It is a type of veh suitable for tpt of personnel, and Meloni estimates that 80% to 90% will go to the Carabinieri.

3 Tonners : about 100 expected from new production and a proportion will be destined to CCRR.

At the writers request Meloni phoned Col CERRI at CCRR HQ to find out who started the "hare" of a change in plan in veh distribution. CERRI appeared to agree that there was nothing to it.

9. BERRETTAA MGs : Explained MAIA policy to Meloni (and Liuzzi), i.e. that there was no authority for distributing MGs outside the army and Carabinieri.

4677

Note on para 8 above.

The contents of para 8 are not consistent with facts. a report is submitted to Col A/A today 5 April 1946 giving the correct details.

H. Hinghall Lt Col
CCRR Sec

5 Apl. 1946.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

14 - 24 Mar 1949

Liaison with War Ministry (and S...)

Col STACK VINE

1. (a) Strength, of regts at 31 Mar and 30 commitments: Requested Piacentini to submit estimated strengths of regts (all types) at 31 Mar (i.e. after demob of 1921 class), and numbers of men engaged on guarding trains, dress etc. G - A

(b) Subsequently discussed the figures submitted by SHAEF and purposes for which SHAEF might want to use them. Piacentini agreed to give the matter further thought, but was prepared to confirm the figures already supplied as being the correct numbers (as near as can be estimated) of those on the strength of the units at end Mar. A margin of 10% should be allowed for leave and 5% for sickness for those temporarily absent from units.
The difference in the ES of Inf Divs is accounted for by the "tail units", which have been added to the ES of certain of the divs.

(c) Figures for 30 duties are only estimates, no actual details being available at the moment.

Gen LUCAS

2. GARIGLIANO Br: the Minister has agreed to the regt staying on in SICILY until 10 April. Gen - G -

3. Engr works: left message with Piacentini that a full statement be prepared of all engineer works for each of the CMTs and central schools showing various stages reached (and amounts involved) in the various projects, i.e.: Gen - G - Q - SCAF

- projects completed

- projects in the hands of (and NOT yet approved by) Engineer Directorate;

- projects approved by Engr Directorate but still awaiting Ministerial selection;

- projects held up by lack of funds.

4677

Col PIACENTINI

4. (a) Call-up: everything going smoothly, and satisfactory reports coming in from all CMTs; only complaint is on account of high physical standard, which excludes some youths otherwise keen to join. Also slight trouble has been experienced with "irregular" partisans, i.e. those not belonging to big fams. War Ministry has ruled that these cannot be exempted. Arranged for daily statistics to be made available to 'A' branch. Gen - G - - A -

(b) On a general discussion of call-up procedure, Piacentini agreed that once the present man-power crisis is overcome there is no

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

The difference in the SE of Inf Divs is accounted for by the "tail units", which have been added to the SE of certain of the divs.

(c) Figures for AA Artillery are only estimates, no actual details being available at the moment.

Gen STAFF

2. CAMBRIDGE Regt: the Minister has agreed to the regt staging an in STORY until 10 April. Cond - G -

3. Engr works: Lt-G [illegible] that a full statement be prepared of all engineer works for each of the Dets and Central Schools showing various stages reached (and amounts involved) in the various projects, i.e.: Cond - G - Q - SECRET

- projects completed
- projects in the hands of (and NOT yet approved by) Engineer Directorate;
- projects approved by Engr Directorate but still awaiting Ministerial sanction;
- projects held up by lack of funds.

467

Col STAFF DUTY

4. (a) Call-up: everything going smoothly, and satisfactory reports coming in from all Dets; only complaint is on account of high physical standard, which excludes some youths otherwise keen to join. Also slight trouble has been experienced with "irregular" partisans, i.e. those not belonging to big fams. War Ministry has ruled that these cannot be exempted. Arranged for daily statistics to be made available to G! branch. Cond - G - - R -

(b) On a general discussion of call-up procedure, Mascellini agreed that once the present man-power crisis is overcome there is no reason why recruits should not report to Cdre in monthly batches while still maintaining the call-up every four months as at present. Part of those accepted at the Mil districts would be returned home with instrs to report one or two months later. This will result in considerable saving of accn at Cdre.

/2 covers

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c) Res offrs: There is to be no further compulsory commissioning based on standard of education. Those applying voluntarily to be considered for commissions are likely to be all from the student class, and since the latter are deferred until their studies are complete the problem of dealing with this category of recruit does not immediately arise.
Piacentini agreed that applications for res commissions should be considered during the first four months trg, and that candidates should undergo same initial trg as other recruits. — Gen - G - A

Lt Col TORSIELLO
Maj. MERRY

5. Accompanied G I (Trg) and AEME for discussions on scon at CERIGNOLA. Message read later from Merry to the effect that LIUZZI had ruled that 'E' block be reserved for MT mechanics schools pro tem, thus enabling the entire driving and mechanics school to be concentrated at Cerignola immediately. — G - G -

Lt Col MORACO

6. War Crimes: Moraco gave every assurance that nothing is being left undone to trace and prosecute on the latest summarised list, and confirmed that the Minister had issued definite instrs to this effect. Moraco considered that parallel enquiries by the AMGs would hinder rather than help their efforts. There is only one set of channels for these investigations, namely those followed by the War Ministry, and AMGs can only follow suit. He is also anxious to limit the handling of the cases to as few people as possible on account of the delicate nature of the enquiries. — A -

Lt Col SIMS

7. Capt Gay: Gay has been cleared by the civil court of the criminal charge of deserting his unit at the time of the armistice, but now has to face a mil court of enquiry for breach of discipline. This will probably be at Florence. Sims promised to hasten the proceedings as much as possible. — A -

4671

Col PIACENTINI

8. Civilian specialists: Piacentini knows of no instrs to inf divs and HQs to reduce civilian staffs of wksps, etc. All he knows is that an order has been given by the Minister that no additional civilian personnel may be engaged. — A - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Lt Col TORSIELLO
Maj. MERSU

- G - Q -

5. Accompanied G I (Trg) and ADMI for discussions on scam at CECCHIGNOLA. Message read later from Mersu to the effect that ZUZZI had ruled that 'E' block be reserved for MT mechanics schools pro tem, thus enabling the entire driving and mechanics school to be concentrated at Cecchignole immediately.

Lt Col MONACO

- A -

6. War Crimes: Monaco gave every assurance that nothing is being left undone to trace the personnel on the latest submitted list, and confirmed that the Minister had issued definite instrs to this effect. Monaco considered that parallel enquiries by the Allies would hinder rather than help their efforts. There is only one set of channels for these investigations, namely those followed by the War Ministry, and Allies can only follow suit. He is also anxious to limit the handling of the cases to as few people as possible on account of the delicate nature of the enquiries.

Lt Col GILLI

- A -

7. Capt Gay: Gay has been cleared by the civil court of the criminal charge of deserting his unit at the time of the armistice, but now has to face a mil court of enquiry for breach of discipline. This will probably be at Florence. Gilli promised to hasten the proceedings as much as possible.

467

Col FLACK TIM

- A - Q -

8. Civilian specialists: Fiwcett-Ind knows of no instrs to inf dive and thus to reduce civilian staffs of wings, etc. All he knows is that an order has been given by the Minister that no additional civilian personnel may be engaged.

Lt Col GILLI
Maj. CRINGALI

- A -

9. Amnesty: These offrs advised very strongly that if AMGOT had any reservations to make over the proposed wording of the decree they should be made without delay to the Ministry of Grace and Justice. The War Ministry has been left very much in the dark over the whole affair.

/5.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Col FRIULARA

WELFARE Office (Case Benessere dei Soldato)

10. Ref AG/51/31 dated 8th Mar 1946 from 5th ROU

(a) The CAR at SACILE comes under the jurisdiction of UD/RE who had applied for a sum of L. 200,000 for fitting up and equipping the "Casa del soldato" at Sacile.

(b) The Welfare office replied (on 15/3/45 sub letter 01454/RS) suggesting that application be made to HQ of the Commissariat for such funds, to establish a Canteen. Funds for sports goods etc would be provided by the Welfare Office.
The CAR at MODENA comes under Bologna and the latter applied for a sum of L.400,000 for the former, by letter dated 19/2/46.

(c) Bologna had already been allocated L.430,000 for all "Case del soldato" under its jurisdiction, including Modena CAR, (on 13/12/45)

(d) Following is a summary of allocation of funds made out of the L. 5,000,000 "earmarked" for CAR's. Such allocations are in the nature of loans to be repaid as and when funds become available (profits from sales at Canteens etc)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount "earmarked" by the Treasury: | | | L 5,000,000 |
| Amount paid to Ter H.Q. Udine | | L. | 230,000 |
| " " " Bari | | " | 400,000 |
| " " " Roma | | " | 210,000 |
| " " " Napoli | | " | 200,000 |
| " " " Milano | | " | 100,000 |
| " " Ter. "Garda" Zone | | " | 150,000 |
| " " " " " (IV zona) | | " | 50,000 |
| " " for Canteens at Ancona, Jesi, Rimini, Imo | | " | 190,000 |
| " " " Canteen la a Forli' | | " | 30,000 |
| " " " Cant en at Milano | | " | 30,000 |
| Total sum distributed | | L. | 1,400,000 |
| " in the hands Welfare offices | | " | 3,000,000 + 4678 |
| | | | 4,400,000 |
| Amount still to be allocated | | L. | 510,000 |

+ These 3,000,000 lire (some of which are represented by goods in stock) are used as a sort of floating Capital to meet sudden demands from the various CARs.

Other HQ not in above list, have made no request for funds and are therefore presumed to have sufficient to carry on with. They are mostly old established "running concerns". (2)

- 4 -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

funds, to establish a canteen.
be provided by the Welfare Office.
The CAR at Modena comes under Bologna and the latter applied for a sum of L.100,000 for the former, by letter dated 19/2/46.

(c) Bologna had already been allocated L.430,000 for all "Case del Soldato" under its jurisdiction, including Modena CAR, (on 13/12/45)

(d) Following is a summary of allocation of funds made out of the L. 5,000,000 "earmarked" for CAR's. Such allocations are in the nature of loans to be repaid as and when funds become available (profits from sales at Canteens etc).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount "earmarked" by the Treasury: | | L 5,000,000 |
| Amount paid to Ter H.Q. Caserta | L. | 250,000 |
| " " " Bari | " | 400,000 |
| " " " Rome | " | 200,000 |
| " " " Naples | " | 100,000 |
| " " " Palermo | " | 150,000 |
| " " It. Troops in Germany | " | 50,000 |
| " " " " " (IV zona) | | |
| " " for Canteens at Ancona, Jesi, Rimini, Iesa | " | 100,000 |
| " " " Canteen in Forli; | " | 30,000 |
| " " " Canteen at Caserta | | |
| Total sum distributed | L. | 1,430,000 |
| " in the hands Welfare Office. | " | 3,000,000 + 467) |
| | | 4,430,000 |
| Amount still to be allocated | L. | 570,000 |

+ These 3,000,000 lire (some of which as re-invested by goods in stock) are used as a sort of Floating Capital to meet sudden demands from the various CARs.

Other EMG not in above list, have made no request for funds and are therefore presumed to have sufficient to carry on with. They are mostly old established "running concerns". (2)

- A -

Lt Col MF (AMT

11. Re materials for clearing mines, advised him that MMIA was arranging initial issue of oil and 4 x 2 Flambeaux for CARs.

Col Meloni was under the impression that clearing material was being provided from British sources, but that the above issue would be very welcome.

As regards the future he gave his assurance that adequate supplies would be forthcoming from It. sources.

- Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison with War Min Coy ( and SFTA) - 13 Mar 46

(GL) BLUE FILE <48

G

Col FIACCHINI

1. Arty, engr services etc: It is confirmed that there is no distinction between arty units which form part of the services (ie corresponding to British Ord) and arty combat units. Personnel is switched from one type of unit to the other. The same applies to engr and MT services. (B) - G - A -

2. Dvrs of MT : unit vehs are driven by personnel of the same corps or branch of the service as the unit; i.e. inf vehs driven by infantrymen, arty vehs by arty men. (B) - G - A -

On the other hand, HQ coys, Territorial wings etc should be manned by personnel of the MT Corps (Corps Automobilisation). (B)

3. Terms of service for offrs: a committee has been set up under Gen BERARDI to consider and recommend revised conditions of service for ITALIAN offrs. In this connection FIACCHINI has asked for a copy of BRITISH regulations for their guidance. (Spoke Col A/G and AAG). (B) Cond - A -

Col LOMBARDI

4. GARIBALDI Regt : Remarked LOMBARDI that the three-weeks limit set by the War Minister for the Regt's stay in the island expired at the beginning of March. LOMBARDI stated that it continued to be ROSSIG's intention that the regt be brought back as quickly as possible, but that it's task was not yet fulfilled, and he anticipated it having to remain in SICILY for some days longer. (B) - G -

Lt Col CANALE

5. Spanish Mil Attache : in answer to CANALE's queries with ref to Maj Angel SCANDELLA Dep Cand-A-

(a) that SCANDELLA wished to be introduced to the US and BRAZILIAN Mil attaches and to COC MEDIA,

(b) that normal procedure is for War Ministry to effect such introductions,

(c) therefore in the present circumstances would MEDIA act as go-between and arrange introductions? 4663

CANALE that Major SCANDELLA's wishes could only be granted through direct negotiations by the SPANISH Ambassador with the respective Ambassadors of the countries concerned.

CANALE stated that SCANDELLA had also asked to visit CCSAMC, but that it was considered that this was not a good moment and the matter had been deferred sine die. (B)

Lt Col SILLI
Major TRINCALI

6. Courts Martial : the examination of the draft proposals has now been practically completed by the [illegible] Cond - A -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

by personnel of the MT Corps (Corpo Automobilistico).(B)

5. Terms of service for offrs: a committee has been set up under Gen ENRANDI to consider and recommend revised conditions of service for ITALIAN Offrs. In this connection ENRANDI has asked for a copy of BRITISH regulations for their guidance. (Refer Col A/Q and AAG). (B) — Comd - A -

Col LOMBARDI

4. GARIBALDI Regt : Remarked LOMBARDI that the three-weeks limit set by the War Minister for the Regt's stay in the Island expired at the beginning of March. LOMBARDI stated that it continued to be BROSIO's intention that the regt be brought back as quickly as possible, but that it's task was not yet fulfilled, and he anticipated it having to remain in SICILY for some days longer. (B) — G -

Lt Col CANALS

5. Spanish Mil Attache : in answer to CANALS's queries with ref to Maj Angel SCANDELLA — Dep Comd-A-

(a) that SCANDELLA wished to be introduced to the US and BRAZILIAN Mil attaches and to GOC 8thA,

(b) that normal procedure is for War Ministry to effect such introductions,

(c) therefore in the present circumstances would 8thA act as go-between and arrange introductions?

4667

Told CANALS that Major SCANDELLA's wishes could only be granted through direct negotiations by the SPANISH Ambassador with the respective Ambassadors of the countries concerned.

CANALS stated that SCANDELLA had also asked to visit CASERTA, but that it was considered that this was not a good moment and the matter had been deferred sine die. (B)

Lt Col SILLI
Major TRINCALI

6. Courts Martial : the examination of the draft proposals has now been practically completed by the commission appointed by the Minister. Within about one week a copy of the draft will be made available to 8thA. — Comd - A -

It seems probable that courts martial will be instituted for trying certain categories of offences committed by other ranks. It is NOT proposed to try officer cases by court martial.

One major point still to be settled is the authority for convening a court martial. The alternative authorities considered are

(a) territorial basis, ie brig gen with territorial appointment, which would in practice mean 2 i/c at territorial HQ.

(b) unit comd, ie comd or deputy comd of a div.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

After discussion with Col A/G and AAG suggested to PRIMALI that authority be granted to Colr (both Territorial and unit cmds excl services) and thim will be put up to the committee. (B)

Gen LIUKKI
Col PIHONIEMI (SD)
Col HUHTALA (One and Trg)
Col MALMI (Q)

7. Accompanied SCG for conversations on the following subjects: Cmnd-C-1-Q-

(a) Post-treaty Army : certain broad principles were discussed and agreed by SCG (detailed figures were NOT mentioned), arising out of the War Ministry Memorandum to the Head of the Govt:

(i) planning (when the time comes) should be on the basis of transforming the Interim Army and adapting its various categories to meet the new conditions arising out of the peace treaty;

(ii) that that portion of the Army ceiling which is undergoing basic trg all the time should be excluded from the fixed cats of the Army and considered as far as practicable as a separate trg block and for the remainder taken from the strengths of IR and territorial items and units. One of the main objects of this is to have units on frontier defn and tactical res items always up to strength, for tactical, trg, efficiency and morale reasons.

(iii) that the proportion of adm and service tps in the War Ministry proposal is much too low and would need to be multiplied two or three times,

(iv) that a special category of "covering" tps will be needed in sp of frontier defn.

(b) Application schools : leaving aside the question of the "1,000 poorly trained offrs", it was stated by SCG that the problem of application schools would NOT have to be faced before 1948, since the next block of young offrs from the academy would not be available until that date.

During the course of the discussion on future policy, SCG continued to press their case for application courses as opposed to shorter courses at the central schools, on the grounds not so much of trg in mil subjects as of the need for general cultural education of their offrs.

It was suggested by SCG reps that a compromise be arrived at with a reduction of the application course to one year (instead of two), to be taken either immediately following the academy course, or after spending one year with the regt.

It was proposed to deal with the 1000 offr block by a series

4663

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

agreed by SHAPE (detailed figures were not mentioned), arising out of the War Ministry Memorandum to the Head of the Govt:

(i) planning (when the time comes) should be on the basis of transforming the Interim Army and adapting its various categories to meet the new conditions arising out of the peace treaty;

(ii) that that portion of the Army ceiling which is undergoing basic trg all the time should be excluded from the fixed cadre of the Army and considered as far as practicable as a separate trg block and for the remainder taken from the strengths of BE and territorial units and units. One of the main objects of this is to have units on frontier defs and tactical reg fmns always up to strength, for tactical, trg, efficiency and morale reasons.

(iii) that the proportion of adm and service tps in the War Ministry proposal is much too low and would need to be multiplied two or three times,

(iv) that a special category of "covering" tps will be needed in sp of frontier defs.

(b) Application schools : leaving aside the question of the "1,000 poorly trained offrs", it was stated by SHAPE that the problem of application schools would NOT have to be faced before 1954, since the next block of young offrs from the academy would NOT be available until that date.

During the course of the discussion on future policy, SHAPE continued to press their case for application courses as opposed to shorter courses at the central schools, on the grounds not so much of trg in all subjects as of the need for general cultural education of their offrs.

It was suggested by SHAPE reps that a compromise be arrived at with a reduction of the application course to one year (instead of two), to be taken either immediately following the academy course, or after spending one year with the regt.

It was proposed to deal with the 1000 offrs block by a series of special six months application courses in the buildings of Army application school at TURIN, commencing as soon as possible. They reckoned to deal with the 1000 offrs over a period of three years.

(c) BGS discussed situation arising out of reorg of divisional arty and creation of additional regts commanded by Cols. The problem was left with SHAPE for investigation. (2)

4663

.....3/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

PORSARI

8. Was informed that the Amnesty scheme had been approved by the War Office and passed to Ministry of Grace and Justice some time back. - A -

Ministry of Grace and Justice state that the matter is going before the Cabinet this afternoon (12/3). (E)

Lt Col OLIVETTI

9. Wishes to know when he could hope to receive the training ammunition for CARO. Discussed with G(Arg) and informed OLIVETTI that Q has the matter in hand and that the ammunition will be forthcoming in good time. (E) - G - Q -

Lt Col GALLO

10. Measure for ITALIAN Offrs : ref letter from "Capo Di Gabinetto" (undated) giving the names of 5 ITALIAN Officers who had been proposed by HRH for the "Motu Proprio" for work with AC and asking for MMIA approval. - A -

Only two of the names proposed could be traced in MMIA records, viz CAVALLOTTI Ugo and Major CALABRINI Luigi. The awards of these two are therefore approved.

MMIA could express no opinion in regard to the other three.

Lt Col GALLO was informed accordingly and it was suggested to him that the other 3 officers had probably done work for some other Sub-commission to whom he could refer. (E)

Gen LIUZZI

11. Engr and Sig Branches : the Ispettorato del Genio has been instructed to prepare a report on the split of these two branches of the Engr Corps of the ITALIAN Army. LIUZZI promised to chase the matter. (E) - C -

12. Decentralisation : as a result of a HQ letter from a divisional comd, an enquiry has been undertaken by SHAPE with a view to recommending to the Minister a change of policy and the granting of increased responsibilities and authority to sign letters to certain senior offrs in HQs where the correspondence can only be signed at present by the C of S or his deputy. LIUZZI agreed that a representation on this general subject from MMIA to the Minister would help the thing fwd. (E) - C -

466

13. SICILY CAR : spoke LIUZZI (and LOMBARDI) about work being held up by the PALERMO strike and suggested that Army engr units be ordered to the CAR to complete vital work. Later info by TORSIELLO (who had spoken PALERMO by phone) that civilian workers resumed work 13 Mar and that HQ had ordered mob bn unit to CAR as the permanent showers would not be ready in time. - C-Q-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ammunition for CARs. Discussed with [illegible] and intimated that Q HQs the matter in hand and that the ammunition will be forthcoming in good time. (E)

Lt Col GALLO

10. Honours for ITALIAN Offrs : ref letter from "Capo di Gabinetto" (undated) giving the names of 5 ITALIAN Officers who had been proposed by HEH for the "Motu Proprio" for work with AC and asking for MMIA approval. - A -

Only two of the names proposed could be traced in MMIA records, viz GAVALLOTTI Ugo and Major CALABRINI Luigi. The awards of these two are therefore approved.

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466

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13. SICILY CAR : spoke LIUZZI (and LOMBARDI) about work being held up by the PALERMO strike and suggested that Army engr units be ordered to the CAR to complete vital work. Later info by CORSINI (who had spoken PALERMO by phone) that civilian workers resumed work 13 Mar and that HQ had ordered mob bath unit to CAR as the permanent showers would not be ready in time. - G-G-

Otherwise the work was not affected. (B)

Major VENTURA

14. ITALIAN Exhibition : as a result of War Ministry request to send invitations to ALLIED representatives to ACI and AC, info VENTURA that War Ministry could do so direct and instructed him how this should be done. Later learned that they had abandoned the idea of inviting the above ALLIED reps, and have limited themselves to asking senior members of AC proper and MMIA offrs. (B) - C -

Gen PELLIGRA

15. Second uniform at CARs : PELLIGRA confirmed that a second uniform (dyed battledress) had been issued to CARs for all recruits. Possibly a few CARs still had to receive theirs. (B) - S -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

47

Major BAUMANN's Liaison log - 6-7 Mar 46

G

6 Mar 46

Col PIACENTINI - A -

1. Emp of civilians as dvrs in adm tpt coys: Piacentini agrees that this is undesirable and was not aware that it was being done. Promised to look into it and issue the necessary orders.

- G -

2. Schools of application: as an inf offr Piacentini is inclined to the Mission's view on the post-accademy trg of offrs (i.e. by special courses at the central schools), all the more since the elimination of the schools of application would ease his own SD (manpower) problem.

- G -

3. Post-treaty Italian Army: saw draft of SMRE's reply to the Gabinetto (vide log 2-4 Mar para 8) suggesting a "face-saving" reply to the Mission's letter of 25 Feb and proposing direct contact and discussion between SMRE and MMIA.

- A -

4. 1921 class: infd Piacentini of Allied approval of the demobilisation of this class simultaneously with the March call up.

Lt Col TORSIELLO - G -

5. Armd Car course: spoke Torsiello about the programme, WE etc for the school at Tor di Quinto and the second course which will be held there. He promised to deal with the matter in the next 24 hrs.

Col QUERCIA 466 - G -

6. Schools of application: long discussion with Quercia with the object of finding some way out of the present impasse. Firstly SMRE outlook is biassed at the moment by the problem of approx 1000 young officers whose hasty and improvised trg during the latter war years and armistice period has resulted in a very inferior product. If a satisfactory policy on offr trg is to be agreed between SMRE and MMIA it would appear to be necessary to consider the "1000-block" as a separate problem requiring a special solution of its own. It will then be easier for SMRE to face the general issues at stake with a more open mind.

Secondly, the normal problem (i.e. excl the 1000) can be devided into two parts:
- more technical branches: engrs, sigs and arty
- less technical branches: inf, services etc.

It would appear that the main opposition to the MMIA proposals is on account of the "more technical branches", whose [illegible] and by Gen LIUZZI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

2. Schools of application: [illegible] inclined to the Mission's view on the post-armistice trg of offrs (i.e. by special courses at the central schools), all the more since the elimination of the schools of application would ease his own MD (manpower) problem.

3. Post-treaty Italian Army: saw draft of SMRE's reply to the Gabinetto (vide log 2-4 Mar para 8) suggesting a "face-saving" reply to the Mission's letter of 25 Feb and proposing direct contact and discussion between SMRE and MMIA. - G -

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Secondly, the normal problem (i.e. excl the 1000) can be devided into two parts:
- More technical branches: engrs, sigs and arty
- less technical branches: inf, services etc.

It would appear that the main opposition to the MMIA proposals is on account of the "more technical branches", whose cause is championed by the inspectorates and by Gen LIUZZI (arty offr).

Col Quercia, who is an inf offr, and as head of the Trg Branch anxious to maintain as much control as possible of offr trg, which he can more easily do through the Central Schools than through specially instituted Schools of Application, is favourably disposed to the Mission's proposals, providing a satisfactory compromise can be found for the more technical branches.

Quercia agreed to discuss the whole question afresh with LIUZZI, and to suggest to him that the matter be gone into again in detail with BCS at their forthcoming meeting.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col LOMBARDI

Lt Col MORICO

7. AMAR: both these offrs deny that allied surplus stores required by the Army have been otherwise disposed of by AMAR through the inefficiency of the War Ministry org. They admit that certain stores useful to the Army may have been sold to civilians, but state that this was unavoidable owing to the War Ministry being unable to produce the proper Treasury credit authority at the right moment.

On the other hand they make the point that if the Allies had not insisted in handing over to AMAR what they claim were unquestionably Italian Army stores (e.g. the net stores at MILANO and the spare parts at LECCE), much time and trouble would have been saved in persuading AMAR of the War Ministry title to such stores, which they have at last succeeded in doing. They further express the hope that in future the Army may be allowed to take over Army stores direct from the Allies, without AMAR intervention.

MORICO also explained the revised procedure whereby the Army is notified of stores for disposal in AMAR dumps. In each of the territorial HQs a technical offr has been made responsible for keeping in touch with local AMAR authorities, scrutinising the lists (as they are made out) of stores in local dumps, and notifying War Ministry of items of interest to the Army.

War Ministry can then negotiate with AMAR HQ in ROME almost as soon as the lists are received from their outlying dumps. This, at any rate, is how the system is supposed to work in theory.

7 Mar 45

Gen LUSKA

8. Mil Academy: Just back from a tour in SICILY, Lusk was fairly satisfied with what he saw at LECCE, where about 360 cadets are being trained. Those of the cadets who already have experience in the TA (about 40 in number) he rates much higher than the rest. He said that unfortunately he would probably have to throw out quite a high percentage of those partially trained in the NORTH, for political reasons.

He is arranging for additional Eng stores to be sent to LECCE.

466

9. Staff Coll: he found the situation of the barracks as follows:-

- Pinerolo barracks: repairs etc will be completed by 15 Mar.

- S.PRASSEDE barracks:- will NOT be ready in time, but as a temporary expedient recruits can be accommodated adjacent bldgs.



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Ministry being unable to produce the proper Treasury credit authority at the right moment.

On the other hand they make the point that if the Allies had not insisted in handing over to AMGOT what they claim were unquestionably Italian Army stores (e.g. the coal stores at SERIANO and the spare parts at LECCE), much time and trouble would have been saved in persuading AMGOT of the War Ministry title to such stores, which they have at last succeeded in doing. They further express the hope that in future the Army may be allowed to take over Army stores direct from the Allies, without AMGOT intervention.

MORGOO also explained the revised procedure whereby the Army is notified of stores for disposal in AMGOT dumps. In each of the Territorial HQs a technical offr has been made responsible for keeping in touch with local AMGOT authorities, scrutinising the lists (as they are made out) of stores in local dumps, and notifying War Ministry of items of interest to the Army.

War Ministry can then negotiate with AMGOT in Rome almost as soon as the lists are received from their outlying dumps. This, at any rate, is how the system is supposed to work in theory.

7 Mar 46

Gen LUSU

8. Mil Academy: Just back from a tour in SPAIN, Lt-Col was fairly satisfied with what he saw at TOLEDO, where about 360 cadets are being trained. Those of the cadets who already have experience in the ID (about 40 in number) he rates much higher than the rest. He said that unfortunately he would probably have to throw out quite a high percentage of those partially trained in the NORTH, for political reasons.

He is arranging for additional try stores to be sent to LECCE.

466

9. BARI GAR: he found the situation of the barracks as follows:- - G-1 -

- PALASES barracks: repairs etc will be completed by 15 Mar.

- S.PASQUALE barracks:- will NOT be ready in time, but as a temporary expedient recruits can be accommodated if/ [illegible]

- CARBO barracks: not yet fully clear of I.S.T. personnel, who are however in the process of moving out. Army recruits will have to make the best of it.

10. arranged conference ACC/LIAISON for Monday 11 Mar 1000 hrs at [illegible] . - G -

Agenda: post-treaty Army
post-academy courses for offrs.

...../3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Lt Col DE PENKO

11. Will call on C IT AF to discuss British practice in c - 0 -
AI fwn in the signing of correspondence, i.e. decentralisation. Matter has been represented by Italian div comds as the result of assimilation of Allied methods alongside Allied fwns in the line, which they now wish to perpetuate.

Col MALLORY

12. Tpt: MALORY was engaged in assigning additional veh - - -
to CC NR legions in NORTH Italy. He stated that considerable progress had been made in the allocation of tpt to units during recent weeks, notably mobile CC NR bns, which were practically up to est in the NORTH, and G.Rs (15 load carriers - approx 18- and 2 passenger vehs to all cats) and Inf Regts (which he reckoned had 80% of their WE). These figures were very different to those recently submitted by the Mission, and he could NOT reconcile the MAIA WE figures.

The policy he was following was very similar to that advocated by MAIA, but he did NOT consider the withdrawal of British vehs from the Inf divs a sound move.

The out put of the shops of FLORENCE and MILAN was now very satisfactory (particularly the former) and he was more optimistic about the future. All the Allied Land carriers from the MAAF dump at PONTEDERA had been repaired by the FLORENCE shops, and were now in running order



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

5 Mar 46

46

G

Gen PROPERZJ

- 2 -

1. (a) ARAR: Properzj agreed that there had been considerable difficulties in obtaining release from ARAR of stores required by the Army, though the situation was now somewhat improved. For instance the Army is expected to settle by means of authorised Treasury credits before ARAR will agree to release any stores, and it had only been possible to secure the necessary credits quite recently.

For some time now Properzj has had an officer maintaining daily liaison with ARAR HQ in ROME, which enables him to secure early info about lists of stores for disposal. In this way Properzj has contracted for 10,000 tyres and quantities of spares.

Properzj admits that this liaison is on an "old boy" basis and that there is no guarantee that his LO will see all the lists. He considered that official War Ministry representation at ARAR HQ should yield even better results.

(b) Properzj stated that almost daily negotiations had been in progress lately with ARAR officials for a settlement of the differences between ARAR and War Ministry. As a result of this a method of procedure had been agreed for dealing with stores formerly the property of the War Ministry and now in ARAR hands. In the case of the LATVES depot there had been differences of opinion as to the ownership of the MT spares. A compromise solution had been agreed, and technical reps of the War Ministry were on their way to LATVES to identify War Ministry stores.

(c) As regards the vehs to be handed over by ARAR (vide log 2/3 Feb para 4 e (i)), it had been possible to find only 200 odd jeeps in reasonable state of repair (all of which will go to the Carabinieri), and no load carriers. On the other hand the War Ministry is hoping to obtain delivery between now and June of 100 new lg load carriers from civil production plus 400 new medium load carriers. All these will also go to the Carabinieri.

(d) Properzj further stated that as a matter of policy the War Ministry did NOT propose to take over civilian vehs derequisitioned in the North, as this would add to their already grave problems of semi worn-out civilian cars.

4663

Instead, they were following a course of turning over to civilian repair firms and wkshps inefficient cars, in exchange for which they recd a smaller number of efficient second hand cars. In the case of load carriers they would hand over ten non-runners and receive in exchange three or four cannibalised vehs.

On the whole, Properzj was optimistic that in the course of a few months the MT situation would be improved.

(e) As regards the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Properzj considered

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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(c) As regards the vehs to be handed over by ARAR (vide log 2/5 Feb para 4 e (i)), it had been possible to find only 200 odd jeeps in reasonable state of repair (all of which will go to the Carabinieri), and no load carriers. On the other hand the War Ministry is hoping to obtain delivery between now and June of 400 new 4x4 load carriers from civil production plus 400 new medium load carriers. All these will also go to the Carabinieri.

(d) Properzj further stated that as a matter of policy the War Ministry did NOT propose to take over civilian vehs derequisitioned in the North, as this would add to their already grave problems of semi worn-out civilian cars.

4667

Instead, they were following a course of turning over to civilian repair firms and wksps inefficient cars, in exchange for which they recd a smaller number of efficient second hand cars. In the case of load carriers they would hand over ten non-runners and receive in exchange three or four cannibalised vehs.

On the whole, Properzj was optimistic that in the course of a few months the MT situation would be improved.

(e) As regards the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Properzj considered they had not always been as cooperative as they might have been, but it had now been agreed that the War Ministry could deal direct with the suppliers for repair materials for tyres, and he had already come to a preliminary arrangement with PIRELLI for a small quantity of rubber. He hoped to be able to extend this procedure to other commodities in due course.

...../

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(f) Poperzj was perfectly satisfied with the present arrangements for the transfer of arms and amn in 2 District. Territorial HQs, under the responsibility of the Arty Gen, were taking over all stores of ITALIAN arms and amn, while stores of GERMAN origin were dealt with by ARAR, the amn broken down and the component parts disposed of through civilian channels. According to his reckoning the balance of the BERRETTA SMGs consisted of unassembled weapons, and were still in the possession of the manufacturer. Permission to assemble had hitherto been refused, although the SMGs were urgently needed for the civil police.

Lt Col CASERTANO

2 Repairs of MMIA vehs in ITALIAN Army wksps: the statement prepared by 8 ME Wksp is evidently for record purposes of ITALIAN stores and services supplied in the ALLIED cause since the Armistice. There is no question of a specific debit to MMIA.

The War Ministry (and other ITALIAN authorities) are evidently going to considerable lengths to keep an accurate statement of the ITALIAN contributions. For instance, BR-ITI and US-ITI service tps are being calculated at so much a day (300 odd lire)

The writer has requested a complete set of War Ministry instrs on this subject for infm.

4663

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NND NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (and ...) 2 - 4 Mar 46

45

G

Lt Cmdr DIXON RNVR

-1-

1. Ref JAG/VE/16099 dated 29 Jan 46. It is confirmed that there was no vessel SS JASON and that the ss GIASONE was sunk in Oct 1940.

The only vessel sunk in the Mediterranean on 9 Dec 41 was the ss SERAFIANO VENTER, and investigations to date tend to prove that (LDef) this ship was once called GIASONE. SS. ROSALINO PILO, Owners Soc. Anon. Navigazione GARIBALDI - Genova.

Lt Col MONACO

-C-

2. Ref circular "Use of Troops in the interests of Public Order". Informed MONACO over the phone that the last draft of the said circular could be issued with the amendment to para 3 suggested by (LDef) MMIA.

3. Re recruiting for the FRENCH Foreign Legion in ROME; MONACO stated he would be interested in any information we could supply (LDef) which he will pass on to the Foreign Minister.

-C-

Lt Col ALGIA

-C-

4. Re drivers and commanders for the 15 Staghound Armoured Cars to be driven from BOLOGNA to CESANO; AIGIA has provided for 20 dvrs and 20 cmdrs to be sent to BOLOGNA from CESANO to take over the vehs (LDef) when the CESANO course ends, which will be about 21 Mar.

Col MELONI

-4 Irg-

5. Acted as interpreter for Major LACKOCK at a conference with Lt Col OLIVIERI, Major MERRU and other officers to determine the (LDef) total stores and ammn required by the CARs for one year.

-C-

Col PIACENTINI

6. WE of 92 Regts of Inf Divs: SD Branch SHAEF is NOT prepared to allow a margin of res personnel within the est of 92 Regts, on the principle that if the BRITISH WE is adequate for the BRITISH Army there is no reason to have extra bodies in the ITALIAN Regts. The Arty Inspectorate, on the other hand, is pressing for additional personnel within the Regt as reserves. PIACENTINI'S contention is that the manpower situation does not allow for this luxury in the Arty units, that the Inf and other units have been cut to a minimum, and that if any surplus personnel is available it is badly needed in the Engr units. (CFB)

468

-A-

7. Sgt PIZZOLI Ringo (ref CI/231/MOS of 19 Jan): Discussed the case of this NCO and PIACENTINI interested himself personally in this matter and later phoned to say that no further action would be taken (CFB) by War Ministry.

-Cond-C-A-

8. Post Treaty Army: as a result of MMIA letter C/5 of 25 Feb, the Gabinetto has requested SHAEF's views on the whole question and their suggestion for a reply to MMIA. PIACENTINI said he would have to [illegible] return. Told him that it was not MMIA's intention to

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Soc. Anon. Navigazione

Lt Col MONACO -G-

2. Ref circular "Use of Troops in the interests of Public Order". Informed MONACO over the phone that the last draft of the said circular could be issued w'. the amendment to para 3 suggested by
(LdeF) MAIA.

3. Re recruiting for the FRENCH Foreign Legion in ROME; MONACO stated he would be interested in any information we could supply
(LdeF) which he will pass on to the Foreign Minister. -G-

Lt Col AIMA -G-

4. Re drivers and commanders for the 15 Staghound Armoured Cars to be driven from BOLOGNA to CESANO; AIMA has provided for 20 dvrs and 20 cmdrs to be sent to BOLOGNA from CESANO to take over the vehs
(LdeF) when the CESANO course ends, which will be about 21 Mar. -G-

Col MELONI -G Irg-G-

5. Acted as interpreter for Major HANCOCK at a conference with Lt Col CELENTANI, Major MORRU and other officers to determine the
(LdeF) total stores and men required by the CARs for one year. -G-

Col PIACENTINI

6. WE of Ed Regts of Inf Divs: (E) Branch SMRE is NOT prepared to allow a margin of rso personnel with in the est of Ed Regts, on the principle that if the BRITISH WE is adequate for the BRITISH Army there is no reason to have extra bodies in the ITALIAN Regts. The Army Inspectorate, on the other hand, is pressing for additional personnel within the Regt as reserves. PIACENTINI'S contention is that the manpower situation does not allow for this luxury in the Army units, that the Inf and other units have been cut to a minimum, and that if any surplus personnel is available it is badly needed in the Engr units.
(CMB) 468 -A-

7. Sgt PIZZOLI Ringo (ref G1/221/WOS of 19 Jan): discussed the case of this NCO and PIACENTINI intervened himself personally in this matter and later phoned to say that no further action would be taken
(CMB) by War Ministry. -Cond-C-1-

8. Post Treaty Army: as a result of MAIA letter G/6 of 25 Feb, the Cabinette has requested SMRE's views on the whole question and their suggestion for a reply to MAIA. PIACENTINI said he would have to await LUZZI's return. Infd him that it was not MAIA's intention to start a con'versy on figures, but that the Mission is prepared, and indeed would be glad to discuss certain fundamental principles affecting
(CMB) the future ITALIAN Army.

Lt Col MONACO

9. Post Treaty Army: discussed MAIA letter G/6 of 25 Feb and infd him of the Mission's attitude (vide para 8 above). MONACO being the perpetrator of the Ministry figures was rather hot under the collar about the Mission's reaction, and anxious to justify his actions. He awaits
(CMB) SMRE reply and recommendations. -Cond-G-A-

Col LOMBARDI

10. Following subjects discussed in general terms:-

(a) retirement of surplus offrs: the financial measure (already approved

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(LdeF) MAIA.

3. Re recruiting for the FRENCH Foreign Legion in ROME; MONACO stated he would be interested in any information we could supply
(LdeC) which he will pass on to the Foreign Minister.

Lt Col AIROLDI

4. Re drivers and commanders for the 15 Staghound Armoured Cars to be driven from BOLOGNA to CESANO; AIROLDI has provided for 20 dvrs and 20 cmdrs to be sent to BOLOGNA from CESANO to take over the vehs
(LdeA) when the CESANO course ends, which will be about 21 Mar.

Col MERONI

5. Acted as interpreter for Major MACKOOK at a conference with Lt Col CLEMENTI, Major MERONI and other officers to determine the
(LdeM) total stores and ammunition required by the Cadre for one year.

Col PIACENTINI

6. WE of Fd Regts of Inf Divs; CO French SMRE is NOT prepared to allow a margin of res personnel within the est of Fd Regts, on the principle that if the BRITISH WE is adequate for the BRITISH Army there is no reason to have extra bodies in the ITALIAN Regts. The Arty Inspectorate, on the other hand, is pressing for additional personnel within the Regt as reserves. PIACENTINI'S contention is that the manpower situation does not allow for this luxury in the Arty units, that the Inf and other units have been cut to a minimum, and that if
(CMF) any surplus personnel is available it is badly needed in the Engr units.

7. Sgt PIEMONTI Ringo (ref G1/221/NOB of 19 Jan): discussed the case of this NCO and PIACENTINI interested himself personally in this matter and later phoned to say that no further action would be taken
(CMF) by War Ministry.

8. Post Treaty Army: as a result of MAIA letter G/6 of 25 Feb, the Cdt-in-Chief has requested SMRE's views on the whole question and their suggestion for a reply to MAIA. PIACENTINI said he would have to await LUCCHINI's return. Infd him that it was not MAIA's intention to attach a cost every to figures, but that the Mission is prepared, and
(CMF) indeed would be glad to discuss certain fundamental principles affecting the future ITALIAN Army.

Lt Col [illegible]CO

9. Post Treaty Army: discussed MAIA letter G/6 of 25 Feb and infd him of the Mission's attitude (vide para 8 above). MONACO being the perpetrator of the Ministry figures was rather hot under the collar about the Mission's reaction, and anxious to justify his actions. He awaits
(CMF) SMRE reply and recommendations.

