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

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

10000|120|5321 G/33/1 NOTES ON VISITS

(4878 5038)

JAN. 1944 - JAN. 1947 COVER I

1911

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

4 82

NDEA

44 A

GEN (By Hand of Officer (Col W.FIDLER))

Lt-Col GIBSON 12 BLU (By Hand)

O 256

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR G(SD) (.)

OMS (.) AMERSON HOPE SPOKE (.) IN CONSULTATION REQUEST PERMISSION PARTY SIX ITALIAN OFFICERS INCLUDING ONE INTERPRETER AND LT-COL GIBSON DEARBORNER VISIT GHQ 21 JAN AND LATER ALLIED INSTALLATIONS IN 13 CORPS AREA IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATIONS LEADING TO REORGANISATION ITALIAN SERVICES (.) HAROLD GOULDING SPOKE PREVIOUSLY AND AGREED THIS VISIT (.) GIBSON WILL VISIT GHQ SHORTLY EXPLAIN REQUIREMENTS AND BRINGING QUESTIONNAIRE (.)

RECORD (.) ITALIANS FINDING DIFFICULTY ARRANGING ACCOMMODATION REQUEST ACCOMMODATION BE ARRANGED PADUA BY GHQ IF POSSIBLE FOR PARTY INCLUDING THREE ITALIAN OR DRIVERS

5033

G/33/4

ROUTINE

G(SD) BRANCH

M.W. HOPE Brigadier G.S.

Tel. 489681
Ext. 509

Land Forces Sub Commission, AC.
M. M. I. A.
G/33/1

10 Jan 47.

Chief of Staff,
ITALIAN ARMY

Subject:- Report on Visit to SARDINIA.

1. Recently a Senior Staff Officer from this Headquarters carried out a Liaison visit to the undermentioned units in SARDINIA:-

HQ. SARDINIA BRIGADE.	CAGLIARI
HQ. 59 Inf. Regt and 1 and 2 Bns.	SASSARI
HQ. 60 Inf Regt and 1 Bn.	SASSARI
2 Bn. 60 Inf. Regt.	MACOMER
Military Prison	CRISTANO
14 Repair Unit	ABBASANTA
Arty. Ord. Depot	NUORO

The following are the principle observations made on his report:-

(a) Accommodation. Barracks are all in poor condition and are in need of repairs. They have suffered from looting by various occupants during the war, some are unfinished. In addition to major constructional work required, it was thought that the present occupiers could with advantage do more to improve their own accommodation.

(b) Clothing. In many cases in very poor condition, men without greatcoats and boots worn out. There are stores in the Inland where it is believed that some of the items most urgently required could be obtained.

(c) Training. Training appears to be unprogressive. There are excellent training areas but they are little used.

(d) M.T. Almost complete lack of MT and spares.

(e) Welfare. Welfare facilities hardly exist. It is felt that the troops, mostly ITALIANS from the mainland, must find life exceedingly dull. Funds is naturally the biggest difficulty but more effort to improvise welfare should be made by the units themselves.

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

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(b) Clothing. In many cases in very poor condition, men without greatcoats and boots worn out. There are stores in the Island where it is believed that some of the items most urgently required could be obtained.

(c) Training. Training appears to be unprogressive. There are excellent training areas but they are little used.

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(e) Welfare. Welfare facilities hardly exist. It is felt that the troops, mostly ITALIANS from the mainland, must find life exceedingly dull. Funds is naturally the biggest difficulty but more effort to improvise welfare should be made by the units themselves.

(f) Military Prison. The Prison at ORISTANO is a terrible place. It is said to be moving shortly to better accommodation in CAGLIARI.

(g) Stores. There are large dumps in the Island awaiting disposal orders.

(h) No Senior ITALIAN Officer has visited the Island recently.

(i) In conclusion the Garrison of SARDINIA is below the standard of the remainder of the ITALIAN Army.

5113

...../2.

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2. It is recommended that a Senior ITALIAN Officer visits the Island to inspect and report on the units there. Improvements to amenities be made.

3. It is for consideration whether this garrison, as at present constituted is necessary or desirable, and no doubt you will be considering this in your plans for your Post Treaty Army. Also, if troops are stationed there, whether they should be relieved at intervals with units from the mainland, or some plan for the interchange of officers and permanent cadres be arranged.

EHG/ter

Major.General.
GOC, MMLA.

Reg Dir
10/1/45
58

5035

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TOUR NOTES "G"

A.A.G.

1. A.B.L.U.

A BLU raised the following Q points.

(a) The ADLER car due to be sent to HQ MMLA is at present under going repair at the workshops in BOLOGNA.
GHQ disclaim all knowledge of this car despite the fact that it has a CAP number, it is thought therefore that the car has been illegally acquired at some time and that the CAP No is probably false.

(b) Col MILLER of CMA recently stated that cars held by DP Staff at Bologna were to be handed over to A BLU. So far A BLU have taken over one German HORCH staff car CAP 566398. This vehicle is said to be in good mechanical condition, it is 95 H.P. and is suitable for long distance touring. A BLU ask that a driver be sent to collect it if it is required by this HQ. It is ready to leave at any time.

(c) (i) With regard to the Q Appendix to the Monthly report, A BLU have certain vehicles which are not serviceable, not BER and not in workshops, how are these to be shown in their return?

(ii) They ask whether authority can be obtained for the BLU REME officer to sign BER certificates, this would simplify the evacuation of useless vehicles to MESTRE.

(iii) They also point out that they frequently turn in a BER vehicle with a good set of tyres and get back a vehicle with a worn out set.
Can they have authority to turn in BER vehicles without tyres?

(d) As regards domestic transport the OSO I points out that as regards a vehicle fit to travel any distance ie, he is dependent on the generosity of Territorial Command who have lent him a vehicle.

2. A TERRITORIAL COMMAND.

The Commander pointed out that they were short of various items of equipment. This was borne out by Commander Friuli Division who stated that the worst shortages were:-

(a) MT Spares. He stated that 60% of the vehicles were off the road due to shortage of spare parts and lack of tradesmen in the workshops.

(b) Bayonets. There is a shortage particularly of those to fit the UK A rifle.

503

(c) Webb equipment particularly pouches.

(d) Batteries for W/T Sets of all types.

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a C&P number, it is thought [illegible]
acquired at some time and that the C&P No is [illegible]

(b) Col MILLER of C&S recently stated that cars held by DF Staff at Bologna were to be handed over to 4 BLU. So far 4 BLU have taken over one German HORCH staff car C&P 5665998. This vehicle is said to be in good mechanical condition, it is 95 H.P. and is suitable for long distance touring. 4 BLU ask that a driver be sent to collect it if it is required by this HQ. It is ready to leave at any time.

(c) (i) With regard to the Q Appendix to the Monthly report, 4 BLU have certain vehicles which are not serviceable, not BER and not in workshops, how are these to be shown in their return?

(ii) They ask whether authority can be obtained for the BLU REME officer to sign BER certificates, this would simplify the evacuation of useless vehicles to MESTRE.

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(b) Bayonets. There is a shortage particularly of those to fit the 4 rifle. 503 Mk

(c) Webb equipment particularly pouches.

(d) Batteries for W/T Sets of all types.

3. 6 B.L.U.

(a) 6 BLU report that the Mercedes Command Car and Auto Union recently sent to them by HQ MMIA were both sent for repair. They are however beyond repair and useless and are BER.

(b) 6 CAR have never had any Armourers tools issued and have no rifle spare parts.

(c) Capt. ASALS is having great difficulty with stores coming into the Workshops as there is only one English speaking Italian in the Workshops.

./.

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(d) Ref this HQ letter Q 002 of 27 Nov 6 BLU disagree with para 1 and assert that there is ample evidence in the ground.

(e) GSO II is dependent on the generosity of Territorial Command for transport see para 1 (d) above.

4. 7 TERRITORIAL COMMAND.

(a) Chief of Staff raised again the question of the barracks at LEGHORN occupied by US Forces.

(b) He pointed out that FOLIGNO Workshops were short of MT Spares, and had to employ 70 civilians instead of Army tradesmen.

(c) He complained of a shortage of rifle spare parts, bayonets and equipment.

5. GENERAL.

1. Various "A" problems were dealt with on the spot or have since been dealt with by letter.

2. All three Territorial Command raised the question of shortages in men and equipment the items being:-

(i) NCO' tradesmen and specialists.
(ii) MT Spares.
(iii) Bayonets.
(IV) Rifle Spare Parts.
(V) Equipment.

3. As regards Public Relations 6 and 7 Territorial Commands appeared to take a lively interest and support a separate Welfare Officer and PRO. Commander 7 T.C. considers little or nothing can be done in regard to Public Relations but he is clearly ill informed on the whole subject.

4. Military Tribunals appear to be functioning a little more satisfactorily, a man has a reasonable chance of being brought to trial in about 6 months. A number of old outstanding cases are being abandoned.

5037

F.H.Gilmore
Lt.Col.,
A.A.G.

BGS	
GSO 1 (Ops)	
Dep G II	

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

(b) He pointed out that POLSTONE Workshops were short of MT Spares, and had to employ 70 civilians instead of Army tradesmen.

(c) He complained of a shortage of rifle spare parts, bayonets and equipment.

5. GENERAL.

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5033

R.H.Gillmore
Lt.Col.,
A.A.G.

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G.1)	
GSO 1 (SD)	
GSO 1 (O)	
[illegible]	
[illegible]	
G.1.(L)	

Copy to:- A/Q
"Q"
"G"

AHG/fg

NEW A - 'B'
FILE 6/33/1
- 9 DEC 1945

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

Serial No. 772 78

W. E. No. UR 5/1 Unit 1 Bn. Granatieri.

Location Regina Margherita Barracks, Rome.

Command: Operational) 8 Terr. Command.
Administrative)

O/C Maj. Girelli Geom. Qualifications Absent.

2 i/c

What duty is performed Garrison Duties.

	OFFICERS	ORs	TOTAL
W.E.	30	652	682.
Effective.	53	550	583

GENERAL REMARKS This unit is performing a very heavy quota of public and guard duties.

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: 07.30 from 10.30 to: from 14.00 to 16.00
Daily ~~Weekly~~ Total 5 hrs.

b) Efficiency Mainly composed of young recruits who will need some time before they absorb the Regimental spirit.

c) Discipline Good.

d) Morale ?

f) *Remarks* It is hoped that with the expected arrival of 2 Coys. from the 2nd. Bn. more time will become available for training.

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Good.

b) Messes Fair.

c) Cookhouses Clean and serviceable.

d) Hygiene)
e) Ablutions) No water in upstairs lavatories. The matter of latrine accomodation and ablutions need urgent consideration. 5032

f) Canteens Good.

g) Food Stores Need fly-proofing or fly-proof cupboards.

h) General Coffeeneeds more toasting. Wine is reported not to be up to the

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

2 i/c

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g) Food Stores Need fly-proofing or fly-proof cupboards.

h) General Coffeeneeds more toasting. Wine is reported not to be up to the standard.

5032

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles* Fair.

b) *Are AB412s maintained* Yes.

c) *Are AB406 maintained* Yes, but not quite correctly.

d) *Results of check on maintenance* Not made - drivers were away.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE 4/33/1
DATE 20 NOV 1946

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G (H)	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (I)	
GSO [illegible]	
GSO I [illegible]	
G II (L)	

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

e) *Are correct oils used* Ye

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored* ---

g) *General* Maintenance documentation is reasonable but the accounting for fuel and lubricants appears to be unnecessarily complicated.

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* ~~*British*~~ *or Italian?*

a) *How clothed* Winter clothing less overcoats.

b) Turnout Good.

c) Replacements With Regtl. H.Q. - it is recommended that each Bn. should hold its own 10% of spare clothing.

d) ~~Losses~~

e) Accounting Old system.

f) Stores Can be improved.

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* ~~*British*~~ *or Italian?*

a) Types held Normal.

b) Condition Part-worn.

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms Leck pull throughs.

Ammo Good.

d) Armourers Service (?) At Regtl. HQ.

e) Armoury All arms in stores should be well greased and oiled.

6.) *Welfare* The games of the Bn. need to be more fully organised - on competitive lines.

a) Refreshments ✓

b) Indoor Games ✓

c) Outdoor Games ✓

d) Library Small.

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room ✓

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) Capt Pico, who should devote more time to organising competitive games with the object of improving morale.

7.) *Notes on Officers* Capt. Piccioni Azio is the senior Company Commander.

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

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d) ~~Issues~~

e) Accounting Old system.

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e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room ✓

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) Capt Pico, who should devote more time to organising competitive games with the object of improving morale.

7.) *Notes on Officers* Capt. Piccioni Azio is the senior Company Commander.

8.) *General* The issue of MT fuel for this Bn. is not sufficient to enable them to perform essential duties. This should be augmented or horse-drawn transport used. It is reported that food for the various outside guards has to be taken by hand.

Date 18th. November 1946.

Signature [signature] Capt

8 BLO

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

Serial No. 765 ~~184~~

W.E. No. 33/66/1 Unit 14° Mag.Vest. & Equip.

Location Via Liguria 86. CAGLIARI

Command: Operational } Brg. Calabria
Administrative } Ministero

O/C Capt. Fenu E. Qualifications Corpo suss.
Inf. (2 years here)

2 i/c Ten. Onita P.

What duty is performed Main clothing store

W.E. 2 officers 6 NCOs 5 Graduati 3 soldiers 10 civilians

Actual Strength 2 officers 4 NCOs 0 Gradiati 3 soldiers 8 civilians.
In process of being handed over to new O.C.-Capt Fenu.

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from 0800 to 1200 from 1500 to 1800.
Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency As this Unit was in the process of being handed over to the new Comdt.,I am unable to pass an opinion.-
The stores as they were, appeared very suitable and a sufficient quantity of clothing of Italian type for a years supply is held.-

c) Discipline

d) Morale Many items in excess are held, but the Ministero has received full details of available items.-There is about 400 tons in store.-

f) *Remarks* Bin cards were maintained.-
A quantity of minor items remain to be sorted.-

2.) *Accomodation* One Civilian guard is always on the premises.-
There is no shortage of clothing of Italian Grey green type.-

a) Sleeping Quarters

b) Messes

c) Cookhouses

d) Hygiene

e) Ablutions

f) Canteens

g) Food Stores

h) General

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G [illegible]	
GSO [illegible] (SD)	
G[illegible] (T)	
GSO [illegible]	
GSO [illegible]	

5032

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2 i/c Ten. Grita F.

What duty is performed Main clothing store

W.E. 2 officers 6 NCOs 5 Graduati 3 soldiers 10 civilians

Actual Strength 2 officers 4 NCOs 0 Graduati 3 soldiers 8 civilians.
In process of being handed over to new O.C.-Capt Fenu.

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* — *Training* — *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from 0800 to 1200 from 1500 to 1800.

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency — As this Unit was in the process of being handed over to the new Comdt., I am unable to pass an opinion.-

c) Discipline — The stores as they were, appeared very suitable and a sufficient quantity of clothing of Italian type for a years supply is held.-

d) Morale — Many items in excess are held, but the Ministero has received full details of available items.-There is about 400 tons in store.-

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One Civilian guard is always on the premises.-

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a) Sleeping Quarters

b) Messes

c) Cookhouses

d) Hygiene

e) Ablutions

f) Canteens

g) Food Stores

h) General

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G [illegible]	
GSO [illegible] (SD)	
G[illegible] (T)	
G[illegible]	
G[illegible]	
G II (L)	

5031

RECEIVED 5 NOV 1946 73

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained*

c) *Are AB406 maintained*

d) *Results of check on maintenance*

[illegible] - G -
[illegible] G/33
DATE 14 NOV 1946

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

e) *Are correct oils used*

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored*

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* *British or Italian?*

a) *How clothed*

b) Turnout

c) Replacements

d) Losses

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British or Italian?*

a) Types held

b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

e) Armoury

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments

b) Indoor Games

c) Outdoor Games

d) Library

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

3rd BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
FLORENCE
1946

7.) *Notes on Officers* The new Comdt. Capt.Fenu, had not yet settled down and no opinion on him can be passed as yet.-

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

d) Losses

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British or Italian?*

a) Types held

b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

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a) Refreshments

b) Indoor Games

c) Outdoor Games

d) Library

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
OTTAWA
1945

7.) *Notes on Officers* The new Comdt. Capt.Fenu, had not yet settled down and no opinion on him can be passed as yet.-

8.) *General*

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature [signature]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. 7850220

d) Losses

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British or Italian?*

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b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

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b) Indoor Games

c) Outdoor Games

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f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALY) 1946

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8.) *General*

Date 31/Oct/46

Signature [signature]

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

Serial No. 717

W. E. No. ✓ Unit Deposito di Artiglieria Mista

Location Cagliari Sardinia

Command: Operational

Administrative Ministero

O/C Qualifications

2 i/c

What duty is performed Stores of arms and equipment

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from to: from to

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency

c) Discipline

d) Morale

f) *Remarks*

The stores at Cagliari contain a large amount of miscellaneous new and part worn material including horse drawn wagons, small arms, leather equipment of infantry pattern, direction instruments, pieces of artillery, etc.-

The whole of the vast amount of such equipment in the various deposits in Sardinia are to be collected and stored here.-

It would appear that there will be months of work to be done before this collection is complete.-

There is in particular a very big amount of explosives on this Island and the disposal will be a definite problem.

5023

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters

b) Messes

c) Cookhouses

d) Hygiene

e) Ablutions

f) Canteens

g) Food Stores

h) General

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

Administrative Unite 5

O/C ..... Qualifications .....

2 i/c ....

What duty is performed Stores of arms and equipment

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from to: from to

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency — The stores at Oglidi contain a large amount of miscellaneous new and part worn material including horse drawn wagons, small arms, leather equipment of infantry pattern, precision instruments, pieces of artillery, etc.-

c) Discipline

d) Morale

f) *Remarks* — The whole of the vast amount of such equipment in the various deposits in Sardinia are to be collected and stored here.- It would appear that there will be months of work to be done before this collection is complete.-

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b) Messes

c) Cookhouses

d) Hygiene

e) Ablutions

f) Canteens

g) Food Stores

h) General

5023

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained*

c) *Are AB406 maintained*

d) *Results of check on maintenance*

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

e) *Are correct oils used*

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored*

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* *British or Italian?*

a) *How clothed*

b) Turnout

c) Replacements

d) Losses

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British or Italian?*

a) Types held

b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

e) Armoury

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments

b) Indoor Games

c) Outdoor Games

d) Library

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

7.) *Notes on Officers*

BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
1945

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

a) *How clothed*

b) Turnout

c) Replacements

d) Losses

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British or Italian?*

a) Types held

b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

e) Armoury

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments

b) Indoor Games

c) Outdoor Games

d) Library

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

G.S. BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
(ITALIAN)
1946

7.) *Notes on Officers*

8.) *General* It is to be questioned whether the repair of obsolete equipment is advisable.-

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature

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

7 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
FLORENCE
Tele: 293618-23

Ref: BLU/25

25 Oct. 1946

RECEIVED 1 NOV 1946

MMIA - 'G'
FILE 6/33/1
DATE 1 NOV 1946

Subject : Liaison Visits - SIENA

To : 7 Territorial Command

1. In accordance with the pre-arranged Programme of Weekly Liaison Visits, GSO I 7 BLU visited SIENA on 24 Oct. 1946.
The following Notes are forwarded:

2. SIENA Military District HQ. GSO I visited District Commander (Col. RANIERI-TENTI) at 0930 hrs. A conference was held, and later GSO I visited the District Barracks, and accommodation where the newly called-up recruits are received. The following comments and difficulties were discussed.

(a) Shortage of Staff at District HQ.

(i) Staff, both Military and civilian, on War Establishment of District HQ. is insufficient, especially in view of extra duties of the HQ. not originally foreseen under the W.E. A letter (N. 10302/M di prot. of 17 Oct.46) on the subject of "retribuzione lavoro straordinario - Decreto Leg. Pres. 27.6.46 N. 19) setting out the personnel problems of SIENA District HQ. to the Min. of War (Direzione Generale Servizi di Comm.to ed Amministrativi, ROMA) has already been sent.

(ii) in the above letter it is stressed that military or ex-military personnel, who are available for employment, are all absorbed by 7 CAR, who are given first priority.

502

(b) District Barracks. These were visited by GSO I. Considerable re-organisation of existing accommodation for recruits is being undertaken, and much engineer and constructional work remains to be done before the next intake. It appears, however, that existing plans should provide ample space, and adequate cooking, heating, sanitary and welfare amenities for the next call-up of recruits.

(c) Army Morale. OC. District Commented on the outstanding improvement in the behaviour, military bearing and morale of the present intake of recruits, at the C.A.R. Local civilians

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

Subject : [redacted]

To : 7 Territorial Command

DATE: 1 NOV 1946

1. In accordance with the pre-arranged Programme of Weekly Liaison Visits, GSO I 7 BLU visited SIENA on 24 Oct. 1946. The following Notes are forwarded.

2. SIENA Military District HQ. GSO I visited District Commander (Col. RANIERI-TEMPI) at 0950 hrs. A conference was held, and later GSO I visited the District Barracks, and accommodation where the newly called-up recruits are received. The following comments and difficulties were discussed.

(a) Shortage of Staff at District HQ.

(i) Staff, both Military and civilian, on War Establishment of District HQ. is insufficient, especially in view of extra duties of the HQ. not originally foreseen under the W.E. A letter (N. 10302/F di prot. of 17 Oct.46) on the subject of "retribuzione lavoro straordinario - Decreto Leg. Pres. 27.6.46 N. 19) setting out the personnel problems of SIENA District HQ. to the Min. of War (Direzione Generale Servizi di Comm.to ed Amministrativi, ROMA) has already been sent.

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502

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(c) Army Morale. CC. District Commented on the outstanding improvement in the behaviour, military bearing and morale of the present intake of recruits, at the C.A.R. Local civilians and notabilities of SIENA have been unanimous in this opinion, which was later confirmed whole heartedly by Col. COLLEVA, Commandant 7 C.A.R.

3. CASA del SOLDATO G.S.O I met Capt. MILONE (detached from 7 C.A.R.) and visited the club premises.

(a) Hitherto the main club amenities have consisted of an excellent open-air dance-hall, with good floor, cheerful furniture, buffet service etc, with dances twice weekly.

...../2.

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

Now that the weather has changed the main and commodious building of the CASA DEL SOLDATO is being re-organised and furnished to provide complete indoor facilities for games, dancing, reading-writing etc for all troops in SIENA. Furniture is expected and the club should be a going concern within the week.