Col LOMBARDI

10. Following subjects discussed in general terms:-

(a) retirement of surplus offrs: the financial measure (already approved

-G-

-G-

-G-

-A-

-Contd-G-A-

-Contd-G-A-

-Contd-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

by the Cabin...) making good progress through Defence Committee of the Consulta.

The Minister has fixed 31 Mar as dead-line for implementing the project and LOMBARDI is optimistic that it can be maintained. The various commissions examining the offrs have been triplicated in order to have that part of the work finished in time.

(b) Army vote: no further progress made on account of the other more pressing business.

(c) Funds for repairs to CARs: as far as LOMBARDI is aware from reports of Territorial MPs nowhere is the work held up through lack of funds. Money allotted by the Treasury to other accounts has been transferred to meet the immediate need of CARs.

(d) PRO: the name suggested to LOMBARDI has been put up to the Minister. The offr himself has been approached and is willing to accept the post. The Minister has interviewed him and is likely to agree, but PROFUMO first wishes to consult "some other person".

4659

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with Ministry of War (and OVRA) 28 Feb - 1 Mar 46

Lt Col [redacted]

Stated that the draft of the circular "Use of tps in the interests of Public Order", which had been approved by Gen, had been subsequently examined by the Minister of the Interior who found that it contained certain stipulations which were contrary to the present law. He had gave me a revised draft which had been prepared in conjunction with the Ministry of the Interior, requesting that it be examined by us as soon as possible. He wished to send the circular to all persons interested on Mon 4 Mar as the elections begin on the 10th Mar.

Regarding the objection raised by me that we were certainly specifies the size of the force to be employed (see para 3) which appears to be in contradiction to the statement contained above in the same para, that the military will determine the proportion of the tps which it is possible to employ, [redacted] noted that, in fact, no contradiction exists. The Civil Authority is the official of the M.I. who controls his own men and can call on the Army and Finance Guards. He is the person who can judge how many military are required in addition to the forces at his disposal to deal with the situation. The military commander will decide whether he can supply the forces requested in view of his other commitments. Nevertheless, [redacted] will insert the words "that" certain opportune have intervenire" (which is in no sense available to employ) after the words "certain delle forze" (size of the force).

Para 12 was substituted for para 12 in the previous draft at the specific request of the Minister of the Interior at a meeting at which the military, the P.S., Carabinieri and legal authorities were present. Para 12 gave the military too much power, whereas the responsibility is that of the Minister of the Interior. He instructed on para 12 as drafter being inserted. As it was para the first case envisages situations similar to the Sicilian one where the military are requested to perform a specific operation. In such cases, the military will conduct the operations with the tps and in the manner they deem suitable to achieve the result. This is a military operation.

The second case is a policing operation in which the P.S. needs aid to assist the men already at his disposal. In this case he is the only person who knows how many men are required to deal with the situation. The supposition that the tps would not be used in units of less than pl strength is to ensure that an officer is always present with the tps and that the P.S. should not give orders direct to the tps. Should a certain situation require men less than a pl, then the P.S. must use his own men, i.e. police or CCRR for the purpose.

Lt Col [redacted]

The [redacted] use service ammo on their long rifle ranges and can with a disintegrating bullet (ammonia & gelatine fangible) on their short ranges (poligoni chiusi). It would be dangerous to use this service on the short ranges as they now stand, but if the firing point is brought to within 30 yds of the targets and the stop butts reinforced, service ammo can be used with safety. Instructions stating that trees have been lopped to prepare ranges suitable for service ammo at 30 yds.

465

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

...covered on Jan 4 war as the elections begin on the 15th Jan.

Regarding the objection raised by [illegible] that the civil authority specifies the size of the force to be employed (see para 3) which appears to be in contradiction to the antecedent condition later in the same para, that the military will determine the proportion of the type units it is possible to employ, [illegible] states that, in fact, no contradiction exists. The Civil Authority is the official of the P.S., who controls his own men and can call on the CCRS and Finance Guards. He is the person who can judge how many military are required in addition to the forces at his disposal to deal with the situation. The military commander will decide whether he can supply the forces requested in view of his other commitments. Nevertheless, [illegible] will insert the words "dove sarebbe opportuno fare intervenire" (which it is considered advisable to employ) after the words "entita delle forze" (size of the forces).

Para 12 was substituted for para 12 in the previous draft at the specific request of the Minister of the Interior at a meeting at which the military, the P.S., Carabinieri and legal authorities were present. para 12 gave the military too much power, whereas the responsibility is that of the Minister of the Interior. No indication on para 12 as drafted being inserted. In that part the first case envisages situations similar to the Sicilian one where the military are requested to perform a specific operation. In such cases, the military will conduct the operations with the type and in the manner they deem suitable to achieve the result. This is a military operation.

The second case is a policing operation in which the P.S. needs aid to assist the men already at his disposal. In this case he is the only person who knows how many men are required to deal with the situation. The stipulation that the type should not be used in units of less than platoon strength is to ensure that an officer is always present with the type and that the P.S. should not give orders direct to the type. Should a certain situation require men for when a pl, then the P.S. must use his own men, i.e. Police or CCRS for the purpose.

It Col [illegible]

The [illegible] use service men on their long rifle ranges and can with a disintegrating bullet (carbonio a pallotte frangibile) on their short ranges (poligoni chiusi). It would be dangerous to use ball service on the short ranges as they now stand, but if the firing point is brought to within 30 yds of the targets and the stop butts reinforced, service men can be used with safety. [illegible] states that [illegible] have been issued to practice ranges suitable for service men at 30 yds.

Col [illegible]
Lt Col [illegible]

These offrs suspected that men were being recruited in Sicily for the [illegible] Foreign Legion and will investigate the matter. The inquiry and the outcome are those who join. Last year there was a recruiting office for the Foreign Legion in Naples but it is was closed through the intervention of the Foreign office.

/2...

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

1633

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020



Col IARGARDI
Lt Col BIGELOW

Ref Q-003 dated 13 Feb 46, re Disposal of ALLIED surplus to the ITALIAN Army and ref 9006/235/SD dated 16 Feb from Executive Commissioner to the Prime Ministers. "Q"

IARGARDI was pleased to hear that Capt BIGELOW was to report to MMIA on 4 Mar to do liaison work with ALLIED Surplus Material Disposal Offr.

He stated that the President of the Commission of the Allied was General BIGELOW, and therefore the War Ministry were kept well informed of all materials which would be useful to the Army. In each Terr Comd there was an officer who was responsible for the safe custody of captured war material. The same officer controlled the warehouses and reported material that was useful for the Army. Instrs to the Terr Comds concerning salvaging of all stores and their relations with the ARAR are contained in the Ministry of War circulars - Gabinetto No 228200/II of 20 Nov 45 and 202600/II dated 4 Feb 46, subject : Surplus War Material ceded by the ALLIES.

Liaison with Ministry of War ( and SMRE) 27 Feb 46

Col PIACENTINI

1. Re GRANATIERI and BERSAGLIERI Regts : SMRE wish to retain both regts and have written to War Minister for his approval. If approval is granted the regt now stationed in ROME will be called I GRANATIERI and will be formed with personnel of the required standard. A regt with a good tradition should be stationed in ROME composed of men from all parts of ITALY in order to help in uniting ITALIANS. - A -

BERSAGLIERI : SMRE wishes to transform either the regt in NAPLES into the I BERSAGLIERI or the one in MILAN into the III BERSAGLIERI. The I and III were formed at approximately the same time but although the I is the senior the III has the better tradition. Men for the BERSAGLIERI will not be specially selected as it is desired to have men of the same standard of physical fitness for all the Inf Regts. It is proposed to form the Recce Bns with personnel from the Cavalry. PIACENTINI will send a short history of the GRANATIERI and BERSAGLIERI.

PIACENTINI requested MMIA's consent to release the 1921 class as soon as possible in order that the necessary instructions may be issued.

Lt Col GALLO

2. Informed him that the certificates of service could be completed and issued by the Ufficio Ricompense Onorificenze and that a list of the recipients should be sent to MMIA. The men who were in CORSICA cited in Ministry of War letter 377/1 dated 20 Feb 46 were not to receive the certificates as they were not under the ALLIED Cmd. Only those who served before 8 May 44 were eligible. - A -

Maggiore ROCCA

3. He will call with a specialist officer on Thursday at 1000 hrs to discuss codes with Major EBURAH. - Sigs -

Lt Col OLIVETTI and Lt Col ALOIA

4. Requested him to provide 15 expert drivers and 15 trained commanders to take over 15 Staghound Armoured Cars at BOLOGNA and bring them to CESANO. He will 'phone Thursday stating whether he has the personnel required or whether he will wait until the present course at CESANO is finished, and use the personnel just trained there to make a tactical exercise of the drive from BOLOGNA to CESANO as suggested by Lt Col MEDLAM. - G Trg -

Lt Col OLIVETTI

5. He wishes to know whether the arms and spares at NAPLES were turned over to the ITALIAN Army today, 27 Feb, also whether he may have a complete list of this material. - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

B. 42

Liaison with War Ministry (and SMFA) 26 Feb 46.

Col CAMPAGNA

1. Ref Q 003 of 25 Jan 46; 2700 tons of ammn at 501 RAD : - Q -
CAMPAGNA stated that the Terr Comds had personnel capable of
dealing with BRITISH ammn and that the Terr Comds were instruc-
(L de T) ed to be prepared to receive BRITISH Ammn. Should some of these
Comds not have sufficient personnel used to handling BRITISH Ammn
fully trained men could be obtained from the Combat Units for
the distribution of the ammn in 501 RAD. CAMPAGNA stated that
in Sept 45 he had asked for personnel to be trained in the use
of BRITISH ammn.

2. Ref letter Arty/201 dated 25 Feb to Ministry of War: Handed
(L de T) him this letter with the attached cheque for £ 10 - .

Col CHEKOFFSKY

3. The GRANATIERI Bns in the FRIULI Div are not considered as - A -
true GRANATIERI and do not belong to the Regt, GRANATIERI DI
(L de T) SARDEGNA, hence recruits below the GRANATIERI Standard (Mt 1.75
for men) are sent to them. The depot of the I Regt of
GRANATIERI DI SARDEGNA is in RENE but it has not yet been
settled whether this Regt should be continued. Should this
Regt be kept then men of the required height will be posted
to it from the above mentioned Bns and from the new recruits.
Officers for this Regt must be Mt. 1.76 tall.

Lt Col DERRIA

4. DERRIA asked whether NCOs and men in the classes due for - A -
release, but now employed in SMFA, could be replaced and stated
that the names of personnel who had completed their military
service was given in SMFA Letter No.01/221/Mob dated 13 Jan 46.
(L de T)

The letter requesting the release of Sgt PERUGLI Nerino is
No.56138 dated 18 Dec 45 from the Ministero della Guerra,
Direzione Generale Leve Sottufficiali e Truppe.

DERRIA asked whether retired ITALIAN Officers could return to
their house in FRIULI and CIRENAICA and was informed that this
matter was still under consideration by AFHQ.

Gen LIUZZI

465

5. LIUZZI stated that the Caserma MILANO in BARI would be evacuated - Q -
(L de T) early in March and if accomodation could not be found in other
quarters for the evacuated personnel they would go into tents.

6. Acted as interpreter at a meeting on Maintenance of BRITISH - Q -
(L de T) Arms by ITALIAN Army.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison with Ministry of War (and SHAEF).

21 - 25 Feb 45.

Lt Commander GREEN, USNR.

1. Ref CAO/VW/16099 dated 20 Jan 45: GREEN stated that a cable laying vessel CIANCHE was sunk in 1940, which is prior to the date in which (L de F) the CIANCHE mentioned in the above letter is reported to have sailed from DENMARK with m/s, viz. 8 Dec 1941. In 1943 a cable laying vessel CIANCHE was reported in MARSEILLES harbour. - A -

The only vessel sunk on 9 Dec 1941 was the ex BENEDETTO VENIER which foundered 8 of NAVARINO. A letter in the War Ministry file states that an ex VENIERO was sunk 8 of NAVARINO on 9 Dec 1941. Another letter in the same file states that the 7/8 survivors of the ex CIANCHE sunk on 9 Dec 1941 were landed in GREECE. GREEN is having to ascertain whether the ex BENEDETTO VENIER was previously named CIANCHE.

The ROSALINDO PILO which left BONIFACIO for NAPLES on 4 Aug 42 was sunk on 17 Aug 1942. She was apparently a new vessel which had been in commission only 3 months.

Col CASCIANA

2. Ref Q 003 dated 26 Jan 45 concerning 27000 tons of mun at 500 RAD DART: A decision on how this mun is to be distributed is awaited (L de F) from ISSUE. CASCIANA stated that in principle SACC wish to accept the 27000-tons, of which half of the mun for Infantry will be distributed among the Direzione Artiglierie Territoriali, thus being immediately available for the units. The other half will be stored on the Piemonte Radna south of the PO. - Q -

Of the Artillery mun half will be issued to the Direzioni Artiglierie Territoriali which are in the vicinity of the dump, and the other half will be put in the Artillery Depot on the Piemonte Radna.

Lt Col CLIVIO

3. Informed him that the conference fixed at 1000 hrs on 22nd to discuss Artillery and Motor Transport spares and training was (L de F) postponed until Tuesday 26th at the same hour - S -

Col PIACENTINI

4. Acted as interpreter to Major GREEN during part of the conference on war establishments. 465

Col LOMBARDI

5. Handed him the letter Ref H6 dated 22 Feb re composition of (L de F) 22 CDLAN Army - LOMBARDI stated the Minister was going away on Saturday and would probably not return until Monday 26. Dead - S -

Gen PRICOLO

6. The information on ammunition was mainly concerned with the manufacture of lethal weapons in the production of peace time - S -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

letter in the same file as this one. [illegible] CIASCHI sunk on 9 Dec 1941 were landed in GREECE. Urgent in trying to ascertain whether the ex SERAFIANO VENTO was previously named CIASCHI.

The ROSALINDO PILO which left BENGHAZI for NAPLES on 1 Aug 42 was sunk on 17 Aug 1942. She was apparently a new vessel which had been in commission only 3 months.

Col CAVIGLIA

2. Ref Q 005 dated 26 Jan 43 concerning 27000 tons of Arm 47 SOV Rus DUMP: A decision on how this Arm is to be distributed is awaited (1 de 1) from SMG. CAVIGLIA stated that in principle ACSS wish to accept the 27000 tons, of which half of the Arm for Infantry will be distributed among the Divisions Artiglierie Territoriali, thus being immediately available for the units. The other half will be stored on the Piacenza Podium south of the PO. - Q -

Of the Artillery Arm half will be issued to the Divisioni Artiglierie Territoriali which are in the vicinity of the dump, and the other half will be put in the Artillery dumps on the Piacenza Podium.

Lt Col OLIVIERI

3. Informed him that the conference fixed at 1000 hrs on 22nd to discuss Artillery and Motor Transport spares and training was (1 de 2) postponed until Tuesday 26th at the same hour. - Q -

Col PIACENTINI

4. Acted as interpreter to Major GRIFFIN during part of the conference (1 de 1) on war establishments. 4654

Col DE CARLI

5. Handed him the letter Ref 05 dated 22 Feb re composition of (1 de 2) ITALIAN Army - DE CARLI stated the Minister was going away on Saturday and would probably not return until Monday 25. Quad - 5 -

Gen PIOLA CASELI

6. The information on machinery not readily convertible from the manufacture of lethal weapons to the production of peace time products, which should have been ready on Saturday, was only received on Monday 25. Gen PIOLA CASELI stated the data in the folder was incomplete, and concerned only those factories which were (1 de 2) under direct control of the War Ministry. The Minister had neither the authority nor the staff to check the machinery in plants belonging to private concerns and suggested that this should be done by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour. He requested that the letter in the folder with the data should be carefully noted as it gave the principles on which the compilation of the said data was based. - 9 -

Capt VIOLI

7. Returned him the pro-memoria with the names of the 5 ITALIAN Officers (1 de 2) suggested as interpreters for the 5 'A' type mills which had been sent in for approval. - A -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (and SHAEF) (G-1) 16 - 20 Feb 46

Gen PELLIGRA

1. Ref Q 220 dated 15 Feb 46 "Stabilimento Militare per la produzione di Margine concentrate a Maddaloni": Pelligra (L de T) stated the factory makes "Energon", but it could not go into full operation immediately as certain raw materials are required which are not being imported now. The derequisitioning of the factory is desirable in order to put the machinery in order which will take 3 months, and then to make a quantity of "Energon" with the raw products now available in ITALY. PELLIGRA will ascertain what kind of quantities of raw materials are required, and when they can be imported, and give this information in writing. - Q -

Lt Col OLIVETTI

2. Ref Q 126 of 16 Feb and Q 003 of 18 Feb. OLIVETTI asks whether equipment (buffetteria) is included in the BRITISH arms destined (L de T) for the CAR and the 2 Bns. Will steel helmets also be provided for the CARs and the 2 Bns of the FOLGORE Div? - Q -

Col CASOLI

3. Ref DUAC letter JAG/VW/16099 dated 29 Jan 46: Examined file on the sinking of the Motonave ARIOSTO (para (b) of said letter). (L de T) This file has correspondence on the sinking of ss "[illegible]", ss "[illegible]", ss "[illegible]" all transporting Allied PW. The steamer "JASON" referred to in para 2 of said letter is ss "GIASONE". CASOLI suggests a letter be sent to the War Ministry requesting that the file on the sinking of the "ARIOSTO" be submitted to us for examination and copies of certain letters taken. - A -

Lt Col OLIVETTI

4. Reference the order to No.1 Territorial Command stating that the AOSTA Bn was to hand over its BRITISH Arms and equipment: OLIVETTI (L de T) said that letter No.4/300/Serv dated 17 Feb 46 stating that the Alpini Bns AQUILA and AOSTA were to leave the LEMONNO Div with all their BRITISH arms and equipment had been sent to the units concerned with copy to MMIA. - Q -

Col BALANZINO

5. Obtained figures for letter to AFHQ of ITALIAN Vehs which will be written off at the end of 1946 and of those which the ITALIANS (L de T) will recondition and hope to purchase from the ITALIAN industry. - 465 -

Lt Col TORSIELLO

6. TORSIELLO arranged for Lt Col CAMBUSO to meet Maj MURRAY at 1000 hrs Wednesday 20 Feb at MMIA to discuss standard of Trg of Sigs (L de T) personnel and the percentage of tradesmen required. - G -

Col LOMBARDI

7. Funds of completing repairs of CARs: LOMBARDI was already familiar - G - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

quired, and when they can be imported, and give this information in writing.

Lt Col OLIVETTI

2. Ref Q 126 of 16 Feb and Q 003 of 18 Feb. OLIVETTI asks whether equipment (buffetteria) is included in the BRITISH arms destined - Q -
(L de T) for the CAR and the 2 Bns. Will steel helmets also be provided for the CARs and the 2 Bns of the LEGNANO Div?

Col CASOLI

3. Ref DJAC letter JAG/VM/15099 dated 29 Jan 46: Examined file on - A -
(L de T) the sinking of the Motonave ARIOSTO (para (b) of said letter). This file has correspondence on the sinking of ss "[illegible]", ss "[illegible]", ss "[illegible]" all transporting Allied Pn/W. The steamer "JASON" referred to in para 2 of said letter is ss "GIASONE". CASOLI suggests a letter be sent to the War Ministry requesting that the file on the sinking of the "ARIOSTO" be submitted to us for examination and copies of certain letters taken.

Lt Col OLIVETTI

4. Reference the order to No.1 Territorial Command stating that the - Q -
(L de T) AOSTA Bn was to hand over its BRITISH Arms and equipment: OLIVETTI said that letter No.4/300/Serv dated 17 Feb 46 stating that the Alpini Bns AQUILA and AOSTA were to leave the LEGNANO Div with all their BRITISH arms and equipment had been sent to the units concerned with copy to MMIA.

Col BALANZINO

5. Obtained figures for letter to AFHQ of ITALIAN Vehs which will be - 465 -
(L de T) written off at the end of 1946 and of those which the ITALIANS will recondition and hope to purchase from the ITALIAN industry.

Lt Col TORSIELLO

6. TORSIELLO arranged for Lt Col CAMBUSO to meet Maj EBURAH at 1000 - C -
(L de T) hrs Wednesday 20 Feb at MMIA to discuss standard of Arg of Sigs personnel and the percentage of tradesmen required.

Col LOMBARDI

7. Funds of completing repairs of CARs: LOMBARDI was already familiar - C - Q -
(CMB) with the situation reported by several BLUs, i.e. work about to be held up through suspensions of payments to the contractors. The difficulty is NOT a refusal by the Treasury to vote the funds, but a temporary shortage of paper money. LOMBARDI phoned the Treasury then and there and obtained an assurence that the necessary moneys would be made available in a day or two.

.....2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

8. Call-up : LOMBARDI reported that the War Minister had tabled a resolution at the Cabinet meeting on 15 Feb calling for full support by all parties of the Govt for the forthcoming call-up. The Minister explained various aspects of the situation and after some discussion the resolution was adopted and an "order-of-the-day" agreed by the whole Cabinet. Collected a copy of the resolution, which includes a declaration on the non-political character of the Army. This "order-of-the-day" was issued as a press release and published in varying degrees by most papers. Comd-G-A-
(CMB)

Lt Col MONACO

9. Composition of the future ITALIAN Army : further to para 3 of log 13-15 Feb, MONACO raised the question of the memorandum submitted by the War Minister to DE GASPERI on 9 Feb. Acting on LOMBARDI's instrs he enquired whether MAAG required to have a copy of the memorandum. Comd-G-A-
(CMB)

Infd him that the Mission had already seen the original and explained the relevant circumstances. Expressed the view that the Mission certainly ought to have a copy officially (and in fact ought to have been infd at the same time as the copy was sent to the head of the Govt), with a covering note to show the object for which the infm had been prepared. The letter was just as important as the figures themselves, and the fact that a copy of the memorandum was being sent to the ITALIAN Foreign Office might have definite implications.

MONACO said he would have to have further instrs on this pt.

10. ITALIAN Mission to AUSTRIA : as far as MONACO (and LOMBARDI) could recollect, there was never any official arrangement made. MONACO could find nothing in the files. Requested him to ascertain where the US stores were turned in on the return of the party that accompanied Gen CLARK unofficially. - Q -
(CMB)

Col PIACENTINI

11. Org of Central Schools, W/Es, DMT etc : long talk with PIACENTINI on these matters, referred to Col A/G, GI trg, and G II WE. Comd-G-A-
(CMB)

Assured PIACENTINI that MEC would have last say as far as subs of individual schools were concerned.

12. ORBAT : PIACENTINI experiencing difficulty in getting action out of the State Printing Press; he promised to interest Col LOMBARDI, who carries greater weight with the authorities responsible. - G -
(CMB)

13. MEC : General talk on pts raised by G II(WE). PIACENTINI agreed to prepare a complete and detailed draft of the new procedure which he will submit to the Mission for vetting. - G -
(CMB)

14. 1921 class : PIACENTINI pressing for news of decision on demob of this class, ref para 2 log 7-9 Feb. - A -
(CMB)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

4650

ution, which included a declaration [illegible] of the Army. This "order-of-the-day" was issued as a press release and published in varying degrees by most papers.

Cond-G-A-

Lt Col MONACO

9. (CFB) Composition of the future ITALIAN Army : further to para 5 of log 13-15 Feb, MONACO raised the question of the memorandum submitted by the War Minister to DE GASPERI on 9 Feb. Acting on LOMBARDI's instrs he enquired whether MSTA required to have a copy of the memorandum.

Infd him that the Mission had already seen the original and explained the relevant circumstances. Expressed the view that the Mission certainly ought to have a copy officially (and in fact ought to have been infd at the same time as the copy was sent to the head of the Govt), with a covering note to show the object for which the infm had been prepared. The latter was just as important as the figures themselves, and the fact that a copy of the memorandum was being sent to the ITALIAN Foreign Office might have definite implications.

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- G -

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Cond-G-A-

Col PIACENTINI

11. (CFB) Org of Central Schools, W/Bs, DMI etc : long talk with PIACENTINI on these matters, referred to Col A/G, GI trg, and G II WE.

4653

Assured PIACENTINI that WEC would have last say as far as extn of individual schools were concerned.

- G -

12. (CFB) ORBAT : PIACENTINI experiencing difficulty in getting action out of the State Printing Press; he promised to interest Col LOMBARDI, who carries greater weight with the authorities responsible.

- G -

13. (CFB) WEC : General talk on pts raised by G II(WE). PIACENTINI agreed to prepare a complete and detailed draft of the new procedure which he will submit to the Mission for vetting.

- A -

14. (CFB) 1921 class : PIACENTINI pressing for news of section on demob of this class, ref para 2 log 7-9 Feb.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison with War Ministry (and SMG)

G/32/

13 - 15 Feb 46

Gen LIUZZI

1. Gen offrs i/c Territorial trg arrangements : as a result of comment in 6 BLU report requested Liuzzi for terms of ref of the brig gens temporarily assigned to assist territorial comds in the initial stages of org the CARs and the trg of (territorial) inf regts. Apparently nothing had been laid down in writing, although it was contemplated assigning a small staff to each general. This has now been cancelled and Liuzzi has agreed to prepare a directive limiting the responsibilities to a "watching brief" for the territorial comd and possibly a time limit of four months or so for this temporary assignment. - G -

2. MILANO Barracks (BARI) : Liuzzi promised to get into touch with the Air Ministry with a view to obtaining a definite date by which the Air Force personnel will be out of these buildings - G - Q -

3. Strength fluctuations and future composition of the ITALIAN Army: Liuzzi had read a copy of the figures submitted to DM CASERTA (the same as subsequently reached MAIA via AC), but pointed out that SMG had no hand in the preparation of either the strength fluctuations or the future composition of the Army. The strength fluctuations did NOT agree with SMG calculations, and Liuzzi also disagreed with the figures submitted for "sub higher fmns" and "services" of the future Army. He also considered that only one armd div in the general row was insufficient. Comd-G-A-

4. Ops in SICILY : SMG continue to be strangely disinterested in what is going on in SICILY. They receive no detailed operational reports (all they got is an occasional sig), and have to rely on the newspapers for their info. In view of the political background the tendency seems to be to wash their hands of the whole thing, so that they can disclaim all responsibility if things go wrong. Comd-G-

Liuzzi confirmed that the GARIBALDI Regt took some 6 pdrs with them to SICILY. This is presumably the "arty" referred to in the press. 4643

Lt Col SILLI

5. Courts martial for ITALIAN Army : the first meeting under BROSIO's Chairmanship on 9 Feb was quite successful, and a second meeting has since been held. It is evident that the War Minister is determined to push the proposals through as a sound measure of reform, unless considerations of a practical nature should arise to make it impossible. Comd-A-

Silli suggested that it would be helpful if they had some info on procedure in the BRITISH Army. Accordingly it was arranged with 'A' Branch to supply him with a copy of "the Green Book"(1944) (1945).

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

time limit of four months or so for this.

- G - Q -

2. MILANO Barracks (BARI) : Liuzzi promised to get into touch with the Air Ministry with a view to obtaining a definite date by which the Air Force personnel will be out of these buildings

Cond-G-A-

3. Strength fluctuations and future composition of the ITALIAN Army: Liuzzi had read a copy of the figures submitted to DE GASPERI (the same as subsequently reached AFHQ via AC), but pointed out that CMMB had no hand in the preparation of either the strength fluctuations or the future composition of the Army. The strength fluctuations did NOT agree with CMMB calculations, and Liuzzi also disagreed with the figures submitted for "sub higher formations" and "services" of the future Army. He also considered that only one armd div in the general res was insufficient.

Cond-G-

4. Ops in SICILY : CMMB continue to be strangely disinterested in what is going on in SICILY. They receive no detailed operational reports (all they get is an occasional sig,, and have to rely on the newspapers for their info. In view of the political background the tendency seems to be to wash their hands of the whole thing, so that they can disclaim all responsibility if things go wrong.

Liuzzi confirmed that the GARIBALDI Regt took some 6 guns with them to SICILY. This is presumably the "arty" referred to in the press.

4640

Lt Col SILLI

Cond-A-

5. Courts martial for ITALIAN Army : the first meeting under MARSIGLI's Chairmanship on 9 Feb was quite successful, and a second meeting has since been held. It is evident that the War Minister is determined to push the proposals through as a sound measure of reform, unless considerations of a practical nature should arise to make it impossible.

Silli suggested that it would be helpful if they had some info on procedure in the BRITISH Army. Accordingly it was arranged with 'A' Branch to supply him with a copy of "the Green Book"(1944) and "Notes on procedure etc (1945)".

Lt Col MONACO

- A -

6. Leave : Ref AC20 dated 14 Feb. The whole matter of leave both for long service men as well as recruits is being examined by (L de T) the Cabinette in conjunction with CMMB, and should be settled at the end of February when the proposed plans will be sent to AFHQ.

.....2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Monaco states that the present intention is to give the new recruits, who will be called up in March, one period of leave only during the 12 months service. This is to give the men a longer period at their homes which is considered preferable to two shorter periods both from the point of view of training and morale.

Under the old peacetime regulations long service officers, NCO's and men were entitled to certain periods of leave every 2 years to be taken when the exigencies of the service permitted.

Lt Col MONACO

7 Engr works : discussed draft of instrs to ZIPs regulating the type of work and repairs to be undertaken by ITALIAN Army Engrs for maintenance of buildings and installations. Copy of instrs have been sent to EMIA. - 2 -

Lt Col GRECI

8 Refugee camp org : as a result of negotiations between War Ministry, Ministry for Post-War Reconstruction and rep of AF S/C AC, it has been decided to reduce the ITALIAN Army commitment in the refugee camp org to the HQ at BOLOGNA and [redacted] depts at UDINE, BOLZANO, BOLOGNA and MODENA, a total of 200 all ranks. - 2 -

This arrangement was subsequently confirmed by Lt Col FORTESCUE and maj WOODCOCK of AF S/C, who stated that part of the remaining personnel would probably come under EMIA, and estimated that the rail staffs might be dispensed with altogether about April, subject to no unforseen circumstances arising.

Infd SHAH accordingly

Lt Col MELONI

9 Forthcoming handover of arms (for CMIs) and AT spares: general discussion of the arrangements for collection and distribution of the weapons and spares to be made available shortly to the ITALIAN Army in the NAPLES area. Emphasised the importance of adequate organisation. Infd Meloni that, - 4 -

(a) ADOS and ADRE MMIA would be going to NAPLES 19 Feb to arrange final details and introduce ITALIAN offrs to the BRITISH depots;

(b) that it was considered that War Ministry reps should avail themselves of this opportunity of personally supervising arrangements.

(c) that a small team of CMI familiar with BRITISH weapons from one of the inf divs should be temporarily assigned to NAPLES to assist in the work.

4643

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

to be taken when the exigencies of the service permitted.

Lt Col MONACO

7 Engr works : discussed draft of instrs to ZIGs regulating the type of work and repairs to be undertaken by ITALIAN Army Engrs for maintenance of buildings and installations. Copy of instrs have been sent to ZNIs. - 5 -

Lt Col GRAZI

8 Refugee camp org : as a result of negotiations between War Ministry, Ministry for Post-War Reconstruction and rep of HP S/C AG, it has been decided to reduce the ITALIAN Army commitment in the refugee camp org to the HQ at BOLZANO and [redacted] depts at UDINE, BOLZANO, BOLOGNA and MODENA, a total of 250 all ranks. - 6 -

This arrangement was subsequently confirmed by Lt Col POLLOCKGILL and maj WOODCOCK of HP S/C, who stated that part of the remaining personnel would probably come under UNRRA, and estimated that the mil staffs might be dispensed with altogether about April, subject to no unforseen circumstances arising.

Infd SACT accordingly

Lt Col MALONI

9 Forthcoming handover of arms (Pur CARs) and MT spares: general discussion of the arrangements for collection and distribution of the weapons and spares to be made available shortly to the ITALIAN Army in the NAPLES area. Emphasised the importance of adequate organization. Infd Maloni that, - 4 -

(a) ADOS and ADMT MONZA would be going to NAPLES 18 Feb to arrange final details and introduce ITALIAN offrs to the BRITISH depots;

(b) that it was considered that War Ministry reps should avail themselves of this opportunity of personally supervising arrangements.

(c) that a small team of Offs familiar with BRITISH weapons from one of the inf divs should be temporarily assigned to NAPLES to assist in the work.

It was arranged that a rep of SACE Arty Sec (for the weapons), and reps from each of SACE MT Sec and Arty and MT Directorate (for the spares) would be available at Ufficio Servizi NAPLES TMO at 0830 hrs 19 Feb to accompany ADOS and ADMT to the respective depots. It was also agreed that a team from the SOLSORE would be made available.

Impressed on MALONI the importance of not wasting any time once the arms are available for collection (possibly commencing 20 Feb). To save time he would prefer to break bulk within the BRITISH Ord Depot, and load on rail in one move, but it is doubtful if this is practicable.

4643

.....3/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen CARATTI

10 Accompanied SGS for courtesy call on Inspector Gen of Army. Various subjects of general interest discussed, incl the provision of HQs and cadres for the second f3 arty regts of each inf div. CARATTI stated there were plenty of capable arty offrs available, but a dearth of suitable senior regular NCOs. He agreed on the desirability of making all plans now and earmarking personnel, so that the second regt can be implemented quickly when the right moment comes. He will discuss with LUZZI.

- 3 -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

467

38

Gen LIUZZI

(CFB) 1. MT and petrol for inf divs: Liuzzi confirmed that the allocation of petrol for the inf divs is now controlled by Territorial Comds. He will consider whether a scheme can be worked out for limiting the number of vehs in use within the divs to those strictly necessary for the domestic needs of units, with the object of saving both petrol and vehs. -G-

(CFB) 2. Arty survey: Liuzzi said it had been agreed that British survey methods would be adopted. Lt Col DI PALMA will be calling on SGS within next few days to arrange details of courses for regimental survey teams. -G-

(CFB) 3. Regular offrs as interpreters at BLUs: Liuzzi stated they had not yet found all five offrs, but were continuing their search. -G-A-

(CFB) 4. Demonstration pls: There had been no "come-back" from territorial comds to the instrs issued by SMRE, and the pls should be reporting to their respective CARs between 1 and 5 Mar. -G-

(CFB) 5. Call-up: Liuzzi had not heard of any particular reaction to the call-up posters, which were displayed in ROMA and other centres on 9 Feb. -A-

Lt Col BILEI

(CFB) 6. Courts Martial: The Minister presided over a special committee to consider the introduction of courts martial as a normal procedure for the Italian armed forces. It is understood that the outcome was satisfactory, though details are still lacking. -A-

Col LOMBARDI

(CFB) 7. CARABINIERI: As a result of the writer's conversation with Lombardi on 2 Feb, vide log of that date para 14, the War Minister has seen ROMITA (Minister of the Interior) and Gen BRUNETTI (COC Carabinieri) and has made the following statement on the proposed increase of 10,000 in the CC.RR ceiling. -Comal- -G- -A- -G-

BROSIO, ROMITA and BRUNETTI have agreed a common policy, i.e.: the entire 10,000 to be formed into extra bns (additional to the bns for TRIESTE), to be armed with standard CC.RR eqpt and arms. Clothing, boots, normal eqpt and weapons (incl automatic weapons) are guaranteed from Italian sources.

If special eqpt is NOT available to make them mob bns, they will have to be ordinary bns.

It was further agreed that the reinforcing of existing Carabinieri stas would be achieved by economies of CC.RR personnel in other directions and by the withdrawal of men improperly employed at the present time.

4643

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

-G-

4. (CFB) Demonstration pls: There had been no "come-back" from territorial comds to the instrs issued by SMRE, and the pls should be reporting to their respective CARs between 1 and 5 Mar.

-A-

5. (CFB) Call-up: Liuzzi had not heard of any particular reaction to the call-up posters, which were displayed in ROME and other centres on 9 Feb.

Lt Col SIBEI

-A-

6. (CFB) Courts Martial: The Minister presided over a special committee to consider the introduction of courts martial as a normal procedure for the Italian armed forces. It is understood that the outcome was satisfactory, though details are still lacking.

Col LOMBARDI

-Comd-
-G-
-A-
-I-

7. (CFB) CARABINIERI: As a result of the writer's conversation with Lombardi on 2 Feb, vide log of that date para 14, the War Minister has seen ROMITA (Minister of the Interior) and Gen BRUNETTI (COC Carabinieri) and has made the following statement on the proposed increase of 10,000 in the CC.RR ceiling.
BROSIO, ROMITA and BRUNETTI have agreed a common policy, i.e.: the entire 10,000 to be formed into extra bns (additional to the bns for TRIESTE), to be armed with standard CC.RR eqpt and arms. Clothing, boots, normal eqpt and weapons (incl automatic weapons) are guaranteed from Italian sources.
If special eqpt is NOT available to make them mob bns, they will have to be ordinary bns.
It was further agreed that the reinforcing of existing Carabinieri stas would be achieved by economies of CC.RR personnel in other directions and by the withdrawal of men improperly employed at the present time.
It was arranged with Lombardi that the above policy would be put into writing should MAIA so desire.

4645

Lt Col MONACO

-A-

8. ) Citizenship course: The programme recently submitted by the Minister/(of which MAIA has queried Sec CI (mil subjects)/ was dealt with at the Ministry by Professor VALERI, a personal friend of BROSIO's.
VALERI will be away until later in the month, and nobody else at the Ministry knows anything about the course, nor do they have a copy of the syllabus.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9. (CFB) Instrs to Territorial and unit comds for the maintenance of public order: Collected copy of revised draft, which has been submitted to Italian Police GHQ for their approval. As soon as this is forthcoming the instr will be issued. -G-

10. MT: The War Ministry has decided to wait no longer for Treasury agreement to their claim for 1½ billion lire's worth of new vehs (see log 2/5 Feb para 4), but will write forthwith to the Head of the Govt giving the outcome of the meeting of the 4 Feb, which should enable DE GASPERI to reply to the Chief Commissioner's letter. -Comd- -G-

Col CAMMINATA 11 Feb

11. (L de T) Call-up: He does not anticipate any trouble in getting 40,000 recruits in the call-up in March. Instructions have been posted to the Territorial Commands and Districts. In determining the number of recruits which a district should enroll, those districts which were in the combat areas, will enroll less men than those in which no fighting took place, and in general more men will be enrolled in the Northern regions than in the Southern. Collected copy of poster, regulations and letter of instructions. -A-

Lt Col DI PALMA

12. (CFB) Survey courses: Di Palma called on BGS to confirm decision to adopt British survey methods. Di Palma also expressed opinion that MS of arty regts should conform as closely as possible to British ests in view of adoption of almost 100% British arty procedure. -G-

JW
12 Feb 46

4647

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with [redacted] Ministry (and SHAEF) 7-9 Feb 46

Gen LIUZZI

-C-C-

(CFB) 1. Armament of Aosta Alpine Bn: Suggested to Liuzzi that in view of the forthcoming issue of British weapons for the whole Army it would hardly be worth while changing around the arms of the above unit and of the inf bn that has taken its place in the LEGNANO Div. MMIA is of the opinion that each bn be left with its present weapons.

-A-A-

(CFB) 2. Demob of 1924 class: Infd Liuzzi of the progress of negotiations. SHAEF is particularly interested because of the numbers of 1924 men reporting back after long absence who require new clothing and boots. There are several hundreds at CAVALESE alone. SHAEF see no point in fitting them out if they are to be demobilised quite soon.

-Consl-
-C-
-A-
-Q-

3. Recruits for I.A.F.: Further to para 2 of log 18 Dec, the question has now come to a head. C of S of the Air Force sent a D/O letter to CADORNA to give weight to the Air Forces's request that the Army train 5000 recruits for the Air Force at the forthcoming call-up.
LIUZZI negotiated the matter and arrived at the following compromise:-
Army to recruit 1,000 men for the Air Force and for this once to give them two months basic inf trg at CARs. This will be done after the first month of the new intake, when the men for the Central Schools have already left the CARs and the NCOs who were trg them are available to deal with the Air Force personnel.
Liuzzi would have preferred to have been rid of the whole thing, but feels that some gesture of assistance must be made towards a sister service, and in exchange he was insisted that the airmen now in the Falange Barracks at BARI (formerly assigned to the Air Force) be removed elsewhere forthwith, as the buildings are required for the C.A.R.
The 1,000 Air Force recruits will probably be divided between the C.A.R.s at CAVALESE, AVELLINO and BARI.
Liuzzi has also agreed to train Air Force NCO-instrs at the Central Schools at a later date convenient to the Army.
Infd Liuzzi that MMIA would also have preferred the Army to be rid of the whole thing, but agreed on this limited measure of compromise. SHAEF will commit the terms of the arrangement to paper and give a copy to MMIA for infmn.

4648

Lt Col MONACO

-D-

(CFB) 4. Engr Works RAAC: Monaco clarified that the Army is still the agent of the Italian Govt for repairs to requisitioned buildings though action is being taken with a view to transferring the responsibility to the Genio Civile.
[illegible] Monaco agreed that they should [illegible] fittings.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(CFB) negotiations. [illegible] of the numbers of 1921 men reporting back after [illegible] absence who require new clothing and boots. There are several hundreds at ORVIETO alone. CMHQ see no point in fitting them out if they are to be demobilized quite soon.

-Gen-
-C-
-A-
-B-

3. Recruits for R.A.F.: Further to para 2 of log 18 Dec, the question has now come to a head. C of S of the Air Force sent a D/O letter to CADORNA to give weight to the Air Force's request that the Army train 5000 recruits for the Air Force at the forthcoming call-up. LIUZZI negotiated the matter and arrived at the following compromise:-

Army to recruit 1,000 men for the Air Force and for this once to give them two months basic inf trg at CARs. This will be done after the first month of the new intake, when the men for the Central Schools have already left the CARs and the NCOs who were trg them are available to deal with the Air Force personnel.

Liuzzi would have preferred to have been rid of the whole thing, but feels that some gesture of assistance must be made towards a sister service, and in exchange he has insisted that the airmen now in the Falange Barracks at BARI (formerly assigned to the Air Force) be removed elsewhere forthwith, as the buildings are required for the U.N.R.R.

The 1,000 Air Force recruits will probably be divided between the C.A.R.s at ORVIETO, AVELLINO and BARI. Liuzzi has also agreed to train Air Force NCO instrs at the Central Schools at a later date convenient to the Army.

Infd Liuzzi that MAIA would also have preferred the Army to be rid of the whole thing, but agreed on this limited measure of compromise. CMHQ will commit the terms of the arrangement to paper and give a copy to MAIA for infmn.