(b) Transit or leave accomodation is provided for 25 ORs (from any unit, including Carabinieri, in the Terr. Comd.) This is used mainly at week-ends and is much appreciated. Special attention is given to good messing, assisted by 7 C.A.R. There is urgent need, however, for improved latrine and ablution arrangements, in this part of the club, which are at present almost non-existent.

(c) There will be need for provision of fuel for heating the premises now that the weather has turned cold.

(d) It is good to note that the buffet and refreshment sides of the club are now to be managed by the Army and not by civilians: in this way a considerable fund should accrue for the soldier's benefit.

(e) Capt MILONE appears to be the ideal officer for this particular job; capable, full of enthusiasm and energy.

4. 7 C.A.R. G80 I visited Col. COLLIVA and 7 C.A.R.. Owing to the time taken over the visits reported above, this was only a short and informal visit, and confined to discussion in the HQ. Office. Main points noted were as follows:

(a) Clothing. Recruits are still wearing Summer shorts, but there is now available for each man one suit of winter fatigue dress and by 1 Nov. there will be a similar issue of walking-out dress. BOOTS are a big problem, the issue of one pair per man (plus 20% reserve) is far from sufficient, what with training, marching, drill, sports etc one pair of boots is liable to wear out completely within one course at CAR: anything less than a second pair per man will not allow for normal "running repairs".

(b) Equipment. Col. COLLIVA stressed the fact that the issue of British web equipment was inadequate to withstand the hard wear and tear of training, and that in any case much of it was received in an already badly-worn condition. 502

(c) Arms and Weapons
As in the case of boots, the scale of weapons for the CAR is inadequate to meet the unavoidable wear and tear of a training school.
Apart from automatic weapons, which deteriorate quickly, rifles (on the scale of approx. one per recruit) are bound to receive rough treatment and are in constant need of repair and spare parts, thereby depriving the individual recruit of a "personal weapon". Spare parts for all weapons are in short supply.

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

attention is given to good [illegible]. There is urgent need, however, for improved latrine and ablution arrangements, in this part of the club, which are at present almost non-existent.

(c) There will be need for provision of fuel for heating the premises now that the weather has turned cold.

(d) It is good to note that the buffet and refreshment sides of the club are now to be managed by the Army and not by civilians: in this way a considerable fund should accrue for the soldier's benefit.

(e) Capt MILONE appears to be the ideal officer for this particular job; capable, full of enthusiasm and energy.

4. 7 C.A.R. GSO I visited Col. COLUVA and 7 C.A.R.. Owing to the time taken over the visits reported above, this was only a short and informal visit, and confined to discussion in the HQ. Office. Main points noted were as follows:

(a) Clothing. Recruits are still wearing Summer shorts, but there is now available for each man one suit of winter fatigue dress and by 1 Nov. there will be a similar issue of walking-out dress. BOOTS are a big problem, the issue of one pair per man (plus 20% reserve) is far from sufficient; what with training, marching, drill, sports etc one pair of boots is liable to wear out completely within one course at CAR: anything less than a second pair per man will not allow for normal "running repairs".

(b) Equipment. Col. COLUVA stressed the fact that the issue of British web equipment was inadequate to withstand the hard wear and tear of training, and that in any case much of it was received in an already badly-worn condition.

(c) Arms and Weapons
As in the case of boots, the scale of weapons for the CAR is inadequate to meet the unavoidable wear and tear of a training school.
Apart from automatic weapons, which deteriorate quickly, rifles (on the scale of approx. one per recruit) are bound to receive rough treatment and are in constant need of repair and spare parts, thereby depriving the individual recruit of a "personal weapon" Spare parts for all weapons are in short supply, added to which the equipment of Armourers tools is quite inadequate.

(Note. It is expected that shortages of weapons and spare parts at CAR will be overcome by the recent handing over to the Italian Army of a large tonnage of British equipment at 557 B.O.D. It is understood that listing and cataloguing of these stores by the the Italian Army is temporarely delaying the release of these stores).

.....3/

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

5. GSO I's visit to SIENA was met with every cordiality and efficiency: and it is hoped that these notes may assist in bringing to light and remedying such difficulties as may exist in the SIENA Area.

C.C. MARKES

LT. COL.
GSO I

Copy :- M.M.I.A.
Internal.

5027

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

Serial No. 822

W.F No. UR/5/1 Unit 59 Rgt. III Bn.Fanteria

Location Iglesias

Command: Operational Cdo.Brigata Calabria

Administrative

O C Magg.Concas T.

2 i/c

What duty is performed Garrison Bn.

30 Officers 652 ORS.

Strength 15 officers 39 NCOs Troops 364

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/33/1.
DATE 29/4/41.

Qualifications

BGS	
GSO I (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (T)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (TRG)	
GSO II (T)	

GENERAL REMARKS This Unit occupies a detached zone where public opinion is antagonistic. The barracks is in need of much maintenance and repair works.

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: 0630 from 1045 to: from 1300 to 1600 - 7.1/4 daily
Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency Not able to judge training but administration is good.

c) Discipline Good

d) Morale Fair but needs full welfare help.

f) *Remarks* It is recommended that this unit because of its detached locations and for reason of morale be given the greatest possible assistance in providing Engineer assistance and keeping it up to strength in active NCOs and officers.

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Good

b) Messes Good on company lines.

c) Cookhouses Urgently require work by the Genio Militare. It is the worst equiped cookhouse I know of.

d) Hygiene Good

e) Ablutions Need repair.

f) Canteens Need greater scope and the assistance of the chief Welfare officer at Cagliari in the supply of fruits

g) Food Stores Needs fly proof cupboards.

h) General Recommended strongly that this unit receives preferential treatment if its morale and efficiency is to be maintained.

5023

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

Maj. Gondas F.

2 i/c

What duty is performed Garrison Bn.

30 Officers 652 ORs.

BGS	
GSO I (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (I)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (TRG)	
GSO II (I)	

Strength 15 officers 39 NCOs Troops 364

GENERAL REMARKS This Unit occupies a detached zone where public opinion is antagonistic. The barracks is in need of much maintenance and repair works.

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: 0630 from 1045 to: from 1300 to 1600 - 7.1/4 daily
Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency Not able to judge training but administration is good.

c) Discipline Good

d) Morale Fair but needs full welfare help.

f) *Remarks* It is recommended that this unit because of its detached locations and for reason of morale be given the greatest possible assistance in providing Engineer assistance and keeping it up to strength in active NCOs and officers.

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Good

b) Messes Good, on company lines.

c) Cookhouses Urgently require work by the Genio Militare. It is the worst equiped cookhouse I know of.

d) Hygiene Good

e) Ablutions Need repair.

f) Canteens Need greater scope and the assistance of the chief Welfare officer at Cagliari in the supply of fruits

g) Food Stores Needs fly proof cupboards.

h) General Recommended strongly that this unit receives preferential treatment if its morale and efficiency is to be maintained.

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained*

c) *Are AB406 maintained*

d) *Results of check on maintenance* Needs advise of the Directorate of Motorisation on its administration.

5023

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

e) *Are correct oils used* yes

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored* Satisfactorily

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* ~~*British or Italian?*~~

a) *How clothed* On this day winter clothing is being drawn
b) Turnout At present bad owing to mixed dress.-.

c) Replacements Not held at the Bn. as they should be.

d) Losses Small

e) Accounting Regular publications are not available

f) Stores Satisfactory
No "libretti personali" are available

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* ~~*British or Italian?*~~

a) Types held Normal.
British arms now being drawn.

b) Condition Good

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms Good

Ammo Good

d) Armourers Service (?) At Regtl HQ

e) Armoury Good, [illegible]

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments Wine, occasionally fruit.
b) Indoor Games Very little.

c) Outdoor Games Nil

d) Library No

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room Being constructed

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)
Capt.Busonera O.

8th BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers* O.C. is a good type officer

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

a) *How clothed* — On this day winter clothing is being drawn
b) Turnout — At present bad owing to mixed dress.-.
c) Replacements — Not held at the Bn. as they should be.
d) Losses — Small
e) Accounting — Regular publications are not available
f) Stores — Satisfactory

No "libretti personali" are available

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* ~~*British or*~~ *Italian?*

a) Types held — Normal.
British arms now being drawn.

b) Condition — Good

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms — Good

Ammo — Good

d) Armourers Service (?) — At Regtl HQ

e) Armoury — Good, [illegible].

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments — Wine, occasionally fruit.
b) Indoor Games — Very little.
c) Outdoor Games — Nil
d) Library — No
e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room — Being constructed
f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

Capt.Busonera O.

8th BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers* — O.C. is a good type officer

8.) *General* — It is reported that soldiers had to pay for the photographs for their documents of identification.

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature [signature]

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

Serial No. 825

W.E. No. UR/5/1 Unit 60 Regt.Inf. I Bn.

Location Caserma Gonzaga Sassari

Command: Operational Calabria Bde.

Administrative

O/C Major Sanna G. Qualifications Military Academy

2 i/c

What duty is performed Garrison Unit

WE 30 Officers 652 ORs

Strength 23 Officers 49 NCOs 349 Troops

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily 0800 from 1130 to: from 13.30 to 1700 7 Hs daily

Weekly: Total 42

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO [illegible] (SD)	
GSO [illegible] (T)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (TRG)	
G II (L)	

b) Efficiency Admin. appears good. Low % of sick.

c) Discipline Can be improved

d) Morale ?

f) *Remarks* Much effort should be made to educate these soldiers [illegible] regards to the reason why they are in service and to inculcate a soldierly pride.-

2.) *Accomodation* Good

a) Sleeping Quarters Clean and spacious

b) Messes Leave much room for improvement

5027

c) Cookhouses Good kitchen but the store was not clean and the alluminium utensils need scouring with sand.

d) Hygiene Fair } Work by the Genio Militare is

e) Ablutions Fair } urgently needed.

f) Canteens Could be improved

g) Food Stores Satisfactory

h) General The general aspect is good but attention to the surroundings

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

2 i/c .....

What duty is performed Garrison Unit

WE 20 Officer 652 ors

Strength 23 Officers 49 NCOs 349 Troops

GENERAL REMARKS

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily 0800 from 1130 to: from 13.30 to 1700 7 Hs daily

Weekly: Total 42

b) Efficiency Admin. appears good. Low % of sick.

c) Discipline Can be improved

d) Morale ?

f) *Remarks* Much effort should be made to educate these soldiers with regards to the reason why they are in service and to inculcate a soldierly pride.-

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (C)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (ERG)	
G II (L)	

2.) *Accomodation* Good

a) Sleeping Quarters Clean and spacious

b) Messes Leave much room for improvement

c) Cookhouses Good kitchen but the store was not clean and the alluminium utensils need scouring with sand.

d) Hygiene Fair } Work by the Genio Militare is

e) Ablutions Fair } urgently needed.

f) Canteens Could be improved

g) Food Stores Satisfactory

h) General The general aspect is good but attention to the surroundings of the troops in mess and canteens would improve morale.

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained*

c) *Are AB406 maintained* NIL

d) *Results of check on maintenance*

5027

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

e) *Are correct oils used*

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored*

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* *British & or Italian?*

a) *How clothed* Very mixed

b) Turnout Poor owing to to diversity of uniforms

c) Replacements From Regtl. stores

d) Losses Low

e) Accounting Improvised owing to lack of proper books and forms.

f) Stores There is room for improvement

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* *British & or Italian?*

a) Types held NORMAL

b) Condition Fair but rifles should receive a film of oil when in store.

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms Fair

Ammo Fair

d) Armourers Service (?) Yes for Italian type arms only.

e) Armoury Improvised

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments Wine and Liquors

b) Indoor Games Insufficient

c) Outdoor Games Nil

d) Library Very small

e) Recreation, Reading and ~~Quiet~~ Room ✓

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

7.) ~~Notes on Officers~~ S/Ten Mellis at R H.Q.

8° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

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

b) Turnout — Poor owing to to diversity of uniforms

c) Replacements — From Regtl. stores

d) Losses — Low

e) Accounting — Improvised owing to lack of proper books and forms.

f) Stores — There is room for improvement

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* — *British or Italian?*

a) Types held — NORMAL

b) Condition — Fair but rifles should receive a film of oil when in store.

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms — Fair

Ammo — Fair

d) Armourers Service (?) — Yes for Italian type arms only.

e) Armoury — Improvised

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments — Wine and Liquors

b) Indoor Games — Insufficient

c) Outdoor Games — Nil

d) Library — Very small

e) Recreation, Reading and ~~Quiet~~ Room ✓

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments)

8° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) ~~*Notes on Officers*~~ S/Ten Mellis at R H.Q.

8.) *General* — Excellent barracks but need a certain amount of Engineer Work.

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature

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

1943

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

60° Fanteria

SCHEMA INDICATIVO DEL TEMPO

ARGOMENTI	SETTIMANE								TO
	10^	11^	12^	13^	14^	15^	16^	17^	
Add.Ginn.Sportivo - Ord.Chiuso	4	5	7	7	3	6	6	6	
Gare sportive	6	=	=	=	2	=	2	2	
Regolamenti e organici	2	2	2	=	1	2	1	2	
Addestramento O.P.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
Conversazioni educative a carattere democratico	=	1	=	1	=	1	1	=	
Igiene e pronto soccorso	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	
Lavori e igiene accampamento	4	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	
Tiri ed esercitazioni a fuoco	4	4	6	=	4	6	=	=	
Istruzione tecnica sulle armi	7	10	5	7	1	4	3	4	
Lavori sul campo di battaglia	6	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	
Collegamenti	=	2	3	2	=	=	=	=	
Addestramento e difesa C.A.	=	1	2	2	=	=	=	=	
Addestramento tattico	=	9	9	15	17	9	20	20	
Totale ore Nella settimana — Per istruzione	35	35	35	35	29	29	35	35	
Totale ore Nella settimana — A disposizione	7	7	7	7	6	6	7	7	
Totale complessivo	42	42	42	42	35	35	42	42	

1946

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

60° Tonsari

SCHEMA INDICATIVO DEL TEMPO

	S E T T I M A N E								TOTALE PERIODI
	10^	11^	12^	13^	14^	15^	16^	17^	
Chiuso	4	5	7	7	3	6	6	6	44
	6	=	=	=	2	=	2	2	12
	2	2	2	=	1	2	1	2	12
	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	9
a carattere	=	1	=	1	=	1	1	=	4
o	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	1
anto	4	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	4
fuoco	4	4	6	=	4	6	=	=	24
armi	7	10	5	7	1	4	3	4	41
aglia	6	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	6
	=	2	3	2	=	=	=	=	7
C.A.	=	1	2	2	=	=	=	=	5
	=	9	9	15	17	9	20	20	99
									362
struzione	35	35	35	35	29	29	35	35	268
posizione	7	7	7	7	6	6	7	7	54
	42	42	42	42	35	35	42	42	322

Serial No. 828

W.E. No. UR/211/1 Unit Mixed Bty of Artillery

Location Cagliari, Sardinia

Command: Operational ~~Calabria Bde.~~

Administrative

O/C ~~Maggiore SPE. Barengo Vittorio~~ Qualifications

2 i/c

What duty is performed Training

W.E.	Officers	9	NCOs	13	Soldiers	154.
Actual Strength	"	9	"	13	"	117 (67% WE)

GENERAL REMARKS In process of formation.

1.) *Employment* *Training* *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from to: from to

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency This unit is as yet at half strength and has not yet received British arms nor pieces of Artillery.-The Unit is also as yet without instructors.

c) Discipline

d) Morale

f) *Remarks*

BGS
GSO 1 (SD)
Dep G III
GSO 1 (SD)
GSO 1 (?)
GSO III (SD)
GSO 1 (TRG)
G II (L)

RGS
GSO 1 (SD)
Dep G III
GSO 1 (SD)
GSO II (?)
GSO III (SD)
GSO 1 (TRG)
G II (L)

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Suitable

b) Messes Good

c) Cookhouses Good

d) Hygiene Fair

e) Ablutions

f) Canteens Combined with mess room

g) Food Stores

h) General Separate Mess for NCOs is in operation.

5013

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

Administrative .....

O/C ~~Maggiore SPE. Barengo Vittorio~~ Qualifications .....

2 i/c .....

What duty is performed Training

W.E. Officers 9 NCOs 13 Soldiers 154.

Actual Strength " 9 " 13 " 117 (67% WE)

GENERAL REMARKS In process of formation.

1.) *Employment*

Training *Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: from to: from to

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency This unit is as yet at half strength and has not yet received British arms nor pieces of Artillery.-The Unit is also as yet without instructors.

c) Discipline

d) Morale

f) *Remarks*

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO [illegible] (SD)	
GSO [illegible] (?)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO 1 (TRG)	
G II (L)	

	G II (L)
	GSO 1 (TRG)
	GSO III (SD)
	G II (?)
	GSO 1 (SD)
	Dep G III
	GSO 1 (SD)
	BGS

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Suitable

b) Messes Good

c) Cookhouses Good

d) Hygiene Fair

e) Ablutions ------

f) Canteens Combined with mess room

g) Food Stores ------

h) General Separate Mess for NCOs is in operation.

5013

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained*

c) *Are AB406 maintained*

d) *Results of check on maintenance*

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

e) *Are correct oils used*

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored*

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* — *British or Italian?* &

a) *How clothed* — Summer clothing

b) Turnout

c) Replacements

d) Losses — Not checked owing to unsuitable time of visit

e) Accounting

f) Stores

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* — ~~*British or*~~ *Italian?* Italian small arms only as yet.

a) Types held

b) Condition

W.E. of British Arms	
Pistols	11
TSMG	16
Rifles	149
Bren	6
Arty 17 lbr	4 } x
" 25 "	4 }

x Released but not yet received.

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

e) Armoury

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments — yes

b) Indoor Games — few

c) Outdoor Games — yes

d) Library — --

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room — Combined with mess

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) — Major Berengo

8th BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers*

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c) Replacements
d) Losses
e) Accounting
f) Stores

Not checked owing to unsuitable time of visit

5.) *Arms and Ammunition*

~~*British or*~~ *Italian?* Itelian small arms only as yet.

a) Types held

b) Condition

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms

Ammo

d) Armourers Service (?)

e) Armoury

W.E. of British Arms		
Pistols	11	
TSMG	16	
Rifles	149	
Bren	6	
Arty 17 lbs	4	x
" 25 "	4	x

x Released but not yet received.

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments yes

b) Indoor Games few

c) Outdoor Games yes

d) Library —

e) Recreation, Reading and Quiet Room Combined with mess

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) Major Berenge

8° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers*

8.) *General*

The progress of this Unit cannot be assessed until about January since the instructors will be returning from courses at end of November.

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature

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

Serial No 818, 819, 820, 821

W. No. UR/4/1, 9/1, 5/1, 5/1 Unit 59th Regt. of Infantry

Location Lero III Bn

Command: Operational Gelebrie Dist

Administrative

O/C Col. Abdul Krompoo Qualifications

2 i/c

What duty is performed Reading and various Guard duties

GENERAL REMARKS The training programme on a weekly basis was considered satisfactory

1.) *Employment*	*Training*	*Duty*

a) Hours worked - Daily: 0630 from 1045 to: from 1300 to 1600
Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency Administration appears to be good, but lack of instructors is interfering with training

c) Discipline Fair

d) Morale

f) *Remarks* This Unit is employing many men on miscellaneous duties.-It is also performing much work that would normally be performed by the Genio.-

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Good

b) Messes On company basis. Can be improved.

c) Cookhouses Need reconstructing.

d) Hygiene Fair

e) Ablutions Shortage of water.

f) Canteens Good

g) Food Stores Good but need the provision of fly and rat proof cupboards.

h) General One man with infectious disease was held in the Infirmary who

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO (SD)	
GSO (C)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO 1 (TRG)	
G II (L)	

5013

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O/C ...Col. [illegible]

2 i/c .....

What duty is performed Training and various Guard duties

GENERAL REMARKS The training programme on a weekly basis was considered satisfactory

Training *Duty*

1.) *Employment*

a) Hours worked - Daily: 0630 from 1045 to: from 1300 to 1600

Weekly: Total

b) Efficiency Administration appears to be good, but lack of instructors is interfering with training.

c) Discipline Fair

d) Morale ———

f) *Remarks* This Unit is employing many men on extraneous duties.-It is also performing much work that would normally be performed by the Genie.-

2.) *Accomodation*

a) Sleeping Quarters Good

b) Messes On company basis. Can be improved.

c) Cookhouses Need reconstructing.

d) Hygiene " Fair

e) Ablutions Shortage of water.

f) Canteens Good

g) Food Stores Good but need the provision of fly and rat proof cupboards.

h) General One man with infectious disease was held in the infirmary who should in fact have been kept at the civilian hospital.

BGS	Duty
GSO 1 (SD)	Duty
Dep G III	
GSO [illegible] (SD)	
GSO [illegible] (T)	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO I (TRG)	
G II (L)	

5018

3.) *M. T.*

a) *Condition of Vehicles*

b) *Are AB412s maintained* Not inspected

c) *Are AB406 maintained*

d) *Results of check on maintenance*

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e) *Are correct oils used*

f) *What is fuel reserve and how is it stored*

g) *General*

4.) *Clothing and Equipment* — *British or Italian?*

a) *How clothed* — Mixed
b) Turnout — Fair
c) Replacements — No shortage
d) Losses — Small
e) Accounting — Italian system
f) Stores — Reasonably good

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* — *British & Italian?*

a) Types held — British arms are just arriving but instructors are not available.

b) Condition — Fair

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms — Fair
Ammo — ——

d) Armourers Service (?) — YES
e) Armoury — Good

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments — yes
b) Indoor Games — FEW
c) Outdoor Games — yes
d) Library — NIL
e) Recreation, ~~Reading and Quiet Room~~
f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) — Unit is constructing a garrison cinema.

8° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers*

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d) Losses — Small

e) Accounting — Italian system

f) Stores — Reasonably good

5.) *Arms and Ammunition* — *British & Italian?*

a) Types held — British arms are just arriving but instructors are not available.

b) Condition — Fair

c) *Care and Maintenance*

Arms — Fair

Ammo — ——

d) Armourers Service (?) — YES

e) Armoury — Good

6.) *Welfare*

a) Refreshments — yes

b) Indoor Games — FEW

c) Outdoor Games — yes

d) Library — NIL

e) Recreation, ~~Reading and Quiet Room~~

f) Name of Unit Welfare Officer (with comments) — Unit is constructing a garrison cinema.

8° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT (ITALIAN)
31 OKT 1946

7.) *Notes on Officers*

8.) *General* — There is more than sufficient space in the barracks.
There are no P.T. instructors available.
Over 80 men are employed in looking after horses which are being held pending disposal instructions.

Date 31 Oct 46

Signature [signature]

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

1955

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

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SUBJECT: Report on Tour of Engr units in North Italy

LAND FORCES SUB-COMM, AC (MMIA)
(489081 Ext. 289) G/33/1
7 Oct 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Forwarded to you herewith is a copy of report made by SOME (Maj O'Ferrall) of this HQ. The report of course is directed to this HQ and much of it is explanatory and of informational nature.

2. Certain points arising out of it are for action by this HQ (i.e. initiating demands for more types of Bailey Bridge from Allied sources). Other points however call for action by your Ministry In particular I would like to call your attention to points in the following paras:-

Part I:- Paras- 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15 (a separate letter has gone up with suggestions for change in W.E.)
16 (a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h) and where applicable in part II.

3. I would be glad to have your comments on certain suggestions made in the conclusion to part I (para 16) which effects the general organisation of the Engrs.

for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

JOO'F/sb

Internal: 'Q'
G(Trg)
SOME (2) of covering letter.
SD/4/2

AMG - Zone Notes.

A.A. - G
FILE G 33/1
DATE Reg/10/10

G/33/1
13

1. 17 Sqdn 2 FAU Genoa.

(a) Set Pyrne and Forign. Accomodation satisfactory, Pyrne occupies large villa which is also used with guard accomodation.

(b) Local Maintenance. No petrol so long as South African detachment remain in Genoa.

(c) Transport Transport. "Burgles" Jeep returned to Base, has this arrived? Generally M.T. transport unreliable and difficulty in obtaining spare parts. Italian Army transport frequently borrowed.

2. 19 Sqdn 1 FAU Turin.

(a) Set Agnelen - Pomy - Northop. Accomodation in Rome, intend to give up villa owing to difficulty of approach and heating in winter. Are not satisfied with officers accomodation. Pet's in good flats but prefer central heating with civilians presents problem.

EGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (C)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO 1 (TUG)	
G II (L)	

1 AHQ has submitted Local Maintenance proposals. Volunteers accept our Ministry help over reconstruction and heating as this explanines contrast British and Italian officers service conditions. See their letter G 5 12 Sept.

(Personal) Letter mail to be addressed c/o Base PO and forwarded by R.A.F. Courier plane.

(c) Transport Transport Unreliable. Ask for Jeep and Caravan preferably converted 3 Tonner not trailer.

5018
A

(d) Personnel Short of British drivers and need Corp Coast and C/E. This is a general request from AHQ's who have to administer attd British personnel. See para 8(c).

(e) Italian Army Det C of E. 4 Tons Coal. Rations and equipment for Alpine Regiments not satisfactory. War Ministry have not satisfied their demands. This also general concern of Para Corps in the North.

3. 21 Sqdn 1 FAU Milan

(a) Set Merrie and Aldridge. Agreed on leave. Accomodation not satisfactory except for Naples and Rome with the villas at Rome and Caserta. Mr Shaw and Merrie offered requisitioned flat left in a very poor shape by Polish Army. Mr's accomodation not visited but no complaints.

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(c) Domestic Transport. "Humber" has returned to Base, has this arrived? Generally NIL transport available and difficulty in obtaining spare parts. Italian Army transport frequently borrowed.

2. 12 Sept & NIL Period.

(a) Det Sparbo - Perry - Hartley. Accomodation is poor, intend to give up villa owing to difficulty of approach and heating in winter. are not satisfied with officers accomodation. Off's in road State not overall central heating with civilians presently occupied.

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G IH	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (I)	
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (TRG)	
G II (S)	

1 NIL has submitted local maintenance proposals. Volunteers except for Military help over accomodation and heating as this explanies contrast British and Italian officers service conditions. See their letter of 12 Sept.

(b) Personal Letter. Letter unit to be addressed- c/o Base to and forwarded by R.C. Courier plane.

(c) Domestic Transport Unreliable. Ask for Jeep and Caravan probably converted 3 tonner not trailer.

(d) Personal chart of British officers and need Copy Occupt and C/S. This is a general request from NIL's who have to administer with British personnel. See para 2(c).

(e) Italian Army. Det C of S. 1 Year Good. Rations and equipment for Alpine Regiments not satisfactory. War Ministry have not satisfied their demands. This also general concern of Para Corps in the North.

3. 23 Sept & NIL Milan

(a) Det Norris and Aldridge. Sparbo on leave. Accomodation not satisfactory except for Duglas and Odi with the villas at Como and Iseo. No heat and Norris offered reconditioned flat left in a very poor shape by Polish Army. Off's accomodation not visited but no complaints.

(b) Local Maintenance. NIL not clear as to future. Milan Det at 217 Area closing down. Require 3 ton lorry for rations.

(c) Domestic Transport Unreliable. Delay in repairs owing to non availability of spare parts.

4. 24 Sept & NIL Bologna

(a) Det Johnstone - Bradley - Olds and Lyons. Accomodation for officers and Off's satisfactory.

Continued sheet.../

Q

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(b) Depot Transport Require copy of revised TO. 3 ton lorry needed urgently, not yet arrived. Asks for 8 cwt Chev to be replaced as unsuitable on winter roads. (See page 76). Are sending particulars of two cars which we should get from AG 1 Italian 1 German make, both leaked good. Q

(c) Local Administration Are looking after Displaced Persons Dept and CCSDU detachment. Total ration strength 75. Drew SPT and fodder for recreational ridesl transport from Leghorn.

(d) Personnel Asked urgently for ST rep or Officer to help as Camp. Also for replacement Sgt Morrison due for release and a Lieut. A

(e) REME Duke reports move of 4 Repair Unit to Verona. Local labour troubles are hampering G.C. working. Asks for more military technical personnel and wants release visits from AFHQ. Director of Repairs wishes cost of repairs to Govt stuff car defrayed from some other source than 4 Corps Local allowance. REME

(f) A.F. Courier Service Plane lifts with films on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

(g) Italian Army Met COC 4 Corps Comd and C of S. Extremely courteous and expressed appreciation of 4 HAU's efforts. Enquired if CRO had any comment to make on his recent tour of inspection.

Leghorn Premises at Verona lately used as Officers Club and barracks at Vicenza. GSO letters Q1 - 7 and Q1 - 8 of 24 Sept to 217 Area refer. ~~(See page 4).~~ 501

Alpine tracked vehicles. GSO letter Q13 12 Sept to 217 refers. Q

5. 4 October 5 HAU Udine

(a) Lt Col Aitken - Elmington - Johnston and Potter. Accommodation Officers satisfactory QM's by arrangement with AAC but has recently received some British OR rats which would prefer to do without as otherwise he must start separate QM's Mess. In writing to A about this. Could be sent to Florence or Bologna.

(b) Personnel Require Sgt Clerk. Ask for CRO to advise and look into local "Ordinance" matters. Suggest loan from Bologna (Lyons) or preferably Florence (Patterson who is due for leave and could "stop off" at Udine on his way to U.K.). 3RD

(c) Italian Army

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help to help.
for release and a Lecturer.

(c) NAAFI. Hdte reports move of 4 Depots Unit to Verona. Local labour troubles are hampering O.C. Bortolon. Asks for more military technical personnel and regular odience visit from NAAFI. Director of Repairs wishes cost of repairs to Crew staff car defrayed from some other source than A Serv Coml Allotment. REME

(f) A.C. Courier Service. Close links with Milan on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

(g) Italian Army. Met COS 4 Army Comd and C of S. Extremely courteous and expressed appreciation of 4 RASC's efforts. Enquired if GOC had any comment to make on his recent tour of inspection.

Grotta. Premises at Verona lately used as Officers Club and barracks at Vicenza. AGO Letters Q1 - 7 and Q1 - 8 of 25 Sept to 217 Area refer. 5UK

Alpine frozen vehicles. AGO letter Q15 12 Sept to HQ refers. Q

5. 1 October 5 RASC Units

(a) Det Antwerp - Hibbington - Johnston and Antwerp. Accommodation. Officers satisfactory GI's by arrangement with AGO but has recently received some British GI rifle which would prefer to do without as otherwise he must start segregate GI's mess. Is writing to about this. Could be sent to Bologna or Rotterdam. A

(b) Personnel. Bespoke Sgt Clerk. Ask for GHQ to advise and look into local "ordnance" matters. Suggest loan from Bologna (Lyons) or preferably Florence (Partridge) who is due for leave and could "step off" at Udine on his way to U.K. ORD

(c) Italian Army. G

(i) Det C of 5 Tpt Coys. Regrets delay in issuing British vehicles to regiments in their Command. Would have preference priority in view of frontier position. Q
Boot and clothing factory in full swing, but issue of new battledress (which looked and felt extremely good) will hardly be made in time. GOC to have own local regain arrangements. Why?

Continued sheet...3/

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

(ii) United CAR Smile

Men looked fit and in good spirits. Sickness — States strenght. 7 out of 1700. Commenerted with one invalid and found I had picked the wrong one as he was the only V.D. case (suspected) in the ward. Quite enthusiastic and on top of his form. Only complaint he had was lack of married accomodation for instructors. Barracks generally clean and well kept Institute and Gate have bright and attractive.

(c) RAOC
Armourers tools not received U.N.F. weapons sent out to local Regiments where such tools as have been received are located. 5 Repair Unit has received various machines in exchange for scrap vehicles and these are now installed including reboring plant. No labour difficulties and output rising.

6. 3 October 5 RAI Bolgera

(a) Net Nelson - writer. Accomodation satisfactory. Italian Army provided good mess with guest rooms. OR's accomodation excellent based on RAOC Increment.

(b) Local Maintenance 2:7 Area closing down end of October and sub-area opening at possibly Macerine. Relations with present Area stay excellent.

7. 7 October 7 RAI Florence 5UI

(a) Net Harlow - Gregson - Hamilton. Accomodation Officers Mess good OR's mid Gregsons villa, Villa Primavera and liable to be lost by end of December as owner (American civilian) wishes to regain possession. This being resisted as alternative buildings late "O.R." Unit buildings not so good.

(b) Local Maintenance Can purchase now for cash such items as Rice, oil, flour and cheese but quantity limited to Italian scale. This used for extra messing. Fuel not authorised and ordered as Italian contract rate is less than 50% local rate for wood or lignite. Q/ST

(c) Personnel Want assistance to get former Chief Clerk back into Army and into 7 RAI. Can Air Ministry be persuaded to grant AMIA Civilian drivers military status as accomodation for visiting drivers is difficult if they are Italian. 2I Officer must be replaced when he is due for release. A

(d) Italian Army 7 Para Coad urgently require 300 sq yds of "Tiles" for windows of newly occupied barracks, can we help obtain direct from U.K. Milit- Q

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

received are located. 5 Repair Unit has received various machines in exchange for scrap vehicles and these are now installed including reboring plant. No labour difficulties and output rising.

6. 5 October 6 HAD Bologna

(a) Hut Nelson - Writer. Accomodation satisfactory. Italian Army provided good Mess with guest rooms. OR's accomodation excellent based on NATO increment.

(b) Local Maintenance 217 Area closing down end of October and sub-area opening at possibly Ricccine. Relations with present Area staff excellent.

7. 7 October / HAD Florence

(a) Hut Marines - Oregon - Hamilton. Accomodation Officers mess good OR's and Grayson Villa. Villa Primavera and Linkle to be lost by end of December as owner (American civilian) wishes to regain possession. This being resisted as alternative buildings like "C.R.E." Unit buildings not so good.

(b) Local Maintenance Can purchase now for cash such items as Rice, oil, flour and cheese but quantity limited to Italian scale. Title used for extra messing. Fuel not authorised and denied as Italian contract rate is less than 50% local rate for wood or lignite.

(c) Personnel Hunt assistance to get former Chief Clerk back into Army and into 7 HAD. Can our Ministry be persuaded to grant NATO Civilian drivers military status as accomodation for visiting drivers is difficult if they are Italian. ST Officer must be replaced when he is due for release.

(d) Italian Army 7 Terr Comd urgently require 300 sq yds of "Mica" for windows of newly occupied barracks, can we help obtain direct from U.S. Military stocks.

(e) Domestic Transport Require 8 cut MF ~~park~~ Chev... (See para 4b).

8. General

(a) Local administration an increasing worry HAD's uncertain as to future and would welcome change now to local purchase and adequate allowance.

Continued sheet...4/

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

(b) Accommodation very much desirable each BLU should have and maintain a base for single and visiting officers.

(c) Demands necessary a serious discretion to the wording of BLU's who all request this be realised.

'A' types want an officer as Comp.

'B' types want a suitable QI set.

(d) Transfer Personnel. A serious handicap to the efficient performance of their job. Essential BLU's in the north have reliable troops. All endorse demand for person accompanying one or two officers preferably its own prime mover. Great difficulty in obtaining spares. Request 5 may be made Emic with only sending British source of supply and records made through them. 5 BLU wishes to help expedite if they may be given an additional officer for the purpose. He could then contact the appropriate supply, RAF, and if stores depots.

5th October 1946

Rad
AIRC

DISTRIBUTION:

A/G RAMC

A GHQ

Q G.S.

G

5013

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

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

HQ 1 CORPS DISTRICT's MEETING held DEC 1946

Part A - BERLIN

G(S)3211 G.S.

4 Inf Bde

1. What latest directive on extent to which T.C.'s/T.E.O's and ending generally are to be supervised by HQ's as they are not living up to last directive. G.S.

2. General [illegible] in asking for a general to command the CAB in addition to the general (Inf) who he says cannot visit CAB whenever he likes (why not?). Will MMLA approve the proposal if put up? G.S.

3. A HQ feels sufficient Mailing commanders do not visit CAB and are for themselves. Can we advise? G.S.

4. General [illegible] still in BERLIN submitting new [illegible] Div (Gen. [illegible]) Chairman to speak. A

5. What chance of some more British HQ for Potsdam? Put the record. G

6. What is the latest War Ministry view on change of boundary between A and B Territorial Commands. HQ's support the proposed change. G.S.

7. Reply re CMH at BERLIN also lodging. G.

2 Inf Bde 8. 5 Inf require MMLA policy on Frontier Guards - are Berlin troops allowed? (? all HQ's)
Patrols on Austrian frontier are surprised at meeting US and Polish Dance parties without prior knowledge of their coming. Suggest MMLA take up with local Allied Cmds.

9. HQ would like advance information re Allied meeting for Ministry accommodation & local arrangement. G.S.

6 Inf Bde 10. Class I Canteens at [illegible] still avail Al-pcard. What is latest? G.

11. Ref G 150 of 13 June. Should equipment be being collected from Bologna 22 June. G.

12. What are MMLA & War Ministry views on splitting HQ under, A and B type wings vide 6 Inf G A/5(21) of 19 June. G.

7 Inf Bde 13. What is forecast for MMLA relaxing accumulation at [illegible]
[illegible] (A [illegible] long [illegible] Tpt)
[illegible] Hospital [illegible] Dep Dent

14. What is War Ministry policy for HQ installations. 7 Cmd to accommodating everything (Canteens, Parks, HQ Offices etc) Cmd Inf (Polizei) at [illegible] has which doesn't seem proper G.

Guards 15. 7 CAB is definitely coming one in to [illegible]. G.S.

16. MMLA to look into the question of services Inspection reports on Depots etc which seem to go through service channels (Tp) to War Ministry and not through HQ channels as in our orders to HQ's; short complaints to War Ministry see attached report from [illegible]. G.

5. A Bde Gp is now [illegible] Russian elements do not visit GAF and see for themselves. Can we advise ? G.1.

4. General [illegible] still in BAF/BAO endeavouring now GOC 7 AUS Div (Mr. MORSHEAD) Norman to speak. A

5. That absence of Gen more British HQ for Brindi off the record. A

6. What is the intent the Ministry view on change of boundary between 4 and 5 Territorial Commands. Who request the proposed change. G.1

7. Reply re CMH at [illegible] now had. for C. C.

5 BDE 8. 5 BDE require AMF policy on Frontier Guards - are British troops allowed ? (7 all Bdes)
Patrol on Austrian frontier are surprised at meeting US and Polish Forces parties without prior knowledge of their coming. Suggest HQs take up with local Allied Cmds. G.1

9. HQ would like advance information re Allied meeting for Ministry accomodation & local arrangement. G.

6 BDE 10. Class I Services at [illegible] still await disposal. What is latest ? G.

11. Ref C 190 of 13 June. Friends equipment is being collected from Bologna 22 June. G.

12. What are HQ's & War Ministry views on splitting BAF units, A and B type wings vide 6 BDE [illegible]/5(21) of 19 June. G.

7 BDE 13. What is forecast for USA releasing accomodation at [illegible] 5013
[illegible] (A [illegible] Gen Genl
HQ Hospital [illegible]

14. What is War Ministry policy for AF installations. 7 Corps is concentrating everything (Caterpillars, Marks, AF cars etc) Genl at (Belgium) at [illegible] the which doesn't seem proper G.

General 15. 7 GAS is definely sending one Bn to [illegible]. G.C.

16. MMIA to look into the question of services inspection reports on Depots etc which seem to go through service channels (Re) to War Ministry and not through AFI channels as in our orders to BDEs: about complaints to War Ministry see attached report from [illegible]. G.

Part B. - [illegible]

17. Staff Capt (AT) [illegible] position needs defining; not required at [illegible]. ? his prospects. G.C.

18. General S.C.R. shortage all BDEs,can MMIA again centralise control ? A.

19. What about Major [illegible] recommended for MMIA by Lt Col Walker ? A.

20. Lt Col Douglas [illegible] SEVENOAKS Mag - Sept. A.

MMIA - G
FILE G/33/1
DATE R 25/6

2/.....

2-4-1800

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

21. It Col Charles Winton LIAP A [illegible] Hq - Dept. A.

22. DCGS LOCH wanted by General [illegible] : What is position of Allen Station Carl Depot. A.D.C.S.

23. Can we get better class transport for A type HQ cards. (a/c sub areas) C.

24. Major Potter passed WOSB grade C. attached recommendation for short service commission to be forwarded. A.

25. Future aim and maint of HQs, orders wanted soon to avoid confusion. A.

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II ()	
GSO II (-SD)	
GSO I (T) (G)	
G II (L)	

24 June 1946.

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

E/33/1 ←
QSM 6/6 64

OFFICE NOTE.

Subject:- Strength - Italian Army.

1. I explained to Major General Hard that the figures recently received for the Italian Army show it as some 20,000 below strength on 1 Jan 46.

2. I explained how this came about, i.e. that we had taken the Ministry of War's estimated figures in October (which were probably incorrect), estimated the percentage wastage (which had proved greater than anticipated), that we had expected 5,000 volunteers a month (which had not materialised), and that the IB-ZII and US-ZII releases had not been entirely up to schedule.

3. I said that we could not have had a partial call-up, which had been one of the snags in the past, that we must make the new general call-up system work as soon as possible, and in common ence must accept the deficiency in strength until the March call-up, when 40,000 come in and the position considerably eighted.

4. I said that in view of our troubles over food, barracks, M.T. etc. it was just as well that the drop had occurred. 5070

5. I said that since 1 Jan 46, when the Italians became virtually masters in their own house, they had started to worry about balancing the budget, and that in consequence the Ministry of War was having some difficulty in getting money out of the Treasury for military projects. Therefore, unofficially they are toying with the idea as to whether they can afford to implement the whole 440,000 or not. They want good conditions of service for what they have as an army and prefer a small r army well found rather than a larger one with poor conditions of service. I said I agreed. I explained that there was nothing ~~different~~ but that this was merely an impression that I was passing on for information.

6. General [illegible] accepted all this and made no comment.

Agreed.

J.B.

Major General.

1966

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

1. I explained to Major General [redacted] that it was even 20,000 below strength on received for the Italian army when it was even 20,000 below strength on 1 Jan 46.

2. I explained how this came about, i.e. that we had taken the Ministry of War's estimated figures in October (which were probably incorrect), calculated the percentage wastage (which had proved greater than anticipated), that we had expected 5,000 volunteers a month (which had not materialised), and that the RA-TII and RA-TII releases had not been entirely up to schedule.

3. I said that we could not have had a partial call-up, which had been one of the snags in the past, that we must make the new general call-up system work as soon as possible, and in consequence must accept the deficiency in strength until the March call-up, when 40,000 come in and the position considerably righted.

4. I said that in view of our troubles over food, hammocks, M.T. etc. it was just as well that the drop had occurred. 50[illegible]

5. I said that since 1 Jan 46, when the Italians became virtually masters in their own house, they had started to worry about balancing the budget, and that in consequence the Ministry of War was having some difficulty in getting money out of the Treasury for military projects. Therefore, unofficially they are toying with the idea as to whether they can afford to implement the whole 140,000 or not. They want good conditions of service for what they have as an army and prefer a smaller army well found rather than a larger one with poor conditions of service. I said I agreed. I emphasised that there was nothing ~~[illegible]~~ yet but that this was merely an impression that I was passing on for information.

6. General [redacted] accepted all this and made no comment.

Attitude.

A.F.B.

[redacted] General.

21 Jan 46.

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

Ref. G/33/63A

REPORT ON VISIT TO NO. 5 (UDINE) TERRITORIAL REGION.

14 - 16 Dec. 45.

1. AUTHORITIES VISITED :

No. 5 Udine Region	UDINE
No. 5 B.L.U.	
201 Sub Area	
A.M.G.	
XIII Corps Main (CS)	UDINE
XIII Corps Rear (AS)	TREVISO
86 Area	VENICE
A.M.G. H.Q.	PADOVA

FILE: G/33/1
DATE: 4/45

2. OBJECTS OF VISIT :

(a) General situation of Italian Army in Udine Territorial Region.

(b) Establishment of T.T.C. in Udine Territorial Region.

(c) Organisation of 5 B.L.U. (unit of 4 and 7 B.L.Us) and domestic points arising.