4642

Lt Col MONACO

-D-

(CFB) 4. Engr Works RAAC: Monaco clarified that the Army is still the agent of the Italian Govt for repairs to requisitioned buildings though action is being taken with a view to transferring the responsibility to the Genio Civile. Under these circumstances Monaco agreed that they should continue to carry out repairs and maintenance to fittings, fixtures etc for requisitioned property for RAAC, but excluded structural alterations and embellishments. Monaco instructed an engr offr to call on RAAC and resume work on this basis, and a general circular to the same effect will be sent to all TMOs.

-C-

(CFB) 5. Detailed instrs for unit comds for the emp of tps in maintenance of public order: Further revisions to paras 4, 11 and 12 of the draft which were still not quite right. The draft will now be agreed with Italian Police authorities, copy to MAIA for information.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gal GENERAL

5. (L de 2) Ref AFHQ letter JAG's Branch JAG/Va/15099 dated 29 Jan 46: Requested him to place at our disposal the records concerning the transportation of P/W from BENGHASI and TRIPOLI in the SS Jason, torpedoed, in an Italian P/W vessel of about 9,000 tons, name unknown, torpedoed, and in SS Rosaline Pilo in which a P/W died of suffocation due to over-crowding.

Cassidi states that it is very unlikely that the War Ministry will have any information on the Army personnel in charge of P/W as these were administered by the Italian Armies in Africa and all records there, were lost or destroyed. He thought the Ministry of Marine could help.

Saw Lt Comdr Davies RNVR of Navy Sub Commission who referred me to Lt Comdr Dyson RNVR, - 80 (J). Dyson has undertaken to ascertain who are the owners of the above vessels and will find out the names of the ships officers. He states that Italian shipping losses in Mediterranean in 1942-43, the period in which the above vessels were lost, were very heavy and that there were very few survivors.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Liaison with [redacted] Ministry (A Staff) 2 - 5 Feb 46

G

36

2 Feb

Col LOMBARDI

1. PWD: Several articles had appeared in the press recently attacking the Army and PWD wished to know what decision the Minister had taken with regard to the appointment of a Public Relations Officer. Lombardi said the matter had been discussed that very morning. Unfortunately the plans the Minister had made had all fallen through and they were right back at the start. PWD/G could not find a single candidate entirely suitable for the post. It would seem to be another case of the "best being the enemy of the good".

Lt Col DE PALMA (Arty Inspectorate)
Maj CHIARIERI (Trg Branch)

2. Regimental Survey: These two officers called on FSU to discuss the desirability of attending instr/ on survey to incl regimental and divisional "shoots". It was agreed that SCAS would first decide whether it was their wish to adopt British survey methods (De Palma said there was little difference between the two and the Italian system had always answered well, and had been used during recent fighting in conjunction with the British method). -C-

If they decided in the affirmative, it was agreed that MAIA would endeavour to arrange for a small course at [redacted] given by British instr(s) through an interpreter and attended by a small number of Italian Arty officers and NCOs. Failing this, two English speaking Arty officers to attend a British survey course at CIVITAVECCHIA.

If SCAS decided in the negative, they would still appreciate the opportunity of sending an officer to attend a British course at CIVITAVECCHIA as an observer. They would in any event extend the scope of the [redacted] course to include regimental and divisional survey.

Lt Col ALOIA

3. TO 55478 Alfa Romeo: Aloia said there would be no difficulty in arranging matters as suggested by MAIA. He awaits the car whenever MAIA is ready to pass it over. -C-

All arrangements for the use of the car exclusively between the above officer (phone 3614) and AMG.

4647

4 Feb

Lt Col MONACO

4. (a) Attended meeting in Monaco's office to discuss the 1940 vans owing to the War Ministry by the Ministry of -Cont- -C-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

discussed that very morning. [illegible] Minister had made had all fallen through and they were right back at the start. BRUCE could not find a single candidate entirely suitable for the post. It would seem to be another case of the "best being the enemy of the good".

Lt Col DE PALMA (Arty Inspectorate)
Maj ORLANDINI (Tpt Branch)

2. Regimental Survey: These two officers called on BRUCE to discuss the desirability of extending instr/ on survey to incl regimental and divisional "shoots". It was agreed that BRUCE would first decide whether it was their wish to adopt British survey methods (De Palma said there was little difference between the two and the Italian system had always answered well, and had been used during recent fighting in conjunction with the British method).

If they decided in the affirmative, it was agreed that MDIA would endevour to arrange for a small course at BRAGLIANO given by British instr(s) through an interpreter and attended by a small number of Italian Arty officers and NCOs. Failing this, two English speaking Arty officers to attend a British survey course at CIVITAVECCHIA.

If BRUCE decided in the negative, they would still appreciate the opportunity of sending an officer to attend a British course at CIVITAVECCHIA as an observer. They would in any event extend the scope of the BRAGLIANO course to include regimental and divisional survey.

Lt Col ALOIA

3. TO 65178 Alfa Romeo: Aloia said there would be no difficulty in arranging matters as suggested by MDIA. He awaits the car whenever MDIA is ready to pass it over.

All arrangements for the use of the car exclusively between the above officer (phone 3614) and Aloia.

4649

4 Feb

Lt Col MONACO

4. (a) Attended meeting in Monaco's office to discuss the 1800 vehs owing to the War Ministry by the Ministry of Tpt. Those present were:

Lt Col MONACO (Gabinetto)
Col BALANGERO (Arty & MT Directorate)
Lt Col ALOIA (SHAPE)
Ing SOLARI (ARAR)
Dottor MORELLI (Treasury)
Dottor CROTTADORO (Ministry of Tpt)

(the rep of Ministry of Commerce failed to appear)

(a) The financial aspect was first considered. It was proposed that the Treasury should make available to the Ministry a credit of 2 billion lire to offset the 1800 Army vehs in the hands of civilians. The valuation was based on the total cost of a corresponding tonnage of surplus Allied vehs at ARAR prices.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Sub para (b) contd

A discussion arose over the method of printing the invoice which is to be handed to civilians and the procedure for extracting the price from the civilian operators. The Ministry of War will supply the Ministry of Tpt with full details of these vehs, a basis of valuation and the names of civilian operators. The Ministry of Tpt will be responsible for collecting the value of the vehs from the civilians.

The Treasury rep stated there was little doubt that the necessary credit would be made available on this basis. Col MCNEIL particularly stressed that the two million lire should NOT figure as part of the normal Army vote.

(c) The AMAN rep then explained the functions of the org, which was set up as a purely commercial agency for selling off surplus Allied material just as it was read. It had definitely been decided that AMAN would NOT carry out repairs. He went further stated that if the Tpt Ministry thought they would be able to go to the AMAN parks and fill up and drive away the vehs they wanted they were badly mistaken. He was quite prepared to allow them to select the best that was available, but nearly all the vehs needed some kind of repair.

He quoted the case of the Civil Police for whom several hundred Jeeps were allotted by the Prime Minister as a top priority. Only one third of these provided were immediate runners.

(d) BALANCHINO stated it was quite out of the question for the Army to take over any further non-runners. They already had 6000 Italian and 4000 Allied vehs on their hands which they could NOT cope with.

(e) MINAGO accordingly put forward an alternative proposition:

(i) that the immediate requirement of the Army in vehs be scaled down to
- 500 Jeeps
- 300 M/Cs
- 300 Load carriers

} runners, or nearly runners

(ii) that the balance of the credit due to the Army (about 1½ billions) be set aside for the purchase of new vehs from Italian industrial production. It was clarified that this would entail about 1/5 of the new production, and that this proportion would have to be applied both to veh and tyre production. The Ministry of Tpt rep had no objection to raise over this proposal, and considered this proportion NOT unreasonable.

(f) Doctor MANZELLI (Treasury) stated that whereas he had little doubt about securing the credit for the first part of the proposal, he could not commit himself as to the funds for the new production and would have to consult his Minister.

46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(e) the ARC for this Ministry which was set up as a purely commercial agency for selling off surplus Allied material just as it was real. It had definitely been decided that ARC would NOT carry out re--pairs. HOLMES further stated that if the War Ministry thought they would be able to go to the ARC parks and fill up and drive away the vehs they wanted they were badly mistaken. He was quite prepared to allow them to select the best that was available, but nearly all the vehs needed some kind of repair.

He quoted the case of the Civil Police for whom several hundred Jeeps were allotted by the Prime Minister as a Top priority. Only one third of these provided were serviceable runners.

(d) BALFOUR stated it was quite out of the question for the Army to take over any further non-runners. They already had 8000 Italian and 4000 Allied vehs on their hands which they could NOT cope with.

(e) HOLMES accordingly put forward an alternative proposition:

(i) that the invalide requirement of the Army in vehs be scaled down to
- 500 Jeeps ) runners,
- 300 W/Cs ) or nearly
- 300 Load carriers ) runners

(ii) that the balance of the credit due to the Army (about 1½ billions) be set aside for the purchase of new vehs from Italian industrial production. It was clarified that this would entail about 1/3 of the new production, and that this proportion would have to be applied both to veh and tyre pro--duction. The Ministry of Sup Sup had no objection to raise over this proposal, and considered this proportion NOT unreasonable.

(f) Doctor MARSILI (Treasury) stated that whereas he had little doubt about securing the credit for the first part of the pro--posal, he could not commit himself as to the funds for the new production and would have to consult his Minister.

(g) COLONEL (MEAF) expressed willingness to allow War Ministry reps to visit all the ARC camps immediately to select vehs of the required standard of efficiency up to the quantities mentioned in (e) (i) above. The camps are situated:

- TOR SAPIENZA (nr ROME)
- AVERSA ) (nr NAPLES)
- CASALNUOVO ) ( " " )
- PONTEDERA (nr FLORENCE)
- TERLIZZI (nr TARANTO)

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para. cont'd

(h) The meeting concluded with the general agreement that a letter be sent by the War Ministry to the Head of the Govt proposing the new solution (vide (a) above), subject only to Treasury agreement to making credit available for the procurement of new vans.

Col BALANZINO

5. ROME:- Later in the day Balanzino stated that leave had already been given to Col PADOANO of FOGGIA [illegible] to visit the PORTUGUESE park, and an offr from MILO would be leaving 5 Feb to examine the vans at ANCONA and CASALBUONO.
The latter offr to contact ROME offr of MILO. Balanzino did not propose to touch the [illegible] camps, for the moment so as to have the petrol which would be required for moving the vans all the way from nr TARANTO. Infn PASSED.

6. The Italian Army vans still in parts in the North are located at:

- GENOA (nr [illegible])
- PIACENZA
- ALESSANDRIA
- [illegible]
- BELLARIA (nr RIMINI)
- PORDENONE (nr [illegible])

On reopening this subject, BALANZINO did not appear to all aware of his facts, i.e. the number of vans actually still in the parts and whether they were army vans or not. This infmn should be checked with the Direzione Rifornimenti at MILAN.

Col PIACENTINI

7. (Line 2) Transfer of an area in the neighbourhood of Alessandria and Turbone, now under the FIRST Territorial Region, to the GENOA Territorial Region. This matter arose through a request of CRAM to Territorial Commanders to report any suggestions they wish to make concerning the Territories under their command. Gen Piacentini, late COS GENOA Territorial Region, discussed the above transfer with Col Piacentini and although both officers agreed that a change may be necessary they feel it should be very carefully considered. Other changes should also be made viz: to transfer Belluno from Bolzano to Udine, but as these changes are not particularly urgent or important at present, Piacentini wishes to consider thoroughly the matter of changes in Territorial Regions at a later period. In this connection Piacentini proposes to consider subsequently

-Cont'd-

(a) altering the districts so as to make them conform to the provinces, and

(b) changing the affiliation of regts and depots so that the location of regimental depots will be as close as conveniently possible to the "normal" location of the regiment.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

4633

The latter city to connect these cities so as to [illegible] proposes to touch the [illegible] range for the amount so as to save the petrol which would be required for moving the vote all the way from nr TARANTO. Infn Rubino.

6. The Italian army vote still in posts in the North are located viz:

- CREDI (nr [illegible])
- PIACENZA
- ALESSANDRIA
- MODENA
- UDELARIA (nr [illegible])
- PORDENONE (nr [illegible])

On reopening this subject, [illegible] did not appear at all sure of his facts, i.e. the number of vote actually still in the posts and whether they were army vote or not. This latter should be checked with the Direzione Superiore at once.

Col PIACENTINI

7. (Lade 2) Transfer of an area in the neighbourhood of Alessandria and Tortona, now under the NORTH Territorial Region, to the CENTRE Territorial Region. This matter arose through a request of ours to Territorial Commission to report any suggestions they wish to make concerning the territories under their command. Gen Trettini, Late of NORTH Territorial Region, discussed the above transfer with Col Piacentini and although both officers agreed that a change may be necessary they feel it should be very carefully considered. Other changes should also be made viz: to transfer Belluno from Bolzano to Udine, but as these changes are not particularly urgent or important at present, Piacentini wishes to examine thoroughly the matter of changes in Territorial Regions at a later period. In this connection Piacentini proposes to consider subsequently

(a) altering the districts so as to make them conform to the provinces, and

(b) changing the affiliation of depots and depots so that the location of regimental depots will be as close as conveniently possible to the "normal" location of the regiment.

4633

GRM/jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Liaison with War Mistry (and SHAEF).

31 Jan - 1/2 Feb 45.

Gen LIUZZI

1. Liuzzi confirmed that

(a) orders have been given for the selection of five regular officers with a fluent knowledge of English for posting to 'A' type BLOs. They are being chosen with a view to serving as staff offrs and picking up as much as they can of British methods and procedure while serving with the BLOs -G-A-

(b) instrs are being issued to THQs for the attachment of a demonstration pl to CARs. In this connection Liuzzi said that insufficient provision had been made in the WE of CARs for personnel for gds and general duties. The matter is being investigated. - G -

2. Survey personnel for arty regts : Liuzzi fully approves the suggestion that regimental survey teams be given additional trg in British methods of coordinating the arty for regimental and divisional "shoots". Reps of Inspectorate of Arty and Trg Branch will call on BGS to discuss the matter 2 Feb. - G -

3. UDINE call-up : the regulations published in the Army Gazette cover UDINE province as well. Liuzzi had heard nothing about excluding this province. d-A-

Lt Col MONACO

4. UDINE call-up : Monaco confirmed that the call-up would definitely take place in UDINE province. Cond-A-

5. Relations between mil and civil authorities in the emp of tps to maintain public order: the detailed instrs for unit cmdrs (vide G/92 folio 95 ) have NOT yet been published, and the War Ministry is awaiting a settlement of the question of armament before issuing this directive. Cond-C-

Examined in detail 4 and 12. Monaco explained that these paras were NOT conflicting, but he agreed after length discussion that para 12 was NOT worded correctly and promised to submit a revised draft. Rather than placing ops under the direction of a rep of the civil power, the meaning it was intended to convey was that the object (complex) would be laid down by the civil power, leaving the method and execution in the hands of the military. The civil power would also have to have the right to halt ops at any time. 463

6. Civilian staff of the War Ministry : collected figures which showed that at 1 Nov 45 the posn was as follows: Cond-A-

| | |
|---|---|
| War Ministry and SHAEF | 2745 |
| Terr HQs, Services, factories etc. | 50871 |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

of British methods and procedure while serving with the BLOs

(b) instrs are being issued to TRXs for the attachment of a demonstration pl to CARs. In this connection Liuzzi said that insufficient provision had been made in the WE of CARs for personnel for gds and general duties. The matter is being investigated. - G -

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Lt Col MONACO

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5. Relations between mil and civil authorities in the emg of ops to maintain public order: the detailed instrs for unit conds (vide G/92 folio 95 ) have NOT yet been published, and the War Ministry is awaiting a settlement of the question of armament before issuing this directive. Cond-G-

Examined in detail para 4 and 12. Monaco explained that these paras were NOT conflicting, but he agreed after length discussion that para 12 was NOT worded correctly and promised to submit a revised draft. Rather than placing one under the direction of a rep of the civil power, the meaning it was intended to convey was that the object (complte) would be laid down by the civil power, leaving the method and execution in the hands of the military. The civil power would also have to have the right to halt ops at any time.

463

6. Civilian staff of the War Ministry : collected figures which showed that at 1 Nov 45 the posn was as follows: Cond-A-

| | |
|---|---|
| War Ministry and SMG | 2745 |
| Terr HQs, Services, factories etc. | 50671 |
| | 53416 |

As stated elsewhere, the cost of the civilian staff is estimated at 7 billion lire for 1946. It is generally recognised that the War Ministry must dispense with a large number of these civilians, but the Minister himself has stated that the present labour regulations prevent him from getting rid of even one, and that it is a very sore point within the Cabinet.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Gen PROSPERI

7. Discussed contents of G.009 of 25 Jan. A reply is promised in two or three days. - G -

Col LOMBARDI

8. SICILY: Lombardi confirmed the decision of the Govt to send the GARIBALDI Regt to SICILY, and instrs to this effect had already been given to SMRE. Comd - G -

MROSIC had stipulated that the regt was NOT to remain in SICILY for longer than 20 days.

Gen CADORNA

9. Introduced Capt LUQUET, of the French Mission to AC, to the C of S. Comd - G -

LUQUET's specific task is to secure info about the ITALIAN Army.

He has now asked if he may be allowed to accompany GOC or ROS the next time an inspection of ITALIAN units is arranged.

Lt Col PECORARO

10. (Libel) On 31 Jan 46 Lt Col Pecoraro phoned stating that all the Radio Valves at PONTECORVO had been withdrawn in December 1945. - Sigs -

2 Feb 46.

Gen LIUZZI

11. SICILY : handed him a copy of letter G/92 of 2 Feb for his info. Liuzzi said that the handling (or mishandling) of trps engaged in the maintenance of public order was an age-long bone of contention between mil and civil authorities. He agreed on the necessity of laying down more clearly the responsibilities of the mil comds. - G -

12. To 65178 Alfa Romeo : handed to him G.204 of 2 Feb. He will try and arrange things along the lines suggested so that SMRE and MMIA can both have the use of the car for long distance journeys. - G -

4636

Lt Col MONACO

13. Maintenance of law and order : discussed the draft instrs on the emp and arming of trps (vide file G/92). It was agreed that Monaco would submit a fresh draft with revisions to paras 11 and 12. As regards the armament of trps, MMIA agreed that there was in fact no real difference of opinion, and it was not proposed to continue the correspondence on this subject. - G -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col LOMBARDI

14. Carabinieri : Lord LONGFORD that as the result of a chance conversation when SGS called on Gen BRUNELLI recently it appeared that quite different views were held by the War Minister and GOC CCRM on the use that would be made of the "additional 10,000" carabinieri requested by the ITALIAN Govt. Whereas MUSSO had stated to Gen BROWNING that he wished to form an additional 30 mob bns, BRUNELLI's idea was to constitute 5 new mob bns, which with the existing 12 mob bns plus four extra ordinary bns on account TRIESTE legion would give each legion in the country a res bn. BRUNELLI proposed utilising the balance of 7,000 of the additional men as individual rfts for the CCRM strength, with a view to bringing the strength of key sqns up to a minimum of 8 men. He considered that on this basis, and with fully mobile and efficient mob bns as res, the individual sqns would be capable of looking after themselves. It was pointed out to LONGFORD that BRUNELLI's plan meant a much smaller requirement of special equipment, which Gen BROWNING had stressed to the Minister as being the key factor (together with clothing etc) in the whole question of the extra 10,000 men. In fact, it could be said that if the head of the ITALIAN Govt were able to guarantee the necessary clothing, boots and individual arms for the extra 10,000 men (without detriment to the Army proper) this might have an important bearing on the Allied appreciation of the situation.

Cond-C-A-C-

On the question of the reduction in the number of individual sqns, too, there was a big divergence of opinion, and on both these matters it was important for the War Ministry and CCRM GHQ to speak with one voice.

LAMBARDI was not himself familiar with these matters, but appreciated their importance and promised to speak to the Minister straight away.

463

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 735020

Col PIACENTINI

1. T.C.Coys: Requested Piacentini whether they could usefully employ the two remaining T.C. coys when they are hauled back by the Allies in March. It had been suggested that it would be a pity to disband the units and lose the services of the trained personnel.
Piacentini replied that:

- there was no provision in the Interim Army for TC Coys;
- the remaining personnel of these units must belong to 1923-24 classes and therefore a proportion of them due for demobilisation soon after March

and consequently the use of these units on a special job for a limited period would be more trouble than it would be worth. Accordingly he would recommend that the two coys be disbanded and the personnel used as rfts in the ordinary way.

Gen MIZZI
Col PIACENTINI

2. Discussed the following matters arising out of the MLO conference:

(a) provision of "regular offr" interpreters: Mizzi thinks he can manage it if it is limited to 'A' type Kits.

(b) provision of demonstration platoons for CARs: Mizzi likes the idea and is prepared to issue the necessary orders.

(c) PEMBROKE barracks for WIRE CAR - this would please them a lot.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

3. Wireless valves: Asked Checchia to find out why the small stock of valves notified in MELA letter X511/8 of 15 Sep and 19 Nov had NOT been collected from 557 Coy. —SO Sigs— 463

AVM MIZZI (29 Jan)

4. Accompanied GOC for meeting arranged at the Minister's request, to discuss the demobilisation of the 1921 class, and the resulting reduction in the size of the Army. MIZZI quoted SHAPE estimated fluctuations in the strength of the Army, which showed that by the end of March, if the 1921 and 1922 classes are both demobilised (as in the proposal of MIZZI) the effective operational strength will be down to 25,000, against an est of 90,000.
MIZZI admitted that such a reduction was not even to be considered. On the other hand if the 1921 class (21,000) is released and the 1922 class (21,000) retained until later in the year the operational strength would be 46,000, which

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220

Accordingly he would recommend that the two corps be disbanded and the personnel used as rfts in the ordinary way.

Gen LUSSU
Col PIACENTINI

2. Discussed the following matters arising out of the MIL conference: -C - O

(a) provision of "regular offr" interpreters: Luisoni thinks he can manage it if it is limited to 'A' type RMAs.

(b) provision of demonstration platoons for CMAs: Luisoni likes the idea and is prepared to issue the necessary orders.

(c) PESCHIERA barracks for UDINE A/B - this would please them a lot.

Lt Col CHECCHIA

3. Wireless valves: Asked Checchia to find out why the small stock of valves notified in MMIA letter X511/3 of 13 Sep and 19 Nov had NOT been collected from 557 RD. -SO Sigs- 463

Amy BROSIO (29 Jan)

4. accompanied CGS for meeting arranged at the Minister's request, to discuss the demobilisation of the 1921 class, and the resulting reduction in the size of the Army. BROSIO quoted CGRS estimated fluctuations in the strength of the Army, which showed that by the end of March, if the 1921 and 1922 classes are both demobilised (as is the proposal of CGRS) the effective operational strength will be down to 25,000, against an est of 90,000.
BROSIO admitted that such a reduction was not even to be considered. On the other hand if the 1921 class (21,000) is released and the 1922 class (21,000) remained until later in the year the operational strength would be 46,000, which might be considered adequate as a transitional measure. On this basis the overall strength of the army would be 120,000 instead of 140,000.
BROSIO stated there were sound and urgent reasons for re-leasing the men of the 1921 class in the very near future:

(a) they had been with the colours for five years;

(b) they represented a restless and discontented body of men who would be a bad influence for the new recruits;

(c) there was political agitation afoot for their re-lease, even in the higher govt levels;

/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 4 (Contd)

(2) It was vital to secure the support of all parties for the new call-up, and the release of the 1921 class would be an important gesture to this end.

Furthermore there was the important question of the Army vote still to be faced, and the Minister anticipated a stiff battle ahead. The total national budget was estimated at 500 billion lire, against an income of 442 billions. The latest estimate of the Army requirements was 60 billions (12% of the national budget), of which 16 billions for CC.RR., 4 billions pensions etc, leaving 40 billions for the Army expenditure proper, (of this, though, 7 billions cover the salaries and wages of the fifty odd thousand civilians employed by the War Ministry).

COC stated the point of view of the Allied Commission (vide side memoire dated 29 Jan):- briefly that 440,000 was the figure requested by Comit Consult and approved and recommended by AC to AFHQ and the CCS, and that nothing had happened since to cause COC to revise his opinion. Rather had conditions deteriorated, making more than ever necessary the minimum force requested before.

Furthermore, the planning for the Italian Army had been based on a strength of 440,000 and all the calculations for arms now sent, supp etc would be affected.

The Minister entirely agreed with these observations and confirmed that there was just as great a need as ever for an Army of 440,000. It was above all a question of whether the country could afford the expense, and whether the govt would be prepared to risk say 420,000 instead of 440,000 for a brief period.

It was agreed in conclusion that COC would send the Minister a short note confirming that no unilateral decision could be taken about the release of the 1921 class, plus a copy of the side-memoire referred to above. ERSKINE would then submit to GOC for higher Authority his considered views on the course of action to be taken during the next few months.

5. The appointment of a successor to MARIOTTI was also discussed -Comment-
on. ERSKINE explained what had been going on behind the scenes in connection with MARIOTTI, and that in the temporary absence of an alternative he proposed to appoint Maj Gen DE STEFANIS as a "locum". GOC expressed satisfaction at this course in view of complaint reports just to hand from 11 BDE on the capacity and local reputation of this General.

4633

6. GOC enquired about the progress of the split of the Army and AF -Comment-
Directorates. The Minister produced a file with the different recommendations and alternative proposals submitted by the various branches and authorities he had consulted, and stated that he had still to make a decision. ERSKINE appeared most reluctant to split the directorates because of the political angle and was hoping to "get away with it" by instituting an AF Inspectorate with wide powers.
However GOC reiterated quite plainly that the course recommended by MGIA is:

1665
Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

4 billion pounds for, [illegible] expenditure proper, (of this, though, 7 billion cover the salaries and wages of the fifty odd thousand civilians employed by the War Ministry).

GOC stated the point of view of the Allied Coordination (vide aide memoire dated 29 Jan):- briefly that 140,000 was the figure requested by Count CASATI and approved and recommended by AC to SHAPE and the CCS, and that nothing had happened since to cause COC to revise his opinion. Rather had conditions deteriorated, making more than ever necessary the minimum force requested before.
Furthermore, the planning for the Italian Army had been based on a strength of 140,000 and all the calculations for arms and equipment, supp etc would be affected.
The Minister entirely agreed with GOC's observations and confirmed that there was just as great a need as ever for an Army of 140,000. It was above all a question of whether the country could afford the expense, and whether the govt could be prepared to risk say 120,000 instead of 140,000 for a brief period.

It was agreed in conclusion that GOC would send the Minister a short note confirming that no unilateral decision could be taken about the release of the 1924 class, plus a copy of the aide-memoire referred to above. GOCSIG could then submit to COC for Higher Authority his considered views on the course of action to be taken during the next few months.

5. The appointment of a successor to GENERAL was also touched on. [illegible] explained what had been going on behind the scenes in connection with [illegible], and that in the temporary absence of an alternative he proposed to appoint Maj Gen De [illegible] as a "locum". COC expressed satisfaction at this course in view of excellent reports just to hand from it also on the capacity and local reputation of this General.

6. COC enquired about the progress of the split of the Army and AF Directorates. The Minister produced a file with the different recommendations and alternative proposals submitted by the various branches and authorities he had consulted, and stated that he had still to take a decision. [illegible] appeared most reluctant to split the directorates because of the political angle and was hoping to "get away with it" by instituting an AF Inspectorate with wide powers.
However COC reiterated quite plainly that the course recommended by NATO is:

(a) clean split between Army and AF Directorates.

(b) establishment of an AF Inspectorate as well.

[illegible] said he would be making a decision shortly.

30 Jan

Col LOMBARDI

7. Strength of the Army: Handed to the Capo di Gabinetto GOCs letter of 30 Jan A.017 and copy of "aide memoire" of 29 Jan. Attached A.047 of 26 Jan. In running over the ground covered at the previous afternoon's meeting, it transpired that the Minister had

3/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 7 (Contd)

incorrectly stated that his plan was to retain the 1922 class until September, being under the impression that the initial training course for recruits lasted six months. The actual intention to be proposed to the Allies is for the 1924 class to be released immediately prior to the call-up in March, and the 1922 class immediately prior to the next call-up in mid-July.

8. SICILY: The Minister just back from a Cabinet meeting at which the President ordered him to move an additional regt to SICILY. Lombardi said that BROSIO opposed the request but would probably have to give way in face of the insistence of DE GASPERI.

BROSIO would be holding a consultation with [illegible] and PARRI before seeing the PM again for a final decision. In the event of the order being carried out LOMBARDI proposed to recommend that the GARIBALDI Regt be selected for the task.

CSTD/jw
31 Jan 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC No. 785020

Major BAUMAN : liaison log 22 - 26 Jan 46

G

Col LOMBARDI

1. SICILY question: Lombardi showed the writer an official comm from ZANNINI (designate successor to BERARDI) to the effect that he was in such poor shape on his return from internment in Germany as to be unable to take up the appointment. He very much appreciated the honour but asked to be excused from accepting. There was as yet no alternative nomination. Comd-A-

2. FORTE PRENESTINO: Spoke Lombardi about Vatican request to have the use of this old fort as acon for the "street-urchins" of ROME. Lombardi had already had a request from Sir D'Arcy Osborne and was making enquiries. He will send a copy of his reply to MMIA. Comd-Q-

3. Director of Int: The Minister has approved the appointment of Col PASQUALE in place of AGRIFOGLIO. -A-

4. Comd 2 TAQ (GENOA): Lt Gen FORGERO will take over comd on 1 Feb. MATTINI is now winding up his affairs and will assume appointment of Inspector General of Engrs on the same date. Comd-A-

Gen LIUZZI

5. F.S. Secs: COG FRIULI Div had applied to SHAPE for disbandment of his F.S. Sec on the grounds that: Comd-G-

- there was no longer sufficient emp for the sec now that hostilities were over;
- such duties as might conceivably be attributed to FS could be carried out by other existing agencies;
- the present personnel was NOT suitable.

Liuzzi consulted IAI who confirmed MATTINI's recommendations. Liuzzi ordered the disbandment of all the FS Secs, having been misinformed by one of his staff that MMIA had no objection, and without realising that FS Secs were included in the WE of the Inf Divs. Liuzzi and Piacentini have both expressed their regret for the way the thing has been handled.
It is recommended that the disbandment order be allowed to stand. The WE of the FSS in the Inf Div can remain unaltered and NOT implemented.

Gen PROPERZJ

6. Italian Army MT: Discussed contents of minutes of meeting 25 Jan. Explained to Properzj that until a reply was recd to CCJ's letter of 18 Jan, MMIA could not express an opinion Q-

463

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2. FORTE PRENESTINO: Spoke Lombardi about Vatican request to have the use of this old fort as soon for the "street-urchins" of ROME. Lombardi had already had a request from Sir D'Arcy Osborne and was making enquiries. He will send a copy of his reply to MMIA. Comd-G-

3. Director of Int: The Minister has approved the appointment of Col PASQUALE in place of AGRIFOGLIO. -A-

4. Comd 2 TMQ (GENOA): Lt Gen PORCHERO will take over comd on 1 Feb. Comd-A-
MATTINI is now winding up his affairs and will assume appointment of Inspector General of Engrs on the same date.

Gen LIUZZI

5. P.S. Secs: GOC FRIULI Div had applied to SMRE for disbandment of his P.S. Sec on the grounds that: Comd-G-

- there was no longer sufficient emp for the sec now that hostilities were over;
- such duties as might conceivably be attributed to PS could be carried out by other existing agencies;
- the present personnel was NOT suitable.

4632

Liuzzi consulted IAI who confirmed SCATTINI's recommendations. Liuzzi ordered the disbandment of all the PS Secs, having been misinformed by one of his staff that MMIA had no objection, and without realising that PS Secs were included in the MD of the Inf Divs. Liuzzi and Piacentini have both expressed their regret for the way the thing has been handled.
It is recommended that the disbandment order be allowed to stand. The ME of the PSS in the Inf Div can remain unaltered and NOT implemented.

Gen PROPERZJ

6. Italian Army MT: Discussed contents of minutes of meeting 25 Jan. Explained to Properzj that until a reply was read to CC's letter of 13 Jan, MMIA could not express an opinion on Properzj's new proposals. Properzj had already discussed the suggestion with the Minister, and it would now be necessary to rectify the matter. G-

7. Manufacture of arm: Infd Properzj that authority had been read from AFHQ for the manufacture of certain natures of S.A.A. At the same time reminded him that with the probability of the Army proper being re-equipped with British weapons, much of the existing Italian armament and ammunition would become available for the CC.RR and police. Therefore, subject to such reductions as could be made in the light of the above, he was authorised to produce up to a maximum of:

2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Para 7 (Contd)

| | |
|---|---|
| 9 cm pistol | 3 million rounds |
| 7.65 " | 500 thousand " |
| 10.35 " | 3 million, 400 thousand " |
| 6.35 " | 110 thousand " |

8. FORCE AUDITORIA explosion: Proposed had remitted to Cmnd the Minister some very vague details as to the origin of the explosion, which BRIGID wished to know if he should take up officially with MMA. Proposed agreed that the allegations of Allied negligence were quite unsubstantiated and that if any action at all were taken by the War Ministry it should be through the Head of the Govt.

Lt Col ZERLINDA

9. Spoke Deputy C of S RIMI re short collection of A- certificates and returned enclosure to 'A' Branch. It was subsequently confirmed by War Ministry that the entire consignment of certificates was received in MMA later in the week.

Gen LUCCHI (24 Jan)

10. Coastal and frontier defs: Requested Lucchi to sub- G- mit most recently full up-to-date infon as to location and armament of coastal and frontier gun emplacements, to complete the details already submitted for GENOA, NAPLES and BARI regions. Lucchi stated that such infon was NOT available at War Ministry. He confirmed on 25 Jan that Territorial HQs had already been instructed by phone to collect the necessary details and fwd to NDHQ soonest. He added that while in the case of the Islands it was only a question of going out and getting the infon on the ground, those TAQs responsible for the details of land frontier defs were anticipating difficulties of access to the emplacements because of the 15 mile frontier belt.

4634

Lt Col ROMANO

11. Civilian employees of the War Ministry: Requested C-I- Romano to make available statistical infon on the number of civilians on the War Ministry pay-roll, broken down by categories, GENOA, Territorial Arg, Service Directorates and dependents urbs.

Lt Col CUCCA
Lt Col SALVI

12. Recce Sq: Discussion of final details and arrangements D- for landing draft to RCA.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(32)

6. Major BARKWAY's Liaison log. 21 Jun 45.

Gen WILSON
Col PLATT-MILL

1. Strength of the Army: further to para 2 of log 19 Jan. Cond-C-A-G-

(a) Livesi confirmed that there were 5000 men of the 1920 class still to be demobilised in Jan. Therefore the strength of the Army at 1 Jan excl 1920 class was

132605 - 5000 = 127605

(b) Accordingly the calculation of 3 mos loss (vide para 2(b) of log 19 Jan) must also be revised:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1921-25 classes, volunteers, NCOs, Offrs at 1 Oct 45 | 142379 |
| Strength at 1 Jan 46 (see (a) above) | 127605 |
| loss in three months | 14774 |

or about 5000 per month. Of this, 1400 can be considered normal wastage (1% per month = vide para 5, 19 Jan) and 3600 represented by desertions and losses in excess of 1% for the "other reasons".

| | |
|---|---|
| (c) Therefore taking present strength as | 127605 |
| and deducting three mos loss at 5000 | 15000 |
| (they protested that this figure was too high, but accepted it as an estimate on the safe side, seeing that it was based on actual average for the past three months. It is accepted that these losses will be much smaller in future) | |
| gives total Army strength at 31 Mar 46 | 112605 |
| less 63 ITI and ER ITI type required by Allies for some months longer | 10000 |
| | 102605 |

(d) The writer pointed out that at this rate the 40000 recruits being called up in the current programme will barely suffice to bring the Army up to strength at 31 Mar. Notwithstanding this, Livesi and Pisentini both considered it indispensible to demobilise the 1921 and 1922 classes not later than March - now 45000, but probably reduced by wastage to 42000 in the course of 2 - 3 months.

(c) The writer then submitted the following calculation to Livesi and Pisentini:

Estimated strength of Army at 31 Mar

4623

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

1921-25 classes, volunteers, etc, 142579
Offrs at 1 Oct 45 127605
Strength at 1 Jan 46 (see (a) above) 14774

Loss in three months

or about 5000 per month. Of this, 1400 can be considered normal wastage (1% per month - vide para 5, 19 Jan) and 3600 represented by desertions and losses in excess of 1% for the "other reasons".

(c) Therefore taking present strength as 127665
and deducting three mos loss at 5000 15000
(they protested that this figure was too high, but accepted it as an estimate on the safe side, seeing that it was based on actual average for the past three months. It is asserted that these losses will be much smaller in future)

gives total Army strength at 31 Mar 46 112605
Less GS III and NR III to be required by Allies for some months longer 10000
102605

(d) The writer pointed out that at the rate the 40000 recruits being called up on the current programme will barely suffice to bring the Army up to strength at 31 Mar. Notwithstanding this, Liuzzi and Piacentini both considered it infinitely possible to demobilize the 1921 and 1922 classes not later than March - new 46000, but probably reduced by wastage to 40000 in the course of 2 - 3 months.

(e) The writer then submitted the following calculation to Liuzzi and Piacentini:

| | |
|---|---|
| Estimated strength of Army at 31 Mar (excl BR III and US III units) | 102500 |
| Demobilization of 1921 and 1922 classes (new recruits will NOT join units until mid-July) | 40000 / 62500 |
| Less Central Org, Territorial HQs and Services, reduced from 31000 and 7000 to | 25000 / 37500 |
| Less Trg Cadres for Central Schools & Units | 12500 / 25000 |

Copy to C.A.(SD) 23/1/45

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4623

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This 25000 is all that remains to cover the int div, inf regts and internal security divs: total 90000 men!

Liuzzi and Piacentini had to admit that the basis of calculation appeared sound enough, nor could they suggest them and there how it would be possible to implement the cuts on such a reduced scale.

(f) Taking it a step further, the 25000 remnants would include at least 10000 regular offrs and senior NCO's, leaving 15000 men to cover the 80000 requirement of operational u/s. Reductio ad absurdum!

(g) SMFE will examine the situation in conjunction with the Gabinetto (which has a say in the political aspect of internal security) and will then submit their officiel recommendations to MDIA.

AVV BROSIO

2. SICILY question: the Head of the Govt has confirmed that a change of cond must take place. Cond-C-A-

3. Citizenship courses: the Minister had studied a detailed memorandum prepared by Lt Col BUDAKA on the different methods of teaching followed in the US, Britain, New Zealand, South African and Canadian Armies. There was much in common to all five, the main difference being the degree of free discussion encouraged by the different countries. This was the danger spot as far as the Italian Army was concerned. Free discussion could be controlled during instr periods, but in the barrack rooms the politically immature Italian soldiers might quickly come to blows. Therefore no instr to be given before the elections. Cond-A-

BROSIO summarised his conclusions in four points:

(a) One further course to be held with Allied assistance for the purpose of polishing up the Italian instructors. Possibly this might be done with a full class for them to practice on. Thereafter the Italians will definitely carry on on their own;

(b) No classes for OCs before the elections;

(c) For the time being instr only for offrs and NCOs;

(d) In due course (after the elections) implement the full plan gradually, i.e. an experimental start with one regt to see how the thing works.

As regards the enquiry by a third party, the Minister would like it stated that this Italian venture is being run with anti-fascist objects. The mention of anglo-saxon pattern democracy was due to the multi-party system in vogue in ITALY, compared with the one-

4628

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(f) Taking it a step further, the 25000 remants would include at least 10000 regular offrs and senior NCOs, leaving 15000 men to cover the 60000 requirement of operational tps. Reductio ad absurdem!

(g) SMRE will examine the situation in conjunction with the Gabinetto (which has a say in the political aspect of internal security) and will then submit their official recommendations to MDIA.

Avv BROSIO

2. SICILY question: the Head of the Govt has confirmed that a change of cond must take place. Cond-G-A-

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BROSIO summarised his conclusions in four points:

(a) One further course to be held with Allied assistance for the purpose of polishing up the Italian instructors. Possibly this might be done with a full class for them to practice on. Thereafter the Italians will definitely carry on on their own;

(b) No classes for CMs before the elections;

(c) For the time being instr only for offrs and NCOs;

(d) In due course (after the elections) implement the full plan gradually, i.e. an experimental start with one regt to see how the thing works.

4623

As regards the enquiry by a third party, the Minister would like it stated that this Italian venture is being run with anti-fascist objects. The mention of anglo-saxon pattern democracy was due to the multi-party system in vogue in ITALY, compared with the one-party system in force elsewhere.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Maj MERSU - 18 Jan.

1. Commisserist courses : they would like the quartermaster personnel of the CARs to have a course on accounting procedure under British auspices, as was done for the Gruppi with such excellent results. He wanted to know if British personnel might be available for supervising such a course. — Referred G Trg.

2. Officer cadets: The enlistment now in progress has produced 281 candidates to date, of whom 46 have been rejected for various reasons, leaving 235 in the running. Further entries can be expected before the course starts on Feb 1st. — G Trg A

3. Inf. Regts.: The proposed courses for officers of the Gd Bns are being planned for 1 Mar. MERSU stated that the need for these courses is fully appreciated by SMRE, but just at the moment they considered that — G

(a) the reorg going on within the inf regts and bns, which are still settling down to their new employment, and

(b) the fact that CESANO was fully occupied with other courses

precluded a start before the above date.

4. Adm Instrs and Syllabi for CARs: SMRE is enquiring about MMIA approval or comments; their covering letter 182/R/4 of 10 Jan 46 refers. — G

Lt Col SORMANTI - 19 Jan

5. Reduction in Army strength: The losses of personnel under the heading "other reasons" cover the following: — A

- deaths,
- discharge on med grounds,
- right of exemption acquired while serving in the Army,
- renewable leave,
- leave over 30 days,
- hosp over 30 days,
- prisoners under sentence.

462

Col LOMBARDI

6. Numbers of Gen offrs and cols: The following are the details communicated by LOMBARDI: — A

| Ranks | Employed | Not Employed | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Marshals | - | 2 | 2 |
| Gens | - | - | - |
| Designate Gens | 1 | - | 1 |
| | 10 | 13 | 23 |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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precluded a start before the above date.

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Lt Col SORMANTI - 19 Jan

5. Reduction in Army strength: The losses of personnel under the heading "other reasons" cover the following:

- deaths,
- discharge on med grounds,
- right of exemption acquired while serving in the Army,
- renewable leave,
- leave over 30 days,
- hosp over 30 days,
- prisoners under sentence.

4627

Col LOMBARDI

6. Numbers of Gen offrs and cols: The following are the details communicated by LOMBARDI:

| Ranks | Employed | Not Employed | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Marshals | - | 2 | 2 |
| Gens | - | - | - |
| Designate Gens | 1 | - | 1 |
| Lt Gens | 10 | 15 | 25 |
| Maj Gens | 28 | 43 | 71 |
| Brig Gens | 95 | 146 | 241 |
| Total Gens | 134 | 204 | 338 |
| Cols | 786 | 498 (awaiting discrimination) | |
| | | 150 (returned PWs - not yet reported) | |
| | | 117 (still PWs) | |
| Total Cols | 1365 | | |

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen LIUSZI

7. LIUSZI called on BGS to return his visit.

8. Strength of the Army :

(a) SMRE estimate the strength of the Army at 1 Mar at 130,000, incl BR-ITI and US-ITI. This takes into account 5,000 men of the 1920 class still to be demobilised.

(b) As a check on the above estimate and wastage rate during the past few months, take SMRE figures of strength at 1 Oct 45(their 7724/Sit of 30 Oct refers):

| | |
|---|---|
| 1921 Class | 24616 |
| 1922 " | 25972 |
| 1923 " | 28829 |
| 1924 " | 22022 |
| 1925 " | 18252 |
| Volunteers | 4006 |
| NCOs | 6702 |
| Offrs say | 12000 |
| | 142379 |
| Strength at 1 Jan 46 | 132605 |
| Loss in 3 months | 9774 |

or 3250 per month. Of this, 1400 can be considered normal wastage (1% per month, vide para 5 above) and 1850 desertions and losses in excess of 1% for the "other reasons".

| | |
|---|---|
| (c) Therefore taking present strength as | 132605 |
| and deducting two months loss at 3250 = | 6500 |
| gives a strength at 1 Mar 46 of | 126105 |
| compared with SMRE estimate of | 130000 |

Avv BROSIO

9. Citizenship courses : discussed two further aspects of the problem -

462 Cond

A

(a) AC's reply to CCC's letter, and suggestion that War Minister deals direct with the South African Minister for the employment of UDF personnel. BROSIO agreed that this would NOT be the proper way to set about it, but appeared quite ready to make this next course (whether a refresher course or not) the final one with Allied intervention;

(b) request by third party for information on the courses, with particular ref to BROSIO's broadcast speech, as reproduced in the Army's weekly paper. The Minister appreciated that this was a "fast one" and requested to be allowed to think it over before giving

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

| | |
|---|---|
| 1922 " | 28829 |
| 1923 " | 22022 |
| 1924 " | 18232 |
| 1925 " | 5006 |
| Volunteers | 6702 |
| NCOs | 12000 |
| Offrs say | 14579 |
| | 132605 |
| Strength at 1 Jan 46 | |
| Less in 3 months | 9774 |

or 3250 per month. Of this, 1400 can be considered normal wastage (1% per month, vide para 5 above) and 1850 desertions and losses in excess of 1% for the "other reasons".

| | |
|---|---|
| (c) Therefore taking present strength as | 132605 |
| and deducting two months loss at 3250 = | 6500 |
| gives a strength at 1 Mar 46 of | 126105 |
| compared with SHAEF estimate of | 130000 |

462 add

AVV BROSIO

9. Citizenship courses : discussed two further aspects of the problem -

(a) AG's reply to GOC's letter, and suggestion that War Minister deals direct with the South African Minister for the employment of UDF personnel. BROSIO agreed that this would NOT be the proper way to set about it, but appeared quite ready to make this next course (whether a refresher course or not) the final one with Allied intervention;

(b) request by third party for information on the courses, with particular ref to BROSIO's broadcast speech, as reproduced in the army's weekly paper. The Minister appreciated that this was a "first one" and requested to be allowed to think it over before giving a reply. He promised his views within 24/48 hours.

10. SICILY question : BROSIO was proposing to talk to the Head of the Govt on the evening of the 19th, and putting up to him the pro's and cons of the situation. He anticipated that DE GASPERI would consult ROMITA and ADISIO, and he would leave to DE GASPERI the final decision as to whether there should be a change of command or not.

Cond

G

A

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's liai[illegible] log

12 - 14 Jan

12 Jan

Avv BROSIO

1. Citizenship course: details referred to GOC. -Cond-

Maj MERSU

2. FLORENCE C.A.P.: as a result of the visit of the CMFS offr to SIENA and FLORENCE it has been decided that the entire trg centre can and will be accomodated at SIENA. Infd Trg Branch. -C-

13 Jan

Gen CADORNA
Gen LIUZZI

3. Citizenship course: discussed matter raised by the Min-ister and referred results to GOC. -Cond-

Gen LIUZZI

4. (a) FRIULI Div: Gen CERICA had phoned from BOLOGNA to report serious difficulties over move of the remaining two ens of 87 Inf Regt, in the area of REGGIO EMILIA. CERICA had requested a postponement of the move. -Cond- C Q
Liuzzi stated that according to the same report (originated by SCATTINI) the whole of the FRIULI Div was due to move SOUTH at a later date.

(b) FRIULI Div: phoned Liuzzi later in the afternoon to say that 2 Dist know nothing about a move of the rest of the Div. Requested Liuzzi to find out the source of SCATTINI's infon.

5. MANTOVA Div: Liuzzi sees no reason why 3 Bn 114 Inf Regt should not move from MILAN into the GENOA area provided the rest of the regt follows suit. He will make enquiries of No 2 THQ about accn for the whole regt. -Cond- C Q
3D/LL/1 of 8 Jan refers.

462

6. WE of inf div: collected notes on the pts which Liuzzi wishes to discuss with G I before the new ests are finally published. -C-

Col LOMBARDI

7. A meeting of Territorial Conds is being convened for 24 and 25 Jan at the War Ministry. -Cond-

Gen LIUZZI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

13 Jan

Gen CADORNA
Gen LIUZZI

3. Citizenship course: discussed matter raised by the Min- -Cond-
-ister and referred results to GOC.

Gen LIUZZI

4. (a) FRIULI Div: Gen CERICA had phoned from BOLOGNA to report serious difficulties over accn of the rema- -Cond- C
-ining two bns of 87 Inf Regt, in the area of REGGIO EMILIA. CERICA had requested a postponement of the move.
Liuzzi stated that according to the same report (originated by SCATTINI) the whole of the FRIULI Div was due to move SOUTH at a later date.

(b) FRIULI Div: phoned Liuzzi later in the afternoon to say that 2 Dist know nothing about a move of the rest of the Div. Requested Liuzzi to find out the source of SCATTINI's infm.

5. MANTOVA Div: Liuzzi sees no reason why 3 Bn 11th Inf Regt -Cond-
should not move from MILAN into the CERCA area provided C
the rest of the regt follows suit. He will make enquiries Q
of No 2 INQ about accn for the whole regt.
SD/LL/1 of 8 Jan refers.

6. WE of inf div: collected notes on the pts which Liuzzi -d-
wishes to discuss with G I before the new outs are finally published.

Col LOMBARDI

7. A meeting of Territorial Comds is being convened for 24 -Cond-
and 25 Jan at the War Ministry.

Gen LIUZZI

8. Col PASQUALE Vincenzo: infd Liuzzi that unless anything -/-
to the contrary is read from AFHQ by 15 Jan, it will be quite in order to replace AGRIFOGLIO as head of I.A.I. on that date.

Lt Col TORSIELLO

9. In answer to his enquiry, infd him that there would be no -Cond-
objection to the COs of the CARs attending a few lectures C
on citizenship under UDF auspices.

4625

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

10. TORSIELLO stated that within three days he will have completed the breakdown of the 40,000 recruits by arms of the service, trades and specialists. -G-A-

11. TORSIELLO stated that they were going right ahead with the arrangements for UDINE CAR: one bn at SACILE and HQ and two bns at MODENA, as agreed by MMIA. -G-Q-

12. SMRE continue to enquire most anxiously about the CAR for BOLZANO territory. -G-Q-

Col PIACENTINI

13. Minutes of WE Committee meetings: Piacentini agreed to publish fuller details of the results and decisions arrived at, at each meeting. -G-

Lt Col d'ALESSANDRO

14. Accompanied G II (WE) for discussion on ORBAT, which was promised, typed, for the 20th. -G-

Lt Col GUIDA

15. A chance conversation with this offr of the SD Branch showed that great disappointment is felt, or is likely to be felt throughout the Army that they are not converting immediately to a three-bde division.
The "divisione binaria" proved such an unmitigated disaster for the Italian Army that its elimination is regarded as a symbol of a break with the inglorious latter years of the fascist period.
Guida did not seem to understand that the immediate non-fulfillment of this urge of theirs is due to practical con-siderations, and NOT to a whim of MMIA.
It might be a good thing if an official policy statement were made - say by the Minister at the forthcoming meeting of Terr-itorial Comds. -Comd-G

4623

FB/jw
5 Jan 46

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major Baumann's Liaison Log. G 9 - 11 Jan 46.

Gen CADORNA

1. Army finances : discussed the implications of the new situation and the line CADORNA will take in his discussions with the Minister. The SMFE estimate of the cost of an Army of 140,000 - 28 billion lire - represents only a part of the Army vote. The Carabinieri have put in an estimate of their own, which represents a further 16 billion lire, and there are other items such as pensions, pay of the civil staff, employees and specialists etc., etc. All this brings the total Army vote to 50 - 60 billion, a sum not to be thought of.

CADORNA will insist with the Minister that quality (i.e. conditions of service) must NOT be sacrificed for numbers, and that a reduction in their 28 billion estimate must be accompanied by a proportionate reduction of the 140,000 ceiling.

Discussed ways of effecting a reduction:-

(a) with peace cats (so as not to alter the agreed structure of 140,000),

(b) with the non-implementation of units if the reduction is too great to be dealt with entirely by method (a).

2. Special regts : Cadorna read out a memorandum he was giving to the Minister on the need to strengthen the inf of the Italian Army, and do away with some of the fancy regts that were 'skimming' every call-up of all the fitter and more intelligent men. At the most Cadorna is prepared to consider the retention of the ALPINI on a regional basis and perhaps one regt of GRANATIERI for the capital. Other regts such as BERSAGLIERI can continue in name, with the ordinary run of recruits, while there is no need at the present time of any specialities such as ARDITI (commandos) or PARACHUTISTS.

3. WE of inf divs : two aspects of this were discussed:

(a) 6 pdr A/tk guns: Cadorna is prepared to agree to these pieces being included in the div arty ( and NOT in the bns) in consideration of their being primarily A/tk and NOT gp weapons. But he thinks it important that the 6 pdrs should at all times move and work close to their respective bns, particularly in broken country. This because the Italian inf has always been accustomed to sp arty within the bn and may at first feel rather 'lost' without it.

Comd - G -

462

(b) Recce Bns : Cadorna considers the inclusion of lorry-borne inf most important for winkling-out resistance at rd blocks etc. He agrees carriers are probably NOT the ideal medium for this.

Col PIACENTINI

4. Personnel selection : his branch has prepared a ~~single~~ simple method of classification of recruits into six categories. In consideration of the fact that the call-up has been postponed for one month, Piacentini would like to have the full details of the British system before the call-

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

service) must NOT be sacrificed for [illegible]. their 28 billion estimate must be accompanied by a proportionate [illegible] tion of the 140,000 ceiling.

Discussed ways of effecting a reduction:-

(a) with peace cuts (so as not to alter the agreed structure of 140,000),

(b) with the non-implementation of units if the reduction is too great to be dealt with entirely by method (a).

2. Special regts : Cadorna read out a memorandum he was giving to the Minister on the need to strengthen the inf of the Italian Army, and do away with some of the fancy regts that were 'skimming' every call-up of all the fitter and more intelligent men. At the most Cadorna is prepared to consider the reduction of the AIPIII on a regional basis and perhaps one regt of GRANATIERI for the capital. Other regts such as BERSAGLIERI can continue in name, with the ordinary run of recruits, while there is no need at the present time of any specialities such as ARDITI (commandos) or PARACHUTISTS.

Cond - G -

3. WE of inf divs : two aspects of this were discussed:

(a) 6 pdr A/tk guns: Cadorna is prepared to agree to these pieces being included in the div arty ( and NOT in the bns) in consideration of their being primarily A/tk and NOT sp weapons. But he thinks it important that the 6 pdrs should at all times move and work close to their respective bns, particularly in broken country. This because the Italian inf has always been accustomed to sp arty within the bn and may at first feel rather 'lost' without it.

462

(b) Recce Bns : Cadorna considers the inclusion of lorry-borne inf most important for winkling-out resistance at rd blocks etc. He agrees carriers are probably NOT the ideal medium for this.

- G -

Col PIACENTINI

4. Personnel selection : his branch has prepared a ~~single~~ simple method of classification of recruits into six categories. In consideration of the fact that the call-up has been postponed for one month, Pincontini would like to have the full details of the British system before the call-up - with a view to installing the complete scheme by 15 Mar.

It is requested that Reg Branch informs the PSO rep AFHQ of the new circumstances.

.....2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Lt Col MONACO

5. Barracks in ALBANIA : requested infm as to location and capacity and what damage, if any, sustained during the war. Monaco said they might have some infm at the War Ministry, and will let us know in a day or two. Alternatively there is an Italian Foreign office rep in ALBANIA through whom the infm could be obtained, if the Allies so desire. (Infm required by Maj EVANS AMIO (FREEDOM 148) for ALBANIA Commission). - Q -

Col QUEROIA

Comd-G-Q-

6. FLORENCE CAR (TTC): preliminary report from SHAE rep (vide log 8 Jan para 4) is that the entire TTC can probably be accomodated at SIENA, by double-bunking 1000 places at LA MARMORA barracks. He actually ordered the two-tier beds over the phone. Rep proceeding to FLORENCE to conclude with Gen DE SIMONE.

7. Arty school BRACCIANO : SHAE Trg Branch estimate 2700 arty men to be trained every four months. This figure, which excludes divs and sig personnel, can easily be accomodated at BRACCIANO. -G-Q-

11 Jan 46

Gen LIUZZI

8. Citizenship course : infd Liuzzi of latest developments. He confirmed that by the end of the current course he will have plenty of offr and NCO instructors to run the Italian Army courses at RIETI. He had already submitted their programme to IGHQ and was awaiting approval. Comd-G-

9. WS of Inf Divs: recapitulated the course of the various negotiations over the past two/three months leading up to the meeting GOC/CADORNA on 4 Jan. Infd him of decision taken with regard to 6 pdr guns and the suggestion for the revised recce bn. Comd-G-
While Liuzzi agrees with the former from a technical standpoint, he fears the effect of taking away the guns from the bns on the morale of the inf. On the second question he would have liked some tracked vehs for cross country work.
It was agreed that he would jot down a few pts which he is not happy about and that GI (SD) would discuss them with him with a view to final decisions. One of these pts is that the fire power of the inf will be reduced under the new proposals. Liuzzi's present idea is: "don't let's make any changes unless they are going to be a real improvement".

Col BOGLIACCINO

462

10. Ref Mov NAPLES letter Q(M)R/31 of 19 Dec: spoke Bogliaccino who stated that in his opinion and that of Delegazione Trasporti NAPLES, the Italian offr at REGGIO could cope with the Allied interests at that stn without additional help. Infd Mov NAPLES (Capt ALDERTON) who agreed to let the matter drop. -Q-

Lt Col SILLI

11. As a result of the acquittal of Lt Col MORRICI, the Italian authorities propose taking proceedings against Col RIFA di MEANO, Silli wished to know if HQ had any objections. Discussed with Asst G-I. -A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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11 Jan 46

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While Luizzi agrees with the former from a technical standpoint, he fears the effect of taking away the guns from the bns on the morale of the inf. On the second question he would have liked some tracked vehs for cross country work.
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Lt Col SILLI

11. As a result of the acquittal of Lt Col MORFINI, the Italian authorities propose taking proceedings against Col RIPA di MEANO. Silli wanted to know if MMIA had any objections. Discussed with Asst G-I. -A-

Col PIACENTINI

12. Col RIPA di MEANO: off-the-record talk with Piacentini, who personally knows this offr and MORFINI and was OC of both offrs when the trouble started. Referred to AAG. -A-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN - Liaison log. 8 Jan 46.

G

Col PIACENTINI

1. GF Coys : accompanied G II WE for discussion of ests of the different types of GF coys, with a view to simplification and standardisation. MMIA proposals well received and will be implemented. - G -

2. "Layout" of future WE's: the two WE secs (territorial and fd units) are to be submit to PIACENTINI their proposals for incorporating British system of layout in publishing WE's. The issue of the revised ests already agreed by the WE committee is held up pending their decisions on method of layout. - G -

3. WE of inf divs : PIACENTINI explained that they were trying to plan a skeleton three-bde div on the framework of the services of the two-bde div. They now agree that this is NOT practicable, and they accept the latest MMIA proposals with such amendments as can be made by MMIA within the general framework. - G -

Col QUERCIA

4. FLORENCE TTC : discussed the SIENNA/AREZZO situation in detail. Comd-G-Q-
The writer is under the impression that if there has been a "nonsense" over this matter it is the fault of FLORENCE THQ, rather than SMRE.
The request to put one bn at AREZZO was made at the instance of Gen DE SIMONE.
Nobody at SMRE knew the capacity of the S.CHIARA barracks. Enquiries over the phone elicited the figure of 400, and the fact that the Mil District has been in there for the best part of a year. Accn for an extra 400 is NOT going to solve the problem.
QUERCIA agreed that it is bad staff work on the part of FLORENCE THQ in the first place. He accepts that the first requisite is to have the TTC together in one place.
He arranged with LIUZZI to send an SMRE staff offr to SIENNA 9 Jan to sort the thing out on the ground with a rep of the THQ.
QUERCIA confirmed their intention of setting aside some accn at all of the barracks and converting it for the use of families of NCO instrs.
This is CADORNA's idea.

5. Screening of recruits at TTC's : for this call up their intention was to "select" only those recruits with special qualifications, and NOT to screen the entire number. He agreed that some simple method of doing the latter was practicable and will have their SD people discuss with MMIA Trg Branch. - G -

6. Move of the Mil Academy to MODENA and other matters affecting offr recruiting and trg. - G -

Col LOMBARDI

Comd-G-

Ministry and financial matters.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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462

6. Move of the Mil Academy to MODENA and other matters affecting offr recruiting and trg. - G -

Col LOMBARDI

7. Reorganization of the War Ministry and financial matters. Comd-G-

Gen PROFERJ

8. Reorganization of Arty and MT Directorate: long talk on this matter from Properj's pt of view. Comd-AG-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMAN liaison log 5 & 7 Jan 46

5 Jan

Maj SALVIONI

1. Cooperator pay: enquiry about rate of exchange for converting £ credits into lire. Annotated file to the effect that if US authorities can break down the balances between Army pay and cooperator earnings, the Italian authorities will convert the latter at 100 lire per £. -A-

12 RLU (CESANO)

2. DACMG 12 RLU confirmed that the chemical works at CESANO are working to present capacity, and that 250 workers are employed. 60 of these have their families there. -Comd-G-

Col PIACENTINI

3. Delegazione Trasporti REGGIO: Instituted enquiries in connec--tion with Mov NAPLES letter Q(M) R/81 of 19 Dec 45. -Q-

Gen CADORNA

4. Feb call-up: The Chief of Staff submitted latest infmn on the barracks required for TTCs. In consideration of the factors involved, and on the strength of CADORNA's recommendations, GOC agreed to one months postponement of the call-up, which will now take place on 15 Mar 45. -Comd-G-A-Q-

Gen LIUZZI

5. COMO Barracks: infd Liuzzi that MMIA had communicated a dead-line (15 Jan) to AC for the removal of refugees and taking over by the Army of the TTC buildings in COMO. MILAN TBQ should have adv party ready to take possession on that date. -A-

6. Assigning of recruits to THAe: requested Liuzzi to send rep to MMIA 7 Jan to discuss MMRS policy on the drafting of recruits from one region to another. -G-A-

7 Jan

Maj MERELU

7. FLORENCE TTC: Mereu stated that the factors involved in the proposal to put one bn at AREZZO are: -Comd-G-A-

4613

- the Mil District of SIENA has already moved into the S. MIARA barracks;
- it is estimated that without double bunking all 4,000 men cannot be accomodated at SIENA;
- double bunking entails doubling the services: kitchens: latrines
- etc; they are anxious to avoid the extra expense, and the time factor is important;
- moving one bn to AREZZO will considerably help the accn prob--lem of the families of NCOs and offrs.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col FIASCHERINI

3. Delegazione Trasporti REGGIO: Instituted enquiries in connec- -Q-
-tion with Mov NAPLES letter G(M) R/84 of 19 Dec 45.

Gen CADORNA

4. Feb call-up: The Chief of Staff submitted latest infsn on the -Comd-G-A-Q-
barracks required for TTCs. In consideration of the factors involved, and on the strength of CADORNA's recommendations, GOC agreed to one months postponement of the call-up, which will now take place on 15 Mar 45.

Gen LIUZZI

5. COMO Barracks: infd Liuzzi that MMIA had communicated a dead- -Q-
line (15 Jan) to AG for the removal of refugees and taking over by the Army of the TTC buildings in COMO. MILAN TRO should have adv party ready to take possession on that date.

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MMIA 7 Jan to discuss CMRE policy on the drafting of recruits from one region to another.

7 Jan

Maj MEREU

7. FLORENCE TTC: Mereu stated that the factors involved in the -Comd-G-Q-
proposal to put one bn at AREZZO are:

4619

- the Mil District of SIENA has already moved into the S. MIARA barracks;
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- double bunking entails doubling the services: kitchens: latrines
- etc; they are anxious to avoid the extra expense, and the time factor is important;
- moving one bn to AREZZO will considerably help the accn prob-
-lem of the families of NCOs and offrs.

Mereu also stated that access to the LAMARMORA barracks was not permitted by the small Allied unit still living there. Consequently it was impossible to start any work, or even to see what needed to be done.

Lt Col SILLI (for Col LOMBARDI)

8. Certificates: requested that collection from 5 RMT be arranged -A-
immediately by BARI TRO. Infd him that three large truck loads were involved.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020



Lt Col CARBACCINI

9. Attended meeting in Col A/Gs office to discuss drafting of recruits from one region to another. -G-4-

CWB/jw
7 Jan 45

4613

Major BAUMANN's liais lo:

4 Jan 46

Lt Col SORMANI

1. Ref enquiry for Col CAPPERO Massimiliano: the carabinieri have notified that this offr is in residence at CHIAVARI (nr GENOA), and is under police surveillance pending further instrs as to destination. Told Sormani to be sure police do not lose him - original instrs were to take him into custody. Infd 'G' Branch. -o-

2. Requested Sormani to hasten War Ministry reply to AFHQ letter A/215 of 30 Nov. -o-

Gen CADORNA

3. Chief of Staff of the Army called at GOC's request. Following points were discussed: -Jcm1-C-A- -o-

(a) Demonstration trg force: GOC explained why he could not agree that the proposals for special demonstration units were sound proposals, particularly at this time:

- there was no provision in the ceiling for such units;
- it was fundamentally unsound to train new offrs on well rehearsed units, who would perform their set pieces and evolutions irrespective of whether the offrs gave the right orders or not;
- above all it was imperative to get the projected schools and units going according to plan, after which consideration could be given to the more advanced big problems;
- junior offrs would be trained with their plt and coys, and advanced tactical trg for senior offrs could be undertaken on sand tables and special exercises in which a complete div could take part.

CADORNA agreed with all this, and to dropping the whole project for the moment. He added that another reason behind the proposal had been to have additional well trained units in the vicinity of the capital.
GOC urged that the Engr School be installed in one of the barracks at CIVITAVECCHIA, and that all the other schools be settled in their definite locations without further delay.

(b) Revised TOEs for inf divs: GOC explained that here also it was essential to consolidate what had already been planned, rather than elaborate grandiose schemes which were unsound and unattainable at this moment. He added that staff studies for weapons and vehs had had to be submitted to AFHQ and that these were naturally based on the immediately attainable organisation in relation to what already existed. It was NOT possible to ask AFHQ to revise all the figures already submitted. GOC also explained how the detailed SMMS staff proposals were badly conceived and tactically unsound.
CADORNA agreed that this was NOT the time for sweeping changes and ascribed the rather fantastic proposals to the over-enthusiasm of his staff offrs. It was accordingly agreed that the plans elaborated by SMMS should be taken as the new sets of the inf divs, subject to such slight alterations as can be made within the present framework.

(c) Chemical works CREMONA: While Cadorna agreed that from the mil point of view this industrial plant ought to be removed forthwith, for economic reasons (i.e. doing 200/300 people out of a job) it would be advisable not to turn them out for the time being.

461

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

discussed:

(a) Demonstration trg force: GOC explained why he could NOT agree that the proposals for special demonstration units were sound proposals, particularly at this time:

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- it was fundamentally unsound to train new offrs on well rehearsed units, who would perform their set pieces and evolutions irrespective of whether the offrs gave the right orders or not;
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CADORNA agreed that this was NOT the time for sweeping changes and described the rather fantastic proposals to the over-ambitiousness of his staff offrs.
It was accordingly agreed that the plans elaborated by SMG should be taken as the new basis of the inf divs, subject to such slight alterations as can be made within the present framework.

(c) Chemical works GARDA: While Cadorna agreed that from the AG point of view this industrial plant ought to be removed forthwith, for economic reasons (i.e. doing 200/300 people out of a job) it would be advisable not to turn them out for the time being.

(d) Arty and MT Directorate: GOC showed Cadorna copy of his letter to the War Minister, which Cadorna fully agreed. The Chief of Staff stated that the Minister had asked him for his advice and he (Cadorna) had strongly urged the complete separation of the two directorates and the creation of an Inspectorate as well.

(e) Call-up in Feb: CADORNA made strong representations for NOT starting the call-up while arrangements to receive the recruits were incomplete at some of the TTCs. The "pros" and "cons" were thoroughly discussed (vide GOC's letter to War Minister of 7 Jan). CADORNA promised to inform GOC personally on 5 Jan of the latest situation at each TTC, when a decision would be taken.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Col LOMBARDI

4. Infd the Capo di Gabinetto (for Romanti) that Col CARUSO (see para 1 above) was required to be escorted forthwith to 209 PW Camp AFRAGOLA, with instrs that he be placed in the witnesses compound and NOT in the war criminals enclosure.

Avv BROGIO

5. Accompanied GOC for discussion of the following subjects with the War Minister: Cond-G-A-9

(a) Demonstration trg force: GOC advised the Minister (for his infmn) that he had that morning seen Gen CADORNA and that they had together agreed that the proposals of HQMG for demonstration units were NOT practicable at the present (see para 5 (a) above). He had already confirmed his opinion in G/Trg/13/5 of 3 Jan. No action required of BROGIO.

(b) Inf divs TOE: GOC had also discussed with CADORNA the impracticability of further drastic amendments to the ests of the combat divs. Cadorna concurred (vide 5 (b) above). No action required of BROGIO.

(c) Motorisation Directorate: BROGIO had read GOC's letter G/003 dated 3 Jan and was in complete agreement with the views put forward by HQMG. He added that everyone seemed to agree that "something" needed to be done, and three courses of action had been suggested:

- complete split under two separate director gens;
- split into two main branches under a single director gen;
- latter course, with the addition of a new Inspector General of Motorisation.

GOC stated quite firmly that from the all technical points of view the proper course was the complete split plus the creation of the Inspectorate. This was correct for long term planning - any other solution would have to be reviewed in a year or so.

BROGIO was still worried about CASATI's reaction, all the more as in his capacity as chairman of the Defence Committee CASATI would have to pass judgement and approve the new proposals.

BROGIO was also concerned over the difficulty of obtaining impartial advice, since all the Italian experts he was consulting had an axe to grind one way or another.

He promised to take a decision quite soon in consultation with MEDIA.

(d) British arms and equipt: GOC outlined the present situation:- a recommendation had been made to AFHQ for the supply of British weapons to Territorial regts and I.S. divs, so that all units and their weapons would be interchangeable. It was hoped that the proposals would be approved, but no decision had yet been received.

The War Minister said he fully appreciated the need for uniformity of armament and for the immediate availability of the necessary weapons, but the Italian factories would NOT be able to produce for a long time, in addition to which it meant awaiting the peace terms to see what the Italian armament industry would be allowed to [redacted] work.

GOC asked the Minister whether he knew if the Treasury would make the same arrangements for the settlement of these additional arms as had been made for the weapons of the combat gps. The Minister did NOT know the answer to this and would investigate the matter. He certainly did foresee

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

as the result (see para 5 (a) above). He had already confirmed his opinion in G/Trg/13/8 of 3 Jan. No action required of HRGSIO.

(b) Inf div WSE: GOC had also discussed with CAPORMA the impracticability of further drastic amendments to the mtn of the assault divs. Gallarm concurred (vide 5 (b) above). No action required of HRGSIO.

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GOC asked the Minister whether he knew if the Treasury would make the same arrangements for the settlement of those additional sums as had been made for the weapons of the Combat grs. The Minister did NOT know the answer to this and would investigate the matter. He certainly did foresee difficulties in view of the abrogation of the special war-time financial arrangements. Henceforward every single item of expenditure would have to be approved in advance by the Treasury.

(e) Public Relations officer: The purpose and functions of a PRO in the British Army were explained to the Minister, and GOC recommended that a similar appointment be made as soon as possible in the War Ministry. The Minister agreed that there was a real need for informing the public about the New Italian Army and also maintaining good relations with other public bodies.
It was stressed that the PRO must NOT be the head of the Press Bureau and spend all his time writing articles, but should be free to plan and elaborate policy in conjunction with the General Staff and War Minister, leaving it to someone else to look after releases for the press, possibly under the PRO's direction.

S/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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(f) Courts Martial: The Minister was familiar with the recommendations made by MORIANI's committee, but he considered that the reservations made by BONOMI practically nullified the benefits. He firmly believed in the advantages to the Italian Army of court martial procedure and would himself continue investigating the matter with a view to instoning a decision.

(g) The decree law which regulates the financial arrangements for the retirement of the 3,000 surplus senior offrs was finally been approved by the cabinet. BADOGLIO has already sent it on to the CONSULTA where CASATI's committee has to pronounce on the measure, but the Minister hopes to have it all through by the end of January.

(h) Witnesses (etc) for War crimes trials: The Minister promised to issue instrs that everything possible be done to supply the infon required by the Allies. He would also say (as far as he could) that there was no holding back of infon, which some offrs might be tempted to do to screen a fellow officer.
GOC explained that many of the persons on the lists were wanted as witnesses, and that it did not signify that because a name was mentioned it was necessarily that of a war criminal.

(j) CORR: GOC informed Badoglio of the general results of the meeting held at MEDA on 3 Jan; the minutes would show that by March 1st the Carabinieri would have had the clothing and boots they required (as an immediate issue). With the arrival very shortly of the Special CCRA Staff Sec to be set up in MEDA, the Mission would be able to investigate very thoroughly the special problems of the Carabinieri, which had NOT been possible hitherto.
This study would also include the problem of reducing the very large number of small stns, thereby reinforcing the larger stns.
A further important meeting was scheduled for 7 Jan, at which the Minister for Tpt would be present by AC to produce the 1,500 vehs owing to the Army.

(k) CREMONA factory: GOC said that he had for many months been pressing for the evacuation of this factory on behalf of the War Ministry. In December he had sent a further strong letter to AC supporting the War Ministry's case and action now rested between AC and the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.
The Minister stated that he agreed with the War Ministry policy in principle, but that the eviction of the factory at this time would put 800 workers out of a job which would be a bad thing for the country and would also create antagonism towards the Army. In consideration of the fact that Gen MORRO had stated that the plant and civilian personnel were giving no trouble, he would suggest to GOC, in the event of the question being referred back to him again by AC, that the occupny be allowed to continue for a limited period, subject to periodical review by the Army on the basis of their future needs, and the right of the War Ministry to take over the premises at any time in the event of an emergency.

(l) Repairs to TIUs: GOC stressed the need for the Minister to urge on the Dept concerned to do everything necessary to complete repairs to TIUs at the earliest possible moment.

(m) The Minister requested infon on the following points:

- numbers of offrs and NCOs in a British force of 140,000 men, and the proportion of ranks within these numbers;
- whether Allies would now approve the publication of all or part of the

461

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

the cabinet. BNOCTO has already sent it on to the CONSULTA where DE GASPERI's committee has to pronounce on the measure, but the Minister hopes to have it all through by the end of January.

(h) Witnesses (etc) for War Crimes trials: The Minister promised to issue instrs that everything possible be done to supply the infmn required by the Allies. He would also see (as far as he could) that there was no holding back of infmn, which some offrs might be tempted to do to screen a fellow officer.
GOC explained that many of the persons on the lists were wanted as witnesses, and that it did not signify that because a name was mentioned it was necessarily that of a war criminal.

(j) CCRR: GOC infd PRONTO of the general result of the meeting held at MMIA on 5 Jan; the minister would show that by March last the Carabinieri would have had the clothing and boots they required (as an immediate issue). With the arrival very shortly of the Special CCRR Staff Sec to be set up in MMIA, the Mission would be able to investigate very thoroughly the special problems of the Carabinieri, which had NOT been possible hitherto.
This study would also include the problem of reducing the very large number of small stns, thereby reinforcing the larger stns.
A further important meeting was scheduled for 7 Jan, at which the Minister for Tpt would be pressed by AC to produce the 1,500 vehs owing to the Army.

(k) MERLO factory: GOC said that he had for many months been pressing for the evacuation of this factory on behalf of the War Ministry. In December he had sent a further strong letter to AC supporting the War Ministry's case and action now rested between AC and the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.
The Minister stated that he agreed with the War Ministry policy in principle, but that the eviction of the factory at this time would put 700 workers out of a job which would be a bad thing for the country and would also create antagonism towards the Army. In consideration of the fact that Gen MERLO had stated that the plant and civilian personnel were giving no trouble, he would suggest to AFHQ, in the event of the question being referred back to him again by AC, that the company be allowed to continue for a limited period, subject to periodical reviews by the Army on the basis of their future needs, and the right of the War Ministry to take over the premises at any time in the event of an emergency.

461

(l) Housing to TIGs: GOC stressed the need for the Minister to urge on the Dept concerned to do everything necessary to complete repairs to TIGs at the earliest possible moment.

(m) The Minister requested infmn on the following points:

- numbers of offrs and NCOs in a British force of 140,000 men, and the proportion of ranks within these numbers;
- whether Allies would now approve the publication of all or part of the results of the mil enquiry into the defence of ROME against the Germans in Sept 1943.
- the Italians wish to undertake trials for war crimes committed by the Germans against their nationals. The official request will be made through govt channels, but PRONTO is interested as the matter directly concerns the War Ministry.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ajor BAUMANNs l ison log

2 - 3 Jan.

2 Jan

Gen LIUZZI

1. BOLOGNA TTC: infd Liuzzi by phone that an alternative site to MODENA had been found at PESARO, which offered consider--able advantages as regard terrein. Requested Liuzzi to examine the matter most carefully when the Bologna rep called on him to represent the case in a day or two. -G(Trg)-

3 Jan

Gen LIUZZI
Col QUENCIA
Lt Col TORSIELLO

2. Accompanied G I and G II (Trg) for conference on certain out--standing points of the Trg project. -Comd-G-
It transpired that because the WEs of the divs and regts had not been definitely fixed all their trg planning had been based on the existing org of the Central Schools, and that no account had been taken of future requirements (i.e. numbers) in considering the size of the schools.

Gen BRUNETTI
Gen PENNICCA etc

5. Attended meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Comd MMIA to consider clothing requirements of the Carabinieri. -Comd-G-

Gen LIUZZI

4. Future requirements of dvrs and mechs:- adequate arrangements will be made at TTCs for screening all recruits with driving or mechanical experience, and Liuzzi gave assurances that all suit--able personnel would be diverted to the Corpo Automobilistico. -A-G-

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461

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN'S liaison log. 28 Dec 45

Col LOMBARDI

1. Proposed list of COs for TPCs: infd Lombardi that GOC had approved their list of 21 Dec. Lombardi has had to make one change:— | Comd-A-G(Trg)

Col RONCO (ex FOLGORE Div) to comd No.2 TPC vice Col WIGLIERO who has been found to have a possible "black" against his past record. Rather than take a chance they prefer to leave him out until the matter is cleared up.

NOTE: Col NEGRONI is NOT related to the Comd of No.4 TPC.

2. Split of Arty and MT Directorate: the wind is veering in the right direction, though someone is evidently still applying the brakes. Discussed choice of Director, on which Lombardi seems to have the right ideas. One suggestion is the Intendent General who was responsible for all their tot in North Africa in 1942. (This is confidential and NOT to be repeated). Told Lombardi that GOCs letter on the subject would be along in a day or two. Comd-G-Q

3. P.R.O.: Follow-up of previous discussions on this subject. What is required is an expert publicity man - the head of the Ufficio Stampa, as now constituted, will NOT answer the purpose, as that is already a full time job writing articles etc for the press. Comd-A-

Lombardi says that great difficulty has been experienced over the appointment of a suitable man, on account of opposition on political grounds. Present intention of BROSIO is to nominate a civilian.

This would be suitable subject for next meeting GOC/BROSIO.

Gen LIUZZI

4. Democracy course: Liuzzi confirmed that he was entirely satisfied with the programme and handling of the course now running in ROME. Comd-A-

He considered, however, that a sufficient number of Italian personnel had now attended this course to enable them to run something on similar lines of their own. He was thinking, therefore, of drawing the line at the end of the current course, about 10 Jan.

Infd him that GOC would have no objection to this, and that he need not be influenced by pressure by third parties with a view to further courses being organized on the present lines.

Col PIACENTINI

5. 205 Div: Infd him that a meeting had been held at MMIA with present a rep of US employing authority. Decisions taken were Dep Comd-G-

(a) Immediate reduction of 205 Div HQ to 25 offrs and 100 ORs;

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

2. Split of Arty and MT Directorate: the wind is veering in the right direction, though someone is evidently still applying the brakes. Discussed choice of Director, on which Lombardi seems to have the right ideas. One suggestion is the Intendent General who was responsible for all their tot in North Africa in 1942. (This is confidential and NOT to be repeated). Told Lombardi that GOCs letter on the subject would be along in a day or two. Comd-A-

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Infd him that GOC would have no objection to this, and that he need not be influenced by pressure by third parties with a view to further courses being organized on the present lines.

461

Col PIACENTINI

5. 205 Div: Infd him that a meeting had been held at MEDIA with present a rep of US employing authority. Decisions taken were Dep Comd-G-

(a) Immediate reduction of 205 Div HQ to 25 offrs and 100 ORs;

(b) Except for this, Div HQ to continue as now constituted;

(c) When the strength of the div falls to 2500 in Feb or Mar, Div HQ to be disbanded and the two gps to come directly under respective FHQ.

Col LOMBARDI

6. 205 Div: infd him of above, and with ref to retirement of 2 i/c, Brig Gen VALLERINI, suggested that this appointment could now be dispensed with and this particular offr NOT replaced on Jan 1, when he is due to leave the army. Lombardi agreed. Dep Comd-A-

.....2/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen PROPERZJ

7. Chemical Works CESANO : detailed discussion of the whole subject, incl our Q/162 of 29 Dec. Referred details to GOC. Comd-Q-

8. Vehs to be handed over by Ministry of Tpt: passed to Properzj copy of AC letter convening round-table conference for 3 Jan, which he will himself attend on behalf of War Minister. Comd-Q-

9. HELLENSENS: a rep of British Claims office has asked to see him next week, presumably on this subject. Comd-Q-

Col LOMBARDI

10. ICNR; CESANO: handed to him our Q/162 of 29 Dec. Comd-Q-

11. Vehs to be handed over by Ministry of Tpt: infd him of arrangements made with Properzj (see 8 above). -Q-

12. Carabinieri clothing: Lombardi will himself arrange for the attendance of ERUSETTI and PELLIGRA at MMIA on 3rd Jan at 1100 hrs. The Minister had already instructed Lombardi to convene such a meeting. Dep Comd-Q-

Gen LIUZZI

13. UDINE TTC: infd Liuzzi that approval had now been given for SACILE as a TTC, subject to compliance with certain conditions of an operational nature, which were understood to be quite straight forward. Comd-G-Q-

Liuzzi stated that the engr offr of No.5 FHQ had been to see him and was pessimistic about the amount of work that could be done in the time available to make the barracks habitable. Maximum accn was for 1500 recruits. The writer told Liuzzi that if and when MONTORIO VERONESE is made available the balance could go there, according to MMIA estimate.

14. TTC's: on the subject of trg centres in general, Liuzzi is concerned over the deficiencies of many items of accn stores, of which bunks or camp beds is the most serious. He said that a considerable proportion of the recruits would have to sleep on the ground. Every form of pressure is being brought to bear on the Commissariat Directorate, but the things just are not there, and are not to be had. Comd-Q-

15. Trg: general talk on this subject; a meeting between Liuzzi and G1 Trg has been tentatively arranged for middle of next week (3 Jan) -G-

16. Med Arty and Hy br eqpt: Liuzzi wished to convey to G1 (SD) his thanks and appreciation for the prompt handling of their request for trg in these subjects. -G-

Avv COLAJANNI

4613

17. Dropped in to convey seasons greetings etc. The Civil Under Secretary confirmed that as far as he was concerned the democracy course was a "good show". -Comd-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN'S liaison log

G

21 - 22 Dec 45

28

Col LOMBARDI

1. Call up in Feb: discussed the present posn as regards TTCs and the anxiety felt by SMRE that all arrangements would not be completed in time. Explained how important it was that no further postponement should take place. Cond-G-A-

(a) because the strength of the army was already below the authorised ceiling and continuing at the present rate of loss would be considerably below the ceiling by Mar 1 st.

(b) because a further postponement would be a poor reflection on the Italian Army as far as the Allies are concerned. The Allies having authorised an Interim Army are now anxious to withdraw their own tps, and could not agree to anything that would interfere with this.

LOMBARDI agreed that the call-up could and would be carried out in Feb somehow or other.

2. Conds designated for TTCs: the proposals have been submitted to MAA on 21 Dec and formal approval is awaited at the earliest possible moment. -A-

3. French Frontier: the warning order issued to FRATTINI was cancelled by signal 20 Dec. He has also been sent a copy of the General Directive issued to SMRE by the Minister. There is no doubt in the mind of LOMBARDI that tps (other than individual SMRE offrs) may NOT be moved into the 15 mile belt, all the more since the copy of an Italian Foreign Office sig has been read at the War Ministry confirming assurances given verbally to the British Ambassador that no such tp movements would take place. Cond-G-

Gen LIUZZI

4. Call-up in Feb: repeated gist of GOCs message, as in para 1 above. LIUZZI accepts that somehow or other the call-up must take place. His anxiety naturally enough, is over the sort of conditions in the barracks when the new recruits arrive. One of the main troubles with the Italian Army since the Armistice is that conditions of service, quarters, clothing etc have generally been so bad that morale, discipline and respect for the Army have reached an all-time low record. The new call-up gives SMRE a chance to start off with a clean sheet and the prospect of last minute changes of plan or selection of alternative sites for TTCs prejudices the chance of completing arrangements in time. For SACILE the UDINE THQ has estimated that 60 working days are required for essential repairs. Cond-G-A-Q-

Col PIACENTINI

5. Requested the following infmn, which Piacentini will have prepared as quickly as possible: 461 -G-Q-

- Veh holdings for all army units and CCRR, (as opposed to veh ests), with a view to the most equitable distribution of the available tpt (required for Q).