3. GENERAL SITUATION

(a) The position of the Italian Army in XIII Corps Area 5 is difficult and I feel the whole question of its status needs examination particularly in view of the imminent turnover of part of the area to the Italian Government and the Allied military interests in that area. It is proposed to hand back all except Venezia Guilia and Udine province in which the Region HQ is situated but even in the provinces of Sacile, ~~Mestre~~, and Padova (which are to be handed back) XIII Corps will still wish to retain certain safeguards to, their L. of C. along routes 13 and 14. Apart from the question of accommodation and administration this raises the question of the legality and effectiveness of the "collary" in all these regions. It also raises the question whether Gen. AMBROSIO's HQ should stay in Udine under special arrangements, or remove back to territory, where he would not be under command of the Allies.

(b) At HQ XIII Corps I was unable to see the BGS, or the DA & QMG who was on leave, but from the GSO I (Ops) and the AQMG I learned the following :-

(i) 517 Gd. Bn. is employed under orders XIII Corps on Morgan line control of civilian movement. No Italian military personnel are allowed on duty east of this line.

(ii) No more Italian troops can be accommodated in the forward zone.

(iii) More Italian troops would not be welcome in the rear area.

(iv) All Italian Transport [illegible] occupied by Allied troops

1968
Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

XIII Corps Main (UD)
XIII Corps Rear (AV)
86 Area
A.M.G. H.Q.

UDINE
VERONA
PADOVA

2. OBJECTS OF VISIT :

(a) General situation of Italian Army in Udine Territorial Region.

(b) Establishment of T.T.C. in Udine Territorial Region.

(c) Organisation of 5 B.L.O. (and of 4 and 7 B.L.Os) and domestic points arising.

3. GENERAL SITUATION

(a) The position of the Italian Army in XIII Corps Area is [illegible] and I feel the whole question of its status needs examination particularly in view of the imminent turnover of part of the area to the Italian Government and the Allied military interests in that area. It is proposed to hand back all except Venezia Giulia and Udine province in which the Region HQ is situated but even in the provinces of Sacile, [illegible], and Padova (which are to be handed back) XIII Corps will still wish to retain certain safeguards to, their L. of C. along routes 13 and 14. Apart from the question of accommodation and administartion this raises the question of the legality and effectiveness of the "call-up" in all these regions. It also raises the question whether Gen. ARBULENI's HQ should stay in Udine under special arrangements, or remove back to territory, where he would not be under command of the Allies.

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(i) 517 Gd. Bn. is employed under orders XIII Corps on Morgan line control of civilian movement. No Italian military personnel are allowed on duty east of this line.

(ii) No more Italian troops can be accommodated in the forward zone.

(iii) More Italian troops would not be welcome in the rear area.

(iv) All Italian Barracks at present occupied by Allied troops are required by XIII Corps and Italian officers are not permitted to visit any except three now allotted them.

(v) AFHQ had been told that Adm. Inst. 48 could not be applied in XIII Corps Area.

(c) Lt.Col. BRIGHT (AMG) on the other hand told us that he considered it essential to give the Italian Army more power in this area and to send more Guard Bns up to take over more Gutlies and if possible a Combat Group also. He admitted this was opposed to XIII Corps views.

/(d)

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

3. (d) The position of General ARGENTIERI and his staff is one of extreme delicacy and needs careful investigation immediately. Brig. DUNLOPS appreciation to A.C. (Dated Dec.) is of interest politically and economically in this connection.

4. UDINE T.T.C.

(a) Negotiations for barracks for the T.T.C. had come to a deadlock; there are plenty of good barracks but they are all in the hands of the Allies. Many locations (including some outside No. 5 Region) have been discussed without result. The Italians would have liked their former barracks at UDINE but this is out of the question.

(b) The following sites were discussed :-

(i)	PORDENONE	Caserma Vitt. Emanuele	German P.W. Hospital	1500
		Caserma Umberto 1°	Poles	2500
(ii)	SACILE	Caserma Slataper	Unoccupied	3000
		Caserma da Sacile	"	
(iii)	CONEGLIANO	Caserma S. Marco (other barracks destroyed)	Poles	1000
(iv)	TREVISO	Caserma Salsa	Allies	1000
		Caserma Dossan	Allies	1000
		Caserma Manigo	Allies	2000
(v)	PADOVA	Caserma S. Giustina	Allies	1000
		Caserma Funzionale	Allies	1500
(vi)	BELLUNO	Caserma Fortuzzi	Friuli Division	1500
		Caserma D'Angelo	and Polish reliefs	1250
(vii)	FELTRE	Caserma Alpini	Allies	1250
(viii)	VICENZA	Caserma Funzionale	Allies	2000

5008

As a result the only possibility is for XIII Corps to allow the T.T.C. to occupy the now empty barracks at SACILE (No. (ii) above) which I have requested formally and await their reply. These will take about 2500 troops.

(c) I informed XIII Corps and 86 Area frankly of the position and that unless the above proposal was agreed MMIA would have to report the matter to AFHQ for decision.

(d) It may be that a large T.T.C. cannot be established in this region or that the intake will not necessitate it, in which case immediate plans must be made for either

(i) a small T.T.C.
(ii) training with 5th Bn at MESTRE
(iii) allocating intake to other regions.

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would have lifted their re...
of the question.

(b) The following sites were discussed :-

(i)	PORDENONE	Caserma Vitt. Emanuele	German P.W. Hospital	1500
		Caserma Umberto 1°	Polos	2500
(ii)	SACILE	Caserma Slatapper	Unoccupied	3000
		Caserma da Sacile	"	
(iii)	CONEGLIANO	Caserma S. Marco (other barracks destroyed)	Poles	1000
(iv)	TREVISO	Caserma Emlio	Allies	1000
		Caserma Dosson	Allies	1000
		Caserma Monigo	Allies	2000
(v)	PADOVA	Caserma S. Giustina	Allies	1000
		Caserma Funzionale	Allies	1500
(vi)	ERLANDO	Caserma Fantuzzi	Friuli Division	1500
		Caserma D'Angelo	and Polish reliefs	1250
(vii)	FELTRE	Caserma Alpini	Allies	1250
(viii)	VICENZA	Caserma Funzionale	Allies	2000

5000

As a result the only possibility is for XIII Corps to allow the T.T.C. to occupy the now empty barracks at SACILE (No. (ii) above) which I have requested formally and await their reply. These will take about 2500 troops.

(c) I informed XIII Corps and 86 Area frankly of the position and that unless the above proposal was agreed MMIA would have to report the matter to AFHQ for decision.

(d) It may be that a large T.T.C. cannot be established in this region or that the intake will not necessitate it, in which case immediate plans must be made for either

(i) a small T.T.C.
(ii) training with 916 Bn at MESTRE
(iii) allocating intake to other regions.

5. DUTIES OF B.L.Os.

(a) Revised locations and application of A and B type B.L.Os (nos. 4, 5 and 7) (MMIA signal 3093 of 13 Dec) was explained and understood, with the following provisions : -

Capt.	WHITE	BSS	4	BLO	to remain	with	4	N.U.
Capt.	NELSON	"	5	"	" go	to	7	"
Capt.	TRENHAILE	SE	5	"	" go	to	4	"
Capt.	WARZEE's		4	"	" go	to	7	"
	(replacement)							

/Personnel

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

Region) have been discussed without result. The Italians would have liked their former barracks at UDINE but this is out of the question.

(b) The following sites were discussed :-

(i)	PORDENONE	Caserma Vitt. Emanuele	German P.W. Hospital	1500
		Caserma Umberto 1°	Poles	2500
(ii)	SACILE	Caserma Sletzpeer	Unoccupied	3000
		Caserma da Sacile	"	
(iii)	CONEGLIANO	Caserma S. Marco (other barracks destroyed)	Poles	1000
(iv)	TREVISO	Caserma Salsa	Allies	1000
		Caserma Dosson	Allies	1000
		Caserma Monigo	Allies	2000
(v)	PADOVA	Caserma S. Giustina	Allies	1000
		Caserma Funzionale	Allies	1500
(vi)	UDINE	Caserma Farburni	Friuli Division	1500
		Caserma D'Angelo	and Polish relief	1250
(vii)	GEMONA	Caserma Alpini	Allies	1250
(viii)	VICENZA	Caserma Funzionale	Allies	2000

5008

As a result the only possibility is for XIII Corps to allow the T.T.C. to occupy the now empty barracks at SACILE (No. (ii) above) which I have requested formally and await their reply. These will take about 2500 troops.

(c) I informed XIII Corps and 86 Area frankly of the position and that unless the above proposal was agreed MMIA would have to report the matter to AFHQ for decision.

(d) It may be that a large T.T.C. cannot be established in this region or that the intake will not necessitate it, in which case immediate plans must be made for either

(i) a small T.T.C.
(ii) training with 5/6 Bn at [redacted]
(iii) allocating intake to other regions.

5. DUTIES OF B.L.Us.

(a) Revised locations and application of A and B type B.L.Us (nos. 4, 5 and 7) (MMIA signal 3093 of 13 Dec) was explained and understood, with the following provisions : -

Capt.	WHITE	RAF	4	BLU	to	remain	with	4 BLU.
Capt.	NELSON	"	5	"	"	go	to	7 "
Capt.	[redacted]	SF	5	"	"	go	to	4 "
Capt.	MARKS's		4	"	"	go	to	7 "
	(replacement)							

/Personnel

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5.(Cont'd)(a) Personnel details are left to B.L.U's concerned.

(b) Acting rank during L.I.A.P. explained

(c) Maj RANKIN(4 B.L.U.) still surplus awaiting M.S. interview - he should be posted.

(d) Directive No 2(amendments)not received by 4 B.L.U.

(e) C(SD) to issue orders for B.L.U. vehicle marking

(f) Instructions waited from Q re arms ~~for Carbinieri~~ from Austria to 5 B.L.U. X/

6. PUBLICITY. The lack of knowledge on the part of British staffs on the Italian Army policy is very marked in this area.

7. Summary of action needed:-

(a) Clean up position of Italian Army call up/and Gen ARMELLINI in M.G. ITALY.

(b) Clean up(with A.F.H.Q.) position of ~~accommodation~~ for T.T.C.

(c) Clean up Domestic points for B.L.U's(para 5)

(d) Consider publicity campaign of Italian Army.

5007

December 1945.

WGP/dgs/cc

Colonel. A/Q.
M.M.I.A.

(X) He [illegible] not affected by [illegible] but would be distributed one [illegible] centres (3 Jan) for [illegible] hours or [illegible] 3 Jan some other area [illegible] [illegible] Kaiser should train.

Have not yet agreed in para 5 (a)

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he should be posted.

(d) Directive No 2(amendments)not received by 4 B.L.U.

(e) G(SD) to issue orders for B.L.U. vehicle marking

(f) Instructions waited from Q re arms ~~for Carbinieri~~ from Austria to 5 B.L.U. X1

6. PUBLICITY. The lack of knowledge on the part of British staffs on the Italian Army policy is very marked in this area.

7. Summary of action needed:-

(a) Clean up position of Italian Army call up/Com CARABINIERI in N.W. ITALY.

(b) Clean up(with A.F.H.Q.) position of [redacted] for T.T.C.

(c) Clean up Domestic points for B.L.U's(para 5)

(d) Consider publicity campaign of Italian Army.

500

December 1945.

WGP/Ago/ec

Colonel. A/Q.
M.M.I.A.

(X). The limits to be not affected by regions - 100 cms units to be called up must be distributed over 6 centres. (8,760) for centres irrespective of area of each sup- 1½ hours do not suppose 3,700 from other area boie units to be affected, unless heavy shunted Train.

Mem. ref. ? apart on para 5 (c)

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E/33/1 62

S E C R E T

PA/1/92 12 Dec 45.

NOTES ON MEETING BETWEEN G.O.C. M.M.I.A. AND MAJOR PENGELLY, 6 B.L.U. and CAPT. DOWNING, 7 B.L.U.

		Info or Action.
1.	Both officers reported G.H. very short of transport.	Q
2.	Major P. reported BOLOGNA G.H. short of boots and under clothing.	Q
3.	New Zealand Division departing very shortly.	
4.	Vehicle recovery in FLORENCE slow. G.O.C. instructed DOWNING to look for cover for vehicles.	Q ROME
5.	Petrol difficulties with Prefect, BOLOGNA.	GOC.
6.	G.O.C. promises to send all B.L.Os copy of his addresses to War Ministry and staff and meetings of Territorial Commanders.	GOC.
7.	Action to be taken re "scotching" of rumours.	GOC.
8.	Possible locations for BOLOGNA Division suggested by FLORENCE Territorial Command - PISTOIA, AREZZO, SIENA, PISTOIA, LUCCA.	

P.A. to G.O.C.,
M.M.I.A.

Distribution : G.O.C.
Dep. Cdr.
Col. A/Q.

MMIA - 'G'
E. 8/33/1

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

Info or Action.

1. Both officers reported G.H. very short of transport. G

2. Major F. reported BOLOGNA G.H. short of boots and under clothing. G

3. New Zealand Division departing very shortly.

4. Vehicle recovery in FLORENCE slow. G.O.C. instructed DOWNING to look for cover for vehicles. G
RMMS

5. Petrol difficulties with Prefect, BOLOGNA. GOC.

6. G.O.C. promises to send all S.A.Os copy of his addresses to War Ministry and staff and meetings of Territorial Commanders. 500
G.O.C.

7. Action to be taken re "scotching" of rumours. GOC.

8. Possible locations for FOLGORE Division suggested by FLORENCE Territorial Command - PRATO, AREZZO, SIENA, PISTOIA, LUCCA.

F.A. to G.O.C.,
E.M.I.A.

Distribution : G.O.C.
Dep. Cdr.
Col. A/G.
G
G
RMMS
O.C.

GSO 1 ——————

GSO 2 (Ops) .....

GSO 2 (SD) .....

GSO 2 (W&E) ——————

GSO 2 (I) ——————

GSO 3 (Ops) ——————

GSO 3 (Int) ——————

GSO 3 (T) .....

/GSO

MMIA - 'C'
S/33/1
R/13/12.

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

1971

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61

3S1 82

HA/1/91 15. Nov 45.

NOTES OF G.O.C's CONFERENCE WITH COMMANDER, HAPLS TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS.

Info or Action.

1. Comd. intends to put Territorial Training Centre in barracks at AVELLINO. Still occupied by a few Canadians. Intends putting in some Italian soldiers to occupy it shortly.

2. Comd. requires following barracks in Naples :

(a) Regina Elena at present occupied by 1 Coy. American Signal Corps. This holds 1,500 men.

(b) Principe di Piemonte which now contains few British troops. This would be suitable for Arty Directorate (civil Under-Secretary for War is strongly making accommodation demands of Arty Directorate owing to large number of civilian employees).

3. Future locations of Internal Security Regiments will be as follows :-

H.Q. ... BATTIPAGLIA
1 Bn. ... SALERNO (1 Coy at CAPUA)
1 Bn. ... CASERTA
1 Bn. ... SALERNO (1 Coy at AVELLINO temporarily)

4. Regiment consisted of 1 Bn. with other 2 due to be 500 wended over at 1/2359 hours.

Cdr.

Distribution : G.O.C. (1)
Col. A/Q (2)
G Branch (1)

Mil. to G.O.C.,
M.M.I.A.

/dgw

DATE: 6/33/1
16/11

1978

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

60

SECRET.

KA/1/75 6 Nov 45.

NOTES ON G.O.C.'s CONFERENCE WITH CHIEF OF STAFF, BARI TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS (LC).

Info or Action.

1. Chief of Staff stated clothing situation for E.S. Ode bad, and uniforms very varied. G.O.C. said they must keept pressing K. of W. Q

2. Barracks badly in need of considerable repairs, and lack of knowledge of future requirements is making it difficult to plan priorities for this work. G.O.C. promised information as soon as possible. Q

3. C. of S. considered that when new classes are called up, that they should be kept entirely separate from old soldiers. G.O.C. said that this would actually be happening in T.T.C's before they joined unit. A.G.

4. C. of S. said that good barracks for Training Centres available both at LECCE and BARI. LECCE barracks possibly the best, and are half occupied by Polish troops. 5002

5. From a Internal Security point of view, much concern is felt in BARI area about large quantities of virtually unguarded S.A. ammunition and grenades lying in British dumps where civilians can easily help themselves. It is felt that at least it should be possible to concentrate light ammo. under guard. G.O.C. said he would raise matter with GHQ.

G.S.D.

G.O.C. has left this to me. I feel the best answer would be a G.S. note to Bari area H.Q asking him to inform Bari area & let us know result. WP

G.O.C.
Col A/Q.

Capt.
M.A. to G.O.C.,
M. M. I. A.

Distribution : G.O.C. (1)
Col A/Q (2)
G French (1)
File (1)

seen WP

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

1979

G/33/1.59

SECRET

6 Nov 49.

XX/1/D

ZONES OF G.O.C.'s CONTROLLING WITH CHIEF OF STAFF, GHQ, FAR EASTERN AIR FORCE (FEAF).

Info or action.

1. Chief of Staff stated clarification for U.S. GHQ, FEAF was urgently needed. G.O.C. said that land was [illegible] except [illegible].

2. Berendo could be made [illegible] and that of [illegible] to [illegible] would be given priority for this work. [illegible] would be made [illegible].

3. G. of S. considered that [illegible] should be [illegible] and that this would actually be happening in G.O.C.'s [illegible] A.G.

4. G. of S. said that good barracks for Training Centres available both at Japan and ATC. Japan barracks [illegible] and are [illegible] by Polish troops.

5. From a Internal Security point of view, much concern is felt in ATC area about large quantities of [illegible] ammunition and grenades lying in British [illegible] civilians can easily help themselves. It is felt that at least it should be possible to concentrate Light ammunition under guards. G.O.C. said he would raise matter with C.G.S.

Action
Taken
by [illegible]
see
[illegible]
& [illegible]

Also [illegible]

[illegible] X AFHQ X
[illegible] X [illegible] X
[illegible] X [illegible] X
[illegible]

Distribution: G.O.C. (1)
Col A/G (2)
G Branch (1)
File (1)

[illegible]

Refs to G.O.C.'s
M. 4. I. [illegible]

MMA-C.
File G/33/1
7/11
C-

MA to GOC ←

File G/33/58

Ref your MA/1/51 of 11 Sep, subject, GOC's Tour to BOLOGNA, BOLZANO, etc.

1. Ref FLORENCE Serial 1, 886 & 576 Fd Hosps and 230 Evac Hosp are BR-ITI; they have been ordered to be disbanded and we will chase.

2. Ref FLORENCE Serial 4, Adm HQs can never completely be abolished as long as BR-ITI and US-ITI Tps remain. 210 Adm Div (US-ITI) has already been abolished and large reductions in BR-ITI Adm Divs are envisaged vide F. 17 of File SD/98 herewith.

3. Ref FLORENCE Serial 6. Yes, the two Bns guarding the Internees at PISA come out of the I.S. Bde allotment temp but it cannot be helped. One Bn will probably be counted against FLORENCE Bde and one UDINE Bde.

4. Ref BOLOGNA serial 3. See short brief at Flag "A".

5. Ref 217 Area Serial 1. 2 Dist has asked AFHQ for temp retention of sigs personnel with FRIULI and FOLGORE ELUs. CSO 2 Dist is at present re-arranging sigs communication in the North, we hope to the satisfaction of all concerned. We will watch this matter.

6. Ref MESTRE Serial 2. Noted.

7. Ref MESTRE Serial 3. See Serial 2 above.

8. Ref 53 ELU Serial 5. Thoroughly agree and Lt. Col. EGERTON has been briefed to see 2 Dist accordingly. 499

9. Ref 50 ELU serial 1 and 2. Noted.

10. Ref BOLZANO Serial 3. BOLZANO Terr. Bde is planned to be made up as under:-

Bde HQ	Part of 210 Div just disbanded .....(say ready in 10 days).
505 Bn	Already in position.
508 Bn	ex PISA in 3 weeks.
ANOTHER	to be allotted later.

Oh Thanks

Lt. Col.

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

as long as BR-ITI and US-ITI Tps remain. 21C Adm Div (US-ITI) has already been abolished and large reductions in BR-ITI Adm Divs are envisaged vide F. 17 of File SD/98 herewith.

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505 Bn	Already in position.
508 Bn	ex PISA in 3 weeks.
ANOTHER —	to be allotted later.

Lt. Col.
G. S.

G(SD)
12 Sep 45

NOTE FOR MA:

11. I suggest you number your serials consecutively in future!

ws

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

C.C.R.R.
MOBILE COLUMNS

1. On paper there is a mobile Bn strength 548 all ranks, attached to each of 12 Region HQs.

2. These Bns have been allotted no tpt in spite of repeated demands and are therefore mobile only when tpt can be borrowed.

3. Public Safety S/C induced 2 Dist to put up a special case for tpt for the mobile Bns in 2 Dist Area. AFHQ issued on loan to 2 Dist some 48 Armd cars and about the same number of lorries, ALL CLASS V. These vehs are being put into running order and to date 22 Armd cars and a few trucks have been issued on loan to 2 Dist Mob Bns.

4. The strongest pressure is being put on AFHQ for complete issue of tpt for these mob Bns. Meanwhile MMIA have released 140 Italian Tanks which will go forward shortly.

5. The following are the locations of Mob Bns.

1. ROME
2. LAZIO AREA
3. CAGLIARI
4. FLORENCE
5. BOLOGNA
6. NAPLES
7. BARI
8. PALERMO
9. MILAN
10. PADOVA
11. TURIN
12. GENOA

499

* * * * * * *

PROPOSED W.E. FOR MOB. BN

30 Offrs
54 NCOs
464 ORs

3 Cars
16 Light Trucks
11 Heavy Trucks
71 M/C Solo
24 M/C with side car
12 Armd Vehs
3 Armd Carriers

ws

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

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Notes on Liaison Visit to N.Italy, 14 - 21 Oct.45.

1. Major T.P. HEWITT M.C. (22054) ~~ATTACHED~~ I.J.

Spoke Col. DOUGLAS concerning the posting of s/n from 52 HAU to 53 HAU as GSO II-J. will like to explain fully to CAC.
Col. DOUGLAS would appreciate signal on this subject.

2. Capt. [illegible]'s LILO cancelled.

3. Capt [illegible] reported ILLIB and proceeded CERIA. Col. [illegible] will visit shortly.

4. Major [illegible] proceeded to UK on Release 16/10/45.
Original Release Book returned to MMLA by Capt [illegible].

5. Col. [illegible] expects to visit M about 31 Nov.

6. Major [illegible] wishes to take his LILO in N./Italy if possible, if not possible wishes to take it in Italy. I will speak Com Comdt.
He had received a TA signal directing him to contact Major [illegible] at MMA.
He reported to each him 23 Oct.