- total army ests of specialist personnel (required for trg planning)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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2. Coads designated for TECs: the proposals have been submitted to MAIA on 21 Dec and formal approval is awaited at the earliest possible moment. -A-

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Gen LIUZZI

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Col PIACENTINI

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- total army ests of specialist personnel (required for trg planning)

Col PIACENTINI

WE Committee: accompanied G II WE for first meeting of the new committee (22 Dec). -G-

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col LOMBARDI

7. FOLGORE: infd Lombardi of comm sent to GOC by Minister of Finance ref proposed requisitioning of Spa buildings at MONTECATINI. That GOC considered this to be a matter between War Minister and Finance Minister and proposed taking no action on the Allied side. Lombardi concurred. He added that he had been inundated with [redacted] sigs and representations of all kinds over the new quart--ering of the FOLGORE Div. He had passed everything to SHAPE with whom action rested. Cond-C-Q-

Gen LIUZZI

8. FOLGORE: discussed accn as in para 7 above. LIUZZI taking no action on the numerous protests, as the entire question is in the hands of FLORENCE THQ. Gen DE SIMONE has just returned to FLORENCE fully briefed, and latest indications from there were that everything was under control. Cond-C-Q-

Gen FALUGI

9. Accompanied rep of JAG's Branch GHQ
- referred results to AAG

— A -

CRB/jw
27/12/45

4615

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen FRONTINI

1. Accompanied A.C.A.S. for conference on the Army Problem (about) by in room.

Col PIACENTINI

2. Pte for Italian Air Force: IAF has requested War Ministry to recruit for the Air Force - 5,000 men on the occasion of the first call-up in 1946. This follows normal practice, except that I.A.F. are now expecting the Army to give these 5,000 men their basic try and only hand them over to the Air Force when this basic try is completed. -Cont-1-
SICA has stated that the Army will NOT be in a position to undertake this try, but that they are prepared to recruit 5,000 men and hand them over untrained. It is expected that I.A.F. will bring pressure to bear on the Army via Air Force Sub Commission AC, and ITAF support this ~~action~~ in the matter.
support

10 December 45

Col CASELLI

3. (a) This officer is head of the new branch of the War Ministry dealing with the records of Italian PWs in Enemy (&Allied) hands (formerly part of the office of the High Commissioner for PWs) and also records of PW camps run by the Italians.
The new office is at No 117 Via MARTINO FORTUNA. Col CASELLI has under him Lt Col PIRONA, who has an office in the War Ministry (3rd Floor, 3rd corridor room 95) where the archives of the PW camps and camp staffs are kept.
This is the org through which info on war crimes can be obtained.

(b) Arranged for documents to be made available (ref High Commissioners for PWs letter M/23 of 8 Sep) and initiated enquiry into camp staff of 122 PW camp near ROME.

Col FLAMINIO

4. Supervision of trg at TCs and Inf Regts: Further talk on this subject, as a result of which it is recommended that Territorial Comds be authorised as a temporary measure, during the early months of the TCs, to assign one of the Brig Gens of their "floating reputation" specifically to the task of supervising TCs and Inf Regts.
This arrangement will avoid the necessity of having to create ~~new~~ Hqs, and can be discontinued as soon as the TCs and Inf Regts are running properly. -1-

4603

Col MORONI

5. Collected draft forms for statistical returns re Gruppi, and passed to A.C.A.S. -1-

Gen CADORNA

6. Discussion on following matters: -Cont-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

[illegible] has stated that the Army will not be in a position to undertake this try, but that they are prepared to recruit 5,000 men and hand them over unarmed. It is expected that I.A.F. will bring pressure to bear on the Army via Air Force Sub Commission HQ, and FCAS request [illegible] support in the matter.

10 December 45

Col CASULI

3. (a) This officer is head of the new branch of the War Ministry dealing with the records of Italian PWs in Enemy (& Allied) hands (formerly part of the office of the High Commissioner for PWs) and also records of PW camps run by the Italians.

The new office is at No 417 Via QUATTRO FONTANE. Col CASULI has under him Lt Col PINNA, who has an office in the War Ministry (3rd floor, 3rd corridor room 95) where the archives of the PW camps and camp staffs are kept.

This is the org through which info on war crimes can be obtained.

(b) Arranged for documents to be made available (ref High Commissioner for PWs letter 3/4723 of 2 May) and initiated enquiry into camp staff of 122 PW camp near RAMA.

Col PIASENTINI

4. Supervision of try at PTC and Inf Depots: Further talk on this subject, as a result of which it is recommended that Territorial Corps be authorised as a temporary measure, during the early months of the PTCs, to assign one of the Brig Gens of their "floating population" specifically to the task of supervising PTCs and Inf Depots.
This arrangement will avoid the necessity of having to amend TOs, and can be discontinued as soon as the PTCs and Inf Depots are running properly. -1-

4603

Col MELANI

5. Collected draft forms for statistical returns re Camps, and handed to A.C.M.S. -1-

Gen CADORNA

6. Discussion on following matters: -Nil-

- reorg of War Ministry,
- reorg of Army and AF Directorates.

Referral verbally to COC.

Col LOMBARDI

Ref Col A/C's visit to 5 ZSO. -Cond-/-

Col GUERRIA

Informed him that MELANI and MARINI [illegible] no longer available at PTC, but that [illegible] would probably be free instead. Gen BONTEMPI knew all about it. -GTRG-Q-

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

20 December 45

On BOMBARI

9. Accompanied A.A.G. for inter-services conference on legal matters: -A-

- boundaries of jurisdiction of Mil tribunals to coincide with Territorial Regions and estan additional tribunal for No 2 TRG at CERDA;
- est of Courts Martial in the Italian Army and other services.

Col MORRARI

10. Following matters discussed: -Cond-A/-

- Democracy courses;
- Attendants for the blind and maimed;
- Dress regs;
- Specialist pay for Interim Army.

Gen LUCCI
(by phone)

11. -Cond-A/Trg-A-

- Democracy course;
- Visit of PS Officer from GHQ;
- LUCCI: anxiety about NOE having all arrangements completed for the call-up, particularly TTCs.

Lt Col PIRRO

12. Called with Staff Capt 'A' to collect papers (see 1 (b) above) -A-

GPB/jw
21 Dec 45

460

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section J-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major MAUHAM's liaison log — 15 Dec 45 (21)

Col FIASCHINI

1. With Major CHAPIN to discuss working of the new MS Committee and system. Fiascentini is all for adopting the British procedure, and the necessary explanations were given on how the committee should work, agendas, minutes and publication of new acts and amendments. It was agreed that SMAM and War Ministry reps would discuss MS changes with opposite numbers MS Dept during the week preceding the MS Committee's meeting. -G-A-

Gen LIUZZI
Col QUERCIA

2. FOLGORE: Informed Liuzzi that despite the representations made by SCC MAIA to AFHQ it had not been found possible to postpone the move of the div. Consequently, orders for the departure of the advance parties had already been given today by 2 District; the advance parties would be leaving 16 Dec arriving FLORENCE area probably 17 Dec. It was requested that SMAM inform FLORENCE area and arrange for rep of FOLGORE Div to be in FLORENCE by 16th. Every effort would be made by AFHQ to complete the entire move by June. Liuzzi stated that location of units of the div would be as planned by recce party and MAIA, except that Div HQ would be located within FLORENCE area. He agreed on desirability of the entire Div coming under FLORENCE Comd for all purposes. -C-A-

Col QUERCIA

3. War Diaries of Combat Gps: He is arranging to have two copies made of the monthly summaries. -G-

4. TTC for UDINE: SMAM agree temporary locations at BELLUNO and FELTRE. -G Trg-

Lt Col GILLI

5. Confidential enquiry of past record of Lt Col Alfredo COCCIA-DI-PIETRO. -A-

Col LOMBARDI

6. Phone conversation in connection with move of FOLGORE (see 2 above). No particular reaction from his side of the house. -G-

Lt Col GRATI (and Col LOMBARDI)

7. 205 Div: Ref recent request by SMAM to convert this HQ into two Regtl HQs, (one for each of 9 and 10 Territorial HQs) the US authorities have been in direct touch with War Ministry to attempt to persuade them to let the matter rest. It appears that the tps of the div are not likely to be needed after February, when the whole thing will be wound out. -21/c-G-

17 Dec 45

460

War Minister

8. POL for CORPS: Bronzio has already spoken to Ministry of Interior who offered no objection to distribution of Carabinieri POL through Army channels. They are now going to put the thing up on paper for formal agreement. -Comd-

9. CORPS for the FRENCH frontier: discussed alternative procedure to carrying -Comd-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

Consequently, orders for the departure of the advance parties
been given today by 2 District; the advance parties would be leaving 16
Dec arriving FLORENCE the probably 17 Dec. It was requested that SHAEF
inform MAC-CMF this and arrange for rep of prov HQ to be in FLORENCE by
16th. Every effort would be made by AFHQ to complete the entire move by
Xmas. Lburgi stated that location of units of the div would be as planned
by recce party and SHAEF, except that Div HQ would be located within
FLORENCE area. He agreed on desirability of the entire fmn coming under
FLORENCE Comd for all purposes.

Col LURGHI

3. War Diaries of Combat Gps: he is arranging to have two copies made of the monthly summaries. -G-

4. TTC for UDINE: SHAEF agree temporary locations at MESTRE and PADUA. -G Trg-

Lt Col SILEI

5. Confidential enquiry of past record of Lt Col Alfredo COCCIA-DI-FRESCO. -I-

Col LOMBARDI

6. Phone conversation in connection with move of FOLGORE (see 2 above). No particular reaction from his side of the house. -G-

Lt Col GRAZI (and Col LOMBARDI)

7. 20% Div: Ref recent request by SHAEF to convert this HQ into two Regtl HQs, (one for each of 9 and 10 Territorial HQs) the US authorities have been in direct touch with War Ministry to attempt to persuade them to let the matter rest. It appears that the tps of the div are not likely to be needed after February, when the whole fmn will be wanted out. -2i/c-G-

17 Dec 45

War Minister

8. POL for CCRR: Presio has already spoken to Minister of Interior who offered no objection to distribution of Carabinieri POL through Army channels. They are now going to put the thing up on paper for formal agreement. -Cond-

9. CCRR for the FRENCH frontier: discussed alternative procedure to sending three mob bns, namely:- -Cond-G-

- reinforce CCRR (and CGF) stns within 15 mile belt by addition of indiv-idual rfts;
- redeploy some Italian Army units to barracks and locns conveniently close to 15 mile belt.

Above will be basis of Minister's proposals to CCC.
(It is being assumed that the 15 mile belt applies only to the ITALO-FRENCH frontier and NOT to the ITALO-SWISS frontier).

tension of franchise to Italian tps: The Minister wished to enquire ut procedure in the British Army during elections; i.e. whether tps are -Cond-

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

1709

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 735020



Para 10 (cont'd)

allowed to attend political meeting in uniform, etc. BROSIO consid- -Cond-e- ers it would be out-of-the-question to allow Italian mil personnel in uniform even to listen at political gatherings, since there is no law of lese majeste and no limit to what can, and is being said against the army, monarchy, national institutions etc. If tps and their uniform are exposed to such a situation the results can well be left to the imagination.

11. Arty and MT directorates: The Minister feels that he may be "on the spot" if hostries to make the split, as Canati brought about the fusion of these and other directorates as a measure of economy, by means of a cabinet decree. BROSIO said he would be cutting a sorry figure if he goes to the cabinet and proposes to undo some of Canati's economies or say that they were ill-conceived. (Later discussed with Lombardi, to discover some way out of the impasse). -Cond-(-)-

12. Navy of War Ministry: BROSIO will investigate the posn very thoroughly, but is obviously much averse to altering radically the con- -stitutional posn of the Chief of the Army Staff. It is evident that by tradition the politicians have no trust in the Army Staff, and the existing cumbersome machine at the War Office exists not so much as a legacy of bad organization, but as a carefully contrived device to restrict the functions and the power of the Army Staff. BROSIO proposes to ascertain to what extent the central Army org was affected by changes during the Fascist period, and to put these right, and also to see whether their org cannot be divorced to some extent from the system of the German Army, on which the Italian Army has been modelled since the time of Umberto I. He agrees that greater weight and more direct access must be given by the Minister to the Chief of the Army Staff and his Staff Offrs. He also concurs that the Military Under- Secretary should limit his activities to administration matters concerning the Directorates. -Cond-C-

Col PIACENTINI

13. Delegation of special responsibilities for supervising trg at TRCs and Inf Regts: Territorial Cond's request that an additional Brig Gen be specially appointed for each Div. Matter being discussed with staff branches. -G Trg-

14. Request for additional Mil tribunal at Genoa: The number of Mil tribunals (all of which are shared by army and navy) is fixed by decree, and for the Genoa territory the tribunal has in the past been allotted to the navy and located at the naval base of La Spezia. This same tribunal handles army cases as well, but the area concerned does NOT cover the whole of NO.2 Territory, part of which comes under the jurisdiction of Turin HQ. -A-
An attempt is now being made to alter the area of jurisdiction of the La Spezia tribunal to correspond exactly with NO.2 Territorial Region.

4603

15. Offrs rations: Although with the cessation of the "state of war", planned for Jan 1st 46, offrs should cease to receive Mil rations in kind; it is unlikely that this will be done. -A-
In view of the fact that in a recent comparative study of offrs pay rations in kind were taken into account, SIFAR were able to advise recently that there were no grounds for cutting out rations in kind with the termination of the "state of war".

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020



Para 10 (cont'd)

allowed to attend political meeting in uniform, etc. BRODIO consid- -Cond-f-
-ers it would be out-of-the-question to allow Italian mil personnel in uniform even to listen at political gatherings, since there is no law of lese majeste and no limit to what can, and is being said against the army, monarchy, national institutions etc. If tps and their uniforms are exposed to such a situation the results can will be left to the imagination.

11. Arty and AT directorates: The Minister feels that he may be "on the spot" if he tries to make the split, as Casati brought about the fusion of these and other directorates as a measure of economy, by means of a cabinet decree. BRODIO said he would be cutting a sorry figure if he goes to the cabinet and proposes to undo some of Casati's economies or say that they were ill-conceived. (Later discussed with Lombardi, to discover some way out of the impasse). -Cond-C-

12. Reorg of War Ministry: BRODIO will investigate the para very thoroughly, but is obviously much averse to altering radically the con- -stitutional posn of the Chief of the Army Staff. It is evident that by tradition the politicians have no trust in the Army Staff, and the existing cumbersome machine at the War Office exists not so much as a legacy of bad organisation, but as a carefully contrived device to restrict the functions and the power of the Army Staff. BRODIO proposes to ascertain to what extent the central Army org was affected by changes during the Fascist period, and to put these right, and also to see whether their org cannot be divorced to some extent from the system of the German Army, on which the Italian Army has been modelled since the time of Umberto I. He agrees that greater weight and more direct access must be given by the Minister to the Chief of the Army Staff and his Staff Offrs. He also concurs that the Military Under-Secretary should limit his activities to administrative matters concerning the directorates. -Cond-C-

Col PIACENTINI

13. Delegation of special responsibilities for supervising trg at TACs and Inf Regts: Territorial Cond's request that an additional Brig Gen be specially appointed for each TA. Matter being discussed with staff branches. -C Trg-

14. Request for additional Mil tribunal at Genoa: The number of Mil tribunals (all of which are shared by army and navy) is fixed by decree, and for the Genoa territory the tribunal has in the past been allotted to the navy and located at the naval base of La Spezia. This same tribunal handles army cases as well, but the area concerned does not cover the whole of NO.2 Territory, part of which comes under the jurisdiction of Turin Mil.
An attempt is now being made to alter the area of jurisdiction of the La Spezia tribunal to correspond exactly with NO.2 Territorial Region. -A-

15. Offrs rations: Although with the cessation of the "state of war", planned for Jan 1st 46, offrs should cease to receive Mil rations in kind; it is unlikely that this will be done.
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4603

Major HAUMANN's [illegible] son log

14 Dec 45

| | |
|---|---|
| Col BACCHI | C of S |
| Maj FACCIO | SD |
| Col CELLI | Q |

Carabinieri HQ

1. Visit to CCRR HQ to secure infm on trg intentions and other subjects of current interest. - Cond - C -

(a) Trg: the General Staff of the Carabinieri will welcome all assistance they can receive from the Army Trg programme. It was tentatively suggested that the following personnel of the mob bns be alerted for courses commencing mid-January:

- radio operators — ad lib (within reason)
- motor mechs — 70
- dvr mechs — 100

(b) They are anxious to secure places for offrs and NCOs on the MT Instructors course. (C Trg infmd)

(c) Trg of instructors in the tactical emp of armd cars: very keen to participate in the new Army course planned for January. They estimate their minimum requirement as 1 offr 2 NCOs per mob bn: in Total 12 offrs and 24 NCOs. Query whether additional personnel needed for Mech Instr on armd cars.

(d) The Carabinieri have no WT sets at all at the moment. The only sets remaining after the armistice (24 sets ex Sardinia) were passed to SIM on instn of higher authy.

(e) Present availability of armd vehs is 45 British armd cars (incl 5 non-runners) distributed among three northern legions

and 250 Lt and medium tanks - no good for this type of work

(f) There are 4106 small Carabinieri stas, with MS of 2 to 10 all ranks, and a further 800 stas with larger ests.

(g) Every Carabiniere has a pistol and carries it at all times. In addition, one in every four has a TSC, and the remainder a rifle. They recommend an increase in the ratio of TSCs to 1:3.

(h) The 800 larger stas have two or more LMGs each, but the 4000 small stas have no LMGs.

(j) In the present circumstances the Carabinieri HQ is NOT opposed to reducing the number of small stas and combining them with larger stas, but anticipate popular outcry against such a move, which would also be a blow to the prestige of the Carabinieri.

(k) High level project for transfering three mob bns (ex TURIN, GENOA, FLORENCE) for frontier duties (referred to CCC).

4607

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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- dvr mechs — 100

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and 250 Lt and medium (WT) tanks - no good for this type of work

(f) There are 4106 small Carabinieri stas, with WS of 2 to 10 all ranks, and a further 800 stas with larger sets.

(g) Every Carabinieri has a pistol and carries it at all times. In addition, one in every four has a TMC, and the remainder a rifle. They recommend an increase in the ratio of TMCs to 1:5.

(h) The 800 larger stas have two or more LMGs each, but the 4000 small stas have no LMGs. 460

(j) In the present circumstances the Carabinieri HQ is NOT opposed to reducing the number of small stas and combining them with larger stas, but anticipate popular outcry against such a move, which would also be a blow to the prestige of the Carabinieri.

(k) High level project for transfering three mob bns (ex TURIN, GENOA, FLORENCE) for frontier duties (referred to GOC).

Count JACINI and Adv BROGLIO

2. The outgoing War Minister called on GOC to take his leave and introduce his successor. —Cond —

Col QUERCIA

3. FOLGORE: Infd him by phone of contents of GSD letter 14 Dec proposing FOLGORE be placed under FLORENCE THQ in new locn. Quercia represented SMER concern over the area selected on the grounds that it was:- Cond - G -

(a) in a damaged state, and not up to the standard required for the winter by Italian tps.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 78502-0

(b) too dispersed

(c) involving requisitioning pte and state property.
He stated that SCIB rep had raised objections during recce but that he had been overuled on grounds of necessity.
Quercia suggested delaying move of BOLOGNA until repairs had been effected, or alternatively making the move gradually, or again moving the div to NAPLES or CALABRIA.
Infd G 1 (SD)

Lt Col BONERBA

4. FOGGIA: discussed recce with the Dep C of S of Rome THQ. He fully confirmed MMLA reps report that accn was up to the standard agreed beforehand, and that the various solutions were arrived at by common consent. In several instances the recce party had turned down accn as not being up to British standards, and the buildings selected had in nearly every case been occupied recently by Allied tps. Infd G 1 SD. - C -

Col LOMBARDI

5. Displaced Persons Camps: Lombardi foresees no particular difficul- -ties over transfer of Allied responsibilities for these camps from DPSC to UNRRA, as it affects Italian Army. As far as Italian tps, stores and property are concerned, they are under the supervision of the Civil undersecretary of the War Ministry, and for esp they come under the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction. The Allied reorg would not affect the Italian situation. - A -

Avv BROSIO

6. Accompanied GOC for conference with new War Minister.
Following matters were discussed:-

(a) handover of Italian Army, as covered Directives No 1 and 2, and situation in the North with the forthcoming transfer from AMG to Italian Govt.

(b) the big aspects of the future planning of the Italian Army, which were dealt with in GOCs address to the Senior Generals conference in Oct. Usefulness of such periodical meetings of the Terr Comds.

(c) the process of reorg of the Italian Army, which circumstances of the war had dictated should start in the fd, and must now be brought to bear on the central org:- the War Ministry itself. Certain big aspects and implications raised by the Minister and discussed at length. GOC requested that Brosio consider the appt of a mixed comittee to study the necessary reforms.

(d) in the light of the experience of the last months, GOC requested that steps be taken forthwith to separate the Directorates of Arty and MT. The functions of the latter infinitely the more important in the Italian Army today, and as long as it is combined with Arty MT will always be the "weak sister".

(e) GOC mentioned the importance of concluding the negotiations with the Treasury on:-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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4603

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(e) GOC mentioned the importance of concluding the negotiations with the Treasury on:-

- financial settlement of offrs due for retirement (the best offrs to remain and the worst offrs to go)

- future rates of pay, particularly for specialists as affecting the the size of regular cadre.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(f) The situation of the Carabinieri today as the first line of defence for maintaining law and order; their need for priority in allocation of weapons, clothing and vehs; need for pressure by War Minister on Minister of Tpt. to hand over vehs promised to the Army; need for reviewing channels of distribution of P C I.
All the above with particular ref to BOLOGNA Legion.

(g) The intention of the Italian Government to transfer three of the C.C. R.P. Bns. due to M.E. TRIM for duty within the 15 mile frontier belt; the repercussions of such a move on the basic plan for law and order in three of the main cities; appreciation of the situation from the Allied point of view, leading to conclusion that proposed move ought NOT to take place.
The Minister to communicate an alternative plan to C.C.C. in writing.

(h) BOLOGNA: The Minister read out a communication from the Chief of staff, (vide para. 3 above) setting out S.M.F.A. objections to the move as now planned.
C.C.C. rebutted these objections as being inaccurate,(vide side - annexure SD/43/1 ).
MARTO stated he was fully prepared to treat the accomodation difficulties as a secondary problem, but made special plea that move be delayed until after Christmas, for discipline and morale reasons. The Minister added that such a step would be particularly helpful to him in avoiding difficulties and unpleasantness during his first few days in office.
On these grounds C.C.C. agreed to attempt a postponement, but feared that the move arrangements might be already too far advanced to be suspended now.

4602

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log 10 -13 Dec 45

G (19)

Gen LIUZZI
(8 Dec)

1. FOLGORE : arrangements by telephone for recce to be undertaken by Major FEAK, commencing 9 Dec, accompanied by SMEB Ops Branch rep (Maj SCIASCIA) and rep of 8 TEQ. Reps of 6 and 7 TEQ to meet Maj FEAK and his party at 61 Area HQ 1500 hrs 10 Dec.
SCIASCIA was properly briefed as to SMEB policy in connection with this move. -C - Q -

2. Col LOMBARDI
( 10 Dec )
Handed to him copy of directive No 2 - G -

3. Count JACINI
A few minutes conversation with the outgoing War minister, who will be calling on G O C in the next few days to take his leave. - Comd -

4. Gen FADDA ( Director of Med Branch )
Discussed appointment of new LO between his office and ADMS MEDIA. FADDA is a big improvement over the previous Med Director. - Med -

5. Col PIACENTINI
W E Committee : it is arranged that the committee will meet each Saturday at 0900 hrs, commencing 15 Dec. - G -

6. PIACENTINI requested MEDIA support for the SMEB Gen Order repeating all parachutist tps to the FOLGORE Div, ref the case of the two NCO's of 208 C S Bn. Discussed in detail with AAG, and later informed PIACENTINI that as soon as the replacements are sent along the two NCO's are free to join their Bn. - A -

7. Gen LIUZZI
( 11 Dec )
Bns of the CALABRIA Div stationed in CALABRIA : LIUZZI stated that the question of replacing the SILA Bn with civil guards, already under discussion, and the Cabinetto had been requested to make the necessary arrangements. As soon as possible it was proposed to repatriate one Bn to SARDINIA ( ie. the one composed of SARDes) and to disband the other on the mainland and use the men as rfts. - C -

8. Democracy Course : LIUZZI was very satisfied with the progess of the course and the procedure and methods being followed. He had had a report the day before , which indicated that those attending the course were being shown how to conduct discussions and debates on a variety of subjects without resorting to force to settle their differences He said he was satisfied that the fears of the Mission that the lecturers were dabbling in practical politics were groundless. - G - A -

4602

9. Gen LIUZZI
( 12 Dec )
Accompanied CRO ARMY ( Maj Gen HALDER ) and Brig MOTTERSHEAD

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

who will be calling on C D C in [redacted]
his leave.

- Med -

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4602

9. Gen LIUZZI
( 12 Dec )
Accompanied CSO ACMB ( Maj Gen NALDER ) and Brig MORRISON ( his designated successor) on visit to SMEB. Present at meeting :

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maj Gen | NALDER | Gen | CADORNA |
| Brig | MORRISON | Gen | LIUZZI |
| Maj | SELL | Gen | ARDUINO |
| | | Col | JANNUZZO |
| | | Lt Col | PAN NAI |

Sheet / 2 .....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Subjects discussed :
- org of rear [illegible] between Inf Divs and [illegible]'s , [illegible] which both specialist personnel and [illegible] sets are NOT available. Discussion of ways and means of providing both.
As regards the sets, the War Ministry has not yet ~~expired~~ tapped all available sources, i.e. [illegible] ; materials in the hands of the contractors i.e. balance of old contracts, and materials in their own stores in the North.
- split of Engrs and Sigs org, which has been largely implemented already in the Inf Divs and Territorial org, and will be implemented in ~~the~~ part in the Engr Inspectorate [illegible], by the creation of distinct Engr and Sig sub-divisions.

- 0 9 9 -

10. Gen [illegible]
The Chief of Staff of the Army unbosomed himself on the subjects
- Internal org of War Ministry and [illegible] ( referred to Cmd )

- Recrs and proposed [illegible]'s of Inf Divs ( referred to [illegible] )

- Cmd- 0 -

11. Col [illegible]
Democracy course: arranged with [illegible] to accompany one of his officers to listen in to the proceedings at the first convenient opportunity. [illegible] confirmed that he has had a reliable senior officer attending throughout the course, who has stated that the proceedings are "thoroughly satisfactory". They anticipated a snag in having NCO's and officers in the same class, but the quality of the NCO's selected has been very high and no trouble has been experienced.

- 0 - 4 -

12. Col [illegible]
Arranged appointments with outgoing and incoming Ministers:
- 1200 hrs 14 Dec [illegible] will call on [illegible]

- 1630 hrs 14 Dec [illegible] to call on [illegible] at War Ministry.

- Cmd -

13. [illegible] requested [illegible] to brief the new Minister on the general [illegible] situation and particularly that of [illegible], with particular ref to vehs and ammo.
[illegible] stated that he had received a phone call from the [illegible] Embassy that morning on the same subject- and enquiring whether anyone ( [illegible] ) was holding things up.

- 0 -

14. Gen [illegible]
( 15 Dec )
Cmd 6 [illegible] called on [illegible] on his way back to [illegible]. Major [illegible] also present.
[illegible] situation thoroughly ventilated. [illegible] stated output of required vehs was 30 per month, but this was two-thirds since repairs of unit vehs and only 30 per month recovered from 'Wop' vehicles.
Of these [illegible] he had to give priority to mine lifting and ammunition work, leaving a very small number for other purposes incl [illegible] to the latter he was allotting vehs on a temporary basis to meet day-to-day requirements.
Discussions also on (1) allotment of [illegible], (2) delimitation of [illegible] region boundaries to correspond with Territorial Army boundaries, (3) [illegible] of police [illegible], (4) [illegible] priority of clothing, [illegible] etc. for [illegible].

4600

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

- Leerg and proposed [illegible]s of Inf Bdes ( [illegible] )

11. Col [illegible]
Necessary courtesy arranged with [illegible] to accompany one of his officers to listen in to the proceedings at the first convenient opportunity. [illegible] confirmed that he has had a reliable senior officer attending throughout the course, who has stated that the proceedings are "thoroughly satisfactory". They anticipated a snag in having SEO's and officers in the same class, but the quality of the NCO's selected has been very high and no trouble has been experienced.

- C - A -

12. Col [illegible]
Arranged appointments with outgoing and incoming Ministers:
- 1200 hrs 14 Dec JAGINI & BHOOLO will call on G O C
- 1630 hrs 14 Dec G O C to call on BHOOLO at Her Ministry.

- Cond -

13. [illegible] requested [illegible] to brief the new Ministers on the general [illegible] situation and particularly that at DOLAKHA and HARKAS, with particular ref to vehs and arms.
JAGINDI stated that he had received a phone call from the Dy Secretary that morning on the same subject and enquiring whether anyone ( [illegible] ) was holding things up.

- C -

14. Gen [illegible]
( 15 Dec )
Cond 6 INF called on GOC on his way back to HORAKHA. Major VAN KIRK also present.
COIN situation thoroughly ventilated. [illegible] stated output of repaired vehs was 50 per month, but this was two-thirds minor repairs of unit vehs and only 30 per month recovered from 'pool' vehicles.
Of these 30 he had to give priority to eng lifting and sup disposal unit, leaving a very small number for other purposes incl COIN. To the latter he was allotting vehs on a temporary basis to meet day-to-day requirements.
Discussions also on (1) allotment of [illegible], (2) delimitation of [illegible] Legion boundaries to correspond with Territorial Army boundaries, (3) recg of police [illegible], (4) first priority of clothing, weapons etc. for COIN.

- Cond - C -

15. Gen [illegible]
Arranged procedure with [illegible] and Col [illegible] for ensuring that [illegible] is not by-passed in negotiations on Q and Service matters.

- 1 -

Sheet.....3/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

16. • [redacted]
[redacted]

Accompanied [redacted] for arrangements connected with:
(a) Summarised census to be conducted soonest of Br vehicles, arms and ammunition held by the five Combat Div CRSAMC required to complete the staff study for [redacted];
(b) General situation as regards spare parts for maintenance of Br vehicles and equipment:
  (i) warlike stores and class 'A' vehicles for which adequate spares will be available,
  (ii) class 'B' vehicles, for which only a very limited amount of spares will be forthcoming from Br sources.
(c) Detailed census of class 'B' vehicles required for allocation of spares from Ord sources;
(d) Procedure to be followed at [redacted] for allocation and reception of spares for class 'B' vehicles.
(e) Spares for warlike stores and class 'A' vehicles will be provided by Ord in accordance with normal procedure through the War Ministry. For this purpose a detailed census is required for all stores and vehicles of this type in the possession of the Group;
(f) Negotiations in connection with the release of M.T. workshops in [redacted];
(g) Need to strike a fine balance between:
  - old type vehicles it will pay them to dispose of;
  - Br vehicles that can be maintained with available spares and by cannibalisation;
  - vehicles they will get back from Ministry of Tpt;
  - share of the newly manufactured Italian vehicles they can obtain from the Government.

(h) Importance of [redacted] accepting back from Ministry of Tpt any [redacted] - hence need to test all vehicles being handed back to the Army

As regards (a) above, Ministry will send rep and convene meeting in MILAN of reps of Combat Groups for collating info, and endeavour to have same in [redacted] hands before Christmas. - 0 -

4591

jw/
13 Dec 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Lia Log G 3 - Dec 45

Gen PROPERZJ

1. Precision Laboratory ROME: Discussed the memo submitted by the Director of the Institute to MMIA. PROPERZJ now understands clearly that no instrs have been issued by the Mission with re--gard to the admission or otherwise of the civilian firm, nor will such instrs be issued unless orders to this effect are rec'd from higher Allied authorities. PROPERZJ has now communicated direct with the Allied Claims org, with copy for infmn to MMIA. - Q -

2. Manufacture of arms and amn in ITALY: Went over once again the ground covered in recent comns on their request to be allowed to manufacture certain natures of amn. Explained current dir--ectives and policy on the subject, and that no move of any kind may be made, even to preparing machinery for manufacture, with--out specific authority from AFHQ. He is having put in hand the detailed returns required by MMIA covering all ord plants in the country. - Q -

Col MONACO

3. Discussed the situation of the Precision Laboratory, in which his office is interested as controllers of all Army real estate. He also stated that the CECCHIGNOLA had already been handed over to CESANO from today date (3 Dec) - Q -

Col PIACENTINI

4. 'Special' bns of the Gruppi: Infd Piacentini that as soon as AFHQ approves the new reduced WE of the Territorial regts there should be no difficulty in effecting gradual replacement of the special bns of the Gruppi with ordinary inf bns from the Territorial regts. SMRE intention is to move: - C -

- PIEMONTE (ALPINI) Bn (ex LEGNANO) to TURIN, to be renamed AOSTA Bn.

- AQUILA (ALPINI) Bn (ex LEGNANO) to MESTRE, or other location in UDINE Territory.

Both these bns to change places with gd bns, and to form the nucleus of ALPINI Regts in their respective territories.
Similar arrangements would later be made for the BERSAGLIERI Bn of the LEGNANO and the GRANATIERI Bns of the FRIULI.

45933

5. 1 Coy 511 Gd Bn: Piacentini readily agreed to send instrs to FLOR--ENCE TM to place this coy under US comd for the time being, for TC duties. The coy will continue ITI-ITI, but will be fed on US rations. (Order subsequently cancelled). - C - Q -

Gen LIUZZI

6. Discussed new appointment for Col PASQUALE Vincenzo. Referred per- - Comd - A -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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may be made, even to preparing machinery for manufacture, with-
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Col MONACO

3. Discussed the situation of the Precision Laboratory, in which his office is interested as controllers of all Army real estate. He also stated that the CECCHIGNOLA had already been handed over to CESANO from today date (5 Dec) - Q -

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6. Discussed new appointment for Col PASQUALE Vincenzo. Referred per- -sonally to GOC. - Cond - A -

Col LOMBARDI

7. Disposition of inf divs: Handed to Lombardi in the Ministers' absence, GOC's letter of 4 Dec, with explanatory notes relating to: - Cond - G -

(a) retention in TRENTO of FRIULI units already stationed in that town;

Sheet/2.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

cont'd para 7

(b) accn for FOLGORE in the new area SOUTH of the APPENINES to be decided in concert with III District. GOC will endea--vour to arrange conference in ROME. - Comd - G -✓

(c) the Ind Regt for BOLZANO to have priority for clothing and eqpt, and to be smartened up generally so as to create adequate local impression.

(d) MARCONI to be infd of above probable plans with a view to his playing his part

(i) in getting the FOLGORE away promptly when the order is given;

(ii) in getting the Ind Regt up to scratch as quickly as possible.

Col QUERCIA

8. Infd head of SMRE Ops Branch of above and general plans for dis--position of inf divs. He already has the necessary infmn for the conference on accn for the FOLGORE. He will pay particular att--ention to clothing and eqpt for the BOLZANO Ind Regt. - Comd - G ✓

9. Barracks for TTCs: Concern is felt over the delay in securing approval for the barracks now in Allied occupation, which if further protracted may jeopardize the completion of org of the centres in time to receive the call ups at the end of Feb. - Q -

Gen LIUZZI (5 Dec)
Col QUERCIA

10. Accompanied G1 Trg for conference on future trg policy and org. - G -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI
Col QUERCIA

11. Accompanied G 1 SD (6 Dec) for conference on new ests for inf divs. - G -

12. Maj PESORELLA: Discussed the case of this offr at the request of AAG. - A -

Lt Col SILLI

13. Shooting of British offr's horse: Discussed the proceedings against BICCU and MAROCCU, with a view to hastening the conclusion of the case and the sentence of the two men. - A - 459

14. Discussed meaning and implications of War Ministry letter of 1 Dec 126926/I.1 - A -

Gen LIUZZI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(d) NEGRONI to be infd of above probable [illegible] his playing his part

(i) in getting the FOLGORE away promptly when the order is given;

(ii) in getting the Ind Regt up to scratch as quickly as possible.

Col QUERCIA

8. Infd head of SMHS Ops Branch of above and general plans for dis- -position of inf divs. He already has the necessary infmn for the conference on acon for the FOLGORE. He will pay particular att- -ention to clothing and eqpt for the BOLZANO Ind Regt. - Comd - G

9. Barracks for TTCs: Concern is felt over the delay in securing approval for the barracks now in Allied occupation, which if further pretracted may jeopardize the completion of org of the centres in time to receive the call ups at the end of Feb. - Q -

Gen LIUZZI (5 Dec)
Col QUERCIA

10. Accompanied G4 Trg for conference on future trg policy and org. - G -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI
Col QUERCIA

11. Accompanied G 1 SD (6 Dec) for conference on new ests for inf divs. - G -

12. Maj PEDORELLA: Discussed the case of this offr at the request of AAG. - A -

Lt Col SILLI

13. Shooting of British offr's horse: Discussed the proceedings against BICCU and MAROCCU, with a view to hastening the conclusion of the case and the sentence of the two men. 459

14. Discussed meaning and implications of War Ministry letter of 1 Dec 126926/I.1 - A -

Gen LIUZZI

15. Following matters discussed on 7 Dec:

(a) Their proposed revised WEs for inf divs, which will be ready about 11 Dec; - G -

(b) Summarised int reports on the activities of the gruppi in action.

(c) Appointment for Maj Gen MALDER, CSO, GHQ, for Tuesday 11 Dec 0930 hrs. AMOROSO and PANERAI will also be there;

Sheet/3.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220

Contd para 15 - G -

(d) Collected copy of letter ref the PECORELLA case;

(e) Private talk on the subject of Arty and MT Directorate of the War Ministry.

Col PIACENTINI

16. General talk on matters arising out of the conference of the 6th, vide ¶ above. - G -

Col QUERCIA (8 Dec)

17. FOLGORE: Infd him of latest developments and arrangements for [illegible] recce by 60 Sub Area with MAIA rep and rep from FLORENCE THQ. He will issue warning order to the latter. - G - Q -

18. No. 9 TTC: Infd him of report from G II of 9 BLU as to unsuitability of barracks in BARI and discovery of new site at AIM-ARURA, which 54 Area are vacating 8 Dec with intention of handing over to I.A.F. - G - Q -

JW
8 Dec 45



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's liaison [illegible]

G

19 - 24 Nov 45

(17)

Official visit:

1. Brig Gen RODA called on GOC 19 Nov, prior to taking up his post as Mil Attache, BERN.

Gen SOLARELLI
Col BONELLI

2. To ROME TRG to introduce G II (L) of 8 BLU. Discussed accn for gl use, T.T.C. at ORVIETO (instead of VITERBO) etc.

Gen LIUZZI

3. FOLGORE: infd Liuzzi of order issued by 2 District for move of this gp to CREMONA and BRESCIA provinces, details of boundaries etc, and probable date of move. - G -

4. T.T.C. 5 TRG: discussed with Liuzzi the accn situation as set out in 5 BLU's report, and the alternative that the T.T.C. be located, if necessary, inside the neighbouring region. Liuzzi already fully infd, and had signalled comd 5 TRG to this effect some days previously. - G Trg -

Lt Col MILLEMORINI

5. Services MS (31,000) - Milleflorini stated that the proposals discussed by the individual service directorates with their opposite numbers at MMIA had been altered by the Mission without any explanation being given to the directorates. He also pointed out that the War Ministry and Territorial HQ Med and Sup staffs had been duplicated in the services ceiling - since they were already included in the ests of the War Ministry and TRGs. Infd G (MS). - G - Q -

Col PIACENTINI
Major MERSU

6. ORVIETO depot: this location for the 7 T.T.C. had been discarded as being already occupied as a rft centre. It was only when they heard two days ago that it would shortly be vacated that it was given preference over VITERBO, as being altogether more suited. SD and Trg branches SHAEF stated they had received no injunction against using this centre as a T.T.C. and MERSU gave it as his opinion that it is adequately served by rd and rail comns, and perfectly suitable for terrain. - G Trg - Q

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

459

7. T.T.C.s: Luizzi anxious to receive MMIA decisions on SHAEF proposals of 11 Nov. Ten days have gone by, and nothing has been said yet, not even about those centres which are now empty. SHAEF points out that much work has to be done to prepare these barracks in time for 1 Mar, and if they are to be ready the work must be started at once. - G - Q -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

T.T.C. at ORVIETO (instead of VITERBO) etc.

Gen LIUZZI

3. POLGORE: infd Liuzzi of order issued by 2 District for move of this gp to CREMONA and BRESCIA provinces, details of boundaries etc, and probable date of move. - G -

4. T.T.C. 5 INF: discussed with Liuzzi the recn situation as set out in 5 BLU's report, and the alternative that the T.T.C. be located, if necessary, inside the neighbouring region. Liuzzi already fully infd, and had signalled comd 5 TNK to this effect some days previously. - G Trg -

Lt Col MILLEFIORINI

5. Services MS (31,000) - Millefiorini stated that the proposals discussed by the individual service directorates with their opposite numbers at MAIA had been altered by the Mission without any explanation being given to the directorates. He also pointed out that the War Ministry and Terr--itorial Bn Med and Sup staffs had been duplicated in the services ceiling - since they were already included in the ests of the War Ministry and TMSo. Infd G (MS). - G - G -

Col PIACENTINI
Major MERSU

6. ORVIETO depot: this location for the 7 T.T.C. had been discarded as being already occupied as a rft centre. It was only when they heard two days ago that it would shortly be vacated that it was given pre--ference over VITERBO, as being altogether more suited. SD and Trg branches SMAE stated they had received no injunction against using this centre as a T.T.C. and MERSU gave it as his opinion that it is adequately served by rd and rail comns, and perfectly suitable for terrain. - G Trg - Q

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

7. T.T.C.s: Luizzi anxious to receive MAIA decisions on SMAE proposals of 11 Nov. Ten days have gone by, and nothing has been said yet, not even about those centres which are now empty. SMAE points out what much work has to be done to prepare these barracks in time for 1 Mar, and if they are to be ready the work must be started at once. Further difficulties are reported over the barracks at FANO. - G - A -

Col PIACENTINI

8. Future procedure for rfts: in view of the proposed closing down of the rft centres of ORVIETO and RAVISCANINA, requested Piacentini to prepare draft instructions on future method of handling army personnel reporting back for duty after long absence, also volunteers etc. The draft instrs will be submitted for consideration of 'A' branch. - G - A -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

9. Accompanied C I (SD) for discussion of proposals for revised TOs of Inf Divs (24 Nov).

2/.....

4593

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Gen LEESE
Col TOMKINS

10. Accompanied C I (32) for consultation on proposed move of FORCES and ENGLE gps (22 Nov).

Col LEESMAN

11. Informal conversation on possible changes which may take place in the War Ministry. - Const -

Lt Col CRAWLEY
Major GANLY

12. Following subjects discussed:

- Grounding in - NORE: after consultation with Maj GENERAL - - C - A -
R&O, ingN Genl that minimum requirement is 250 between NOE's & QMG.

- Welfare: the figure of 30 Offrs & 60 Ors in the overseas ceiling is presumably in addition to the 44 all ranks already on the est of HQ,C. In any event, neither ADGE, nor the Welfare office of the War Ministry has any idea how these 90 all ranks are to be employed.

- Army Sec FRANCE: told Genl that it was inopportune at this moment to attempt to send further personnel to PARIS. This Army sec should be employed elsewhere for the time being, all the more since Gdins HQ has already engaged some local personnel for clerical work in Gdins in conjunction with the activities of the two Army officers working in PARIS in civilian clothes.

Col FLEMMING

13. Weapons and Transport for Interim Army: [illegible] will prepare by Wed - C -
the trgm required for all units of the Interim Army, other than Inf Divs, L.S. Divs and Territorial Regts.

14. Method for handling miscellaneous refs in future: collected draft SHAPE instrn and passed to 'A' branch.

4597

CFB/jw
27 Nov 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BAINBRIDGE'S LIAISON LOG

13-17 NOV 45

Col S
Col A/Q WSP

Maj SCIASCIA

1. FOLGORE and FRIULI: situation is that the two best available areas NORTH of Appenines (GARDA and RIMINI) contain no ready made accn, i.e. empty barracks. There are barracks in other areas, such as in towns along route 9 and near LIVORNO/LUCCA, but the undamaged barracks are in Allied occupation, or being used for refugees.

first
SCIASCIA stated that if try were/consideration, the gps would have to make the best of it in GARDA and RIMINI areas. Discussed with G-I who informed SCIASCIA that AMG would probably have no objection if one or even two gps were stationed SOUTH of the Appenines, or even in CENTRAL Italy, but that try was definitely the first consideration to the Allies.

SCIASCIA will accordingly reexamine the plan and advise results in a day or so. - 3 -

Col LOMBARDI

2. Amnesty: LOMBARDI enquired in the presence of the writer as to the latest situation resulting from the discussion between AMIA rep and BONOMI on the question of an amnesty for personnel of the armed forces. The text of the proposal prepared by the Army (and agreed in principle by Navy and Air Force) has been submitted to Navy and Air Force for formal approval in detail. Their replies, when they come to hand, will be sent to the Minister of Grace and Justice (TOGLIATTI), and will have to be submitted by the latter to the Cabinet. It would seem that some time will elapse before the proposal is ready to put into force. - 4 -

Lt Col GILL

3. Official dinner to celebrate handing over of Italian Army to Italian Govt: discussed, and agreed various details; collected and translated copy of the Minister's speech, which will be published in the press on the 17th. - 4 -

Brig Gen PADUA

4. Handed in AMIA letter of 12 Nov on subject of Med stores at SERAMO (copy for FERRANTE via LOMBARDI). PADUA's attitude quite objective, their pressure being due solely to the dire straits of entire med sup posn in ITALY, both civil and military. PADUA admitted that in some instances he has been compelled on grounds of humanity to release mil stores to civilian authorities.

He said he was personally convinced that the bulk of the stores at SERAMO had belonged to the Italian Govt, since the Germans had looted all they could carry from FLORENCE and VERONA. The labels on the stores would be misleading, since he knew for a fact that the Germans had relabelled much of the Italian supp they had taken over. - 4 - Med

459

Brig Gen FERRANTE

5. Handed to him AMIA letter of 14 Nov ref provision of two types of SA ammn for Italian Army. Explained that policy on manufacture of arms and ammn by Italian Govt has not been settled. Urgential immediate needs

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

the Allies.

SCIASCIA will accordingly reconsider the plan and advise results in a day or so. - C -

Col LAMBARDI

2. Amnesty: LAMBARDI enquired in the presence of the writer as to the latest situation resulting from the discussion between MEDA rep and BONIARI on the question of an amnesty for personnel of the armed forces. The text of the proposal prepared by the Army (and agreed in principle by Navy and Air Force) has been submitted to Navy and Air Force for formal approval in detail. Their replies, when they come to hand, will be sent to the Minister of Grace and Justice (BONIARTI), and will have to be submitted by the latter to the Cabinet. It would seem that some time will elapse before the proposal is ready to put into force. - A -

Lt Col NILLI

3. Official dinner to celebrate handing over of Italian Army to Italian Govt: discussed, and agreed various details; collected and translated copy of the Minister's speech, which will be published in the press on the 17th. - A -

Brig Gen PARRA

4. Handed in MMIA letter of 14 Nov on subject of Red stores at MORANO (copy for THOMAS via LAMBARDI). PARRA's attitude quite objective, their pressure being due solely to the dire straits of entire red org pers in ITALY, both civil and military. PARRA admitted that in some instances he has been compelled on grounds of humanity to release mil stores to civilian authorities.

He said he was personally convinced that the bulk of the stores at MORANO had belonged to the Italian Govt, since the Germans had looted all they could carry from FLORENCE and VENICE. The labels on the stores would be misleading, since he knew for a fact that the Germans had relabelled much of the Italian ergo they had taken over. - C - Red

459

Brig Gen HORSFALL

5. Handed to him MMIA letter of 4th Nov ref provision of two types of SA ammn for Italian Army. Explained that policy on manufacture of arms and ammn by Italian Govt had NOT yet been settled. Essential immediate needs might be met from such weapons and nature of ammn as were available from Allied sources, thus avoiding diversion of Italian effort from recon-struction to unnecessary arms manufacture. Where comparable Allied types NOT available the case would have to be considered on its merits and put up to AFHQ for decision. - C -

Col FISCHETTI

6. Following subjects discussed :

- Railway units: SCNS proceeding with re-org on two - Ogr basis; the remainder to be disbanded.

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

- MS Committee procedure: PIACENTINI requested confirmation that under the MMIA plan decisions of ME Committee would still be subject to approval by C of S SMMA.

- Elimination of two remaining A&m Divs.

- G -

Gen LIUZZI
Col QUERCIA

7. Location of trg cnts of the Central Schools: detailed discussions of the SMME plan and alternatives suggested by MMIA. Reported results to C-I (SD) and C-I (Trg). As soon as the definite plan is agreed (and approved by War Minister) the question of accn for Gd Fns can be gone into.

Lt Col BONARDA

8. Accn of Gd Fns: reviewed recent history of Gd Fn accn in ROME (C-II (L) ROME FHQ also present). Because of MMIA vote on Gd Fns being accommodated in REGINA MARGHERITA Barracks, the place has been filled with odd units and mil offices. FHQ would like to have back the Principe di NAPOLI barracks, now occupied by Italian Navy in lieu of their own CMME buildings which are in possession of the Allies.

- Q -

Lt Col MONACO

9. Military Prisons: discussed matter arising out of their comm 223524/II of 24 Oct relating to transfer of mil prisoners from civilian prisons to the newly reconstituted mil gaols. Referred to AAG.

- A -

Gen RODA

10. Arranged appointment with COO for 1000 hrs 19 Nov prior to RODA's departure to take up post of mil attache at BERN.

- A -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

11. Requisitioning offices: requested PIACENTINI to put up to MMIA in writing their intention of requesting the Treasury to release mil personnel now engaged on assessing claims etc for requisitioned property. SMME is anxious to ensure that no obstacles are put in the way by the Allied Claims and Hirings/Real Estate organisations.

- S -

459

/fod

17 Nov 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

7. Location of trg ests of the Central Schools: detailed discussions of the SHAEF plan and alternatives suggested by MMIA. Reported results to G-1 (SD) and G-1 (Trg). As soon as the definite plan is agreed (and approved by War Minister) the question of accn for Gd Bns can be gone into.

Lt Col BONERBA

8. Accn of Gd Bns: reviewed recent history of Gd Bn accn in ROME (G-II (L) ROME HQ also present). Because of MMIA veto on Gd Bns being accommodated in REGINA MARGHERITA Barracks, the place has been filled with odd units and mil offices. HQ would like to have back the Principe di NAPOLI barracks, now occupied by Italian Navy in lieu of their own CREM buildings which are in possession of the Allies. - Q -

Lt Col MONACO

9. Military Prisons: discussed matter arising out of their comm 223524/II of 24 Oct relating to transfer of mil prisoners from civilian prisons to the newly reconstituted mil gaols. Referred to AAG. - A -

Gen RODA

10. Arranged appointment with GOC for 1000 hrs 19 Nov prior to RODA's departure to take up post of mil attache at MOSCOW. - A -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

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4591

/fcd

17 Nov 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

13-17 NOV 45

G

Maj SCIASCIA

1. FOLGORE and FRIULI: situation is that the two best available areas NORTH of Appenines (GARDA and RIMINI) contain no ready made accn, i.e. empty barracks. There are barracks in other areas, such as in towns along route 9 and near LEGHORN/LUCCA, but the undamaged barracks are in Allied occupation, or being used for refugees.

SCIASCIA stated that if trg were/consideration, the gps would have to make the best of it in GARDA and RIMINI areas. Discussed with G-1 who informed SCIASCIA that AFHQ would probably have no objection if one or even two gps were stationed SOUTH of the Appenines, or even in CENTRAL Italy, but that trg was definitely the first consideration to the Allies.

SCIASCIA will accordingly reconsider the plan and advise results in a day or so.

- G -

Col LOMBARDI

2. Amnesty: LOMBARDI enquired in the presence of the writer as to the latest situation resulting from the discussion between MMIA rep and BORSARI on the question of an amnesty for personnel of the armed forces. The text of the proposal prepared by the Army (and agreed in principle by Navy and Air Force) has been submitted to Navy and Air Force for formal approval in detail. Their replies, when they come to hand, will be sent to the Minister of Grace and Justice (TOGLIATTI), and will have to be submitted by the latter to the Cabinet. It would seem that some time will elapse before the proposal is ready to put into force.

- A -

Lt Col SILLI

3. Official dinner to celebrate handing over of Italian Army to Italian Govt: discussed, and agreed various details; collected and translated copy of the Minister's speech, which will be published in the press on the 17th.

- A -

Brig Gen FADDA

4. Handed in MMIA letter of 14 Nov on subject of Med stores at MERANO (copy for INFANTE via LOMBARDI). FADDA's attitude quite objective, their pressure being due solely to the dire straits of entire med supposn in ITALY, both civil and military. FADDA admitted that in some instances he has been compelled on grounds of humanity to release mil stores to civilian authorities.

He said he was personally convinced that the bulk of the stores at MERANO had belonged to the Italian Govt, since the Germans had looted all they could carry from FLORENCE and VERONA. The labels on the stores would be misleading, since he knew for a fact that the Germans had relabelled much of the Italian supp they had taken over.

4581

- Q - Med

Brig Gen PROPERJ

6. Handed to him MMIA letter of 14 Nov re[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

CENTRAL Italy, but that trg was definitely the first consideration to the Allies.

SCIASCIA will accordingly reconsider the plan and advise results in a day or so. - G -

Col LOMBARDI

2. Amnesty: LOMBARDI enquired in the presence of the writer as to the latest situation resulting from the discussion between MMIA rep and BORSARI on the question of an amnesty for personnel of the armed forces. The text of the proposal prepared by the Army (and agreed in principle by Navy and Air Force) has been submitted to Navy and Air Force for formal approval in detail. Their replies, when they come to hand, will be sent to the Minister of Grace and Justice (TOGLIATTI), and will have to be submitted by the latter to the Cabinet. It would seem that some time will elapse before the proposal is ready to put into force. - A -

Lt Col SILLI

3. Official dinner to celebrate handing over of Italian Army to Italian Govt: discussed, and agreed various details; collected and translated copy of the Minister's speech, which will be published in the press on the 17th. - A -

Brig Gen FADDA

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He said he was personally convinced that the bulk of the stores at MURANO had belonged to the Italian Govt, since the Germans had looted all they could carry from FLORENCE and VERONA. The labels on the stores would be misleading, since he knew for a fact that the Germans had relabelled much of the Italian supp they had taken over. 4581 - Q - Med

Brig Gen PROPERJ

5. Handed to him MMIA letter of 14 Nov ref provision of two types of SA amn for Italian Army. Explained that policy on manufacture of arms and amn by Italian Govt had NOT yet been settled. Essential immediate needs might be met from such weapons and nature of amn as were available from Allied sources, thus avoiding diversion of Italian effort from recon--struction to unnecessary arms manufacture. Where comparable Allied types NOT available the case would have to be considered on its merits and put up to AFHQ for decision. - Q -

Col PIACENTINI

6. Following subjects discussed :

- Railway units: MMRR proceeding with re-org on two - Coy basis; the remainder to be disbanded.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

- WE Committee procedure: PIACENTINI requested confirmation that under the MMIA plan decisions of WE Committee would still be subject to approval by C of S SHAEF.

- Elimination of two remaining Adm Divs. - G -

Gen LIUZZI
Col QUERCIA

7. Location of trg ests of the Central Schools: detailed discussions of the SHAEF plan and alternatives suggested by MMIA. Reported results to G-1 (SD) and G-1 (Trg). As soon as the definite plan is agreed (and approved by War Minister) the question of accn for Gd Bns can be gone into.

Lt Col BONERBA

8. Accn of Gd Bns: reviewed recent history of Gd Bn accn in ROME (G-II (L) ROME TMQ also present). Because of MMIA veto on Gd Bns being accommodated in REGINA MARGHERITA Barracks, the place has been filled with odd units and mil offices. TMQ would like to have back the Principe di NAPOLI barracks, now occupied by Italian Navy in lieu of their own ORBM buildings which are in possession of the Allies. - Q -

Lt Col MONACO

9. Military Prisons: discussed matter arising out of their comm 223524/II of 24 Oct relating to transfer of mil prisoners from civilian prisons to the newly reconstituted mil gaols. Referred to AAG. - A -

Gen RODA

10. Arranged appointment with GOC for 1000 hrs 19 Nov prior to RODA's departure to take up post of mil attache at BERN. - A -

Gen LIUZZI
Col PIACENTINI

11. Requisitioning offices: requested PIACENTINI to put up to MMIA in writing their intention of requesting the Treasury to release mil personnel now engaged on assessing claims etc for requisitioned property. SHAEF is anxious to ensure that no obstacles are put in the way by the Allied Claims and Hirings/Real Estate organisations. - Q -

458

/fcd

17 Nov 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

5 Nov 45

(14)

G + SP

Tuesday 6 Nov

Gen LUSSU

1. The Interim Army: the results of the Territorial Comds con- G - A - Q
-ference will be communicated to MMLA at the meeting convened for 8 Nov. Lussu stated that in the absence of Treasury approval for the increased scale of pay for tradesmen, there was no hope of increasing the numbers of regular tps. At present these number about 20,000, leaving 120,000 of the interim force to be found by conscription. Their plan for 1946 is to have three call-ups of 40,000 each, at four monthly intervals.

2. Regimental Depots: on the question of a further reduction in the G - A - Q
number of depots, Lussu confirmed that a much lower total than 90 was ultimately aimed at, but that they had already cut down from 240 to 90 and further reductions would have to be a slow and gradual process. The surviving depots were fully engaged in clearing up documentation and regimental stores and records, in addition to serving as barracks and training centres for the interim army. Also, he said the ultimate number of depots would have to depend on the size of the peace-time army.

Lt Col MENAGO

3. Arms for Carabinieri: Menago stated that full infm on individual G - A - Q
and unit arms, both for static and mobile Carabinieri, had already been sent to MMLA, ref letters 22358 of 29 Oct and 225750 of 5 Nov.

Wednesday 7 Nov

4. (a) Attended meeting at MMLA on accn policy for Interim Army. - Q -

Present:

| MMLA | SMRE (Trg Branch) |
|---|---|
| AQMG (G2) | Lt Col CAMBOSU |
| G II (Trg) | Lt Col PIZZONIA |
| G II (I) | Major MENSU |
| DAQMG | |

(b) It was stated by AQMG, and accepted by SMRE reps, that accn for the Italian Army would in future be a matter for the Italian Army to decide, and that the Military Mission was no longer directly concerned, nor would need to be consulted, except in the following cases:

- barracks or accn required as trg centres;
- barracks or other Italian Army property required as accn for Italian tps and still occupied by Allied tps.

4587

It was understood that in the former instance Trg branch SMRE will negotiate with Trg branch MMLA in the first place, while in the latter instance a branch of the Cabinetto will sponsor the War Ministry case.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ultimately aimed at, but that they had already cut down from 240 to 90 and further reductions would have to be a slow and gradual process. The surviving depots were fully engaged in clearing up documentation and regimental stores and records, in addition to serving as barracks and training centres for the interim army. Also, he said the ultimate number of depots would have to depend on the size of the peace-time army.

Lt Col [illegible]

3. Arms for Carabinieri: Manzo stated that full infmn on individual and unit arms, both for static and mobile Carabinieri, had already been sent to MMIA, ref letters 223583 of 29 Oct and 223750 of 5 Nov. G - A - 8

Wednesday 7 Nov

4. (a) Attended meeting at MMIA on acon policy for Interim Army. - 9 -

Present:

| MMIA | SMKE (Trg Branch) |
|---|---|
| AQMG (G2) | Lt Col GAMBOSU |
| G II (Trg) | Lt Col FIZZONIA |
| G II (L) | Major MERRU |
| DAQMG | |

(b) It was stated by AQMG, and accepted by SMKE reps, that acon for the Italian Army would in future be a matter for the Italian Army to decide, and that the Military Mission was no longer dir-ectly concerned, nor would need to be consulted, except in the following cases:

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- barracks or acon required as trg centres;
- barracks or other Italian Army property required as acon for Italian tps and still occupied by Allied tps.

It was understood that in the former instance Trg branch SMKE will negotiate with Trg branch MMIA in the first place, while in the latter instance a branch of the Cabinetto will sponsor the War Ministry case.

The writer later infd Lt Col MORALDO of this proposed policy, with which he was in full agreement.

(c) On the actual plan for the Trg Centres, Maj MERRU produced a draft scheme which was already in the hands of the War Minister and awaiting his approval. This gives the proposed acon broken down by barracks

- now empty
- now occupied by Italian tps
- now occupied by Allied tps.

It was agreed that no action was required from MMIA until the complete scheme is put fwd by SMKE. Individual proposals from the Territorial Bns would be ignored.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Thursday 8 Nov

5. Attended meeting to consider future policy on composition of Interim Army, as between regular and conscripted tps. Also date and procedure for calling up recruits in 1946, and intentions as regards location of trg and method of subsequent posting. G - A - Q

Those present were:

| BRITISH | SOVIET |
|---|---|
| Col AQ | Gen LIUBEZI |
| G1 SD | Col PIAGENTINI |
| A/G | |
| AQMG | |
| G II (TRG) | |
| G II (L) | |
| DA/DSD | |

/jw

9 Nov 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BARMANN'S LIAISON LOG

17 - 20 SEP 1945.

COL PIACENTINI

1. Carabinieri for fascist camps:

(a) PIACENTINI stated that the CC.RR. of the 210 Div sec had been reassigned to reinforce the T.H.Qs in the NORTH, by verbal arrangements with SD MMIA and the movement was already under way. He proposed that the camp commitment be met with one of the three CC. RR. secs belonging to the tail units of the gruppi, which he considered were no longer fully employed.

(b) Later infd PIACENTINI that sig had been sent to 2 District requesting transfer of one of the gruppi secs.

(c) In the event of this move NOT being effected in time to take over the FLORENCE Womens' Camp (22 Sep), PIACENTINI has arranged that the Carabinieri H.Q. in FLORENCE will loan 1W.O. and 18 ORs.

(d) As regards camp 337, the Carabinieri G.H.Q. had already sent a further 30 of their own men, bringing the strength at the camp to 2 Offrs, 8 NCOs, 90 ORs. The balance of the 120, if really needed, will have to be made up with part of the sec coming from the gruppi.

2. Italian LO 2 District:

PIACENTINI raised the question of properly accrediting Capt CICOGNA, so that Territorial Commands in the NORTH would know who this officer was. Discussed with G 1 and later infd PIACENTINI that:

(a) MMIA would notify MMIA LOs of CICOGNA's appointment,

(b) SHAEF should limit itself to informing Territorial Comds that CICOGNA had been posted to 2 District as an LO., but that this did NOT mean that T.H.Qs would in future cut out the MMIA LO and deal direct with District through CICOGNA.

3. ORBAT:

Further talk on the general org and work of the ORBAT sec. Cited two or three instances of faulty staff work noted by MMIA in the current edition, which PIACENTINI investigated. PIACENTINI made a plea for reducing proof corrections to a minimum, which the printers had stated was essential if the ORBAT was to be produced by the 25th of the month. Discussed with G Branch MMIA and later agreed with PIACENTINI that:

(a) information in ORBAT would be as at 8th of the month and amendments subsequent to that date would NOT be made by MMIA;

(b) corrections of the first proof would be limited by MMIA to printers errors, or at the most where some correction of the draft had NOT been properly understood;

(c) the second proof would still have to be seen by MMIA, but to save time an MMIA rep would do the necessary checking at the printers.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(b) Later infd PIACENTINI that sig had been sent to 2 District requesting transfer of one of the gruppi secs.

(c) In the event of this move NOT being effected in time to take over the FLORENCE Womens' Camp (22 Sep), PIACENTINI has arranged that the Carabinieri H.Q. in FLORENCE will loan 1W.O. and 48 ORs.

(d) As regards camp 357, the Carabinieri G.H.Q. had already sent a further 30 of their own men, bringing the strength at the camp to 2 Offrs, 8 NCOs, 90 ORs. The balance of the 120, if really needed, will have to be made up with part of the sec coming from the gruppi.

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(b) corrections of the first proof would be limited by MMIA to printers errors, or at the most where some correction of the draft had NOT been properly understood;

(c) the second proof would still have to be seen by MMIA, but to save time an MMIA rep would do the necessary checking at the printers. Corrections would be printers errors only.

COL LOMBARDI

4. ALBANIAN personnel in the Italian Army:

LOMBARDI said that the project of settlement was under consideration by the various Ministeries concerned, some of whom still had to give an opinion. It would then have to go before the Cabinet. In all a matter of days.

Subsequently the writer infd Lt-Col SUKACEV of the above, without entering into any details of the settlement, which the writer has never discussed with the ALBANIAN reps.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. 785020

5. Mine clearance:

The letter referred to in para 7 (a) of Log 10/15 Sep has gone forward to the President of the Council, but it is NOT known how soon a Cabinet ruling can be obtained.

6. General [redacted]:

Handed to [redacted] original of the late General's letter dated 25 Aug. Quite of his own accord, [redacted] promised the best possible financial settlement for the General's widow. He referred to the whole business as " this most pitiful case".

7. Camp 337 ([redacted]):

General [redacted] has come whizzing back with drastic proposals for dealing with the whole problem. Sixty - repeat sixty - three-man commissions are to be formed for investigating the 32,000 cases, and giving summary provisional decisions on the future of the detainees. One third of the personnel for the commissions will be military, the remainder civilians. [redacted] is planning to have the whole thing solved by 15 Oct. In the meantime the obstacle created by the OCC condition on release has been made all too clear by MMIA letter A/107 of 18 Aug, and attachment dated 11 Aug. Consulted C of S MMIA and told [redacted] that "release on parole" (liberta vigilata) will NOT be construed as contravening the above clause. [redacted] will accordingly proceed on this basis.

8. Area in ROME required by Italian Army:

Told [redacted] that C.O.C. had personally intervened with MMIA, and had been told by Brig [redacted] that the whole policy on area in ROME area was under discussion. A policy ruling was expected from Army within a few days. The trouble was that different authorities were bidding for the same area. In the meantime told [redacted] that:

(a) a number of buildings suitable for hospitals were already vacant in or near ROME (gave details of five such buildings). The College [redacted] is earmarked for a hosp for another authority.

(b) The Caserma MUSSOLINI is NOT ideal as barrack area, being inside the town and inadequately provided with parade grounds. It was believed that in any event a bid had been entered as soon for refugees, at present billeted in schools.

[redacted] made the point that the Italian Army had a vast amount of property being used by all and sundry as emergency acco of one sort or another. All the Italian Army asks now is that the small proportion of their property which they went back for their reduced conditions shall atleast be the best of what there is, and of their own choosing, so as not to compel the ops of the interim army to live in the most antiquated bug infested barracks, with the repercussions on their morale only to be expected from such conditions.

The writer recommended to [redacted] that a further bid be made, bearing in mind:

- location on outskirts of town
- suitable facilities for drill and trg.

[redacted]'s opinion was that this

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

General [illegible] has come running back with [illegible]
dealing with the [illegible] problem. Sixty - repeat sixty - three-man
commissions are to be formed for investigating the 32,000 cases, and
giving summary provisional decisions on the future of the detainees.
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remainder civilians. LOMBARDI is planning to have the whole thing solved
by 15 Oct. In the meantime the obstacle created by the GOC condition
on release has been made all too clear by MMIA letter A/107 of 18 Aug
and attachment dated 11 Aug. Consulted C of S MMIA and Int'l LOMBARDI
that "release on parole" (liberta vigilata) will NOT be construed as
contravening the above clause. LOMBARDI will accordingly proceed on
this basis.

8. Accn in ROME required by Italian Army:

Int'l LOMBARDI that C.O.C. had personally intervened with MAAF,
and had been info by Brig ZOI that the whole policy on accn in ROME
area was under discussion. A policy ruling was expected from AFHQ within
a few days. The trouble was that different authorities were bidding for
the same accn. In the meantime int'l LOMBARDI that:

(a) a number of buildings suitable for hospitals were already
vacant in or near ROME (gave details of five such buildings). The
Collegio SANTANI is earmarked for a hosp for another authority.

(b) The Caserma MUSSOLINI is NOT ideal as barrack accn, being
inside the town and inadequately provided with parade grounds. It was
believed that in any event a bid had been entered as accn for refugees, at
present billeted in schools.

LOMBARDI made the point that the Italian Army had a vast
amount of property being used by all and sundry on emergency accn of one
sort or another. All the Italian Army asks now is that the small
proportion of their property which they want back for their reduced
contingents shall atleast be the best of what there is, and of their own
choosing, so as not to compel the Ops of the interim army to live in the
most antiquated bug infested barracks, with the repercussions on their
morale only to be expected from such conditions.

The writer recommended to LOMBARDI that a further bid
be made, bearing in mind:

- location on outskirts of town;
- suitable facilities for drill and trg.

On the subject of location, LOMBARDI's opinion was that this
cuts both ways, since the employment of the Ops on gd duties being mostly
near the centre of the town, considerable effort would be wasted getting
them backwards and forwards to their billets outside the town.

9. GEN BOLOGNA:

Mentioned to LOMBARDI à propos of C.O.C's talk with SACMED on
15 Sep, that C.O.C. had intended asking the Minister his opinion of
General BOLOGNA. In reviewing BOLOGNA's activities while in cond of
MANTOVA Div, from the time in CALABRIA up to date, C.O.C. was satisfied
that he had done very well throughout and that to-day the MANTOVA Div
was in an good, or even better shape than the other Ops. LOMBARDI
agreed that BOLOGNA had done well, but said that he had many enemies
within his fmn, although this was of relative importance.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

9. (Contd)

It was all the more unfortunate added LOMBARDI, that BOLOGNA would reach retiring age at the end of this year and that nothing could save him. BOLOGNA is about 16th in seniority among the Brig Gens, and as LOMBARDI pointed out, there is no such thing to-day as accelerated promotion, other than promotion on the field, from which he was precluded since his fmn never went into the line.

10. Recovery of Army vehs in the NORTH:

Comd
C of S
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Clarified with LOMBARDI the exact posn as intended by G.O.C. in his conversation with the Minister 13 Sep, i.e. no suspension of the withdrawals, but encouraging users to come fwd by making registrations of the vehs a first step, and secondly deciding in conjunction with A.G. whether the use by civilians was essential to the life of the community. If the service performed by the veh was considered NOT essential then it would be retained by the Army; if the service is an essential one, then the Army will supply an Army driver and loan the veh to the civilian on detail.

A new and precise instr is being prepared and will be sent up within the next 24 hrs, with copy to MMIA.

COL PIACENTINI

11. San MARCO Regt:

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After consultation with G 1, infd PIACENTINI that:

(a) A.F.H.Q. had agreed that as soon as the 10 Territorial Bde is two thirds complete (i.e. two bns handed over to Italian comd and in working order) the San MARCO Regt will be withdrawn and handed back to the Navy.

(b) It is estimated that this will be about mid October.

(c) The proposal to relieve one San MARCO Bn as soon as the first Army Bn becomes available is NOT acceptable.

COL ANFOSSO
COL MUSCO

12. Return of 5,000 Slav-speaking Italian tps to TRIESTE:

C of S
G

Infd above (of GEN MANNERINI's office) of the action taken by MMIA and contents of sig to A.F.H.Q., in conformity with the proposals put fwd verbally by the War Ministry. ANFOSSO or MUSCO should be kept infd of further developments.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

10 - 15 SEP 1945.

COL. LOMBARDI

1. Sig Comms: further talk on general situation of Italian Army sig comms:-

(a) Italian Army has own telegraph lines to main centres and will continue to operate same.

(b) LOMBARDI has recd assurances from sigs office SHAEF that telegraphic comms can be maintained with all pts within 12-hr maximum - i.e. overnight.

(c) Infd LOMBARDI (as result of meeting with Lt-Col MILLAR, Comms S/C A.C.) that AFHQ agrees to removal of restrictions on use of W/T transmitters, and outside aerials etc, but frequency allocation will still be made by AFHQ. This is tantamount to AFHQ control, as a transmitter is of no use without a frequency.

(d) Control of frequencies will enable Italian authorities to regulate use of unauthorised transmitters, and thus keep a check on abuses of the proposed decree law, which was agreed by the cabinet during August. SHAEF was concerned over the use which might be made of W/T by unauthorised subversive orgs.

(e) Advised LOMBARDI that if the War Ministry is seriously considering the need for W/T comms they must apply to the Ministry of Posts and Telecomms, which is the coordinating authority that applies to AFHQ for frequencies. Warned him though that very few frequencies have been allotted to Italian authorities hitherto and that there are high priority needs outstanding.

2. Meeting C.O.C./ JACINI:

Comd

The Minister was indisposed a.m. 11 Sep and kept to his apartment. Saw JACINI later in the day and arranged appointment for C.O.C. 1630 hrs 13 Sep, this being the only half day JACINI is free until after his return from the NORTH next week.

Tentatively arranged with LOMBARDI for the General meeting for Thursday 20 Sep at 0930 hrs.

3. PISA Camp (337):

C of S

As the result of an alarmist report from the Chief of Police in PISA, on the "pitiful" conditions in the camp, the Italian Government is sitting up and taking notice and action is about to be taken. The War Ministry is sending GEN ODLONE post haste to COLTANO (12 Sep) to make recommendations in situ on the disposal or otherwise of the prisoners and internees. On his return the necessary machinery will be set in motion without delay.

Informed LOMBARDI at the same time of developments affecting Camp 336.

4. Appointments:

4582 A

The following amendment is made to para 7 of log 3 - 8 Sep:-

- Brig Gen BERNARDI - to 2 i/c 230 Adm Div.
- Brig Gen GRIMALDI - to hospital for operation.

The post of Comd 5 Bde CREMONA Div has NOT yet been filled.

5. Conveyed C.O.C's approval to appointment of Brig Gen RONCO to Comd CREMONA in place of Brig Gen VECHI who is transferred to ROME for

Comd

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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The post of Comd 5 Bde CREMONA Div has NOT yet been filled.

5. Conveyed G.O.C's approval to appointment of Brig Gen RONCO to Comd CESANO in place of Brig Gen VERNI who is transferred to ROME for special duties. Comd A

6. Reduction of offr cadres: Comd A

LOMBARDI now considers that the commissions for grading senior offrs should be able to start work about 20 Sep. There will be three commissions, one for majors (headed by VERNI), one for Lt-Cols (headed by Maj Gen FERRONE) and one for cols. The latter will be examined by the existing commission which has already dealt with gen offrs.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

7. Also spoke LOMBARDI on following points: Comd G A

(a) future policy on mine clearance: he confirmed War Ministry's opinion that this ought to be a national and not army commitment, and that the army's responsibility should be limited to providing the necessary instructors for training civilians operators. A letter requesting confirmation of this policy is being sent to PARRI.

(b) ALBANIAN subjects serving in Italian Army:

Following a visit to MMIA by Lt-Col SUKACEW and Capt LEBAHOVA, requested LOMBARDI if he could hasten the Govt decision on the policy to be followed in dealing with these people. LOMBARDI could not recall off hand what the position was and promised to find out and speed things up.

(c) Potential candidate for post of DMT.

(d) Camp to be set up near FLORENCE for Fascist Women Auxiliaries.

(e) Need to shake up gen offrs as they are mostly office bound and rarely get out into their territories to visit depots and installations.

(f) Collected record card for Brig Gen PASCALE.

(g) The ten gen offrs have arrived from GERMANY, with the usual harrowing tales of German treatment. LOMBARDI had already spoken to four or five of them.

They report that in one camp in EASTERN GERMANY (presumably in Russians hands) there are 140 Italian generals and admirals. These are nearly all senior offrs who refused to cooperate with the Germans after the Armistice, and incl two of LOMBARDI's own brothers.

(h) Ranks for partisan offrs: LOMBARDI has slipped in a cunning clause in the proposed decree law. Recognition of individual ranks will be based not on the numbers the partisan leaders say they commanded, but on the numbers of weapons handed in by each fmn and unit. After all these months this project is still in the discussion stage.

LT COL MONACO

8. Fascist Women Auxiliaries: MONACO will phone Gen DE SIMONE to inform him that: C of S G Q

(a) C of S MMIA will be visiting FLORENCE on 14 Sep to discuss with Gen DE SIMONE the transfer to Italian Army Authorities of 342 female prisoners now in US hands.

(b) Buildings exist at MONTELUPO suitable for housing the prisoners but that a civil authority in FLORENCE is trying to get its hands on the buildings for other purposes.

(c) Gen DE SIMONE to start thinking about the matter and securing what information he can.

COUNT JACINI

9. Accompanied C.O.C. for general talk on following subjects:

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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(c) Gen DE SIMONE to start thinking about the matter and securing what information he can.

COUNT JACINI

9. Accompanied G.O.C. for general talk on following subjects: (13 Sep)

(a) BBC broadcast on Italian Army: the Minister thanked C.O.C. for his interest in arranging the talk and for his appreciation of the efforts of the Italian Army.

(b) Arrangements were confirmed for meeting 14 Sep 1030 hrs at HQ MMIA. It was stated that a copy of G.O.Cs address on the future of the Italian Army would be handed to War Minister who agreed that it should be translated and circulated only to those Director Generals who were immediately concerned.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(c) G.O.C. reported on his tour of the ND and his impressions of the Territorial Comds, whom he considered had been well chosen by CASATI. He had also seen Gen TOMASELLI comd 228 Adm Div, which would be broken up in the near future. G.O.C. stated that TOMASELLI had done very well during his period of association with 8 Army and deserved a good appointment when he leaves 228 Adm Div.

G.O.C. had also seen Gens SCATTINI and PRIALORSI. The former did well in combat but is apt now to find too many difficulties in everything that has to be done, and in particular made a very shocking and irrelevent remark about acon for offrs at CESANO.

PRIALORSI had done well since he took over the comd of the FOLGORE. He had a strong character, was a good general and had made a big improvement in the div since his arrival. G.O.C. mentioned that he was inclined to be restive over orders given by the Allies, and cited the conversation he had had with CASATI on this subject. ~~It~~ was NOT considered serious, as it was rather in keeping with PRIALORSI's character.

G.O.C. spoke also of the particularly good impression made by Gen NEGRONI and of the excellent relationship between him and the Prefect of BOLZANO.

(d) On the subject of Territorial Comds, the Minister mentioned the following reshuffle he had in mind

(e) The Minister deplored the situation he had been put into by the political attacks on his most senior generals. He said that there were numbers of gen offrs in prison awaiting trial on charges relating to the period of the armistice, who could only be tried by the few surviving top rankers of the Army. If the judges were to be impeached because of party whims he really did not know what he should do next. The last two who were senior enough to act as judges of senior offrs - AGO and AMANTEA - have been indicted as former senators, and the trials of the gens who have already languished for months in prison are again at a complete standstill.

(f) G.O.C. mentioned pay reductions which were subject of universal complaint throughout the Army. JACINI stated that matters are being arranged so that up to Lt-Col incl no one will suffer. G.O.C. recommended that publicity be given to this in LA PATRIA. It was also stated that steps were being taken to continue the 20 lire allowance for tps formerly working in Allied service units.

(g) While the Territorial Comds showed a proper appreciation of the purpose and scope of CESANO, G.O.C. was under the impression that some Gp Comds had other ideas on the subject. For instance, some comds had the idea that trg should be done within their own fmns, and were turning the fmn into a sort of watertight compartment. It was important to correct this attitude.

(h) Trg of Combat Gps: owing to the scattered nature of their duties, little or no trg is being done. G.O.C. has recommended that

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

inclined to be restive over orders given by the Allies, and after the conversation he had had with CASATI on this subject. [illegible] was NOT considered serious, as it was rather in keeping with PRIALORSI's character.

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(d) On the subject of Territorial Comds, the Minister mentioned the following reshuffle he had in mind

(e) The Minister deplored the situation he had been put into by the political attacks on his most senior generals. He said that there were numbers of gen offrs in prison awaiting trial on charges relating to the period of the armistice, who could only be tried by the few surviving top rankers of the Army. If the judges were to be impeached because of party whims he really did not know what he should do next. The last two who were senior enough to act as judges of senior offrs - AGO and AMANTEA - have been indicted as former senators, and the trials of the gens who have already languished for months in prison are again at a complete standstill.

(f) G.O.C. mentioned pay reductions which were subject of universal complaint throughout the Army. JACINI stated that matters are being arranged so that up to Lt-Col incl no one will suffer. G.O.C. recommended that publicity be given to this in LA PATRIA. It was also stated that steps were being taken to continue the 20 lire allowance for tps formerly working in Allied service units.

(g) While the Territorial Comds showed a proper appreciation of the purpose and scope of CES/NO, G.O.C. was under the impression that some Gp Comds had other ideas on the subject. For instance, some comds had the idea that trg should be done within their own fmns, and were turning the fmn into a sort of watertight compartment. It was important to correct this attitude.

(h) Trg of Combat Gps: owing to the scattered nature of their duties, little or no trg is being done. G.O.C. has recommended that some units of the div be fully employed on gd and security duties, thus liberating one or two [illegible] complete bns or btys for trg. After a period of trg these bns and btys can replace the scattered units who will have their turn at trg. At the present time all units are partially engaged on gd duties and no trg is possible.

(i) JACINI raised the general question of accn for Territorial bdes and bns, and the need to secure derequisition of suitable buildings. G.O.C. promised to investigate the matter personally.

(j) JACINI read out parts of his letter of 12 Sep on the subject of need for modern arms for C.C.R.R. He said he was forced to bring the matter up again pressure of circumstances. G.O.C. agreed to review the matter

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

(iv) Recovery of vehicles and spares: G.O.C. was able to inform the Minister of a big improvement in the situation. Sufficient reserves of spares had been discovered to last the Army for five years. More vehicles were being recovered and placed in circulation.

JACINI explained his own posn in this matter, being torn between his anxiety as War Minister to get the vehs back from civilian use, and his responsibility as member of the Govt for maintaining the essential tpt services of the country in being. In consideration of the fact that some of these army vehs were being used for vital services, G.O.C. proposed that all users of army vehs be compelled to register at the Territorial H.Qs and declare the use to which the vehs are being put. It could then be decided whether the need was really vital.

(1) The following subjects were also discussed:

- Maj SCOTTI's case;
- Demobilization plan;
- Change over between SAN MARCO and GARIBALDI Regt;
- Shipping to SARDINIA;
- Arty and M.T. Directorate;
- Gas Plant at CESANO;
- PRESIDENT's comm direct with S.A.C.

COL LOMBARDI

10. Appointment: Conveyed G.O.C's approval of the following move: A

Brig Gen PASCALIS Arturo to be Arty Comd UDINE Territorial H.Q. vice Brig Gen FERRARI Augusto who is placed at the disposal of DOLOMIA Territorial H.Q. for special duties.

COL MUSCO
LT-COL VALLESE

11. 5,000 Italian tps of Slav origin: Conveyed to Gen MANNERINI's office general information about intention to repatriate these men from SOUTH FRANCE and requested their plan for reception, documentation, re-employment (if any) or return to VENEZIA GIULIA, where the majority of the men are domiciled. G

Future of Italian Army:

12. A meeting was held at MMIA at 1030 hrs 14 Sep, at which G.O.C. gave an Allied appreciation of some of the more important aspects of the future of the Italian Army, with particular emphasis on trg. Those present were:

M.M.I.A.

G.O.C.
Col A/Q.
G.I

Italian War Ministry - Gen Staff.

JACINI

4577

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

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- Arty and M.T. Directorate;
- Gas Plant at CESANO;
- PERSICHETTI's comm direct with S.A.C.

COL LOMBARDI

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Brig Gen PASCALE Arturo to be Arty Comd UDINE Territorial H.Q. vice Brig Gen FERRARI Augusto who is placed at the disposal of BOLOGNA Territorial H.Q. for special duties.

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| M.M.I.A. | Italian War Ministry - Gen Staff. |
|---|---|
| G.O.C. | JACINI |
| Col A/Q. | CADORNA |
| G.I | CHATRIAN |
| G II(Trg) | LIUZZI |
| G II (L) | BONCO |
| Capt PACINI | LOMBARDI |
| Capt TEMPLE | |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

# AJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

## 3 - 8 SEP 1945

### COL. PIACENTINI

1. Recovery Dets: C Q

Collected copy of new Directives dated 1 Sep governing the ops of the six authorised recovery Dets.