7. Col. [illegible] would like a ruling as to whether [illegible] comes under him, or Major VAN [illegible].

8. Capt. [illegible] may be coming back (to 21).

9. Col [illegible] has made following dispositions:-

(a) Lieut [illegible] will stay MILAN
(b) Major [illegible] to be L.O. GENOA
(c) Major [illegible] to be L.O. MILAN, vice Major [illegible] going on LEAVE.
(b) and (c) proceed MILAN 24 Oct.
Major [illegible] will also to have left and return GENOA. Via 25 or 26 Oct.

10. Major [illegible], Capt[illegible] and [illegible] are using transit camp 22 Oct, MILAN for UK 24th Oct.

11. Capt [illegible] has put in for compo 4 note LEAVE. Have spoken about.

12. I understand Majors [illegible] and [illegible] arrived in MILAN ex LEAVE on 21 Oct.

5

Distribution:

GSO 1
GSO 2 (Ops)
GSO 2 (CD)

A
B

499

NO ADJ Exchange Optional

23/10.

Major

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3. Capt [redacted] rejoins [redacted] on release 16/10/45.
Original Dolmens back returned to MGIA by Capt [redacted].

5. Col. [redacted] expects to visit [redacted] about 10 Nov.

6. Major [redacted] wishes to take his LIAP to W.Africa if possible, if not possible wishes to take it to Italy. I will speak Gen Condit.
He has received MGIA signal directing him to contact Major [redacted] at MGIA.
He expected to reach HQ 23 Oct.

7. Col. [redacted] would like a ruling as to whether [redacted] comes under him, or Major VAN [redacted].

8. Capt. [redacted] may be coming back (Cp 71). 499

9. Col [redacted] has made following disposition:-

(a) Lieut [redacted] will stay [redacted]
(b) Major [redacted] to be I.C. [redacted]
(c) Major [redacted] to be I.C. [redacted], Vice major [redacted] going on [redacted].
(b) and (c) proceed [redacted] 24 Oct.
Major [redacted] will fly up here [redacted] and return [redacted]. Abt 25 or 26 Oct.

10. Major [redacted], Capt [redacted] and [redacted] to arrive Tromsö Camp 22 Oct, 3 for UK 24th Oct.

11. Capt [redacted] has put in for course & note MIAP. Have spoken ADJT.

12. I understand Major [redacted] and [redacted] arrived in [redacted] or LIAP on 21 Oct.

5

Distribution:

C
A
G
Comp

GSO 1 [redacted]
GSO 2 (Ops) [redacted]
GSO 2 (SD) [redacted]
GSO 2 (WE) [redacted]
GSO 2 (L) [redacted]
GSO 3 (SD) [redacted]
[redacted]

Major

23/10.

G/33/1
K/24/10

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1985

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

56

SUBJECT: G II (TRG) - Visit.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M. M. I. A.)
ROME.
G/33/1.

21 Oct 45.

TO: DISTRIBUTION SEE BELOW.

Attached notes on visit of G II (Trg) to Northern H.Q. are for information and action where necessary.

for Lt.Col. G.S.

DISTRIBUTION: Senior MMLA LO, MILAN.

Internal : C of S
Col A/Q
A (2)
Q (3)
G (SD)
File: (4) — Spares with G/Trg

[illegible]

FILE 'G'
File: G/33/1
Date: R/23/10

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

LOCATION	Mtn, UNIT OR AREA.	NOTES ON VISIT OF G I (TRG).	FOR ACTION BY
GENOA	Terr. H.Q.	1. Discussed P.T.C., I.T.C. - G of S said barracks had been recced, but he was doubtful if they could be got fit for a winter intake. Barracks for P.T.C. etc. might have to be wholly segregated.	TRG 'Q'
		2. No trg was being done, and none would be done till 3rd Bn arrived as present guard duties are too numerous.	TRG
		3. Gds having regular fights with bandits at Depots. Suggested CO/TOW should ask for a Mobile reserve each night	
		4. Cond is experiencing some difficulties due to lack of IO etc to constant changes of IO. (Major NEWTON (Recce) has since been posted).	G(SD)
		5. G of S says GENOA handles a lot of work. A type "A" H.Q. would be better than a type "C".	G(SD)
		6. Saw elements of Gd Bns, but learned nothing.	G(SD)
		7. Barracks in GENOA needed. Tps are mostly in billets.	'Q'
	56 B.L.U.	8. Carriers of MANTOVA Gp still in AREZZO. Any reply yet to MMIA Signal to AMIQ.	'Q'
TURIN	51 B.L.U.	9. G1 was having some slight difficulties over Cond and trg etc. due to MMIA and Br Tan issuing trg instructions, but I explained the position to him.	G TRG
		10. What is the position of BLU likely to be. (Answer - Advisory)	G(SD)
		11. A conference of G I's at MILAN would probably be much appreciated by all, as there are many points to be raised.	G(SD)

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1947

ERFA. NOTES ON VISIT OF G II (TRG). FILE/SECTION OF ARMY GROUP.

1.	Discussed F.T.C., I.T.C. - C of S said Barracks had been vacced, but he was doubtful if they would be got fit for a winter intake. Barracks for P.T.C. etc. might have to be widely separated.	Tpt 'Q'
2.	No trg was being done, and none would be done till 3rd Bn arrived as present guard duties are too numerous.	TRG
3.	GOs having regular fights with bandits at depots. Suggested COTTON should ask for a Mobile Reserve each night	
4.	Coad is experiencing some difficulties due to lack of JO's to constant changes of LO. (Major NEWTON (Recce) has since been posted).	G(SD)
5.	C of S says GENOA handles a lot of work. A type "A" H.Q. would be better than a type "C".	G(SD)
6.	Saw elements of Gd Bns, but learned nothing.	G(SD)
7.	Barracks in GENOA needed. Tps are mostly in billets.	'Q'
8.	Carriers of MANTOVA Gp still in AREZZO. Any reply yet to MAIA Signal to AFHQ.	'Q'
9.	C-in was having some slight difficulties over Coad and trg etc. due to MAIA and Br Fmn issuing trg instructions, but I explained the position to him.	G TRG
10.	What is the position of BLU likely to be. (Answer - Advisory)	G(SD)
11.	A conference of G I's at MILAN would probably be much appreciated by all, as there are many points to be raised.	G(SD)

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LOCATION.	FMN, UNIT OR AREA.	NOTES ON VISIT OF G II (TRG).	FOR ACTION OR INFOM
TURIN	TERR. H.Q.	12. Hospital needs coal for heating.	'Q'
		13. Troops need winter clothing.	'Q'
		14. General route to [illegible]	'Q'
		15. Barracks for P.W.C. not yet found, but they are still looking. Will probably not be close to each other when found.	'Q'
		16. Training - Practically none. Talk of officer and NCO trg but no evidence on visit to Gd Bn Area	TRG.
MILAN	TERR. H.Q.	17. Very little trg being done. Suggested TEWTS etc. for officers, but suggestion received with no enthusiasm.	TRG.
		18. P.T.C. and I.T.C. COMO de Cristoforis Bks may be used for a Polish rehab. centre. Almost vital to T.H.Q. Can MMI help? MILAN The barrack situation in Milan very difficult. Request our help when their suggestions come in.	'Q'
	502 Bn	19. Strength much reduced.	'A'
		20. Short of pamphlets.	TRG
		21 Training programme. Insignificant.	TRG.
BOLOGNA	M.M.I.A. LO	22. Capt TERUEP would welcome visits from Service Depts. He complains of being forgotten by the swanners.	A/Q.
BOLOGNA	TERR. H.Q.	23. PT.C. I.T.C., PARMA Bks, FANO essential. 30 British CRs holding them for Jugoslavs.	'Q'
		24. Parma Bks will be in order	'Q'

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FOR ACTION OR INFORMATION

OR AREA. NOTES ON VISIT OF G II (TRG).

12.	Hospital needs coal for heating.	'Q'
13.	Troops need winter clothing.	'Q'
14.	General needs typewriter.	'Q'
15.	Barracks for P.W.I.C. not yet found, but they are still looking. Will probably not be close to each other when found.	'Q'
16.	Training - Practically none. Talk of officer and NCO trg but no evidence on visit to Gd Bn Area	TRG.
17.	Very little trg being done. Suggested TEWTS etc. for officers, but suggestion received with no enthusiasm.	TRG.
18.	E.T.C. and I.T.C. COMO de Cristoforis Bks may be used for a Polish rehab. centre. Almost vital to T.H.Q. Can MMLA help? MILAN The barrack situation in Milan very difficult. Request our help when their suggestions come in.	'Q'
19.	Strength much reduced.	'A'
20.	Short of pamphlets.	TRG
21	Training programme. Insignificant.	TRG.
22.	Capt TRUPP would welcome visits from Service Depts. He complains of being forgotten by the swanners.	A/Q.
23.	PF.C. I.T.C., PARMA Bks, FANO essential. 30 British ORs holding them for Jugoslavs.	'Q'
24.	Parma Bks will be in order	'Q'

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1991

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LOCALITY.	FMN, UNIT OR AREA.	NOTES ON VISIT OF G II (TRG).	FOR ACTION OR INF
[illegible]	523 Bn	25. In doing minimum of trg. No pamphlets. Will start firing practice soon.	TRG.
SIENNA	R. Accademia.	26. Displaced persons in occupation. Trg areas bad. Buildings will require fairly extensive repairs.	G. TRG.
FLORENCE	TERR. H.Q.	27. Camp exists for trg reinforcements at LUCCA. Trg in progress.	TRG. G.
		28. P.T.C. SIENNA. Le Marmola Bks - occupied. Can we get this excellent barracks made over	'Q'
		29. I.T.C. PISTOIA - Handed over OK.	'Q'
		30. C of S says the T.H.Q. is expecting a Bty of Arty	G(SD)
	Gd Bn LUCCA	31. Gd Bn has fired a range course. Asks for more pamphlets and details of Br methods.	TRG
		32. Other Trg negligeable	TRG.
	511 Gd Bn	33. Barracks dirty. No enthusiasm shown for trg though about 3 pls are free daily for trg.	TRG.
		34. No TEWTS done or tried.	TRG.

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CR AREA. NOTES ON VISIT OF G II (TRG). FOR ACTION OR INFORMATION

25. En doing minimum of trg. No pamphlets. Will start firing practice soon. — TRG.

26. Displaced persons in occupation. Trg areas bad. Buildings will require fairly extensive repairs. — G. TRG.

27. Camp exists for trg reinforcements at LUCCA. Trg in progress. — TRG. G.

28. P.T.C. SIENNA. La Marmola Bks - occupied. Can we get this excellent barracks made over — 'Q'

29. I.T.C. PISTOLA - Handed over OK. — 'Q'

30. C of S says the T.H.Q. is expecting a Bty of Arty — G(SD)

31. Gd En has fired a range course. Asks for more pamphlets and details of Br methods. — TRG

32. Other Trg negligeable — TRG.

33. Barracks dirty. No enthusiasm shown for trg though about 3 pls are free daily for trg. — TRG.

34. No TEWTS done or tried. — TRG.

1993

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

Lt.-Col. S.M. Ingledew,

Military Mission to Italian Army,

C. M. F.

14 September, 1945.

Dear

Thank you for Primieri's notes on the Ministry of War conference in August. These have been translated and a copy is returned to you herewith. It is always most useful if you can forward such reports as we can then see the Italians' own angle more clearly.

Most of the answers to this particular report are known to you. You will by now have a copy of C.C.C. address to Jacini etc. Pay is the largest problem of immediate importance and this is being taken up by C.C.C. with A.C. and A.F.H.Q.

With reference to the last few paras of Primieri's report, I think it a pity that such a large number of Italian Generals expend so much time, thought and energy on politics. I know it is inherent in Italians so to do, but if you could start a campaign against this and urge the senior officials to concentrate on training and making more efficient their army, it will be better for all concerned.

4983

Hope you had a good trip North.

Yours

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4983

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Yours

J.M.G.

Lt.-Col. P.M. Egerton,

Senior M.M.I.A. L.C.,

MILAN.

Copy to: Rec'd 9/33/1

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

G/33/1

Report on SCRE's tour 31 May - 2 June 45

May 31 Visited AFHQ Engr Branch (BR).
Requested to investigate supply of rfts for 20 Italian Engineer Coy (BR-ITI) I District. Present strength of unit approximately 90.

June 1 am
Visited Maj Thrupp and CE Branch 3 District.
Visited IO Regt del Genio, SANTA MARIA CAPUA VETERE.
Ascertained that 564 Mine Clearance Coy strength 152, was ready to move but still had to draw tpt for which release notes had been received, and required release for various engineer materials; the latter will be released forthwith though no demand has been received by this HQ from Ministry of War.
Was asked when ITI-ITI Territorial Engineer Units would be called forward for NORTH ITALY.

pm Visited engineer dumps at NAPLES. Noted the following:-

1. BAGNOLI (a) A considerable quantity of Italian M.T. spares had been put there: items seen included bearings for tank engines, clutch plates, assorted sub-assemblies.
(b) Hutting brought from SARDINIA had been considerably damaged in transit. Moving this type of wooden hutting is not economical
(c) 400 ingots of lead (50 kg each) were found.

2. FUORIGROTTO No comment.

3. GIANTURCO A quantity of American M.T. spares were stacked in depot; informed Lt Col Smith.
Also a quantity of Italian Signal eqpt in good condition.

Visted MMIA Office NAPLES.

R Blackpleston Maj

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R.B. Stapleton Maj

S.O.R.E.
M.M.I.A.

4 June 45

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

CONFIDENTIAL

G/3/1

POINTS FROM TOUR OF G III 'I' LIAISON
May 6 - 11, 1945

Action Branch

1. GENERAL

(a) 15 Army Group. Maj RUSCOE GII 'I' (B) GSD

15 Army Group is unlikely to move from FLORENCE for some weeks. It is possible that it may not move at all.

(b) 1 District. Capt. BOURNE MMIA LO GSD

1 District H.Q. has just moved from PERUGIA to FORLI. In about 3 weeks it will probably move to FERRARA provided the medical authorities decide that FERRARA is not malarious.

(c) 2 District. Capt. WILSON GIII 'I' GSD

There are only elements of 2 District at SIENA and a Command Post at 15 Army Gp. Admin. FLORENCE. On May 9 the elements at SIENA become 2 Dist Rear Party and the main body was scheduled to open up at MILAN.

(d) 5 Army Capt. HARLEY S/C "A" 15 Army Gp.

5 Army is at VERONA. Capt NEWTON, MMIA LO Br'. Increment is with them, but Capt. THRUPP is still at FLORENCE.

(e) 8 Army. Capt. HARLEY S/C "A" 15 Army Gp.

8 Army Main is at MESTRE.

(f) 59 Area. Capt. PRITCHARD S/C "Q"

59 Area has moved to MILAN leaving a Rear Party at SIENA, due to move any moment.

71 Sub Area (AREZZO) have taken over SIENA.

2. DESERTION

(a) Maj. RUSCOE . GIII 'I' (D) 15 Army Gp.

No reports received of serious desertion. A

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15 Army Group is unlikely to move from FLORENCE for some weeks. It is possible that it may not move at all.

(b) 1 District. Capt. BOURNE MMIA LO

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2. DESERTION

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No reports received of serious desertion. A

(b) Capt. CRAIG. 802 BRD ORVIETO

Very little desertion. A

GSO 1 .....
GSO 2 (Ops) RER
GSO 2 (SD) .....
GSO 2 (WE) .....
GSO 2 (L) .....
GSO 3 (SD) .....
GSO 3 (Orbat) .....
GSO 3 (I) .....

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2. DESERTION (Continued)

(c) Capt. BOURNE. MMIA LO 1 Dist.

50 men deserted in a batch from the Italian Pack Tpt. Cpy near AREZZO. A

DADL, 1 Dist informed Capt. BOURNE on 8 May that only 33 of an 8 Army Italian Pioneer Coy out of 209 turned up to work. A

(d) Maj. MISKIN Trg. Incr. GARIBALDI Div.

There has been practically no desertion.

3. LEAVE AND DEMOBILIZATION

Capt. HARLEY S/C "A" 15 Army Gp.

(a) The areas to which leave may be granted are defined in 15 Army Group Signal A(P.S.) 51 of 6 May to MMIA. A

The areas to which personnel may be demobilized are defined in 15 Army Gp. signal AO 55 of 6 May copy to MMIA.

The eventual lirits will probably be defined in the West by a North-South line through but exclusive of TURIN and in the East by a North-South line through but exclusive of UDINE.

(b) Specialist Units such as Sigs and Engrs must be kept up to strength but otherwise 15 Army Gp. is prepared to accept a certain amount of wastage.

4983

(c) The main difficulty in granting leave and demobilization is transport. Could MMIA press AFHQ for more Tpt. facilities for leave. For example the allotment for Sardinians is for 50 per month over all which works out at approx 2 per month for Admin Div.

4. COMBAT GROUPS

(a) Maj. MORGAN. GII SD (Br) 15 Army Gp.

Combat Groups will probably be used as occupational troops. Two have been offered to 5 Army. There is no firm plot as yet and no dates have been fixed. G(SD)

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50 men deserted in a batch from the Italian Pack Tpt. Coy near AREZZO. A

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4983

4. COMBAT GROUPS

(a) Maj. MORGAN. GLI SD (Br) 15 Army Gp.

Combat Groups will probably be used as occupational troops. Two have been offered to 5 Army. There is no firm plot as yet and no dates have been fixed. G(SD)

If they are used as occupational tps the War Establishments will need drastic readjustment.

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4. COMBAT GROUPS (Continued)

(b) Capt. HARLEY S/C "A" 15 Army Gp.

Positions of Combat Gps on 7 May were as follows :- G

FRIULI - DOZZA near IMOLA (NW of FAENZA)
CREMONA - VILLANOVA di GHEBBO area near ROVIGO
LEGNANO - BRESCIA
FOLGORE - BOLOGNA doing security duties.
MANTOVA - RADDA in CHIANTI.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF TERRITORIAL H.Q.'s

(a) Maj. MORGAN GIII SD(Br) 15 Army Gp.

This matter is being handled on a very high level. G(SR)

15 Army Gp sent a signal to both armies asking that Territorial H.Q.'s be permitted to open up as soon as conveniently possible.

8 Army replied that they did not want them before 10 May and would inform 15 Army Gp how soon after that date it would be possible for them to open up.

(b) Lt. Col. DRESSER GSD (American) 15 Army Gp.

No reply had yet been received from 5 Army but 15 Army Gp had sent another signal pressing for a reply.

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The matter was brought up by Col. NEGRONI Min of War Liaison Officer at 15 Army Gp.

6. TREATMENT OF "REPUBLICAN" ITALIANS

Maj. RUSCOE GIII 'I' (B) 15 Army Gp. GSI

These are being treated in the same way as the German Tps, that is units have been told to stand fast until ordered to move into the concentration area near BOLOGNA. They will probably be demobilized and returned to their homes except units of special interest such as 10 MAS and undesirable individuals.

7. INTELLIGENCE POLICY

Maj. RUSCOE GIII 'I' (B) 15 Army Gp. GSI

The policy is to hand more and more of the political and internal security work over to the Italian Government and S.I.M. except in so far as it directly affects Allied interests.

2002
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8. FURTHER POINTS 15 ARMY GROUP

(a) Maj. MORGAN GII SD(Br)

Can M IA inform 15 Army Gp as soon as possible what is to be done with the Banda Maiolla and "F" Recce Squadron? G(SD)

(b) No Italian troops are to be used in Austria in accordance with instructions from AFHQ.

(c) Capt. HARLEY S/C "A"

231 Admin Div will move on 15th May probably to VERGNA. Q

805 Transit Camp will move on the same date probably to BOLOGNA.

It is therefore most urgent that 801 Transit Camp be formed at AREZZO by May 15th.

(d) 230 Admin Div has been called fwd. to FLORENCE under 2 Dist. Q

Personnel for 2 Dist should be routed to 5 Army as it is planned to use 5 Army Transit Camp which will probably be handed over to 2 Dist.

(e) Can Capt. HARLEY have a new MMIA Staff List please? A

4983

9. FURTHER POINTS 2 DISTRICT

Maj. BIRD MMIA LO

It has been reported that the civilian labour will be fficient to work the port of GENOA. If therefore the Italian Army Units under 2 Dist are left at LEGHORN it would be better for 230 Admin Div to remain in FLORENCE rather than to move further North. Maj. BIRD is dealing with this matter. Q

10. FURTHER POINTS 59 AREA

Capt. PRITCHARD S/C "C"

(a) No. 1 Guard Regt. is not moving fwd with the main body of 59 Area but will probably move later. For the moment they pass under 71 Sub Area for admin. GSD

(b) Reinforcements. There is a tendency for the number of rfts which arrive to be less than that requested. A

2003
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11. FURTHER POINTS 1 DISTRICT

Capt. BOURNE MMIA LD

(a) The further allocation of tpt to Italian Units which has been agreed to will be very welcome. For example, 521 Guard Bn H.Q. in PERUGIA has detachments in PESARO, RIMINI, SAN SEPOLCRO, FOLIGNO and TERNI. The total H.Q. tpt consists of 1 x 3 tonner and 2 M/Cs. This is a typical example. Q

(b) Could 802 BRD ORVIETO be taken away from 209 Admin Div and administered from ROME as 209 Admin Div is moving from PERUGIA to CESENA. Q

Capt. CRAIG, 802 BRD, has no objection.

12. FURTHER POINTS 802 BRD. ORVIETO

Capt CRAIG

(a) 802 BRD has been informed that 2 Guard Bns. are to be formed there. May they be informed how long these Bns are expected to remain there, what training is intended and whether any British officers will be attached? G(SD)

The Italian Commandant has already written to 209 Admin Div asking for Italian officers to form these Bns.

(b) 228 Admin Div has asked for 1000 men to replace discharges of which 750 are specialists. 231 Admin Div have asked for 3000 men for the same reason chiefly specialists. A

802 BRD will be unable to meet anything like these demands for specialists, nor have they the facilities for training specialists.

(c) 50 of the 100 drivers from TRANI are to be sent to 266/1 MT Coy and of the remaining 50 a certain number are due for discharge. A

(d) Col. GATTA has replaced Lt Col PAPADIA as Commandant of the BRD. He is an excellent man and it is felt that the Italians could take over the BRD entirely at any time. A

(e) What is the policy now with regard to the British members of the BRD? Maj. TUNGATE is in Release Group 7. A

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13. FURTHER POINTS GARIBALDI DIVISION

Maj. MISKIN

(a) The British officers attached will all be leaving shortly with the exception of Maj. GRIBBLE who is remaining for the time being. A

(b) The "GARIBALDI" is one of the best regts. that Maj MISKIN has ever come across of any army. Col RAVNICH is a splendid commander and the men would follow him anywhere. G

The morale is very high indeed.

14. NOTE ON LEAVE

All Italian soldiers that I spoke to were delighted at the prospect of leave but without exception they spoke of the difficulties of getting to their homes. Some of them have had to walk most of the way. There is therefore a strong temptation for the soldier, if he hears of transport, to go off home without waiting for permission. Would it be possible for Areas etc. who have empty transport going North to inform ERD's and other large centres of Italian Tps? A

4979

R&A Gunn-Rennie

Captain
GIII (I) Liaison

13 May 1945

DISTRIBUTION:

C of S
GSO 1
GSD
GSI
A
Q

cgl.

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46

B 1/5 JWK 1/5.

CONFIDENTIAL

POINTS FROM TOUR OF GIII (I) LIAISON IN FWD AREA
APRIL 22 TO 28

Action Branch

1. MORALE OF TPS

Morale of the Groups is very high. Desertions very few. Morale of Service Troops is not so high as they suffer by comparison with the Combat Tps and do not get British NAAFI. GSI

2. CENSORSHIP IN REAR AREAS

Maj CAREW-HUNT: Could the Field Postcard be issued as soon as possible. It is most urgently required. Q

Capt NEWSTEAD, GIII 'I'(B) 8 ARMY: Could another censorship section be set up in FLORENCE or ANCONA or even further NORTH, as well as ROME and NAPLES? This would solve to some extent the transport problem of the Italian Civil Post Office which now distributes censored mail entirely from NAPLES. GSI

3. COUNTER-MEASURES IN FORM OF PROPAGANDA TO FORESTALL DESERTION

Capt NEWSTEAD GIII 'I' (B) 8 ARMY: Suggested explanatory articles on leave and demobilization in "LA PATRIA" on lines of Aldridge's articles in "UNION JACK". A

4. PATRIOTS

Maj. COLQUHOUN GII CIVIL LIAISON 8 ARMY

(a) Can Ranks and Temporary Ranks for patriots be implemented as soon as possible? This is most urgent as it affects pensions and pay . Maj. COL QUHOUN got the impression from PALERMO, Under-Sec. of State for War, that MMLA were sitting on this problem. A

(b) Desertion: If the patriot leader is good and if short leaves are granted for patriots to see their families when liberated there is little or no desertion. Patriot discipline is very good though it differs considerably from Army discipline. A

GSD

4976

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(c) It is intended to nominate all 5 Recce Bns. Liberal's Band has been nominated as the third. There are still considerable numbers of patriots to be regularized. These are apt to become a problem only if not organized. GSD

4978

GSO 1
GSO 2 (Ops) PEP 30A
GSO 2 (SD)
GSO 2 (WE)
GSO 2 (L)
GSO 3 (SD)
GSO 3 (Orbat) QQ 2/5
GSO 3 (I)

WEC
Attd
14/5/45

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4. PATRIOTS (Cont'd)

(d) Relations between the Poles and the Banda Maiella are not good. The Poles keep all the Banda Maiella's transport for their own use.

Lt. Col. HEMAN, G-1 SD 8 ARMY

As long as the Banda Maiella remains under the Polish Corps the transport can be allocated wherever the Corps wishes and 8 Army cannot interfere.

Maj. CARLEW-HUNT

(a) 28 Garibaldi Bde has done splendidly throughout. GSI

(b) The Banda Maiella is very good in the battle but rather troublesome to control when they are out of the line. GSI

(c) There are considerable numbers of patriots prepared to volunteer into the Groups but the wastage has been too small to absorb them. A

Capt. WILDE GIII 'I' 50 BLU (FRIULI)

The Patriots have been very useful in collecting information and giving locations of minefields, booby traps etc. and acting as guides. GSI

5. "I" SECTIONS IN COMBAT GROUPS

497

Capt NEWSTEAD GIII 'I' (S) 8 Army

The F.S. Sections are very keen but still rather inexperienced. They have caught several agents. They are working hard to make the Groups more security minded. GSI

No political work is passed to the F.S. Sections. Each F.S. Section has a British F.S. N.C.O. attached during ops to act as adviser. He passes back any cases beyond the scope of the Group F.S. Sections. GSI

Capt. WILDE GIII 'I' (B) 50 BLU (FRIULI)

(a) Very satisfied with performance of 'I' Section. Comparable with that of a British Div. GSI

(b) The chief trouble is communications in getting the information back in time to be of use, but the GSI

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Banda Maiella's transport for [illegible]

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Capt. WILDE GIII 'I' (B) 50 BLU (FRIULI)

(a) Very satisfied with performance of 'I' Section. Comparable with that of a British Div. GSI

(b) The chief trouble is communications in getting the information back in time to be of use, but the 'I' personnel are fully aware of the urgency of getting fresh information back and to the flanks. GSI

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5. "I" SECTIONS IN COMBAT GROUPS (Cont'd)

(c) The German interrogator is rather too young and inexperienced and his German is not quite adequate but he is very keen. During the latest ops the German interrogator from Corps was able to come down and help, so that on the whole the situation was satisfactory. GSI

(d) The Italian GIII 'I' is very intelligent and capable and the Italian F.S. Officer is technically very sound but rather tactless. GSI

(e) The enemy Order of Battle was kept very well indeed, quite as good as a British Div and much useful identification was passed back to Corps. For example the 'I' Section, on being informed that there were 2 dead Germans in a minefield on their own initiative retrieved the bodies and obtained a very interesting identification. GSI

(f) The Group from the Commander downwards is becoming quite alive to the usefulness of Intelligence work. For example in spite of rumours, unconfirmed, of atrocities committed on captured Gruppi soldiers by the enemy they continued to take prisoners and hand them over for interrogation. GSI

(g) The enemy have been using captured Italian soldier paybooks for their agents crossing the line. GSI

(h) At first the Intelligence personnel were over-credulous but with experience they have improved considerably and now grade their information. GSI

(i) The Italian Intelligence L.O.'s of the Nucleo "I" have been extremely useful. They already have experience of British Intelligence methods. GSI

(j) The "I" sections in the Groups are organized in exactly the same way as in a British Division. GSI

Capt McGHEE GIII 'I' 53 BLU (FOLGORE)

The "I" Section was very keen and produced better results than might have been expected. They were not however up to British standard. There was a tendency to be too watertight and not pass on information. The Group is very apt to talk insecurely but this is improving gradually. The chief difficulty is in fact the Italian character, but within this limitation their work was good. GSI

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6. ITALIAN SECURITY

Capt NEWSTEAD GIII 'I'(B) 8 ARMY

(a) Careless talk is the besetting sin. GSI

(b) Posters: 8 Army are already having Security posters printed by PWB. These are designs that were put forward by Cremona. GSI

(c) Security Propoganda: Suggested a weekly Security paragraph in "LA PATRIA". e.g. Explaining the reasons for not carrying civilians in military transport, that suspects can be carried through controls by military vehicles, thus making it more difficult to catch agents. GSI

This failing is very widespread among Italian Troops.

POINTS From Security Reports

(a) The practice of using civilians and leave personnel for conveying letters is very widespread but most of the letters intercepted have proved to be purely private matters. GSI

(b) Italian girls who go out with Allies have been threatened by Italian combat tps and others - in particular at RAVENNA. In some cases this proved to be mere showing off on the part of newly-joined soldiers. GSI

4973

(c) Folgore Group, particularly the Nembo, show a tendency to boast and give away plans. GSI

(d) There is evidence that the Germans are using caputured Italian paybooks for long range patrols. GSI

(e) Combat tps persist in carrying civilians on military transport in spite of the prohibition. GSI

(f) Explosives stolen from 127 F.M.C. proved to have been stolen for fishing purposes. GSI

7. POSSIBILITY OF ITALIAN TPS MAKING OFF WITH ARMY VEHICLES

Capt NEWSTEAD GIII 'I'(B) 8 Army

The check points for Italian Tps at Army Rear Bdy are manned by Italian personnel. Normally this works very well, but should Italian Tps make off with military vehs from the South to visit their families in the North it is quite possible that the check points might be overrun. It is doubtful whether Army could spare additional British CMP personnel. GSI

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The British CMP check Italian tps going out of Army Area.

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FURTHER POINTS FROM CAPT NEWSTEAD GIII 'I'(B) 8 Army

(1) There is a rumour among Italian tps that they are going to be used in the Far East. This is causing some despondency. GSI

(2) Would it be possible to tie up the leave policy at Army Group level so that decisions should apply to both armies. At the moment there are discrepancies. A

Note: Maj CAREW-HUNT is dealing with this matter. He does not think that Army Group can lay anything down but that the two Armies must agree on a policy between themselves.

FURTHER POINTS FROM LT. COL. INMAN G-1 SD 8 Army

(1) WE's of Combat Groups

Many suggestions have come in from Corps to some extent disagreeing with one another. GSD

8 Army will sort these out as quickly as possibly and put up a suggestion.

However this may take some time owing to operations.

The general principle will be that operational necessities must be found but that anything that is not absolutely necessary will not be considered.

4972

FURTHER POINTS FROM FRIULI

(1) Could Hospitals down south hold clothing to re-equip cured combat troops? In cases of wounds those patients are often discharged without battle dress and hospitals apply to the Groups to send down clothing. Major CAREW-HUNT has written a letter asking that Hospitals be authorized to hold 5% clothing of combat patients held. Q

(2) Milit cigarettes have not been received since approx 15 Mar. Major CAREW-HUNT is dealing with this.

(3) Friuli carried out a most gallant action against prepared positions across the SENIO. GII(Ops)

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FURTHER POINTS FROM FOLGORE

(1) Lt. Col. TAYLOR G-1 was very sorry that Maj MONICO was taken away. He was most useful to them as he was bi-lingual and extremely good at dealing with situations requiring tact. A

(2) Lt. Col. TAYLOR is most anxious to have Francesco Colonna attached to the BLU as a Liaison Officer. He is completely bi-lingual and is very good at translating and interpreting quickly complicated army matters. Lt. Col TAYLOR knows Francesco Colonna personally and feels that he is exactly the man they require. May Lt. Col. TAYLOR be informed if this would be possible? A

FURTHER POINTS FROM MAJOR CAREW-HUNT

(1) May he be included on distribution list of AFHQ Censorship extracts. He does not see these at all and feels that he ought to do so. GSI

(2) 8 Army most interested in Italian Army Welfare. 4 mobile canteens already working. 12 women volunteers under the Duchessa Visconti are working. She is also taking on a proportion of female partisans. A

(3) The Italians when they opened their canteens threw them open to all Allied troops. It was explained to them that the question of canteens being reserved for certain sections of troops was a supply question but that their gesture was much appreciated. These canteens are now only for Italians. Q

(4) Co-operators have been used by 1 Dist. They have come into contact with Italian Army personnel which should be avoided whenever possible because of the different treatment of co-operators. A

(5) FRIULI and FOLGORE will be resting probably until 5 May.

4971

R. G. A. Green-Russell
Captain
GIII 'I' (L)

30 April 1945

Distribution:

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GSD

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4972

30 April 1945

Captain
GIII 'I' (L)

Distribution:

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2016

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MEMO FOR A.Q.

Inspection of 523 Gd.Bn and Frosinone Camp.

1. 523 Gd.Bn

a) Strength - 523 Gd.Bn was stated to be up to W.E. strength of 775 O.R.s and 25 offrs. It was not possible to check numbers.

b) Clothing and Equipment - Certain items of unit equipment are short (i.e. officers kitchen and mess equipment etc) but these were expected to arrive during the day. The men's clothing was not in a very satisfactory condition, some 20% needing issue of trousers and putteos or repairs to same. Boots as a whole were poor, 50% needing repair either immediately or in the very near future. Dubbin is essential to all boots. Further supplies of boots and clothing were also expected to arrive during the day.

c) Training - Personnel had completed rifle and L.M.G. training but no firing course had been done in L.M.G. This was due to fact that there are no facilities at Frosinone. Some trg was however to be given in firing.

d) Rations - There were no hard rations available in stores for travelling apart from tinned meat. The Camp Comdt is ordering the making of biscuits (galletta) sufficient for 523 and 524 Gd. Bns travel needs.

e) Transport - Drivers for 523 Gd.Bn had not been trained although these were available. Training for those selected was ordered.

f) Discipline - Discipline as a whole fair. Very few men had shaved (incl.Bn Comdr) but this was largely attributed to lack of razor bladen.

2. FROSINONE Camp.

a) Strength - The total strength present was 2870 O.R.s and 144 Offrs. On 15 April these were 541 A.W.O.L.s. of which very few were expected to return. 497

b) Clothing and Equipment.- Many men were still in civilian clothes and the majority of uniforms needed small repairs. Boots were in a very poor condition, camp cobblers completely unable to handle situation. There is no dubbin or shoe polish in the camp and this is sorely needed for the whole camp. Camp Comdr stated that Rome have NO supplies of dubbin. Many men were using mess tins made out of tin cans. Reference to this produced

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answer that 1000 mess tins had been assigned to camp and were expected to arrive during the day. Many tins however had been stolen and probably sold.

c) Drainage - Drainage is still in a deplorable condition but some slight attempts are going to be made to remedy this.

d) Medical - Medical supplies have now been assigned to the camp but these have yet to arrive. A good attempt has produced a very reasonable and clean MI Room and hospital. There were however no patients on 16 Apr. Medicines are still in their cases when these could be stacked on home made shelves.

e) Camp Amenities - Petrol is now supplied to operate water pumps and electric supply. Water supply was stated to be meagre.

f) Camp Discipline - Inspection of huts showed the majority to be in a filthy condition. This was attributed to lack of palliasses also due to arrive. In No 1 Coy hut, straw mingled with orange peel was strewn about the floor. Troops are expected to sleep on this. In No 3 Coy hut, however, all tps were furnished with palliasses, neatly folded, and the quarters were reasonably clean. In spite of hundreds of lounging soldiers doing nothing the camp area was in a filthy condition and was one long rubbish heap.

There were thousands of small dirty children all over the camp, many in the soldier's queue for rations and complete with mess tins and water bottles, many acting as tps servants; No attempt in any case was made to disperse these. Reference to this brought retort that camp was situated along main road and the camp perimeter wire was full of holes.

Certain amount of repairs were being carried out by a few civilian workmen which by appearance would take years to complete.

Officers quarters left much to be desired.

General outlook is complete nonchalance except in the wine bar 100 yards from Camp main entrance, which was full.

g) General - The Camp Comdr, Col. CROSA, is far from being suitable. He does not appear to have ever carried out an inspection or care about the men under his command. His outlook is [illegible] he is unable to carry out his job owing to lack of staff car and the camp is in a bad condition owing to insufficient transport. He has been successful in getting some of his men to salute him and asking for more supplies from M. of W.

The Camp Comdt stressed that he would be unable to receive any more tps in the camp until 523 Gd.Bn. left.

The most important complaint was that Rome was not sending up Camp requirements in sufficiently large quantities, one truck arriving at a time. An officer has now been despatched

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to Rome to speed this up.

f) Camp Transport - This is considered entirely inadequate and is as follows: (as per W.T.):-

Staff Car nil
Trucks 6 of which 1 removed by Rome and not yet replaced, 1 completely off the Road and 1 continually needing small repairs. Of the 3 remaining, 1 is with Agmund Camp and 2 with Frosinone.
m/Cycles 2 of which one off the Road and one unusable owing to continuel repairs
Water trucks 2 both at Agmund

Pods arrived at a station near Frosinone from Naples have not been collected owing lack of motor tpt.

Major.

2/33/1

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NOTES ON G.O.C'S CONFERENCE WITH MAJ HOLT AT BARI ON 15 APR 1945

1. AREA

Maj. HOLT wants to know where his Northern Boundary runs. Is he responsible for ORTONA and PESCARA?

2. RATIONS

Maj. HOLT reported that various Italian Units, e.g. Italian Staffs at ST ANDRANS Camp and the Italian School of Signals, have no authorised W.E., and it is consequently very difficult for him to check the numbers of men and rations issued.

Lt. Col. INGLEDEW to look into the matter.

3. REPAIR MATERIALS

Lt. WORDYCH wants more clothing materials of all kinds to keep his factories busy. He has reported to MMLA. He has enough boots to keep him busy. Withdrawn B.D. will doubtless solve the above.

4. Maj. Gen. BORSELLI, BARI Territorial Comd, came to see G.O.C.

Gen. BORSELLI reported that "LA PATRIA" was not available in BARI, and Capt. O'DONNELL stated that the BARI British Army Printing Unit, on whose presses "LA PATRIA" would be printed, had not yet received the necessary authority from AMG.

Gen BORSELLI stated that the BARI Military Tribunal had not formed any section to try cases in addition to the President's Court. He thought some of the non-legal judges might be used for investigating cases as the bottle-neck was in the Instructional Court and not in the final Tribunal. He would discuss the whole question with the President of the Court and get cases speeded up as far as he could. He did not seem to know much about it.

5. Brig. Gen. VIVALDA, Comd of 230 Div, also came to see the G.O.C.

He reported that he was trying to get rid of a few bad officers on his staff, but that this took a very long time. He had had no complaints as to Rations from his division and had very few desertions and AWOL.

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C. W. D. CHAYTOR,
Capt.
BA to G.O.C.

16 April 1945

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C/83/1

NOTES ON G.O.C'S VISIT TO ST ANDREWS CAMP, TARANTO ON 15 APRIL 1945

1. A Nominal Roll of the British personnel at the Camp is annexed.

2. It is understood that Capt. OWEN and Lt. SCOTT are earmarked to go to the North of ITALY, and possibly also Maj. HAYNES. If so, replacements should be arranged for.

3. The new Camp (TUKER Camp) is due to open about 23rd April and will take up to 5,000 Repatriates.

All the Staff at the present Camp are due to go to the new one except the 4 Sgts and 4 Cpls first mentioned in the Nominal Roll. These have been posted or attached to stay at ST ANDREWS Camp in its new roll as a POW Camp for GERMANS. They or substitutes will, however, be essential for running TUKER Camp, and as they have been dealing with the Repatriates for some time and know the ropes it would be very advantageous if they can go to TUKER Camp and new men be got for ST ANDREWS.

Their transfer to the POW Camp to be cancelled if possible, i.e. they to go to TUKER Camp. Told HALL to arrange this with Lt. Col. ROBINSON at TARANTO.

4. It is understood that the Italian Staff at this Camp are to go to TUKER Camp, but the O i/c, Col. GALLIANI, has no instructions yet. He should go over.

5. The M.O. and Staff are due to stay at ST ANDREWS, so new ones are required for TUKER Camp.

6. Tentage is adequate for the new Camp.

C. W. D. CHAYTOR,
Capt.
BA to C.O.C.

17 April 1945

4967

WS

ITALIAN REPATRIATES CAMP
ST ANDREWS PW CAMP
GMF
14 APR 45

Sir:

Herewith nominal roll of British Personnel at Italian Repatriates Camp.

British Officers on Staff:

(a) (78223 Major J.K. HAYNES, R.C.S. att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME.
(147426 Capt C. HOWARD-OWEN, R.A., G.A. Att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME
(281358 Lt. F.P. SCOTT, G.A. CMN LIST. Att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME.

British ORs on Staff:

(2185986 Sgt PRATT, G.A. P.C. Posted "S" PW CAMP att. Repatriates Camp.
(4711514 " WHITTAKER, J. R.F. " " " " " " "
(2620160 " PARKER, J. Gren Gds " " " " " " "
(5343107 " MANLEY, R. K. Berks " " " " " " "
(b) (
(5045773 Cpl WEBB, T.H. Recce " " " " " " "
(3248677 " KAVANAGH, T. L.I.R. " " " " " " "
(7877166 " BALL, C. R.T.R. " " " " " " " (Hospital)
(2983313 " CAMPBELL, D. A.&S.H. " " " " " " "

(4033069 Cpl CAUSER, C. K.S.L.I. Att 603 Regt. att Repatriates Camp, controlled by C2E " " "
(5568201 " SULLIVAN, H. D.S.T.S. " " " " " " " " " "
(14414189 L/Cpl SCOBIE, T. R.W.K. " " " " " " " " " "
(1811540 Gnr THOMPSON, A.S. R.A. " " " " " " " " " "
(T/86430 Pte REILLY, J. R.A.S.C. " " " " " " " " " "
(5947289 " MARLOW, H. Herts " " " " " " " " " "
(a) (3448413 Cpl RHODES, H. Man, Regt
(
(1479116 A/B.S.M. CUBBINS, C. 603 Regt R.A. att Repatriates Camp. " " " " " "
(1138124 Gnr COGINS " " " " " " " " " "
(1572853 " CIDA, C.R. " " " " " " " " " "
(1635549 " HOCKINS, " " " " " " " " " "

496

(a) To go to TUKER Camp

(b) At present intention is to keep these at ST ANDREWS Camp but they should go to TUKER Camp.

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

CMF
14 APR 45

Sir:

Herewith nominal roll of British Personnel at Italian Repatriates Camp.

British Officers on Staff:

(a) (78283 Major J.K. HAINES, R.C.S. att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME.
(147426 Capt C. HOWARD-OWEN, R.A., G.A. Att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME
(281358 Lt. F.P. SCOTT, G.A. GEN LIST. Att Repatriates Camp from Allied Control, ROME.

British ORs on Staff:

(2186986 Sgt PRATT, C.A. F.C. Posted "S" PW CAMP att. Repatriates Camp.
(4711514 " WHITTAKER, J. R.F. " " " " " " "
(2620160 " PARKER, J. Gren Gds " " " " " " "
(5345107 " HAWLEY, R. K. Berks " " " " " " "
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(4033069 Cpl CAUSER, C. K.S.L.I. Att 603 Regt. att Repatriates Camp, controlled by CSS
(5568201 " SULLIVAN, H. D.S.T.S." " " " " " " " "
(14414189 L/Cpl SCORER, T. R.W.K. " " " " " " " " "
(1611540 Gnr THOMPSON, A.S. R.A. " " " " " " " " "
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(
(1479116 A/B.S.M. CURSINS, C. 603 Regt R.A. att Repatriates Camp.
(1138124 Gnr COGINGS " " " " " " "
(1572863 " CREA, C.E. " " " " " " "
(1833549 " HOCKINS, " " " " " " "

(a) To go to TUREN Camp

(b) At present intention is to keep these at ST ANDREWS Camp but they should go to TUREN Camp.