2. SD Branch SMRE: C

Quoted to PIACENTINI instance of [redacted] and ORB&T Secs getting their wires crossed and duplicating list of cooperator units excluded from original AFHQ List.

3. Recovery Det for BOLOGNA T.HQ: C Q

Infd PIACENTINI of situation reported by Italian LO HQ 5 ARMY - ref 7991/21 16 Aug. PIACENTINI immediately requested explanation from BOLOGNA T.HQ, for saying the Det was NOT needed, after they had applied in writing to SMRE, and from BOLZANO T.HQ for NOT coordinating with MMIA LO as instructed. He will keep the writer infd.

4. Accn for Gd Bns: C Q

With the handing over to Italian Comd of one or more Gd Bns for each Territorial HQ the question of suitable barrack accn has to be solved. PIACENTINI stated the view that it would be bad policy to push the Bns into just any old place with a roof overhead and thus give these units a poor start in their new role. He would like a suitable modern barrack made available where possible. He will make a specific request for the Bn stationed in ROME, while the other two Bns of the ROME T. HQ will go to FOLIGNO and VITERBO for the time being.

### LT. COL. BECLCHINI

5. CADORNA's visit to SAC: Comd C A

Requested BECLCHINI 31 Aug when the C of S SMRE would be back in ROME and able to visit CASERTA. The reply was that CADORNA was expected back on 3 Sep, and would be going to MILAN again on the 9th. BECLCHINI was infd 1700 hrs 3 Sep that the appointment with Field Marshal ALEXANDER had been fixed for 1100 hrs 5 Sep. At the time the writer spoke to BECLCHINI it was NOT known at SMRE whether CADORNA had left MILAN and it was decided that BECLCHINI would phone MILAN forthwith and arrange that CADORNA should fly down on 4 Sep if he was still in MILAN.

Col. LOMBARDI was immediately infd of the situation up to that moment. On 4 Sep at 1100 hrs Gen. LIUZZI stated that CADORNA himself had decided he could not free himself from earlier and most important appointments in MILAN in time to catch the (?) plane to ROME on the same day.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Quoted to PIACENTINI instance of WB and ORBAT Secs getting their wires crossed and duplicating list of cooperator units excluded from original AFHQ List.

3. Recovery Det for BOLOGNA T.HQ: G Q

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The appointment at CASERTA was accordingly cancelled.

COL. LOMBARDI

6. Reply on Interim Army:

LOMBARDI stated that the Minister had already examined the proposals put fwd by SMRE and was awaiting CADORNA's return to discuss the whole question with him.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

7. Inf'd LOMBARDI of GOC's approval of the following appointments:

- Brig. Gen BERNARDI - to Comd 5 Bde CALABRIA I.S. Div.
- Brig. Gen GRIMALDI - to 2 i/c 230 Adm Div.

8. Future appointments of Gen Offrs and Cols to comd fmns: Comd G A

Mentioned to LOMBARDI that in view of all the thought and effort being directed to improved trg of Offrs and NCO's at CESANO, the comds of fmns should also be familiarized with what is being done in this direction. MAIA suggested that all Gen Offrs and Cols be attached to CESANO for a short period before taking up new appointments involving the comd of tps. This particularly applied to Offrs returning from P.W. after having been out of touch with things for several years. LOMBARDI thought it an excellent plan and promised to have the necessary orders issued.

MAJ. CALATERI

9. Handed to him pass for Gen. CHATRIAN to proceed on leave to AOSTA, within the 25 km Frontier Band. Stressed that this was granted on the understanding that the General would not indulge in public activities of a political nature, in connection with the autonomy granted to the VAL D'AOSTA Region. CHATRIAN was responsible for making the original report and recommendations on which the decree law was based. G

LT. COL. SILLI

10. Repatriation of ten Italian Gen Offrs: A

Further to para 18 of Log 27-31 Aug, infd SILLI that it was now being arranged for the ten Gens to be transported from BERLIN to MILAN by air. SILLI will issue warning order to MILAN T. HQ to be ready to receive these Gens when they arrive.

LT. COL. CANALE

11. ALBANIAN personnel in Italian Army: Comd A

Discussed with CANALE the application made by Lt. Col. LEV SUKACEV to GOC MMIA for a settlement of the situation of ALBANIAN Offrs and NCO's serving with the Italian Army. An identical statement had already been submitted to MMIA by another Albanian Offr, Capt. ASLAN LIBOHOVA, and forwarded by MMIA to War Ministry.

LIBOHOVA had previously discussed the situation with CANALE and the latter has been elaborating a settlement which has finally received the approval of the Italian authorities. CANALE authorised the writer to inform LIBOHOVA that he would receive comn of the details of the settlement during the present week. SUKACEV's name was NOT mentioned during this conversation with CANALE. The writer subsequently phoned SUKACEV and infd him of the state of affairs and that SUKACEV could put LIBOHOVA into the picture as well. It was made clear to both sides during these conversations that the question at issue is fundamentally one to be settled directly between

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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COL. LOMBARDI

12. Appointment for Col. NEGRONI: C of S A

Reminded LOMBARDI of the efforts made by NEGRONI to keep his liaison Sec alive after the disbandment of AAI, with the proposal to transfer the Sec to AFHQ. This scheme had come to nothing.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NND NO. 785020

Infd LOMBARDI that a sig had now arrived from C . US Tps in AUSTRIA requesting Col. NEGRONI plus one Offr and five ORs to serve as Liaison unit on Gen CLARK's HQ. It was NOT known what functions this unit would have, since there existed no Italian Tps in AUSTRIA. Simultaneously, a recommendation had been made by head of G-2 AFHQ that NEGRONI be appointed to comd IAI (SIM). This latter move had been provoked by NEGRONI himself who had infd AFHQ that AGRIFOGLIO had already vacated his post.

LOMBARDI stated in reply that NEGRONI had been to him some time ago saying that Gen. CLARK would be taking him and a few others to AUSTRIA with his HQ. LOMBARDI asked him what he would be doing there and NEGRONI indicated that his work would be similar to that being carried out by FIORE VERNAZZA and other Italian Offrs in FRANCE. LOMBARDI had mentioned the question of funds, but it appears that NEGRONI intended making pte arrangements for himself and his followers, and would make no call on the War Ministry other than for normal pay and allowances in Lire. LOMBARDI added that while the Ministry had neither suggested this mission nor had official business to entrust to NEGRONI, at the same time he felt some good would be done by having this Det in AUSTRIA to help with the repatriation of PWs, refugees, etc.

As regards the second case, LOMBARDI said that there was no question of AGRIFOGLIO leaving the IAI service for the time being, nor was he convinced that NEGRONI was altogether the right man for the job when the post does become vacant. He knew that NEGRONI had aspired to the post, but he was certainly NOT authorized to talk to AFHQ about it. If MMIA would put this in writing he would see that it was taken up strongly with NEGRONI.

13. Italian Army property (Recovery):

C of S Q

Asked LOMBARDI if he knew of any order from the Govt to the Prefects entrusting the latter with control of Army vehs and other property now in the hands of civilians etc. He stated that he had recd complaints from T. HQs at GENOA, FLORENCE and was in comn with Ministry of Interior on the subject. He doubted whether a direct order existed, but thought that the Prefects might well be trying to take advantage of some existing regulations which they were interpreting to suit their own ends.

COL. PIACENTINI

14. Notified the Col. of contents of MMIA Sig SD 2947 of 6 Sep. G

15. Spoke about 212 Div Mil Band and 23 Engr Bn. 457 G

PIACENTINI said they had decided NOT to keep the latter unit in being for mine clearance duties as this work will in future be carried out by civilian personnel (under direction of Army Engr Offrs and a few NCO's) under the auspices of the Ministry for Post War Reconstruction. They are anxious to avoid two parallel forms of org on the same work and they will also be achieving a substantial economy in the War Ministry's financial commitments.

LT. COL. SANSONE

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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LT. COL. SANSONE

16. In answer to War Ministry query (originated by BOLOGNA T. HQ), infd SANSONE that MMIA LO FLORENCE would deal with matters of interest to BOLOGNA Mil. HQ. G

LT. COL. CHECCHIA

17. Italian Army Postal Units: G Q

With the abolition of censorship and the return to more normal conditions in the civil postal adm, CHECCHIA proposes gradually to eliminate the mil postal units. Phase 1, which he proposes to effect immediately, covers SOUTH ITALY (incl 227 Div Postal Unit), Phase 2 CENTRAL, and Phase 3 NORTH ITALY.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Discussed with "Q" Branch and infd CHECCHIA no objection on the part of MMIA provided the tps continue to receive their mail regularly.

18. For the purpose of debiting Italian Army personnel for the loss of eqpt through carelessness and neglect, CHECCHIA has requested a priced vocabulary for all eqpt, arms, etc supplied to the Gruppi from British sources. At present he only has prices of clothing. Q

8 Sep 45

WS



Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log

27 - 31 Aug 45

27 August

Col PIACENTINI

1. Recovery Gets: revised instrs placing dets under comd TMQs for all purposes, subject assignment of duties being approved by MMIA LOs. Discussed with 'G' and 'Q' and approved revised draft. -G - Q-

2. Fascist Camp nr PISA: Gen De SIMONI and the camp comd recommend that one bn only be retained for gd duties, and that this bn be constituted with the best elements of the two existing bns. Remaining personnel to be re-allotted, part to serve as nucleus of a second bn for duty elsewhere. De SIMONI has also requested two CC.RR. secs for special duties. Discussed with 'G' and C of S and communicated approval to Piacen-tini. -G-

3. Transit camp arrangements for tps travelling between CIVITAVECCHIA and SARDINIA. -G-

Col LOMBARDI

4. G.O.C.s tour in the NORTH, 3 - 8 Sept. -Comd-

5. Article in UNITA : political activities of tps stationed at FORLI. Matter already under discussion between JACINI and ANDREATTA, Under-Secretary to the Cabinet. Lombardi reiterated the view that units NOT fully employed be reduced or disbanded, and surplus personnel demobilised. Much of this trouble is due to men having too little to keep them occupied. -Comd - A-

6. War Ministry proposal to abolish La Patria - Lombardi himself seems to be persuaded to this view now. Reason not very clear. Will follow. -A-

7. Chased Lombardi for reply on interim army - said to be now before the Minister. -G-

8. Sig comms with the NORTH : requested Lombardi to ascertain from Mini-stry of Telecomms whether all the facilities and priorities to which the War Ministry is entitled are in fact being made available. -G-

Lt Col OLIVETTI

9. Mules and horses : it is confirmed that the War Ministry will be glad to avail itself of the opportunity to bid for 2,500 mules and 1,000 horses about to be disposed of by the British Army. The mules are for eventual Alpini units and the horses for the CC.RR. Should all or part of the above mules be made available at the Italian Army, it will be necessary to find the tps for looking after the mules. Ref 'Q'. -G - Q-

28 August

Gen PROPERZI

10. Handed him QS of 25 Aug. Enlarged on the theme of transferring machinery from Army Grps to AF Wksps where required to complete installations. PROPERZI agrees in principle, but has rec'd no plans yet -Q-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Discussed with [illegible]
-tini.

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of the above mules be made available at the Italian Army, it will be
necessary to find the tps for looking after the mules. Ltr ref 'C'.

28 August

Gen PROFERZJ

10. Handed him Q5 of 25 Aug. Enlarged on the theme of transferring -C-
machinery from Artyl Wksps to MT Wksps where required to complete insta-
-llations. PROFERZJ agrees in principle, but has rec'd no plans yet
for the fourteen mob wksps about to be fitted out in TURIN.

11. Veh maintenance : the one Inspectorate that is badly needed at the -C- C-
moment (MT) does NOT exist. Consequently there is no one in GHQ
whose main concern is MT trg and maintenance. Until an Inspector
General is appointed it is difficult to see how any improvement will
be achieved in MT maintenance, since there is no independent authority
on the Technical side to see insts are carried out.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

-C-A-

[illegible] him that some dissatisfaction existed at MMIA with the func- [illegible]oning of the WE side of his Branch and with gener[illegible] lack of [illegible]ordination between SD and WE and ORBAT secs. As a result of this discussion it would appear that the basis of a sound enough org exists and that ample provision has been made for exchange of infmn between secs. It was agreed that Piacentini would make further efforts to find fresh offrs to replace a few of the less capable members of this staff. Also that SMRE would discontinue to send in what has become known as "MAIOCCHI's specchio", which is superseded by the new ORBAT. Sub secs of 'G' Branch MMIA are requested to notify the writer of specific instances where the work of their numbers falls below a reasonable standard of efficiency.

Gen LIUZZI

21. Replacement of unsuitable offrs in SMRE: LIUZZI admitted quite frankly that a number of SMRE offrs need to be replaced with better material, but stated that he was up against insuperable obstacles represented by economic conditions. In effect the only offrs they can post to the War Ministry are either batchelors or married men with property or connections in ROME. This severely curtailes a field of selection which is already very limited because of the PW question. To make matters worse the Italian Govt is still very hostile to the Army and would object, he feels, to any proposal to relieve the situation such as requisitioning a hotel in ROME where married offrs and their families could live.

Col DI MONACO
Lt Col CARLI

22. Fascist PW camp nr PISA : discussed the following pts and requested C of S War Ministry action where applicable:

(a) Col MARINARI (Italian camp Comd) may request one gd coy in addition to the one bn now agreed. MMIA approve.

(b) Red Cross passes for visitors discontinued War Ministry to consider future procedure.

(c) Control of camp passed to Italian comd 0800 hrs 31 Aug.

(d) Release of PWs to Allied authorities:-
Only on production of MMIA HQ authority.

(e) Release of PWs to Italian authorities:-
War Ministry to lay down procedure .

(f) Re entry into camp of individuals already released to Italian authorities: specific cases will be considered and approved by MMIA but release by holding Italian authorities to be negotiated by War Ministry.

(g) Processing of internees (also requested Lombardi to hand [illegible] 457 [illegible] 1 Aug )

(h) Large stock of German blankets and clothing - hitherto undisclosed - had been found in the camp.

[illegible] kitchens handing over duties and

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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Col DI MONACO
Lt Col CANILI

22. Fascist PW camp nr PINA : discussed the following pts and requested C of S War Ministry action where applicable:

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(b) Red Cross passes for visitors discontinued War Ministry to consider future procedure.

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(d) Release of PWs to Allied authorities:-
Only on production of MMIA HQ authority.

(e) Release of PWs to Italian authorities:-
War Ministry to lay down procedure .

(f) Re entry into camp of individuals already released to Italian authorities: specific cases will be considered and approved by MMIA but release by holding Italian authorities to be negotiated by War Ministry.

(g) Processing of interpdees (also requested Lombardi to hasten p.n. 4573
1 Aug )

(h) Large stock of German blankets and clothing - hitherto undisclosed - had been found in the camp.

(j) German personnel i/c ~~offices~~ compounds and kitchens handing over duties and leaving 31 Aug.

(k) Italian med det in place with 90 day med supp in hosp; average 400 patients per day.

(l) Camp comd had been given copy of US individual records on PWs.

Jw C2 Sept 45

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 7850220

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG
20 - 25 AUGUST 45.

COL PIACENTINI

1. Session devoted to "interim army" problems:

ALL Branches

(a) Territorial bdes: There have been differences of opinion within SMFE as to future org (bdes versus regts) - it is agreed that for immediate implementation existing gd bns can be used with regt H.Q.100 streng. (This confirms conversation PIACENTINI/INGLESEN) Later the regts can be reorganised on same lines as bdes of I.S. Divs. Following particulars were also mentioned affecting individual gd bns: 525 Regt 210 Div. (O.C. Col BALZANI), earmarked for TURIN, now consists of only 300 odd all ranks, organised in three coys:

one mxp trg coy
one coy on transit camp and welfare duty services (mostly waiters, orderlies etc)
one coy on duty at convalescent homes (mostly sanitary personnel)

PIACENTINI(and Regt) query whether this odd assortment of personnel will in fact make such a good foundation for a gd bn.

(b) The SMFE reply on the "interim army" has already been prepared and is in the hands of the War Ministry, for the Minister's consideration (see LOMBARDI below). The reply covers the following points:

(i) source of regt H.Qs for Territorial Bdes and of the air missing coys. It is proposed to form the latter from scratch.

(ii) General observations on the main categories as proposed for the "interim army". It is understood that there are no observations.

(iii) Suggested modifications to ests of Combat Groups.

(iv) Proposals (in general outline) for increasing the Territorial org up to 7,000.

(c) Although the detailed figures for the services category are nearly completed, they have not been included in the above reply and will be forwarded separately. It was agreed that PIACENTINI would request heads of services of the War Ministry to discuss and explain individual bids with opposite numbers of MMIA, so that everyone is informed and clear as to the objects which it is intended to achieve.

(d) Recruitment and training plan: Several replies to MMIA letter have been drafted and submitted to C of S, but CADORNA sent back the latest version this a.m. for revision and it will not be despatched until this return in four days time. The writer has seen the last edition, which;

(i) agrees that CESANO must continue to serve as the central school for trg instructors, officer and NCO cadres and certain categories of specialists;

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

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(i) agrees that CESANO must continue to serve as the central school for trg instructors, officer and NCO cadres and certain categories of specialists;

(ii) draws attention to certain difficulties in equitably reducing an "annual class" of 250,000 to 100,000, (though it is clarified that these difficulties would NOT necessarily stand in the way of the "interim army");

(iii) recommends a call-up twice a year (at six-monthly intervals) and as a corollary envisages numerous difficulties of a practical and adm nature in recruiting 10,000 men ~~in~~ each month, both in the call-up process and in the trg stages.

* 2c Aug.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

12. CISTERNA - rem[illegible] l of unex. ammn from old palace: owing to Allied policy not allowing personnel to deal with bomb and ammn clearance, this work has to be entrusted to civilian contractors and their vehs. Properzj stated that there was a big pile of outstanding requests in the contractors hands; he would see what could be done in this case. -Comd-

Lt Col SANSONE

13. Requested info as to whereabouts of Capt TAMANTI - 56 Regt TRENTO Div, who was on staff of PW Camp TOBRUK in July 42. -A-

Col LOMBARDI

14. Gen RODA has been posted as Mil Attache BERN (as previously agreed), now that Gen BIANCHI has returned to Italy. -Comd- A-

Col PIACENTINI

29 August

15. Bomb disposal : squads have been organised with Mil personnel on civilian rations. Infd Piacentini that tpt required for bomb disposal must be indented on Territorial Mil Adm Tpt Coys. Piacentini's comments was that while this procedure was sound enough in theory, in practice it could hardly be expected to work, since Adm Tpt Coys were so much below strength in most cases that there was already insufficient tpt for existing requirements. -Comd-G-Q-

Col LOMBARDI
Col PIACENTINI
Lt Col CARLI

16. Fascist Camp nr PISA : numerous contacts with above to ensure that -C of S-
(a) additional personnel, offrs and NCOs, required for running the camp and camp services are despatched without delay;

(b) instrs regarding the taking over of the camp are sent to the Italian camp Comd.

Col LOMBARDI

17. Estimated Army Expenditure 1945/46: Borrowed from Lombardi his copy of proposed Army votes for period 1945/46, which the writer will examine in greater detail with comm. ROBOTTI, the financial expert at the War Ministry. -A-

Lt Col De CILLI

18. Repatriation of ten Italian Gen offrs: informed him of contents of AFHQ sig of 28 Aug ref F 39062. -A-

Col LOMBARDI

30 August 457

19. Fascist Camp nr PISA : Lombardi was able to state that all personnel required at the camp would be en route during the course of the day.

Col PIACENTINI

31 August

20. Ufficio Ordinamento and Mobilitazione : Long session with the head [illegible] C [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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Col PIACENTINI

31 August

20. Ufficio Ordinamento and Mobilitazione : Long session with the head of SD Branch SHAEF on the internal org, staff duties and personnel of his branch. For gen infm, the following is the present distribution of personnel by secn:-

Col PIACENTINI

| MD and WS | ORBAT | 'A' |
|---|---|---|
| Lt Col GUIDA<br>Lt Col GRATTI<br>Br-Iti service units and combat ops & all CC.RR. | Lt Col MILLEFIORINI<br>Maj SALVI<br>ITI-ITI category | Lt Col D'ALESSANDRO<br>Maj PIETOZZI | Lt Col DI BITONTO<br>Lt Col CESSOI<br>Maj POCE<br>(Rfts, Call-ups demobilisation) |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 735020

(e) Ref (d) (ii) above, in a normal year the Army "wastage" would be too small to permit of an equitable call-up of an entire age-group, and so as to obviate a disparity of military obligations, a larger number than budgeted for would be called up at the beginning of the Army year, some of the men serving only 3 months, and others six, twelve or eighteen months. Thus at the end of the Army year the strength would be below the budgeted figure, but taken through the year the average would correspond with that allowed in the Army votes. This system of the "balanced force" (forza bilanciata) also gives the Army a proportion of trained personnel at any time of the year.

The imposition of a rigid ceiling creates a problem not easy to overcome: an "ad hoc" solution can be thought out for the "interim force" but for the permanent army a satisfactory method has yet to be found. If it is the Allied intention that the authorised ceiling is a maximum strength NOT to be exceeded, this should be authoritively stated now for the interim army, and in due course for the permanent force, to enable the War Ministry to plan accordingly.

2. GEN CADORNA

General talk on a variety of subjects. He confirmed PIACENTINI's comments on the interim army, and added that the SHAPE proposals contained a recommendation that failing adequate pay and clothing for tps, the Territorial Bdes be limited for the time being to two bns each and if necessary the Internal Security divs reduced to one regt apiece. He leaves later today for an inspection of officer cadets at POTENZA. — Comd G

COL LOMBARDI

3. CADORNA's visit to A.F.H.Q: after interrogating the Minister, at the writer's request, on the origin of CADORNA's application, LOMBARDI stated: — G

"that in recent conversation with JACINI, the Prince had given it to be understood that it had been commented at A.F.H.Q. that CADORNA had NOT yet called on Field Marshal ALEXANDER or his C of S since his appointment as head of SHAPE. From the Prince's remarks it was gathered that such a courtesy call would NOT be out-of-place the next time CADORNA was near CASERTA".

4. Interim Army: LOMBARDI had just received the SHAPE proposals (see 1 (b) above) and estimated that 2 to 3 days would be needed to consider the matter in detail and secure the Minister's approval. — G

5. Interim Army: Informed G-1 of general tenor of SHAPE reply (see above) — Comd G

(a) proposed additions to combat groups of armd and bridging units, and abolition of a few existing units, no longer needed, resulting in a small margin within the 50,000 ceiling NOT yet earmarked; — A Q

(b) services have been planned to within about 3,000 of the ceiling allowed, but no provision has been made for the requirements of the Repatriated P.W. Org etc, on which several thousands are now engaged.

(c) Alpini units: after further consideration SHAPE now favour the conversion - at some future date - of part of some of the Territorial Bdes to Alpini personnel, say one bn out of the three in five or six

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 78502?0

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(c) Alpini units: after further consideration SMRE now favour the conversion - at some future date - of part of some of the Territorial Bdes to Alpini personnel, say one bn out of the three in five or six of the NORTHERN regions. The plan to convert one or more combat groups has been discarded.

6. LT COL CALVETTI

Mules: At request of Q Branch informed the above(in the absence of MELONI) that a further batch of mules would shortly be disposed of by the British Army in Italy, and that it was necessary to know whether the War Ministry wished to bid for all or part of these animals. Discussed the Alpini proposition (see previous para) and requested him to consider, in the event of the War Ministry wishing to avail itself of the opportunity, who would be entrusted with the mules for the next few months, since no tps were immediately available or authorised for this purpose. Q

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDS No. 785020

GEN LIUZZI
COL PIACENTINI

7 Accompanied G-1 and G2 (Trg) for conference on trg of interim army (23 Aug) — Comd C

(a) The question of the number and size of the call-ups was first discussed, insofar as this directly affects the number of instructors and cadres required. SMRE are still thinking in terms of two call-ups of 50,000 each, mainly for seasonal considerations. Three or four call-ups per year, would facilitate the trg plan by reducing numbers of trainees to 33,000 or 25,000 at a time. The loss to the Army of half of its trained effectives at a single sweep was another factor advanced by MMIA reps in favour of a more staggered plan.

(b) SMRE accepted in principle the MMIA proposal to allocate 2,500 instructors as permanent regimental instructors for supervising the basic training of recruits. This will allow 50 instructors per trg bn for a call-up of 50,000 men, or 80 instructors per bn if the call-up is of 33,000 men.

(c) SMRE further confirmed that after charging the above 2,500 instructors against the rft/trg ceiling of 10,000, the balance would be sufficient to provide trg and adm staffs for the remainder of the trg programme, namely:

- Military Academy
- Staff College
- Specialist courses for offrs and NCOs;
- NCOs basic trg course (Sgts)
- Specialist courses for ORs.

GEN LIUZZI
COL PIACENTINI

8 Request for comparative figures of cost-per-day for regular and conscripted ORs of Italian Army under the following headings: — A

- Rations
- Clothing (and equipment)
- Acen (light and fuel)
- Overheads
- Pay of conscript for one year's engagement
- Pay of long service volunteer

Figures promised for week-end.

27 August 45.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG
6 - 11 AUG 45

G/32

GEN. RONCO
GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PIACENTINI

1. Accompanied G-1 to SMRE (6 Aug) for meeting on "Interim" Army:

(a) G-1 stated that the immediate future of the Italian Army had been under consideration at AFHQ, as a result of which certain proposals had now been put fwd to the COS at WASHINGTON. The proposed ceiling and strength of the main categories were mentioned. At the same time, it was made very clear that the entire project was only in the examination stage, that no decisions had been taken, nor were any decisions to be implied by this announcement.

(b) Nevertheless G-1 considered that the time had now come for SMRE to make a study of certain aspects of the proposals and submit their observations. It was agreed that SMRE would reply as soon as possible on the following form headings.

(i) General observations on the whole project;

(ii) Proposed variations (if any) to TE's of Combat Gps, incl the provision, if required, of Armd car Units, and the conversion of one or more Gruppi to Alpini personnel with consequent provision of auxiliary units.

(iii) Reorganization and increase of Territorial Org from 5,000 to 7,000 all ranks. This info to be by main headings only, and NOT to incl TE's for the present.

(iv) Proposed source of Territorial Bde HQs and the missing 1g Bns. G-1 had outlined his proposals for converting existing Gd Bns and Coys to Territorial Bdes, with an apparent deficiency at this moment of six Coys.

(c) SMRE reaction to above was wholly favourable, with the single exception of the proposed exclusion of Arty from Territorial Bdes and I.G. Divs. Grounds of objections were:-

(i) For quelling civil disturbances, tps armed with small arms and automatic weapons only would have no advantage over the civil population, which is abundantly equipped with weapons of this kind. The Arty is rated by SMRE to have very considerable moral value for maintaining law and order.

"Shelling", perhaps? Eng. means exterminating

(ii) It would leave the Italian Army with only the Combat Gp Arty as a trg medium for this branch of the service, which is proportionately very small for the size of the Army. They say they would also be faced with the necessity of converting large numbers of regular Arty Offrs and NCOs to other purposes.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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SMRE will submit their observations and proposals in writing.

COL. PIACENTINI

2. Discharge of 1915 Class:

Informed PIACENTINI that AFHQ had decided to demobilise the 1915 Class and that the Executive Order would follow in a day or two. PIACENTINI stated that the 1914 Class had all been sent home, with the exception of a few units who still held men on specialist jobs whom they had been unable to release without replacement.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

COUNT JACINI
COL. LOMBARDI

3. Fascist prisoners and detention Camps:

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Accompanied C of S MMIA on visit to the War Minister 7 Aug to convey Allied decision to hand over to Italian Govt the custody of 22,000 Fascist personnel in a concentration camp at PISA.

(a) JACINI was told that COS policy was that while the detainees were in Allied hands they would NOT be released before all cooperator PW's had been repatriated. But as soon as they were handed over to the Italian Govt for safe keeping it would be up to the Italian Govt to decide what should become of them.

(b) Two Italian Gd Bns and a Regt Hq would be made available for administering and guarding the camp.

(c) The ration for the internees would continue on the same scale as hitherto (2,000 calories). The Minister was handed a list of items showing which were to come from Allied Army sources and which from Italian Army sources. In order to maintain Army control over distribution, it had been laid down that the War Ministry would be responsible for administering rations in the camp.

(d) The hand-over was required to take place as soon as possible, but until the Italian authorities had their machinery working properly, a U.S. Det would continue to remain at the camp in an advisory capacity.

(e) Fascist detainees in civil prisons in NORTH Italy:

A further 24,000 persons were congesting the civil prisons in the Northern Regions and AMG and Civil authorities were pressing for their removal. AFHQ had now offered to turn over to the Italian authorities for this purpose an existing camp site near MODENA with a capacity of 50,000, until recently used for German PW's. Persons detained here would be on civil rations, but two Italian Gd Bns would be made available for Gd duties.

(f) In reply to a question by JACINI, it was stated that movement of these 24,000 detainees from prisons to camp would be under arrangements of AMG/Civil authorities, and that their tpt would NOT be a War Ministry responsibility.

(g) The Minister said that it would be necessary for him to consult the Govt before adhering to the above arrangements. It looked as though the PISA Camp would become entirely a War Ministry responsibility for all purposes, the Ministry of Grace and Justice concerning itself solely with the classification, examination and trial of prisoners. On the other hand, the MODENA Camp would very likely have to be a "Grace and Justice" responsibility,

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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(h) JACINI promised to secure a reply by the 11th, so that a Recce party could leave ROME early in the following week to visit both Camp sites. The party would consist of:-

- Rep of War Ministry
- Rep of Ministry of Grace and Justice
- Col commanding the Regt HQ (if not already at PISA)
- (?) Rep of MMLA.

(i) MMLA to confirm the entire proposition in writing.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COL. PIACENTINI

4. The Conference of Gen. Offrs duly commenced 10 Aug with a session presided over by Gen. CADORNA. A large number of current controversial problems were raised and discussed at length, chief among them being:-

Comd
C of S
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(a) Prestige of the Army is at a very low ebb:

The reasons are many and deep-rooted, and known to all, but the fact remains. Particularly is this serious if in the future the tps have to be used for maintaining law and order. Frequent attacks are made on the Army publicly and in the press, and the authority of those in comd is held in little respect. This has been especially noted by Territorial Comds in their dealings with Provincial Prefects.

The Minister has recently issued a circular reminding Offrs that they are NOT allowed to meddle in politics. The opinion of the Generals was that if the officers are not allowed to defend the Army this should be done energetically and adequately by the War Minister, which is NOT the case at the moment. (The writer has on previous occasions discussed with LOMBARDI - who is in full agreement - the need for a qualified PRO for the War Ministry).

(b) Pay and conditions of the tps:

(i) Gruppi Comds represented strongly that there should be no reduction in the pay of CRs who have taken part in ops, or drawn the higher rate of pay on the grounds of avoiding excessive discontent.

(ii) An increase in the basic rates of pay of CRs was pressed for, it being pointed out that the Territorial tps, who were the lowest paid, were now the hardest worked, while the Allied Service tps received a bonus for doing little or nothing which was the situation of many units today.

(iii) On the question of better pay and conditions for the Interim Army, it was explained to the Generals that the Italian Treasury was creating serious difficulties over present rates of pay, let alone increases for the future. In the same way, there was only a limited supply of uniforms and boots from Allied sources and little or no Italian Army stocks, so that none could be spared for new recruits of younger age Gps. The reaction of the Generals to this was that it would be infinitely preferable to start the Interim Army with fewer Tps than authorised by the Allies, and only work up to the approved ceiling as and when conditions of pay, clothing, and boots are improved and fresh recruits are available. This is also the general opinion of [illegible].

4563

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

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4568

(c) MMIA Liaison Officers:

Appreciation was expressed of the help given by LO's and it was stated to be very desirable to have an LO for each Territorial HQ.

(d) Recovery Units:

Dissatisfaction was expressed in some cases with the meagre results achieved by Recovery Units. It was recommended that these units be under the direct comd of the Terr. HQs, and NOT under control of MMIA LO's, for reasons of expediency and discipline.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

(e) It was strongly urged that further spares be issued from The S. CANDIDO, as it was stated to be otherwise impossible to continue repairs of inefficient vehs, particularly at BELOOKA.

August 45

4565

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG
30/31 JULY - 4 Aug 1945

GEN. CADORNA
GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PIACENTINI
COL. LOMBARDI

1. ALPINI Divs: Comd

Discussion of alleged requirements of two additional ALPINI Divs put fwd by PARRI to Chief Commissioner A.C. - reported in detail separately.

LT. COL. MONACO

2. FOGGIA Round-up: G A

No reply had been received from Ministry of Interior by 31 July. Chaser sent on that day. MONACO has promised a definite decision within 3/4 days.

OFFICIAL VISITS

3. The following called on COC 31 July: Comd

Maj. Gen. CARATTI (Inspector Gen. of Arty)
Maj. Gen. PROPERZJ (Director Gen. of Arty and MT at War Ministry)

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF GEN. OFFRS

4. The following appointments were approved by COC 31 July: Comd A

2 i/c MILAN T.HQ: Brig. Gen. CAPIZZI Manlio
2 i/c BOLZANO T.HQ: Brig. Gen. BRISOTTO Silvio
(From Comd IV Bde ACSTA Div)
Comd IV Bde ACSTA Div: Brig. Gen. BATTAGLINI Gino
President Mil. Tribunal ROME: *Brig. Gen. FANTONI Euclide
President Mil. Tribunal FLORENCE: Brig. Gen. GRILLO Arrigo

(* FANTONI will replace Brig. Gen. ROCCA Armaldo who reaches retiring age 2 Sep)

COL. LOMBARDI

4567

5. FOGGIA Round-up: Comd G

LOMBARDI was informed 3 Aug by phone from Ministry of Interior that the latter Ministry recommends that the Call-up is NOT implemented, to avoid possibilities of upsetting the population and causing public disturbances. Infd C-l.

GEN. PROPERZJ Comd G

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

separately.

LT. COL. MONACO

2. FOGGIA Round-up: G A

No reply had been received from Ministry of Interior by 31 July. Chaser sent on that day. MONACO has promised a definite decision within 3/4 days.

OFFICIAL VISITS

3. The following called on GOC 31 July: Comd

Maj. Gen. CARATTI (Inspector Gen. of Arty)
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2 i/c MILAN T.HQ: Brig. Gen. CAPIZZI Emilio
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Comd IV Bde AOSTA Div: Brig. Gen. BATTAGLINI Gino
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President Mil. Tribunal FLORENCE: Brig. Gen. GRILLO Arrigo

(* FANTONI will replace Brig. Gen. ROCCA Arnaldo who reaches retiring age 2 Sep)

COL. LOMBARDI

5. FOGGIA Round-up: 456 Comd G

LOMBARDI was informed 3 Aug by phone from Ministry of Interior that the latter Ministry recommends that the Call-up is NOT implemented, to avoid possibilities of upsetting the population and causing public disturbances. Infd G-1.

GEN. PROPERZJ

6. Called at the General's request to clarify pts raised by GOC at meeting on 31 July. Set PROPERZJ's mind at ease that no personal attack is intended against him by GOC's insistance on the amount of attention to be devoted to the MT side of his Branch, as distinct from the Arty side of the business. PROPERZJ insisted that four fifths of the activities of himself and his directorate are devoted to MT and that all facilities for repairs, incl Arty Wksps are turned over to repairing engines and vehs. Comd G Q A

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

The General referred to the present efforts of the War Ministry to retake possession of Italian Army vehs in the hands of civilians and to the hostility of certain sections of the population and press. The matter was being discussed at a Cabinet meeting at which JACINI would have to face strong apposition from a number of his colleagues.

The conversation then turned to MT maintenance and to the need for a much greater degree of discipline in MT Units. A special Officer's D & M course at CESANO was discussed, and the possibility of 30 or 40 Officers being picked from other than MT Units on account of their capacity to command and instill discipline and sent on this course to replace the obviously incompetent and not-so-keen Officers now serving with MT Units. PROPERZJ agreed that much could be done in this direction and promised to study the matter. He himself admitted that he had never been to CESANO!

Future requirements of dvr and mechanic rfts for the ITI-ITI Category were also touched on and it was explained to PROPERZJ that the recourses of CESANO would be available for this purpose in the not-so-distant future. In the meantime rfts urgently needed would have to be scraped together from units being disbanded.

GEN. LIUZZI
COL. PIACENTINI

7. Conference on 4 Aug on the future of RTC CESANO and the place it will occupy in the "Interim" Army and later. This raised a number of questions of a very fundamental nature, which had not hitherto been considered either on the Allied or on the Italian side:-

(a) Recruitment for the Interim Army: Sooner or later fresh blood will be needed to replace the classes who have already served in the Army for several years, and also to equalise the military obligations of the whole country. Normal conscriptive procedure is for the majority of the recruits to be called up simultaneously for a maximum period of 18 months, though some are released after 12 months because of particular family or economic conditions. It follows, therefore, that in a normal year the size of the Army is not constant, being at its maximum when a new class is called up, and there is still a residue from the previous class serving the last six of the 18 months, and at its minimum when the new class is between its sixth and twelfth month. This residue or overlap is fully trained and provides the cpls and L/Cpls and framework for the new recruits, the Sgts and W/O's being regular soldiers. It appears not to have occurred to SHAEF that they would not be permitted to exceed the authorised ceiling in the future to allow this fluctuation to take place. There is an alternative, and that is to conscript a class in three four-monthly blocks. At any period in the year this will result in the Army being 1/3 trained, 1/3 semi-trained and 1/3 with little or no trg at all.

Assuming, for the sake of argument, that of 140,000 offrs and men, 40,000 are regular Offrs, NCO's and Specialists, then 100,000 will need to be called to the colours on conscripted service. In parenthesis it can be said that the Italian General Staff would naturally prefer 140,000 regulars, but this is something that the Italian exchequer can NOT now afford.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

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Future requirements of dvr and mechanic rfts for the ITI-ITI Category were also touched on and it was explained to PROFERJ that the resources of CESANO would be available for this purpose in the not-so-distant future. In the meantime rfts urgently needed would have to be scraped together from units being disbanded.

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Since equality of conscripted service for the whole population is a "sine qua non" it follows that the 100,000 will need to serve for twelve months, and will then be replaced by the next class, the whole operation being started and developed at four-monthly intervals.

(b) Using the above "cock shy" as a yardstick for considering the future of CESANO, it will be seen that every four months there will be 30/35,000 recruits to receive basic trg. CESANO, as at present organised, can deal with 7,500 men in 3 - 4 months (in addition to the specialist courses), so that the CESANO org would need to be multiplied four or five times to deal simultaneously with the normal intake of recruits. This is the long term plan advocated by

4563

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

LIUZZI, but is considered to be beyond realisation at this time through lack of organized camp sites. Normal procedure in the past has been for recruits to be called up at local Military District offices and drafted to local regimental depots, where they received their basic trg. Fortunately, a rump of the Territorial Org has been allowed to survive, and this can be adapted to the forthcoming requirements. There is the added advantage that by this method the movement by rail of the recruits is kept to local and purely minimum proportion.

(c) Having covered all this ground, LIUZZI was able to conclude and recommend that:-

(i) CESANO specialist courses be extended and intensified;

(ii) CESANO basic trg units be composed as to rank and file of trained personnel (from the rft category) to serve as training centre for officers and NCO's, under supervision of existing trg cadres. The intention would be gradually to pass all Offrs and NCO's through this centre, in the same way as used to be done at the Central Army Schools at CIVITAVECCHIA.

(iii) LIUZZI was most definite and categorical as to the great importance which the General Staff attaches to CESANO for the future of the Italian Army.

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4562

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(6)

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON
WEEK ENDING 28 JULY 45.

COL. PIACENTINI

1. Information Centres: Comd G

Confirmed that the 27 Information Centres are no longer authorised to draw rations for their staff of 81 all ranks.

PIACENTINI stated that because such Transit Centres are essential for the running of the Army, for personnel in transit, on duty and recruits & volunteers proceeding to RTD's, they would have to be continued entirely with civilian personnel, although this is most undesirable from the military pt of view.

LT. COL. MONACO

2. Military Academy, LECCE: Comd A

Discussed with MONACO the future plans of the Ministry for the Military Academy. MONACO promised to prepare a memorandum on this subject by the week-end together with notes on the past org of Offr trg, numbers for each branch of the service, etc.

NOTE: During the course of this talk it transpired that in addition to the 250 Offrs, half Patriots, half Res. Offrs, whom the Minister is planning for the next series of courses at LECCE, there is a similar number of cadets whose trg was interrupted by the Armistice and who have not resumed their studies since. The total number of these cadets throughout ITALY was 3000, but MONACO reckons that this number will be reduced to about 500 by elimination of those now otherwise employed, casualties, expurgation etc. MONACO himself had no idea how the problem was going to be solved.

COL. PIACENTINI

3. Recovery Det. for BOLOGNA: Q

As was suggested to him, PIACENTINI duly cancelled WO/ANC T.E. with a view to transferring one or part of one of the two Dets in that region to BOLOGNA. His instructions were that the matter was to be negotiated with local MMIA LO.

COL. LOMBARDI

4. CESANO: Comd C

Informed LOMBARDI of GOC's visit to CESANO 23 July and 456 following pts to be brought to the Minister's attention:-

(a) Officers: Only the best officers to be posted to the Trg Centre, both as members of the staff and to go on the courses;

(b) Camp Works: The programme of repairs and improvements to

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

& volunteers [illegible] with civilian personnel, although this is [illegible] pt of view.

LT. COL. MONACO

Comd A

2. Military Academy, LECCE:

Discussed with MONACO the future plans of the Ministry for the Military Academy. MONACO promised to prepare a memorandum on this subject by the week-end together with notes on the past ops of Offr trg, numbers for each branch of the service, etc.

NOTE: During the course of this talk it transpired that in addition to the 250 Offrs, half Patriots, half Res. Offrs, whom the Minister is planning for the next series of courses at LECCE, there is a similar number of cadets whose trg was interrupted by the Armistice and who have not resumed their studies since. The total number of these cadets throughout ITALY was 800, but MONACO reckons that this number will be reduced to about 300 by elimination of those now otherwise employed, casualties, education etc. MONACO himself had no idea how the problem was going to be solved.

COL. PIACENTINI

G

3. Recovery Det. for BOLZANO:

As was suggested to him, PIACENTINI duly attended BOLZANO T.H. with a view to transferring one or part of one of the two Dets in that region to BOLZANO. His instructions were that the matter was to be negotiated with local ANIA LO.