WS

496

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

2023

POINTS ARISING ON C.O.C'S VISIT TO CADET SCHOOL AT LECCE ON 14 APR 45

Met by: The Commandant, Col. Roberto BELARDINI

1. INSTRUCTION

Allocation of periods between lectures and Practical Periods requires alteration.

Lectures appear to be taken up entirely by talking by the lecturers and the Cadets do not join in and answer questions.

Gun Models are rudimentary.

C.O.C. promised to get the School some demonstration models of British equipment if these are available, e.g. 25 pdr, 6 pdr, Bren, Mortar etc. (B.P. only).

2. CLOTHING

Commandant asked for socks and underclothing for the Cadets. They have one set of underclothing and no socks (they use footcloths).

Maj. Gen. BORSELLI, BARI Territorial Comd, also asked for these for the Cadets. He stated that they only have one pair of boots each and requested that they should be given a second pair. Can we stretch a point?

3. CLEANLINESS AND POLISH OF EQUIPMENT

Rather grubby.

4. LA PATRIA

"LA PATRIA" is not printed in BARI yet and the Cadets do not see it.

5. GENERAL

This is no doubt a good example of a pre-war Italian School. It is all on the surface and completely academic. The whole basis of training is wrong. It is all theoretical. There is little or no character trg and the practical aspect is very weak. The Art of imparting instruction is not dreamed of even. The whole thing needs reorganizing but we can't do that this war. I'll discuss with the Minister (and later AFHQ) as to the possibility of sending an Italian General to ENGLAND to see how we run things there.

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

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C. W. D. CHAYNOR,
Capt.
AA to C.C.C.

19 April 1945

WS

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

S (L) - 91

Report on visit to FROSINONE and ANAGNI
ITI-ITI Base Camps, 16 March 1945

FROSINONE

1. Strength

Present strength 2060 all ranks. Of the 750 recruits who left Apulia, 300 deserted at Foggia.

The escort for these recruits consisted of one Major, 4 subalterns. There were no CC RR or Army NCO's provided as escort.

2. Morale

The young recruits seemed fairly contented and were all dressed in ITI clothing. Much trouble has been caused in the camp, however, by absentee personnel reporting back for duty after absence over 30 days for various reasons, i.e. AWOL, failing to answer call-ups etc.

These men are the worst elements in the ITI Army and are now having a most serious effect on the morale and attitude of the young recruits. They foster grievances, stir up discontent, lodge complaints, and exagerate on the worst side of the discomforts in the camp. They absent themselves during the day, but re-appear for meals.

The 420 Sardinians (older men from the re-call) are also causing a lot of trouble. The O.C. wants to get rid of these elements as quickly as possible as they are a nuisance and a hindrance. It is suggested that these men be evacuated soonest for the good of the recruits.

3. Water

Pumps working satisfactorily and there is sufficient water.

4. Food

Mid-day meal looked good. Consisted of hot thick soup with plenty of "pasta", bread, fruit and figs plus cigarette ration. Some men complained that there was not enough "pasta" in soup, but complaint had no foundation whatsoever.

5. Palliasses

Sufficient number to provide for immediate needs. 4962

6. Accomodation

Work on buildings is going too slowly. Much more could have been done by utilizing the man-power on the spot. Fault lies with the O.C. who is not sufficiently energetic. Some of the cadre offrs lack initiative and do not seem to have attempted to take strong attitude with the bad elements in the camp.

7. Training

2025
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7. Training

Some trg has been done but no rifles had arrived. O.C. has not yet found a rifle range.

8. M.T.

Of the 4 vehicles allotted to camp, only one is efficient.

One vehicle at Anagni is O.K.

2036
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9. Clothing

Latest issue of ITI clothing is in very poor condition. Boots wear out in a few days.

Problem of disposal of men's civilian clothes is acute. There is no parcel post in Italy. Result is some have had their clothes stolen, others sell to locals. ALL complain about this.

Suggestion made was that men hand in civilian clothes labelled to Q/M stores where they would at least be under lock and key. Meanwhile W. M. to think of a way of getting clothes back to men's homes.

10. Communications

There is a telephone line from Rome to Frosinone, but no link between Frosinone to Camp.

GII (L) will take this question up with Gen. RONCO.

ANAGNI

1. Present strength 700.

2. Cadre

Younger offrs of cadre much more efficient and go ahead. Adjutant is a young Parachutist offr. Seems a first class type.

3. Accomodation

Camp has excellent possibilities and men have done good work in clearing the buildings of rubble. Men also making beds etc. from salvaged wood.

4. Morale

Much higher than at Frosinone. This due chiefly to fact that there are no re-call personnel or ex-deserters.

5. Water

4962

Work is underway to bring washing water by pipe to camp. Cement washtroughs have already been installed alongside one long building.

Urgent need is for extra allotment of petrol for water pump which is in working order and could pump water to camp through pipes (already installed) if there was sufficient petrol. Petrol also required for the two water trucks which bring drinking water to camp.

Petrol requirements:

40 litres per day for water trucks
30 litres per day for water pump.

Extras 20-30 litres.

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Petrol requirements:

40 litres per day for water trucks
30 litres per day for water pump.

Extras 20-30 litres.

Total 100 litres per day.

It is considered that this quota is necessary and would make all the difference to conditions in camp.

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6. Sanitation

Latrines have been dug and notices put up.

The camp is in a malarious area. Bomb craters full of stagnant water litter the camp but several of these have already been filled in by the recruits.

7. Clothing

A shortage still exists. This is due partly to O.C. Frosinone failing to allot.

GII (L) will take this up with Gen. RONCO.

Summing up

Anagni Cadre offrs younger and more energetic. Have done some good work and camp has many buildings almost ready to receive recruits.

Frosinone. O.C. should go. Also Adj. who is a nice man but too old.

Refugees wander about camp and children pilfer food. O.C. was instructed to stop this at once.

Copy made for 2/c

K. Kelly
Lt. Col. G.S. Capt

4953

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

2030

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

6121

Subject: Liaison visit to 59 Area and Br Incr 5 Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M. M. I. A.)
R O M E
A/9/1

24 Feb 45.

To : AQ

1. Enclosed are reports on the above visit.

2. At appx 'A' are notes of the first meeting at 59 Area on 21 Feb 45.

3. At appx 'B' are general points raised by MMIA LO Br Incr 5 Army.

4. At appx 'C' are additional points discussed with 59 Area on 2nd visit 23 Feb 45.

D.S.L.GREGSON, Major,
M. M. I. A.

DSLG/wk

Copy to: "G"
ST
MED
MMIA LO Br Incr 5 Army

4953

MMIA
FILE REF
Date Rec'd

App x A.

REPORT ON VISIT TO 59 AREA and MMIA L.O BRITISH INCREMENT
FIFTH ARMY, 21st 22nd & 23rd FEBRUARY, 1945.

SUBJECT: (1) 502, 503 and 519 S.G. Bns

1. I arrived at HQ 59 Area at 1430 hrs, as I had been delayed by mechanical trouble. Immediately started a conference with Capt. NEWTON and Major WOODHAM GSO II 59 Area, who is the person directly interested in these BNS under the Brig. (Tel 59 Area extn 6).

2. We went through the notes in detail on the conference held at 59 Area on 9th Feb at which AQ and Capt. NEWTON were present (notes attd to this report). only to Adjutant

Ref Para 2(a) BHQ were due to arrive SIENA 21/2 or 22/2 they would be situated at SIENA.

502 503 519. Deficiencies in personnel

G.S.O. 1 MMIA had this in hand but it would not be possible to provide special cavalry replacements for 502 Bn.

Para 2(b) GSO.1 dealing but probably difficulties in the way of promoting Major BRESCIA.

Para. 3 British Trng Personnel

59 Area state that they have received specific instructions from G.O.C. 2 District as to the roles to be carried out by these Bns when the line moves forward, amongst these are street fighting and guerilla warfare. They state that unless British Trng personnel are attached to 502 and 503 Bns they think it will be impossible to reach a standard of training required by G.O.C. 2 District. This applies equally to administrative problems.

Para 4 (a) CLOTHING. Housewives at 1 per man to be provided by MMIA.
Pointed out that all dyed B.D. is much the same, and we can only issue what we get.

Para 4 (b) AQ is taking up possibility of issuing Khaki BD to officers. In most cases officers have no longer the dyed B.D. issued to them as they have given it away to ORs.

Para 4 (c) Stars & Badges. MMIA will forward the quantity required - i.e. 4,000 prs.
Capt. NEWTON will give HQ MMIA details of badges required.

Para 5 (a & b) Boots. Boots are being made up by NEWTON as available and a considerable improvement has now taken place. 495?
Permission cannot be given to hold a reserve of 10%, but AQ has no objection to a small reserve being held by NEWTON.

Para 5 (c) GRINDERY. Cannot be supplied through MMIA 59 Area. RHQ and 231 Div will explore possibility of local purchase.

Para 6 Socks. No reserve can be permitted.
231 Div will indent for foot cloths.

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

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231 Div will indent for foot cloths.

Para 7 Shirts Lucky to have two shirts each.

Para 8 Anklets. Anklets not yet available. MMIA will supply 1 puttee per man to be cut into two and used instead of anklets.

Para.9 Soap Very difficult and in short supply. ADST MMIA trying to straighten out now. Possibility of local purchase to be explored by Italians. Italian comdrs to indent for soap at once.

Bootlaces Supplied through MMIA.

Oil and Flanellette for Weapons. 59 Area will ask District to sanction issue from Br Stocks as operationally necessary.

Towels. To be supplied to scale by MMIA.

Dubbin None available.

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Para 10 No British webbing to be issued at any rate at present as weapons and s[illegible] including LMGs etc to be Italian.

Para 11 Tables and forms have been requisitioned locally.

Will endeavour to purchase lanterns locally.

LANTERNS.

MMIA will send forward any available - Candle lanterns not required.

WEAPONS.

Para 12 See para 10. Comdr 59 Area told by G.O.C. 2 District that he is trying to get Br rifles and LMGs issued to these Bns to save having two sorts of ammunition if and when Brens are issued.

Para 13 AMMO is purely an Italian affair, and should be indented for through 231 Div. No shortage and reasonable demands will be met.

GRENADES.

Para 14. Training for the moment should be with dummies, Bns to improvise.

Para 15 Transport. Horses. Explained that it was MMIAs intention to tell Min of War to issue disposal instructions for these horses. 59 Area very keen that they should be left with Bns as they visualise several useful roles for them later on.

Horses have improved considerably in condition. Are rationed from local D.I.D.

Decision to be communicated.

Staff Cars None available at present.

Load Carriers 5 allotted per Bn, of which 3 per Bn coming forward now, remainder with Stores when collected in Rome.

M/Cs 5 per Bn coming forward now in load carriers.

Bicycles Allotment of 20 to cover needs of RHQ and 3 Bns. It is hoped they come forward in the 9 load carriers. No violent hurry for rest of tpt - to stay in ROME until stores ready. Pointed out mistake in tpt W.E.

Available tpt for RHQ ordered by Maj. PAPISCHAV MMIA to be issued in NAPLES.

TOOLS.

Para 16 Total requirements, RHQ and 3 Bns.

Shovels 70 Picks 30.

collected in Rome and sent forward.

4953

MED.

Para 17 DADMS. MMIA arranging for MOs for Bns if not already there. Also for sample supplies of medical eqpt etc. These should be indented for through 231 Div and drawn from S.GALLO hospital FLORENCE.

WELFARE.

Para 18 Handed over D.O letter from Lt.Col. MC.CANN to DADMS 59 Area.

Explained best channel of purchasing items.
RHQ to apply for Welfare grant.
Suggested detail of a welfare officer per Bn.

Stationery

Para 19 Three typewriters released from NAPLES stocks. If not collected by RHQ will be forwarded with other stocks, not required instantly.

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Para 19 Stationery Three typewriters released from NAPLES stocks. If not collected by RHQ will be forwarded with other stocks, not required instantly.

Comdr 59 Area will take a personal interest in the disbursement of the Lire 5000 per month allowed for Stationery.

When the foregoing had been discussed at length, we went to see Brig. Matthews Comdr 59 Area, and gave him an outline of what had been accomplished.

The Brigadier raised the following points:-

(a) He stressed most strongly the urgent need for British training personnel.

(b) He wishes a Italian Capt who has been on 6 months leave posted to one of the Guard Bns. This officer speaks English well, and it is the Brig's intention to have this officer at Area HQ.

Name. Capt. SERGARDI. Fabio 1909 class.

4956

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NEWTON has applied for this to Min of War through 231 Div. The Brig is considering having him to live in his Mess. Pssn rations or allce if he lives out.

(c) 3 Sgts were sent up by Min of War (thro MMIA?) to teach these Bns street fighting and guerilla warfare.

Only one of the three has had personal experience of guerilla warfare, and neither he nor the other two have ever done a course of either of these subjects. He would like them removed as they are useless to him and only if fully trained men are available does he wish them replaced.

(d) The Brig pointed out that a large proportion of the men in these Bns were fairly old, came from the North of Italy and had not seen their families for a considerable time. He was afraid that there would be a lot of desertion on moving forward, in fact he has been told by Italian Officers that they have heard ORs say that it was their intention to desert when they advanced to districts in which their homes were situated.

(e) Capt. NEWTON is arranging a liaison visit of the Regtl Comdr and his various staff officers to 231 Div, as soon as possible after the arrival of RHQ.

D.S.L. GIBSON, Major.

22/2/45.

COPIES TO:

59 Area
Br Increment 5 Army MMIA LO
AQ MMIA
G MMIA
ST MMIA

4953

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

APPENDIX "B"

To AQ

GENERAL POINTS RAISED BY CAPTAIN NEWTON

1. Captain Newton wishes to have a clerk to do his filing, as his filing is getting out of hand. He suggested Gdsm BAEB from 8 Army; Capt Thrupp who was in Florence stated that they had no work for Babb and he could easily be spared. Suggest this confirmed with Maj Carew-Hunt.

2. Newton suggests that it is unnecessary for Lt Trevelyan to be permanently and definitely allotted to 13 Corps. He suggests that he should stay with him at HQ British Increment and pay weekly, or when necessary, visits to 13 Corps. This would allow Newton to use him for other visits to SIENA, AREZZO, 231 Div, etc. This would have the advantage of always having one of them in the office, for when Newton is away for example in Rome, nothing is done for three days. Br. Incr. do not like having office empty.

3. Trevelyan's usefulness is very much curtailed owing to him having no vehicle.

4. Newton has had instructions to phone various branches at HQ daily. He would like this altered to only having to phone when necessary, as he shares the phone with 4 other officers of Br. Incr. who get somewhat impatient at the amount of time taken up on the phone by him.

5. Newton will deal with Gd Bns personally.

6. Indent of 1/3/45 will include all outstanding items for 502-503-519 Bns.

7. Petrol for Gd Bns. Have spoken ST; to be supplied as a temporary measure from Allied Stocks; AFST will communicate a definite answer when available.

8. AREZZO Camp. See copy of Newton's letter 5LO/2/3/A of 22 Feb attd. to AQ & G copies. Newton is arranging for these stores through 231 Div. DADL 55 Area telephoned Newton 23/2 saying he thought that he could find covered ACCN in AREZZO for the extra 500 thus cutting out the need for tentage. Newton will keep HQ informed of progress.

To AQ only

D.S.L.GREGSON, Major.
22/2/45

Copies to: "G"
ST
MMIA LO Br. Incr 5 Army

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2037

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

MMIA L.O.
British Increment,
Rear Hq Fifth Army,
CMF.

Phone No: Lightning Rear 163.

510/2/3/A

22 Feb 45

MMIA - (3)

Copy to:- 'A' 231 Div.

Reference MMIA letter,3D/46 of 16 Feb 45 to Ministry of War.

For the formation of 805 Transit Camp, AREZZO, 55 Area has allotted a camp-site around the present transit camp. 231 Div has found the necessary personnel, but the following material is required:-

60	180 lb tents	:	Wine container (2,000 litres total)
1	500 gall water tank	:	10 large cooking bowls
50	corrugated sheets	:	5 ladles
300 ft	3x2 timber	:	5 cooks knives
2 cwt	cement	:	20 seater latrine
3 gross	roofing nails	:	4 ablution benches
14 lbs	5" nails	:	500 ground sheets
500	messtins	:	500 palliasses
1	Disinfester	:	1,000 blankets

At the present moment between the AREZZO Transit Camp and 231 Div Rfts Depot, we can accept and clear 700 Rfts per week normally, and 900 per week in an emergency.

When AREZZO Camp can hold 500, (ie when the above material is supplied) we shall be able to accept and clear 1000 per week normally and 1200 per week in an emergency.

In view of this (with MAXWELL's assurance (Feb 22) that the 805 Transit Camp is intended for 231 Div Rfts only), I do not consider it necessary to extend accomodation to 1000 - taking also into consideration our present requirements for Rfts.

'A' Branch, British Increment, has agreed these figures.

4953

AMIV/DCO.

a m Newton

Capt,
MMIA L.O
Brit Inc Fifth Army

20381

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

APPENDIX "C"

To AQ

ADDITIONAL POINTS RAISED BY 59 AREA AT 2ND MEETING WITH GSOII 23/2/45

1. Points at Appx "A" gone through and agreed.

2. Local Purchase. This is purely an Italian affair arranged through 231 Div. Can we assist through Ministry of War?

3. Members of the 3 Gd Bns have Malaria. 59 Area are afraid that in the mosquoto season this will be passed on to British or Allied tps. Have MMIA any suggestions.

4. All Bns 7 RHQ have M.O.s.

5. RHQ arrived afternoon 22 Feb 45; were visited by Brig Matthews and GSOII. They are in excellent accn at CENTINALE MR Q7417.

6. RHQ brought with them 5 load carriers (one broken down), 1 staff car and 2 M/Cs.

Incidently, I passed 8 of the load carriers for the 3 Bns 100 miles North of ROME at 1430 hrs 23 Feb. The 9th had gone on the previous night. They appeared to be running satisfactorily. They had on board only 9 M/Cs and 15 push cycles. Am taking this up with ST.

7. Bns are located at 502 - MONTALCINO
503 - COLLEVAL D'ELSA
519 - VIGNANO

D.S.L.GREGSON, Major.
23/2/45.

Copies to: "G"
ST
MED
MMIA LO Br Incr 5 Army

4952

File 642

39A

Notes on GOC's Visit to UDINE on 3 Jan 1945.

Conference with Lt. Col. ELLIOT and Gen. UTTLE.

1. PERSONNEL.

MLU.

Lt. Col. ELLIOTT reported that the Training Teams all were getting on well. He had been doubtful about Capt. EVANS, but had asked him whether he denied not to work with Italians and had been told he was satisfied. Col. ELLIOTT thought that Capt EVANS was now satisfactory.

There has been no S & T Officer here for 4 weeks, but Col. ELLIOTT understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major GORDON SAGE as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change his yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and MT officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTTLE are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Reciprocal Commanders are good. Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

GRUPPO ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants some drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

4950

2nd Lt NATY now in SUSA Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a WE of 250 men when 203 would suffice. G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the WE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round UDINE was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not finish drawing its vehicles before

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understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major GORDON RACE as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and RE officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTILI are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Regimental Commanders are good, Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

GRUPPO ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants more drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

4950

2nd Lt NATY now in 8AUG Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a TE of 259 men when 203 would suffice. G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the TE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round PANZIANA was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not finish drawing its vehicles before the end of January (420 to be drawn by 18th and 530 between then and the end of January) and therefore he thinks a move forward would be inadvisable and would take considerably more time than when the vehicles have been drawn. If it stays here, it will be able to cut short the time spent in the forward training area.

Training will be reasonably good by the end of the month. Gruppo has been doing Section and Platoon Training and not Company or Bn.

Gen UTILI also wants to stay here for a month to get on with the training without the interruption of a move.

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C.O.C. proposed to recommend that the Gruppo stay here till the end of January (Col FINDLAY to draft a letter to AFHQ for COC's signature), and in the meantime Col Elliot to plan the training on the assumption that the Gruppo would stay here until the end of January.

Col Fidsley to find out 15 Army Group's intention with regard to the move and, if necessary, to draft a letter on it.

Col Elliot reported that officers and NCOs assimilated instruction well, but could not be persuaded to pass it on.

Difficulty had been experienced in getting mines for training. Col Fidsley to help to get them.

Gen UTILE wants to put extra Tommy Guns in each Infantry Section and to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

C.O.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Cmd in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets.

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

C.O.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Fidsley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the 8 of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Fidsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. Min of War to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

C.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let SLU personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward

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Difficulty had been experienced in getting mines for training. Col Pidsley to help to get them.

Gen UTTLE wants to put extra Tommy Guns in each Infantry Section and to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

C.C.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Cmd in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

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5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

C.C.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Pidsley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the 28 of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Pidsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. Min of War to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

C.C.C. instructed Col Elliot to let MLU personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but A.F.A.O. particulars required cannot be complied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in its own transport which waits and brings them back.

The Remainder of the Gruppo, other than the above 65, have been on leave and most of them have come back.

Col Pidsley to check up on the new Leave Order.

Gen UTTLE to see that after all men have had their leave, only 5 or 6 % are away at any time, including those overstaying leave.

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7. DESERTIONS

Many of the men are coming back now Christmas is over, and Col Elliot will put in a report about 5th January which will show the true picture.

8. RATIONS

Col Elliot has had complaints about the inadequacy of the rations. He does not know whether the rations are flogged by the officers or others.

Gen UTILE thought the rations were inadequate for hard training. 5 Lire is allowed by the Min of War to supplement rations, but it is very difficult to buy locally as foodstuffs are reserved for civilians, and in any event are very expensive.

Officers and men are said by Gen. UTILE to eat exactly the same food.

G.C.C. suggested that the ration scale be posted up in cookhouses and Gen UTILE agreed to do this.

G.C.C. to talk to AFHQ about rations and to enquire about his letter to that HQ as to rations.

9. FILMS

Amusement films are needed here. The local cinemas do not hold enough people.

49[illegible]

C.E.D. CHATTER, Capt,
M.A. to C.C.C.

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Notes on CO's Visit to LUCIANO on 3 Jan 1945.

Conferences with Lt. Col. ELLIOT and Gen. UTILA.

1. PERSONNEL

ELM.