GEN. LOMBARDI

Comd G

4. CESANO:

Informed LOMBARDI of GCC's visit to CESANO 25 July and 456 following pts to be brought to the Minister's attention:-

(a) Officers: Only the best officers to be posted to the Trg Centre, both as members of the staff and to go on the courses;

(b) Major Works: The programme of repairs and improvements to the Trg Centre voted by the Govt should be proceeded with as rapidly as possible, with the object of completing accn before the winter.

Enlarged on above, which LOMBARDI promised to discuss with the Minister. LOMBARDI said he thought there was a works programme already in existance, with target dates, and would let GCC have a copy.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

LT. COL. SARCONE

5. Col. ACANFORA: A

Informed above (and LOMBARDI for info) that MMIA would not object to the posting of ACANFORA as Comd Mil. District TARANTO, in view of the fact that this offr would reach the age limit and retire within the next few months.

COL. LOMBARDI

6. Maj. SCARATI: A

Returned UTILE's report on enquiry into the SCARATI case - (Alleged release of PWs).

Informed LOMBARDI that:-

(a) No further action would be taken by MMIA in connection with the enquiry;

(b) There would be no objection to SCARATI's repeating providing it is NOT to the LEONARDO Gp.

COUNT JACINI (26 July)

7. Called on the Minister to fix appointment for meeting with GCC and discuss agenda. LOMBARDI was present to brief the Minister for the meeting.

8. Accompanied GCC for meeting with JACINI (27 July) - reported in Special Log.

9. Accompanied G-1 to visit Information Centre for TPs in Transit in ROME (26 July).

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4560

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

MAJOR RAUMAIN'S LIAISON 10c.

30 JULY 45.

GEN. CADORNA

GEN. LIUZZI

COL. PIACENTINI

1. ALPINI Divs: Conferred with senior officials of SMKE on the subject of the two Raggruppamenti ALPINI included in the War Ministry's proposals for an interim Army, and also subject of CADORNA's letter of 24 July.

2. Explained that the matter had cropped up again as the result of someone ( ? PARRI) talking to Admiral STONE about the need of two additional divisions for the Interim Army. SMKE knew no such proposals emanating fromthe War Ministry and agreed that it was probably the ALPINI proposal and that someone had got hold of the wrong end of the stick.

3. The writer proceeded to explain that while a decision was still awaited from Higher Allied Authorities on the "interim Army" it was not improbable that some criticism would be made on the disproportion of the "services" category, which was very small, particularly if judged by Allied standards. Accordingly it might be that some readjustment would be suggested increasing the latter category at the expense of the operational trps, probably the combat grp block, which could be considered less important at this moment than the internal security category.

4. It might well be therefore, that there would be no room in the combat group category for the two Alpini Divs. This possibility was not considered by MMIA to be very serious, in view of the temporary nature of the proposals, and the probability that during the period of the interim Army, Allied troops would be so placed as to prevent frontier problems. The NORTH-EAST frontier, for instance, would definitely be an Allied responsibility during this period, and in any case, no troops were allowed within 25 kms of the international frontier.

5. In view of the doubts which have arisen in certain quarters as the result of action mentioned in para 2 above, G.O.C. wished to have assurances from the War Minister

(a) that no additional request for Alpini Divs had been made by the War Ministry;

(b) that a readjustment of categories within the War Ministry's proposals for the interim Army, increasing service troops at the expense of 15,000 of combat group category, would be acceptable to the War Ministry;

(c) that the urgent representation of the War Ministry to reconstitute one or more Alpini fmns could be met by converting one or more of the present combat groups to Alpini fmns on the existing Combat Group W.E., with the addition of auxiliary units when required for operations in mountains. The writer enlarged on the Allied policy in this matter of standardisation of sets and drew a comparison with current Allied practice for mtn warfare.

6. CADORNA gave affirmative answers to all above questions, underlining the fact that the conversion of a combat group to Alpini troops would need to be a 100% change of personnel. Requested CADORNA to discuss the whole question with the Minister before 1600 hrs.

COL. LOMBARDI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDS No. 785020

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COL. LOMBARDI

7. Outlined the situation exactly as stated above. LOMBARDI had no hesitation in saying that a new repartition on the lines of 5 (b) above would be acceptable to the War Minister. LOMBARDI also spoke to JACINI and obtained confirmation that no proposals had been made by the War Minister for Alpini Divs additional to the original proposals.

31 July 45.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BALMANN'S LIAISON LOG

19 - 21 JULY 45

GEN. RONCO

1. Squadrone Lancieri AOSTA (CESANO):

This small unit (132 all ranks on W/E) is the last surviving Cav. Unit in the Italian Army. For reasons of prestige and tradition, and because personnel is of good type and to be relied on for discipline and steadiness, Italian Gen. Staff has on several occasions recommended that this remaining Sqn be allowed to survive. Recently, in conformity with above recommendation, SMRE requested to be allowed to replace demobilizable personnel with men of Cav. Regts to be taken from the Pack Units now being broken up. RONCO is keen on this, and wanted to know whether MMIA latest negative decision was final. Enquired of "A" Branch and informed him that this was so.

Comd
A
G

2. Former Co-operators at CESANO:

RONCO fully in agreement with the observations and policy in GOC's letter of 20 July and had informed the Ministry as much. RONCO had been in telephone conversation with VEGNI several times on 20 and 21 July urging him to take effective action to the same end. VEGNI apparently panicking, but compromise solution reached and situation got under control during the course of the 21st.

3. Major SCOTTI:

Comd
A

Conversation also touched on the case of this Offr. RONCO produced the SMRE file in which there was:-

(a) Copy of MMIA adverse report (a copy also went to FALUGI)

(b) SCATTINI's letter confirming above in very general terms

(c) Letter from SMRE to SCATTINI asking for full particulars (never answered, ? crossed with (b) above) incl a para addressed PICENO Div (to which SCOTTI was posted) asking the latter HQ to keep him under observation in view of recent adverse report.

Unfortunately, the PICENO never answered this letter, nor did SMRE follow the matter up. RONCO agreed it was a case of the system going wrong - to which it might be added that SMRE should never have got involved in the first place as SCOTTI is NOT an SMRE Offr. Consequently his case should have been dealt with from first to last by FALUGI's Branch. (Above is confidential and NOT to be quoted).

GEN. CADORNA

4. Long session with C of S, during course of which CADORNA expressed himself in no uncertain terms on the subject of:-

(a) Ineffectiveness of the forces available to the Govt for

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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4. Long session with C of S, during course of which CADORNA expressed himself in no uncertain terms on the subject of:-

(a) Ineffectiveness of the forces available to the Govt for maintaining law and order;

(b) Urgent need to cut down size of Army and number of Army ests and installations;

(c) pressing need to solve the Offr problem.

CADORNA was just as voluble and excitable as usual, but he had no plan nor did he even suggest how he was going to start dealing with any of these problems.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

He knows that (a), which is mainly CARABINIERI is no concern of MMIA, but he evidently wants it to be known that the Govt, in his opinion, has no intention of pressing for the reorg and re-equipment of the CARABINIERI which CADORNA considers indispensible to restoring the authority and effectiveness of the machinery for maintaining law and order. Reading between the lines, the suggestion seems to be that it will pay the parties of the left to allow the CARABINIERI (hitherto an instrument of the right) to fall still further into disrepute. CADORNA was all for the Allies insisting on an immediate and energetic reorg and re-eqpt of the CARABINIERI, ordering the Italian Govt to carry this out, and themselves (the Allies) supplying certain essential items of eqpt, such as armd cars for the mobile bns.

CADORNA maintains that until this is done, the people will continue to regard public authority with contempt and that the reorg of the Army itself will be prejudiced.

On the subject of (b), CADORNA is all for cutting down, but he talks in such general terms that one wonders whether he has really gone into the matter <u>at all</u>. He admitted having given no directives to this effect to his staff. He talked about Italian Army property in the NORTH not yet handed over by the Allies, but he had nothing to say when the writer asked about starting with cutting down in the SOUTH, where things were already stabilized and where there were no problems such as existed in the NORTH.

On the Offr question, CADORNA is already coming under the spell of the SOUTH, and is now singing a different tune to what he was in MILAN two months ago. On "getting rid of Offrs and cutting down" he is now saying that these things take time! There are two schools of thought in the Ministry on the method of making the big cuts, and CADORNA has not yet decided which horse he will back. CHATRIAN is for declaring Offrs fit or unfit to hold:-

(a) Their present rank

(b) The next higher rank and disposing of them on this basis, plus a reduction in age limits which will be automatic and remove the good and bad indescriminately.

LOMBARDI is espousing the competitive system (scelta comparativa) under which Offrs are graded by pts or in large blocks according to their capacity. (This method has been followed for Brig. Gens, who have been grouped in 5 blocks - though the resulting action is still awaited!).

455

<u>Everyone</u> agrees that the competitive system would be ideal <u>if</u> a guaranteed fool-proof and impartial system could be devised, but with the memory still fresh of how the thing was worked during the Fascist period the authorities are generally sceptical. In fact, it is asserted by some that the mere announcement that the competitive system will be continued would result in a minor revolution. LOMBARDI thinks that a sufficiently safe system can be devised. CADORNA is sitting on the fence until he sees which way the cat jumps.

<u>GEN ROMEO</u>

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

CADORNA [illegible]
tinue to regard public authority with contempt [illegible]
Army itself will be prejudiced.

On the subject of (b), CADORNA is all for cutting down, but he talks in such general terms that one wonders whether he has really gone into the matter at all. He admitted having given no directives to this effect to his staff. He talked about Italian Army property in the NORTH not yet handed over to the Allies, but he had nothing to say when the writer asked about starting with cutting down in the SOUTH, where things were already stabilized and where there were no problems such as existed in the NORTH.

On the Offr question, CADORNA is already coming under the spell of the SOUTH, and is now singing a different tune to what he was in MILAN two months ago. On "getting rid of Offrs and cutting down" he is now saying that these things take time! There are two schools of thought in the Ministry on the method of making the big cuts, and CADORNA has not yet decided which horse he will back. CHATRIAN is for declaring Offrs fit or unfit to hold:-

(a) Their present rank

(b) The next higher rank and disposing of them on this basis, plus a reduction in age limits which will be automatic and remove the good and bad indescriminately.

LOMBARDI is espousing the competitive system (scelta comparativa) under which Offrs are graded by pts or in large blocks according to their capacity. (This method has been followed for Brig. Gens, who have been grouped in 5 blocks - though the resulting action is still awaited!).

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GEN RONCO
GEN LIUZZI

Comd

5. Division of responsibilities:

CADORNA has allotted responsibility for SMRE Branches as follows:-

Gen. RONCO : Personnel (i.e. all GS Offrs)
Tpt
Historical

4557

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gen. LIUZZI : SD (incl Rfts)
Ops & Trg

Gen. CADORNA : Will himself control Intelligence Branch and the Liaison Office with MMIA.

CCL. LOMBARDI G

6. FOGGIA Call-up:

As was half expected, the Minister decided that he ought first to consult the Minister of the Interior in view of the recent serious disturbances in the FOGGIA Area. LOMBARDI states that he has impressed the urgency of the matter on the officials of the "Interior".

7. Col. PIACENTINI G

Italian Army Rly Tps:

A committee is studying present and future requirements. Committee consists of:-

Col. PIACENTINI
Col. BOGLIACCINO
Col. BUTTO

24 July 1945

WS

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Major BAUMANN's Liaison Log 16 - 18 JULY 45

G

GEN RONCO

1. Lt Col HOWARD: Conveyed GOC's thanks for RONCO letter of appreciation of Lt Col HOWARDS services during the SICILY disturbances and later with the Gruppi etc. — COMD

2. Volunteers in the NORTH: Infd RONCO of reports of large numbers of volunteers being turned away by Terr-itorial HQs in the NORTH. He had heard nothing about this. It was agreed that the writer would go into details with PIACENTINI. — G

3. RONCO mentioned that JACIN will be visiting CESANO 19 July — COMD A

4. Commissione d'Avanzamento: This is the committee res-ponsible for promotions of Gen Offrs and Cols, being composed of the most senior offrs of the Army. Present members are: — COMD A

SOGNO (Chairman)
ARISELLINI
ORLANDO
DE SIMONE
BERARDI
and
CADORNA (As C of S, SMRE, acts as secretary)

During the present session RONCO has been called to give an opinion on certain offrs. Referred verbally to GOC

5. SMRE Cadres: The offrs who belonged to the GS Corps of the Italian Army (about 800 all told, incl PWs etc) are undergoing process of screening with a view to selection of a limited number of the better elements to continue on GS duties. Two committees are envisaged for this task: — COMD A

- senior committee composed of three gen offrd (RONCO - LIUZZI - and one other, plus CALARESU as non-voting sec) to examine Cols.
- junior committee composed of three Cols (heads of branches plus CALARESU) to consider Lt Cols and lower ranks.

So far about 25 cols, 80 Lt Cols and a very few Majs and Capts have been passed as suitable. Ultimate target figure for all ranks is 250.

455

MAIELLA BAND

6. Met Capt. BONCIANI, offrs of above unit, who was at the War Ministry to hasten the award of decorations for gallantry proposed for the MAIELLA Band: about 80 silver — C A

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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4. Commissione d'Avanzamento: This is the committee res- -ponsible for promotions of Gen Offrs and Cols, being composed of the most senior offrs of the Army. Present members are: — COMD A

SOGNO (Chairman)
ARGELLINI
ORLANDO
DE SIMONE
BERARDI
and
CADORNA (As C of S, SMRS, acts as secretary)

During the present session RONCO has been called to give an opinion on certain offrs. Referred verbally to GOC

5. SMRS Cadres: The offrs who belonged to the GS Corps of the Italian Army (about 800 all told, incl PWs etc) are undergoing process of screening with a view to selection of a limited number of the better elements to continue on GS duties. Two committees are envisaged for this task: — COMD A

- senior committee composed of three gen offrd (RONCO - LIUZZI - and one other, plus CALARESU as non-voting sec) to examine Cols.
- junior committee composed of three Cols (heads of branches plus CALARESU) to consider Lt Cols and lower ranks.

So far about 25 cols, 80 Lt Cols and a very few Majs and Capts have been passed as suitable. Ultimate target figure for all ranks is 250.

455

MAIELLA BAND

6. Met Capt. BONCIANI, offrx of above unit, who was at the War Ministry to hasten the award of decorations for gallantry proposed for the MAIELLA Band: about 80 silver medals and 12 bronze medals. Of the men of the MAIELLA BONCIANI stated that 50 would be demobilised and the remaining 140 posted to the FOLGORE. Since they had lived and fought together for over a year he was trying to arrange that postings are effected by pls. — C A
He confirmed that they had all received the months para- -chutist bonus, amounting to 800 lire.

LT COL SANSONE

7. Procured three CCRR in full dress uniforms for GOC's party 25 July. — COMD

COL. LOMBARDI

8. Brig Gen Harold LOMBARDI: ref DO letter of 12 July to GOC from comd 52 Area, it is stated by the War Ministry that: — COMD A

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

8. (Contd)

(a) Brig Gen LOMBARDI has requested and been given a posting at NAPLES(Commission for interrogating repatriated senior PW offrs)

(b) by virtue of his rank he is too senior for the post of comd TARANTO Mil Dist (maximum rank: Col)

(c) ACANFORA has only a few months to go before being retired. Col LOMBARDI recommends that he be allowed to finish off his service as comd of the Mil District TARANTO.

(NOTE: The writer consulted Gen MANNERINI on the question of ACANFORA and was told that he had been carrying out his duties satisfactorily. Most of the responsibilities of the Mil comd TARANTO are in connection with repatriation movement.)

9. Proposed meeting of fwn comds: LOMBARDI stated CCMD
that recent comns and criticisms from HQs in the NORTH had shown a lack of appreciation of difficulties to be overcome and problems of long standing which the War Ministry had to face. Comds in the Field seemed totally unaware of the efforts and planning which were the constant aim of the cent--ral authorities. To remedy this state of affairs he had proposed and the Minister agreed, that they should convene a meeting of all comds of Gruppi, Adm Divs and possible Terr HQs and IS Divs to be held in ROME about 25/26 July. Object would be to ventilate their common problems and hear at first hand the solutions being applied by the Ministry. LOMBARDI asks whether there would be any objection on GOCs part.

COL. PIACENTINI

10. CIARPAGLINI driving school: PIACENTINI states that accord- G
--ing to his infm the facilities at this Centre for advanced Q
trg of mechanics are superior to those at CESANO. Present instrs are that CIARPAGLINI centre be closed and personnel transferred to CESANO by 19 July. PIACENTINI stated that this would deprive the Italian Army of their last remain--ing centre for trg mechanics.
Spoke SD, ST and REME.

11. Volunteers in the North: further to para 2 above, PIACENTINI 4555 G
stated that initial contact by phone with MILAN Territorial HQ A
elicited no knowledge of the 3000 alleged volunteers who had been turned back. Further enquiries being made at MILAN Territorial HQ . Meantime, the following are figures up to 16 July of volunteers accepted:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MILAN THQ | 52 | to CREMONA CG | 52 |
| TURIN THQ | 331 | to LEGNANO CG | 206 |
| | | to FOLGORE CG | 125 |
| BOLOGNA THQ | 56 | to FRIULI CG | 56 |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

(NOTE: The writer consulted Gen MARGHERITI on the question of ACAMPORA and was told that he had been carrying out his duties satisfactorily. Most of the responsibilities of the Mil cond TARANTO are in connection with repatriation movement.)

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| TURIN THQ | 331 | to LEGNANO CG | 206 |
| " " | - | to FOLGORE CG | 125 |
| BOLOGNA THQ | 56 | to FRIULI CG | 56 |
| GENOVA THQ | 64 | to MANTOVA CG | 32 |
| " " | - | to 230 DIV | 32 |
| | 503 | | 503 |

12. COL LOMBARDI

COMD

The following names of general officers are submitted by War Ministry for appointments to call on GOC:-

Gen. CARATTI, Inspector of Arty, SME.
Gen. PROPERZJ, Director of Arty and MT Services, War Ministry.

sheet 3/..

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COL. LOMBARDI

13. Italian Units in VENEZIA GIULIA : discussed contents of War Minister's letter of 13 July, 215406/II. The situation may be briefly summed up as follows:- G
(a) At the time of the Armistice there were a number of Italian Army establishments and installations EAST of the ISONZO River. These included military districts, depots, hospitals, commissariat stores, V & R depots etc. All these installations were staffed by military and civilian personnel.

(b) It is not known now, either by the War Ministry or by Territorial HQ, UDINE,
(i) whether above buildings are still standing or what they are being used for,
(ii) whether there are Italian Army records, any stores or materials still in the buildings,
(iii) what the situation is of the personnel , military and civil, left behind at the time of the Armistice.

(c) War Ministry request:
(i) authority to make recce of above property to find out the present position,
(ii) decision as to the future of the various establishments and installations,
(iii) permission to regularise position of personnel, i.e. pay arrears owing and transfer back to WEST of ISONZO personnel domiciled outside VENEZIA GIULIA.

(d) Problem is in two parts, as affecting
(i) Allied A.M.G. Territory
(ii) Jugoslav controlled territory.

COL PIACENTINI

14. FOGGIA Call-up: following enquiry made 12 July as to War Ministry policy, warned PIACENTINI that MMIA letter was on the way calling for detailed proposals for implementing the call-up. PIACENTINI stated that SHAE was favourable to going through with it, and papers were in the hands of War Minister, whose decision was awaited for the political side. G
With regard to emp in GARIBALDI Regt of men enlisted, PIACENTINI stated he had no objection, only difficulties he could think of were: 4553
(i) posting to unit so near their home town would make it easy for men to go AWOL - and by the same token correspondingly difficult for the cond to control them;
(ii) it would be out of the question to employ these men for maintaining public order in their own districts. They would have to be drafted into separate coys or bn and not used for this purpose.
Apart from this, he agreed that there would be a considerable saving of tpt.

COL LOMBARDI

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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(ii) it would be out of the question to employ these men for maintaining public order in their own districts. They would have to be drafted into separate coys or bn and not used for this purpose.

Apart from this, he agreed that there would be a considerable saving of tpt.

COL LOMBARDI

15. Major GREENLESS (?) : the incident complained of (ref log 9 - 11 July para 20) occured at a dinner in honour of ITALIA Div on 7 July. On being asked to speak, it is alleged that GREENLESS made "an ultra democratic speech" and expressed the wish for a "democratic and progressive ITALY, able to free herself of the monarchy and set up a republic". COMD

It is stated that the above is known to the Orbis and Ansa news agencies and to PWB, and that GREENLESS made a particular request not to be quoted.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

Col LOMBARDI G

1. BENCCONI : A sig has been rec'd from DOLOGNA TAP advising departure of BENCCONI from MILANEA 5 July, confirmation now awaited of arrival at BARI

2. UTILE : Utile has applied in writing to be relieved of his post as comd of the LEGNANO Div, stating that he is feeling the strain of commanding a combat force since the autumn of 1943. He asks to be appointed to duties which will afford him a respite. Lombardi is of the opinion that the request will have to be granted. Discussed candidate to replace UTILE and consequential moves - referred verbally to GOC. Comd A

3. C.A.F. : Further to para 5 of log 6 - 8 July, Lombardi stated that Treasury continue to set their face against funds for the auxiliary women's services. He thought that a comm from MMIA in support of the C.A.F. would make all the difference between winning the battle with the Treasury and losing it. Lombardi quoted the parallel case of "LA PATRIA", in which in addition to informing the Treasury of proposed economies, War Ministry had quoted verbation the MMIA recommendation, which, he was sure, would suffice to silence the Treasury guns. Comd A

4. Assistant Mil Attache' - ANKARA : Idiscussed the situation confidentially with Lombardi. A letter will be written by War Ministry requesting Italian Foreign Office (copy to us) to take necessary action, and JACKET will inform DE GASPERI in gen terms of the reasons the next time they meet. This is really more of a political than a mil matter and follow-up should be maintained between Political Branch and Italian Foreign Office.
As a matter of interest, the Italian Foriegn Office is NOT planning to replace the Mil attache' at ANKARA. The Italian armed services will be represented by the Naval attache', and Lombardi did NOT know whether the latter had been appointed yet. Comd

4550

Gen MATTEOLI -
Col PIACENTINI Comd G

5. GARIBALDI Regt : With only a few hours to go before the departure of the regt for the SOUTH, AMGOT has suddenly woken up to the seriousness of the situation. The choice of this particular unit for duty in APULIA is thought by AMGOT to be ill-timed, since 600 of the men who had not yet been home since their repatriation (all leave having been stopped at the beginning of June) were only waiting for the regt to get to the SOUTH to have their leave. MATTEOLI was saying yesterday that it would be very difficult to persuade these 600 to move in the opposite direction. The strength of the regt on 10 July was 1659 (this includes 300 rfts from CASERTA who have merely served to relieve an equal number waiting for demobilisation). Of the 1659, 604 are due for repatriation leave in the SOUTH and

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

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4552

Gen MATTEOLI -
Col PIACENTINI

Comd G

5. GARIBALDI Regt : With only a few hours to go before the departure of the regt for the SOUTH, SMA has suddenly woken up to the seriousness of the situation. The choice of this particular unit for duty in AFRICA is thought by SMA to be ill-timed, since 600 of the men who had not yet been home since their repatriation (all leave having been stopped at the beginning of June) were only waiting for the regt to get to the NORTH to have their leave. MATTEOLI was saying yesterday that it would be very difficult to persuade these 600 to move in the opposite direction. The strength of the regt on 10 July was 1659 (this includes 300 rifts from GRADO who have merely served to relieve an equal number waiting for demobilisation). Of the 1659, 601 are due for repatriation leave in the NORTH and are doubtful starters for TRANI. There are a further (?) 394 already on leave in the NORTH, whom they intended picking up in situ. The nett of the situation on 10 July was that they were confident of filling the first train, but that the second would be half empty.

2/.....

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 78502?

Gen Impavini
Col Lombardi
Col Piacentini

6. Inf'd all above (9 July) of arrival at TARANTO (on 13 July) of further 400 AW offrs from NORTH. Impavini will arrange reception and dispersal and Piacentini will see to postings

Col PIACENTINI

7. GAETANI Regt : Mr writers request Piacentini investigated delay in re-training of first contingent of the Regt due to leave ROME 10 July. He reported some tale of delay in availability of part of the rolling stock, which correspondingly retarded the departure of the men for the station. In conclusion he was able to say, though, that 902 out of the 905 men scheduled to leave had actually caught the train.

Lt Col MONACO

8. Upon for Gen MANCINELLI : On instrs 'G2' French, told Monaco that approval was given to increase of War Ministry Type Coy by 5 vehs, subject of recent discussions and correspondence. Clarified that this did NOT mean that the additional vehs can be taken from efficient veh park.

Official visits to CCI

9. Gen CASAGRANDA called on taking over his duties as C of S, CCI. Among subjects discussed:

- officer situation,
- War Ministry property in the NORTH,
- demobilisation of older classes.

10. Marchese CORLAITALI called on taking office as Civil Under Secretary of State for War.

11. Officers : discussed the following cases

- LT HENRY - the recommendation for his replacement should go through normal channels : in this case 227 Mtn Div and NAPLES HQ;
- Col Med. MIELE - it is confirmed that he is a reg offr and has reached the age limit.
- Maj BRUCOLI (DC 502 GD Bn) - it is confirmed that there is no possibility yet of accelerated promotion in Italian Army, though the committee examining the question (at Allied instigation) should have it's recommendations ready by end July. Nor is there any advantage in this instance in

Cond A 455 Cond A

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

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Lt Col MONACO

8. Spt for Gen HAMMERSTEIN : On invite '42' French, told Monaco that approval was given to increase of War Ministry Spt Coy by 5 vehs, subject of recent discussions and correspondence. Clarified that this did NOT mean that the additional vehs can be taken from efficient veh park.

Official visits to HQ

9. Gen CARBONA called on taking over his duties as C of S, AUSA. Among subjects discussed:

- officer situation,
- War Ministry property in the NORTH,
- demobilisation of older classes.

10. Prefect CASALINUOVO called on taking office as Civil Under Secretary of State for War. Cond

11. Officers : discussed the following cases

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Cond
A

- LT MONTI - the recommendation for his replacement should go through normal channels : in this case 22nd Div and NORTH HQ;

- Col GAL. MILANI - it is confirmed that he is a non effe and has reached the age limit.

- Maj BRESCIA (IX 502 Gd Bn) - it is confirmed that there is possibility yet of accelerated promotion in Italian Army, though the committee examining the question (at Allied instigation) should have it's recommendations ready by end July. Nor is there any advantage in this instance in a Major having the "funzioni del grado superiore", since in the Italian Army a Bn is commanded either by a Lt Col or Major, and in this capacity the responsibilities of the two ranks are identical.
It is suggested that the recommendation for BRESCIA's promotion be sent to War Ministry through proper Italian channels, and it can then be taken into account as soon as the new machinery is set up, together with the many other recommendations of the same kind instituted by the Allies. In any case, it will be to BRESCIA's advantage to have the recommendation in his records.

20

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

C

Gen ZADDEY
Gen PERRERA

12. Medicos for CC.RR. : Intd above that meeting would be held at MMIA 1630 hrs 11 July to discuss contents of letter 4 July sent by CC.RR. HQ to War Ministry. Reps will be:

- Major MARMELLA (War Ministry)
- Major CARUSETTI (Carabinieri)

C
A

Col PINCHERLI

13. Closing down of REC's : strength of two camps at 9 July was notified as follows:

- ASMARA : 37 offrs 336 ORs
- ITALY : 52 offrs 64 NCO's 176 ORs

Remaining personnel being moved away as fast as possible.

A

Col LAMBARDI

14. Gen election - postal voting arrangements : Handed to Lombardi copy of AGI 574/45 and relevant para 635 of AFHQ C.R.O.

15. Welfare offrs 8 Army : Requested Lombardi NOT to send replacements for DE BLASI and PANDAVANZI until confirmation had been received from 8 Army.

A

Cont.
C

Col PINCHERLI (11 July)

16. CARIBINIERI Regt : Further to para 5 above, Pincherli phoned to say that last evening (10 July) JACKI called on PARRI to discuss the move of the Regt to ASMARA. Since the War Ministry had NOT themselves asked for the to be sent there, it was supposed that the request had originated with the President of the Council. Object of JACKI's visit to PARRI was to ask that number of the moved be limited to 1000 (i.e. first train load), thus enabling need to send the 600 men waiting to go on leave in the North.

4550

Not only did PARRI strongly deny asking for any type at all, but he produced a signal he had sent to the Prefect of IMPI which, it is reported, in effect forbid the Prefect from making any use of these ops. PARRI added that he was NOT interested whether 500, 1000 or what number of ops is sent down, since as far as he is concerned the whole thing is unconstitutional and irregular.

PINC therefore urgently request that, the situation being that it is, the move be limited to the first train load

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col MACKENZIE

A

13. Closing down of MEF's : strength of two camps at 9 July was notified as follows:

- ASTORGI : 37 offrs 356 ORs

- TRANI : 52 offrs & MEF's 176 ORs

Remaining personnel being moved away as fast as possible.

A

Col LOMBARDI

14. Gen election - postal voting arrangements : Handed to Lombardi copy of MOI 574/45 and relevant para 635 of AFMO G.R.O.

15. Welfare offrs 8 Army : Requested Lombardi MOI to send replacements for DE BIASI and PANNAVARRI until confirmation had been received from 8 Army.

A

Col MACKENZIE (11 July)

Cont'd C

16. GARIBALDI Regt : Further to para 5 above, Macmillan phoned to say that last evening (10 July) JACINI called on PARRI to discuss the move of the Regt to ATRIA. Since the War Ministry had NOT themselves asked for the to be sent there, it was supposed that the request had originated with the President of the Council. Object of JACINI's visit to PARRI was to ask that number of the moved be limited to 1000 (i.e. first train load), since awaiting word to send the 600 men waiting to go on leave in the NORTH.

Not only did PARRI strongly deny asking for any type at all, but he produced a signal he had sent to the Prefect of BARI (which, it is reported, in effect forbids the Prefect from making any use of these two. PARRI added that he was NOT interested whether 500, 1000 or what number of the to went down, since as far as he is concerned the whole thing is superfluous and irregular.

GHQ therefore urgently request that, the situation being what it is, the move be limited to the first train load which departed yesterday, and that the remainder of the men continue to remain at VERCELLI.

Major BOSCARDI

17. Collecting post RACIBA : Further to log 6-8 July para 4, AMG Bosc ardi that ICD Branch AG had accepted action and that Lt Col RACIBA had already been in touch with G-5 AFHQ. The matter will now revert to routine channels:

- Gen HARRISON - ICD Branch.

Col LOMBARDI

18. ARDUCCHI : Report to hand that ARDUCCHI arrived BARI 11 July

A/ASSISTANT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

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19. Assistant Mil Attache' AMATA : Collected copies of signal to LONDON and comm to Italian Foreign Ministry requesting his recall. Cmd

Stefano JACINI Cmd

20. Following subjects discussed :

- move of GARIBALDI Regt. Inf'd the Minister that second train is temporarily suspended. JACINI will talk to PARRI and suggest that he gets into touch with CC AC as soon as possible and give his reply both on measures being taken to check disorders and retrieve arms and on the additional I.B. tps required in the SOUTH.
JACINI recommends that the first train load remains at TRANI, and that the balance of the regt stays on at VITERBO.

- Publication of report on def of PORTO. The Minister will submit abridged edition to COC for approval of Higher Allied Authority, dealing only with the Mil aspect of the enquiry, and the findings of the commission and judgement passed. Object of the publication of the abridged edition would be to satisfy public opinion that the guilty ones have been identified and punished, and in this way to prtect the reputation of the rest of the Army.

- The disbandment and parade of the ITALIA (Garibaldi) Divand PALERMO's visit were most successful, according to Gen ARMELLINI, who has been in ROME. Armellini, however expressed to the Minister some criticism of the speech made by a PWB rep (Major CREMESINS ? ), whose remarks were "more openly left-wing than those of Palermo himself".

Col PIACENTINI

21. Information Centres : Def MAIA insists that the 27 Infn Centres be disbanded, PIACENTINI stated that:

- SHAEF had NOT been consulted as to the desirability of this step;

- The Infn Centres were in fact still filling a very real need , particularly in view of the vast demobilisation and transfer movements going on.

- All in all they only amounted to 81 all ranks, which was such a small saving compared to their practical usefulness to the Italian Army.
He urgently represents need for these 27 Centres to continue.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

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JACCHIA recommends that the first train load remains at TRANI, and that the balance of the regt stays on at VERONA.

- Publication of report on def of RSMI. The Minister will submit abridged edition to GOC for approval of Higher Allied Authority, dealing only with the Mil aspect of the enquiry, and the findings of the commission and judgement passed. Object of the publication of the abridged edition would be to satisfy public opinion that the guilty ones have been identified and punished, and in this way to protect the reputation of the rest of the Army.

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He urgently represents need for these 27 Centres to continue.

Col LAGRANGE

22. GARIBALDI Regt : Inf'd Lombardi by phone (2000 hrs 11 July) that decision to cancell the second train had been reversed and that the second contingent would now have leave as originally planned; Lombardi promised to inform SHAEF, or failing them, to phone CESARIO himself.

jw

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

-7 de G/32.

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

6 - 9 JULY 1945

Col. LOMBARDI

1. Maj. SCAPATI: A

SCAPATI arrived in ROME 8 July and is being sent on two weeks leave. The enquiry into his case has NOT yet been completed, mainly, it is alleged by SCAPATI, because of delays by the SLU in supplying statements. SCAPATI complains that he has been misjudged and backs this by quoting UTILE as saying there is nothing against him. He is anxious for a further appointment with one of the other Gruppi.

2. STECCONI: G

Urged on LOMBARDI to get this individual to BARI with all speed in view of forthcoming trial at which he will be needed as witness. It appears that STECCONI was recently demobilized, but continued to be kept under surveillance. During past month he was given permission to go to nr PIACENZA where his Father had just died. The local CC RR Post and BOLOGNA T.HQ were signalled 2 July to instruct STECCONI to proceed immediately to BARI. Further instrs were sent 5 July and on 6 July Gen PALMA who was going to BOLOGNA was told to ensure that there is no slip-up.

3. "ITALIA" (GARIBALDI) Div:

PALERMO and party duly left by air 5 July. The following further information has been collected about Italian Ips in JUGOSLAVIA:-

- ITALIA Div, referred to above (about 3000 strong) built up around the "MATTEOTTI", "MANELI" and "GARIBALDI" Bns has always fought in Northern JUGOSLAVIA.

- A mass of Italians, nearly all military personnel, estimated at 30-40,000 men, in the area of BELGRADE and district. These men are working and living practically in a state of slavery.

- Smaller gps, scattered here and there, about which no further details are available.

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For those in SOUTHEST and CENTRAL JUGOSLAVIA there is a collecting post at RAGUSA, which has already repatriated some thousands and is steadily increasing its radius of action.

On the other hand it has been impossible hitherto to do anything for the men located in NORTH JUGOSLAVIA, not withstanding repeated efforts through Allied and JUGOSLAV authorities.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Gruppi.

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Major BOSCARDI

4. Collecting post at RAGUSA (See above): C

BOSCARDI stated that AFHQ had agreed in principle to supplying rations for former Italian Army personnel concentrating at RAGUSA from the interior of JUGOSLAVIA. Rations had been supplied on two occasions, the last time authorised by G(Maint) letter of 30 Mar, when 25,000 rations were issued by 22 CRASC (BARI). This was negotiated locally through 37 Military Mission which no longer exists. BOSCARDI now requested information on proper channels for further sups of rations, since the last lot will be exhausted by mid-July. Discussed with G MMIA, Displaced Persons S/C (who would not play) and IPW S/C. Suggested to BOSCARDI in the meantime to push the matter through Italian Commissioner for refugees.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Col. LOMBARDI

5. Italian women's services: discussed with Lombardi the contents of 8 Army Comd's letter on the future of 8 Army WVS ladies. War Ministry was about to write to MMIA on this subject, proposing fusion with CAF. In view of delicate situation which exists, Lombardi stated that he was confident there would be no objection to WVS continuing to operate independently (as long as they are under contract to some Allied HQ), particularly if they were to concentrate on the static welfare centres, and leave all the mobile canteens to the CAF. This is a practical view, in view of the increased benefits accruing to the Italian tps. Comd A

On the other hand Lombardi did feel that at least nominally the WVS ladies should give some allegiance to the War Ministry, and that he should have a list of their names etc. He rightly pointed out that if anything should happen to them and a question of compensation arose it would be to the War Ministry that they would turn and NOT to the Allies.

Lombardi went on to say that conditions for the CAF ladies were much inferior to those of the 8 Army contract, but what was more serious still was the fact that the Italian Treasury had stated that they would produce no further funds for any women's services.

Pompeo COLAJANNI

6. Initial contact with new civil under-secretary. Extremely voluble and lacks the "presence" and character of his predecessor. Has no hesitation in expressing his extreme political views. Expressed wish to meet CCC as soon as possible. Comd A

Col. LOMBARDI

7. British Army voting regulations;
Hitherto Italian Army personnel has never taken part in Italian elections, and Lombardi is keen to put this right. He has asked for copies of British regulations on org and procedure to serve as a model. A

Col. MELONI and Lt. Col. CHECCHIA

8. Italian Army vehs ex Switzerland: Meloni reported that 44 Italian Army vehs had been returned by Switzerland and were in the refugee centre at CCAC. Lt.Col. OLIVER of Displaced Persons Sub-Com wanted to use them for tpt of refugees. Discussed with Q2 and ST and informed CHECCHIA that MILAN TRG should take over vehs/agreement with mil dvrs, but that it would be politic to assist refugee org with the use of the vehs at least for a short time. Q

Col. LOMBARDI

9. On the subject of recent demobilisation of Welfare offrs of the rcs. the following ages are quoted as a matter of interest.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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Col. LOMBARDI

9. On the subject of recent demobilisation of Welfare offrs of the res. the following ages are quoted as a matter of interest, being present age limits for all res offrs:-

| | Inf and other combat branches | Services |
|---|---|---|
| Lt.Cols and Majors | 45 | 50 |
| Capts | 38 | 45 |
| Lts | 28 | 38 |
| 2/Lts | 24 | 35 |

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MAJOR BAUMANN'S LIAISON LOG

2 - 4 JULY 45

Gen. RONCO

1. Demobilization of older classes: A G

RONCO still somewhat agitated about the slow progress of sending home men of the 1914 and older classes, and would like to see the rest of the 1914 class demobilized in the next week or two. In particular, he stated that Gen. VERRONE of 212 Div had reported 1500 men of the older classes at LEGHORN whom PBs refused to allow to go home. This was contrary to the statements made at the meeting held at MMIA 17 Jun, when it was announced that all older men of 210 and 212 Divs would be sent home without delay, as no replacements were required.

On the question of further classes being demobilized, the writer assured RONCO that MMIA was endeavouring to work out a definite programme, but as this was dependent on size of the army, availability of rfts, etc, it was not possible to make an announcement until some of these decisions had been made.

2. Article on demobilization for "LA PATRIA": A

Handed in to RONCO's Office suggested article with message from GOC. They will integrate with another article on similar lines which had already received MMIA approval.

Col. LOMBARDI

3. Major SCAPATI: A

The report on the enquiry into this Officer's conduct in connection with Republican prisoners is overdue. LOMBARDI gave assurances (2 July) that he will take hastening action and that SCAPATI will be transferred to ROME forthwith.

4. GARIBALDI Div (ex JUGOSLAVIA): Comd G A

After two day's uncertainty as to 8 Army decision on PALERMO's intervention, was able to inform LOMBARDI (4 July) of arrival in ROME by air on that day of MARRAS, the present comd of the Div, (strength under 3000). MARRAS will thus be able to discuss his problems with War Ministry Officials and secure official ruling at first hand. Plan is that PALERMO, MARRAS and the Adm Offr leave by air for UDINE 5 July - the ceremony to take place 6 July.

Infd LOMBARDI that MMIA considered it essential that local Territorial HQ Comd (ARMELLINI) be present at the parade.

5. Welfare Offrs: Comd A

Ref recent comns from War Ministry on demobilization of Col. [illegible] LOMBARDI's attention

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

particular, he stated that Gen. [illegible] men of the older classes at LEGHORN whom PBS refused to allow to go home. This was contrary to the statements made at the meeting held at MMIA 17 Jun, when it was announced that all older men of 210 and 212 Divs would be sent home without delay, as no replacements were required.

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5. Welfare Offrs: Comd A

Ref recent comms from War Ministry on demobilization of Col. PASSAVANTI and Lt. Cols. DI BLASI and ANGELONI, LOMBARDI's attention was drawn to para 12(b) of Adm Instruction No. 18. It was explained that while no objection would normally be raised by Allied HQs where Offrs are removed from units under Allied Comd so as to conform with current Italian regulations (providing always that a suitable replacement is made available), nevertheless:-

(a) Allied authorities must always be consulted before the change is made;

(b) Replacement must join unit or HQ before the outgoing officer leaves his post.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

— The writer recommends that a written reminder be sent to the War Ministry & above lines, for the benefit of War Ministry and SMRE Staff branches who have not studied Adm Instruction No. 18 too carefully.

Lt. Col. SILLI

A

6. Cooperator pay:

Requested infn and explanation of article on P.W. conditions which appeared in "ITALIA NUOVA" on 30 June, ref exchange rate for arrears of pay.

Col. PIACENTINI

G

7. Banda MAIELLA:

Avv TROILO, the leader of the MAIELLA Band, has been making strenuous endeavours to be received by MMIA, yesterday (3 July through Patriots Branch) and today through SMRE. It was explained to PIACENTINI that the Military Mission could NOT deal direct with TROILO, but the following queries were dealt with through PIACENTINI.

(a) No objection to pay being issued by 209 Div to effective strength of unit, (when this is greater than WE) providing personnel is part of Italian Army;

(b) Request for rear party should be put up to 1 District.

Present location is BRISIGHELLA and intention is for disbandment to take place 15 July - possibly at BOLOGNA.

Comd
A
G

8. Enlistment of volunteers:

Results of enlistment of Partisans in the NORTH are very meagre to date (4 July).

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MILAN | 120 | enlisted - | expectancy further | 100 |
| TURIN | 242 | " - | " " | 100 |
| GENOA | 3 | " | | |

On current form it is not expected that more than 500/600 of the 4000 authorised will be in fact enlisted.

454 G

9. WE/TO of Gd Coys for T. Hqs:

Requested PIACENTINI (and Lt. Col. GUIDA) to have prepared a standard WE/TO for the six Gd Coys authorised for the NORTH. On completion it will be submitted for attention Capt. TEMPLE.

Gen. CADORNA

10. CADORNA arrived in ROME 4 July to take up his duties as C of S SMRE.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

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