Lt. Col. ELLIOTT reported that the Training Teams all were getting on well. He had been doubtful about Capt. EVANS, but had asked him whether he desired not to work with Italians and had been told he was satisfied. Col. ELLIOTT thought that Capt EVANS was now satisfactory.

There has been no S & T Officer here for 4 weeks, but Col. ELLIOTT understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major GORDON RACE as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and MT officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTILE are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Regimental Commanders are good, Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their own mail.

GRUPPO ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Stretcherers, and Col. Elliot wants some drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

2nd Lt MATY now in SOE Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a TE of 250 men when 207 would suffice. C.C.C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the TE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round CAPUANA was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were dyeing their new guns.

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There has been no S & T Officer here for 4 weeks, but Col. BARRETT understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major [redacted] as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and RE officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTILI are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Regimental Commanders are good, Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

GRUPPO ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants some drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

2nd Lt MATY now in [redacted] Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a [redacted] of 250 rpg when 200 would suffice. C.R.E. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the [redacted] as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round [redacted] was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not finish drawing its vehicles before the end of January (420 to be drawn by 18th and 500 between then and the end of January) and therefore he thinks a move forward would be inadvisable and would take considerably more time than when the vehicles have been drawn. If it stays here, it will be able to cut short the time spent in the forward training area.

Training will be reasonably good by the end of the month. Gruppo has been doing Section and Platoon Training and not Company or Bn.

Gen UTILI also wants to stay here for a month to get on with the training without the interruption of a move.

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G.O.C. promised to recommend that the Gruppo stay here till the end of January (Col PIDSLEY to draft a letter to AFHQ for GOC's signature), and in the meantime Col Elliot to plan the training on the assumption that the Gruppo would stay here until the end of January.

Col Pidsley to find out 15 Army Group's intention with regard to the move and, if necessary, to draft a letter on it.

Col Elliot reported that officers and NCOs assimilated instruction well, but could not be persuaded to pass it on.

Difficulty had been experienced in getting mines for training. Col Pidsley to help to get them.

Gen UTILI wants to put extra Tommy Guns in each Infantry Section and to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

G.O.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Cmd in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets.

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

G.O.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Pidsley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the 40 of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Pidsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. Min of War to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let NCO personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but the particulars required cannot be complied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in its own transport which

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to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

G.O.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Int in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets.

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

G.O.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Ridsley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the WE of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Ridsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class 1 vehicles are being issued without tools. Min of War to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let REU personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but S.O.A.C. particulars required cannot be complied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in its own transport which waits and brings them back.

The Remainder of the Gruppo, other than the above 65, have been on leave and most of them have come back.

Col Ridsley to check up on the new Leave Order.

Con UTILE to see that after all men have had their leave, only 5 or 6 % are away at any time, including those overstaying leave.

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7. DESERTIONS

Many of the men are coming back now Christmas is over, and Col Elliot will put in a report about 5th January which will show the true picture.

8. RATIONS

Col Elliot has had complaints about the inadequacy of the rations. He does not know whether the rations are flogged by the officers or others.

Gen UTILE thought the rations were inadequate for hard training. 5 Fire is allowed by the Min of War to supplement rations, but it is very difficult to buy locally as foodstuffs are reserved for civilians, and in any event are very expensive.

Officers and men are said by Gen. UTILE to eat exactly the same food.

C.C.C. suggested that the ration scale be posted up in cookhouses and Gen UTILE agreed to do this.

C.C.C. to talk to APEC about rations and to enquire about his letter to that HQ as to rations.

9. FILMS

Amusement films are needed here. The local cinemas do not hold enough people.

C.E.D. CHATTER, Capt,
W.A. to C.C.C.

49[illegible]

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Notes on CCC's Visit to LUCCA on 1 Jun 1945.

Conferences with Lt. Col. ELLIOT and Gen. [illegible].

1. PERSONNEL

ELLIOT.

Lt. Col. ELLIOTT reported that the Training Team all were getting on well. He had been doubtful about Capt. EVANS, but had asked him whether he denied not to work with Italians and had been told he was satisfied. Col. ELLIOTT thought that Capt EVANS was now satisfactory.

There has been no S & T Officer here for 4 weeks, but Col. ELLIOTT understands that one is now on the way.

He may want to replace Major GORDON BAIN as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and RE officers are said to be good.

GROUP OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen [illegible] are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he was not sent to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Reggimental Commanders are good, Lt. Cols alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

CRUTCH ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants more drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

2nd Lt KATY now in G(I) Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a TE of 250 men when 200 would suffice. C. in C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the TE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round MASSARA was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not [illegible]

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He may want to replace Major [redacted] as he thinks he is not good enough, but does not want to change him yet as it would break the continuity of instruction.

Signals and RE officers are said to be good.

GRUPPO OFFICERS.

Col. ELLIOT's relations with Gen UTILI are good and that his was the chief influence on morale in the Gruppo while Col. LOMBARDI carried the Gruppo otherwise. He considered LOMBARDI a very good staff officer, honest and hardworking, but said he gets fussed under pressure, and Col. Elliot thought he might not be up to his new job to which he did not want to go.

Col. Elliot does not like the 2 i/c of the Gruppo who, he says, does not get on with the Gruppo Staff.

He considers that the Regimental Commanders are good, i.e. fels alright, and the junior officers are keen and look after their men well.

SPECIAL ORs.

Gruppo is rather short of specialists - Drivers and Signallers, and Col. Elliot wants some drivers from the Driving School as soon as some are available.

He also wants 20 more interpreters.

2nd Lt BATT now in [redacted] Intelligence Section wants to come to the Gruppo as an interpreter, and Col. Elliot would like to get him.

The Gunners of the Gruppo are carrying a TE of 259 men when 203 would suffice. C.C.C. instructed Col Elliot not to raise the question of the TE as the men could be absorbed elsewhere in the Gruppo.

2. TRAINING

Col Elliot reported that the training area round [redacted] was very good. The Artillery could shoot here, but had not done so yet as they were drawing their new guns.

He stated that the Gruppo does not finish drawing its vehicles before the end of January (420 to be drawn by 10th and 500 between then and the end of January) and therefore he thinks a move forward would be inadvisable and would take considerably more time than when the vehicles have been drawn. If it stays here, it will be able to cut short the time spent in the forward training area.

Training will be reasonably good by the end of the month. Gruppo has been doing Section and Platoon Training and not Company or Bn.

Gen UTILI also wants to stay here for a month to get on with the training without the interruption of a move.

4943

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G.O.C. promised to recommend that the Gruppo stay here till the end of January (Col FIDELEY to draft a letter to AFHQ for G.O.C's signature), and in the meantime Col Elliot to plan the training on the assumption that the Gruppo would stay here until the end of January.

Col Fideley to find out 15 Army Group's intention with regard to the move and, if necessary, to draft a letter on it.

Col Elliot reported that officers and NCOs assimilated instruction well, but could not be persuaded to pass it on.

Difficulty had been experienced in getting sites for training. Col Fideley to help to get them.

Gen UTILE wants to put extra Tommy Guns in each Infantry Section and to take them from the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

G.O.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Col in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without muzzle covers, etc. To be improvised.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets.

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

G.O.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Fideley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the 30 of 10 fitted 6 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Fideley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. War Office to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let RAF personnel go on leave before the move forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but G.H.Q. particulars required cannot be supplied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in its own transport which

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Gen WILLIS wants to put extra [illegible] to take them fro- the Artillery and rear sections, so as to boost the morale of the forward troops.

C.I.C. instructed him to carry on training as at present and that he could get instructions on the point from the Corps Cmd in the forward area when he got there.

3. EQUIPMENT

Gruppo have had trouble with the signalling sets which are old ones.

Mortars are coming without canvas covers, etc. To be investigated.

4. CLOTHING

There is some shortage of Greatcoats and Groundsheets.

5. TRANSPORT

The Training Scale of transport is in course of being sent back, but instructions have not been received as to where it is to go.

A.D.C. gave instructions that all Italian vehicles except Artillery Tractors were to be sent back. Col Pidsley to make arrangements.

Gruppo has been given 20 unfitted 3 ton lorries instead of the 37 of 10 fitted 4 tonners. There is consequently trouble in getting the extra drivers. Col Pidsley to go into the position and see what can be done.

About one third of the vehicles drawn are class I.D. and have no fittings or tools. Even Class I vehicles are being issued without tools. War Office to be asked to provide them.

6. LEAVE

G.O.C. instructed Col Elliot to let RAF personnel go on leave before the rest forward if possible.

There are 65 men of this Gruppo waiting to go on leave in forward area, but S.C.A.D. particulars required cannot be complied with owing to delay in correspondence. Gruppo sends the men on leave in the one transport which waits and brings them back.

The Remainder of the Gruppo, other than the above 65, have been on leave and most of them have come back.

Col Pidsley to check up on the new Leave Order.

Gen WILLIS to see that after all men have had their leave, only 5 or 6 % are away at any time, including those overstaying leave.

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7. DISTRIBUTIONS

Many of the men are coming back now Christmas is over, and Col Elliot will put in a report about 5th January which will show the true picture.

8. RATIONS

Col Elliot has had complaints about the inadequacy of the rations. He does not know whether the rations are flogged by the officers or others.

Gen UTILI thought the rations were inadequate for hard training. 5 Lire is allowed by the Min of War to supplement rations, but it is very difficult to buy locally as foodstuffs are reserved for civilians, and in any event are very expensive.

Officers and men are said by Gen. UTILI to eat exactly the same food.

C.C.C. suggested that the ration scale be posted up in cookhouses and Gen UTILI agreed to do this.

C.C.C. to talk to AFHQ about rations and to enquire about his letter to that HQ as to rations.

9. FILMS

Amusement films are needed here. The local cinemas do not hold enough people.

C.S.D. (MAFHQ), Cent 491
M.A. to C.C.C.

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

20544

G Notes on Visit of Lt-Col MORIATY
to HQ MMIA - 6/7 Jan 45

1. Please press for Banda Maiella to be made available soonest as Muleteers. Destination FOSSAMBRONE.

2. Please press for Italian Increment 7 Mtn Regt to be made available as Muleteers. Destination FOSSAMBRONE.

3. ORVIETO Depot after early Feb is planned to be a BRI-ITI Base Trg Depot for 1924/25 Call-up ex APULIA. No-one else to be sent there. Camp is 1 DISTRICT responsibility.

4. Please forward all details of BRI-ITI Camp at FOSSAMBRONE. I gather it is solely for Muleteer Trg. Is this so ? What is accommodation like ? How many is it holding now and please report intake as it occurs. Please knit up the British responsibility with EIGHTH ARMY i.e., Cadre etc.

5. You have GOC's views on Patriots.

6. MMIA does not agree to 'spare file' Coy being formed and certainly not incorporated into Gd Bns which are ITI-ITI.

7. ITI tpt for Gd Bns being persued.

8. Please apply at present to 15 ARMY GROUP for BR-ITI rfts although we are trying to persuade AFHQ to instruct you to indent on MMIA once a month in bulk.

9. Dossier of ITI personalities. Have you received our letter ?

10. Reduced recommendation for SUBSISTENZA det (2 Offrs and 10 ORs) to 228 Adm Div HQ will receive attention.

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

3. ORVIETO Depot after early Feb is [illegible] be a BRI-ITI Base Trg Depot for 1924/25 Call-up ex APULIA. No-one else to be sent there. Camp in 1 DISTRICT responsibility.

4. Please forward all details of BRI-ITI Camp at FORSAMBRONE. I gather it is solely for Muleteer Trg. Is this so ? What is accommodation like ? How many is it holding now and please report intake as it occurs. Please knit up the British responsibility with EIGHTH ARMY i.e., Cadre etc.

5. You have GOC's views on Patriots.

6. MMIA does not agree to 'spare file' Coy being formed and certainly not incorporated into Gd Bns which are ITI-ITI.

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9. Dossier of ITI personalities. Have you received our letter ?

10. Reduced recommendation for SUSSISTENZA det (2 Offrs and 10 ORs) to 228 Adm Div HQ will receive attention.

11. Please tell BOURNE as far in advance as possible of the move forward of IESI Camp in case 1 DISTRICT should want to take over the Barracks. LATER.....understand 1 District now dond so. Please Confirm.

12. You have our ideas on Adv Parties of Territorial HQs, Districts and Depots working forward with ARMY Rear Bdys. Am pressing for official recognition.

4940

...../2

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2056

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13. Please see that no ITI Interpreters, LOs or other unauthorized Military Personnel are att to units in forward areas unless on a WE or for which a WE has been applied.

14. You will be receiving CREMONA Group into ARMY Area in a week or so. When this Group arrives Maj EGERTON will be appointed LO to the CORPS under which the Group operates and so be available to look after all units within the CORPS and keep in touch with the CORPS HQ itself. Copies of correspondence to and from EGERTON will then be sent to you.

Please report to which CORPS the Group is assigned.

L.M. Tregaskis

Lt-Col.
Gen-Staff.

Distribution :- MAIA LO NEAR EIGHTH ARMY (2)
AQ
Files

4933

2057

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

TO: GCC for Information
AQ
SD
Capt Selby

Capt Pacini - Report No.13
dated 15 January 1945

1. Report follows:

"Subject: Military Prison
Location: Corso Sicilia
Personnel: The only military personnel is a small guard detachment drawn from the Compagnie Presidiarie.

The military prisoners are the following:
Serving sentences: 120
Appealed and waiting further trial: 45
Waiting trial: 137

The inspection here consisted of talking to military prisoners to get first-hand information as to their treatment and obtain any interesting information.

The situation is anything but good. There are men in prison who have been held for as much as a year and not yet been either interrogated or tried. They are in there apparently completely forgotten.

One man, in prison for the past six months, is held on the charge of desertion while working for the Allies and has documents to prove the same.

Another, in prison for a year and not yet tried, was picked up and held as a deserter as of the time of the Fascist regime.

Eight have been held for approximately a year, have not been brought to trial, and were denounced for stealing by a person known to be insane.

Another has been in prison for six months, not yet brought to trial, on the charge of insubordination.

Another was picked up and, he states, arbitrarily held as a deserter because he lost all of his official documents while in the Balkans. When I asked the Director, a retired Army Officer, whether attempts had been made to write to the man's military district to correct the situation, the reply was very evasive.

I felt the above to offer sufficient cross section of the situation that exists among the military prisoners.

The present law provides that a prisoner cannot volunteer for combat duty until he has been tried. All those I spoke to requested that they be brought to trial at the earliest so that they could have an opportunity to volunteer. This with the exception of those that are still Fascists and there still are some.

The prison is very clean, the cells orderly. The men sleep on straw mattresses placed on the floor, receive one meal per day.

493

2058

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The biggest and most crying need is clothing, particularly shoes, and medical supplies, this latter for the entire prison not only for the military prisoners.

Henry J. Pacini"

2. I am sending a copy of this to the Legal Sub-Commission and the Minister. Follow up for SUP

3. SD will take action to have civilian guards and not military guards.

4. Report action taken by 1 February 1945.

CPK

26 January 1945.

4933

2058

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

G/2/1

(1)

NOTES ON G.O.C's VISIT TO ST ANDREW'S CAMP, TARANTO ON 10 JANUARY 1945

Met by Lt. Col. ROBERTS and Maj. J. K. HAYNES

Conference with Maj. HAYNES

1. Organisation

Lt. Col. ROBERTS is in charge of this and other adjoining camps, but Maj. HAYNES is i/c this camp and runs it more or less on his own. His Staff consists of 3 officers and 15 ORs and he is short-handed and would like it increasing by 1 officer and 10 ORs which would enable him to have better control of the various compounds and to put a British NCO in charge of each one. It would also enable the permanent Staff to get leave in this desolate place and provide for emergencies. Maj. HAYNES thinks his W.E. is big enough to allow for his hoped for increase. MMIA to try and get this increase.

While G.O.C. was at the camp a signal came from MMIA (AQ 099) instructing his two captains on loan from M.A.T.D. to report back there immediately. G.O.C. instructed Maj. HAYNES to retain them pending confirmation from MMIA. G.O.C. to be informed what has eventuated.

Maj HAYNES stated that the Doctor is good and does his work very well.

4937

Col. GALLIANI is the Italian i/c the camp. He went sick and now comes about 5 days a week and takes the other two off for health reasons. His 2 i/c acts for him when he is away. Maj. HAYNES considers Col. GALLIANI to be good and he is most cooperative. It is thought that S.M.R.B. may post him away. MMIA TO INFORM S.M.R.B. that Col. GALLIANI is to stop there.

less on his own. His staff consists of 3 officers and is one [illegible] he is short-handed and would like it increasing by 1 officer and 10 ORs which would enable him to have better control of the various compounds and to put a British NCO in charge of each one. It would also enable the permanent Staff to get leave in this desolate place and provide for emergencies. Maj. HAYNES thinks his W.E. is big enough to allow for his hoped for increase. MMIA to try and get this increase.

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2. Administration

The camp deals both with 52 Area and with the Camp Commandant of the combined camp, but the arrangement works quite well.

Transport is borrowed from the local Indian Div.

Rations are perfectly adequate for the evacuees.

Maj. HAYNES holds a very small stock of clothing, boots etc, but it is very hand to mouth and some of it is very bad. He would

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—.mously and some of them, espec-

like a bigger stock and more regular delivery of salvaged clothing etc. At present deliveries are very irregular. M&LA to arrange for this.

The Doctor needs more drugs for Scabies, Malaria, dysentry etc. The Camp had 2 ambulances but one of them (aged 18) died and has been taken away, and a replacement is needed.

The drains and water supply are poor and continually go wrong. G.O.C. promised to write to Br Area Comd thanking him for the help of his engineers and asking for more on the ground that the camp will probably continue to function for some considerable time. A/Q to draft letter for G.O.C.

The permanent staff (ORs) have no welfare items, and G.O.C. said he would write Brig. M&WTH for a battery wireless set, dart boards etc. as the camp is 7 miles from TARGNTO and the men cannot get away often. A/Q to draft letter for G.O.C.

3. Evacuees

During the last 5 weeks, except for one consignment of 500 from FRANCE, many of whom were civilians, practically all the evacuees have come from GREECE. The "unknown" are apparently all from GREECE (see our Schedule).

Their clothing varies enormously and some of them, especially those coming from ATHENS, have no boots and their clothing is in rags. The ATHENS ones are usually in bad condition medically too. When here, they live in tents and are given a gas cape, 2 blankets, paillasse and straw.

The evacuees are medically inspected on arrival and disinfested, and can be bathed if the contingent is not a large one. Hos-

493

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Their clothing varies enormously and some of them, especially those coming from ATHENS, have no boots and their clothing is in rags. The ATHENS ones are usually in bad condition medically too. When here, they live in tents and are given a gas cape, 2 blankets, palliasse and straw.

The evacuees are medically inspected on arrival and disinfected, and can be bathed if the contingent is not a large one. Hospital cases are distributed at once, hence the need for the second ambulance mentioned above.

They are segregated into categories of infantry, Engineers, Artillery, etc. and are then screened by the Italians at the rate of about 500 a day. There is a mixed Port Security Team of about 12, and each board has a British N.C.O. on it. After screening and being cleaned up they go into a different part of the camp so far as possible

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Very few "bad men" are found in the screening.

Each evening the Italians send Maj. HAYNES a bit of men ready to leave the camp and he informs the MAIA LO.

Men should only stay here from 4 to 7 days, but they have been here as long as a fortnight when there is a rush on.

The camp has a book deficit of about 500 Italians owing to desertion from the camp, but the "party" seemed well organized and

C. W. D. CHAYTOR

12/1/45

4931

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

G1/1

33

"C" file

NOTES ON S.C.R.E's TOUR 15 - 20 JAN 45

15 Jan — Arrived NAPLES 1340 hrs.
p.m. — Visited AFRAGOLA Camp with THRUPP in afternoon.

16 Jan a.m. — Visited S.C.R.E. 3 District.
p.m. — Visited SME and Engr Branch AFHQ.
War Establishment required for 90 Br Wksp (Br-Iti); to be submitted to AFHQ by MMIA

17 Jan a.m. — Visited 18 CRE (56 Area)
Discussed work required at AFRAGOLA Camp.
p.m. — Visited Maj Smith.

18 Jan a.m. — Attended meeting at Comando Territoriale NAPLES. Present were Gen GRANATA, Maj THRUPP and OC 370 Wks Sec RE.
Discussed AFRAGOLA Camp.
OC 370 Wks Sec left to inspect Camp and produce list of engr stores required to commence work.
Gen GRANATA is organising an "ad hoc" unit under cmd Ten de RENZO to carry out work at AFRAGOLA.

p.m. — Discussed disposal of engr stores ex SARDINIA with Maj SMITH.
Arranged to provide a Labour Platoon from AFRAGOLA for checking and sorting stores.

19 Jan a.m. — Visited three engr store dumps.

p.m. — Visited Q Branch AFHQ and gave them list of main items for which disposal instrs are required. No immediate action taken as various other Branches had to be consulted. Maj WHISTON of Q2 (Freedom Ex 392) is handling the matter, and will contact Maj SMITH. Maj SMITH stated that tentage expert had not yet arrived from ROME for the sorting of Italian tentage.

20 Jan a.m. — Left NAPLES for ROME in vehicle lent by Maj SMITH.

4937

R.C. Stephenson
Maj RE

20 Jan

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

5/2/1

3

32

"G" NOTES FOR G.C.C.
UP TO 12 JAN 45

File

File Ref.

CPS

1. No change on Italian Front due to weather.

SICILY DISTURBANCES

2. Approx 12 personnel killed and under 40 wounded. Gen. MARIOTI appears to have the situation under control although there is still unrest. 2 i/c attended meeting with Chief Commissioner A.C. who agreed that the extra two bns, the Montegranero Bn and the Mobile Column should be sufficient to supplement the existing Island resources and so take care of further trouble. S/G/33

TERRITORIAL LAYOUT

3. Authority has now been received for adv parties to work fwd of Army Rear Bdys and herewith is a draft which I think should follow our original letter. S/G/12 (Herewith)

GARIBALDI DIV.

4. In spite of BARNES agreeing verbally over a week ago NOT to stage a come-back on us, AFHQ has now done so. Gen. MOCK G-3 Org ordered that it should be done. We have given a paraphrase to CASATI for information but otherwise waited for your return. Folio 94 & 95 S/G/31 (Herewith)

C.A.C's D.C. LETTER

5. Draft G points are att marked Flag A.

MOVES

6. Adv parties of LEGNANO and FOLGORE have been ordered to move fwd on 15 Jan and main bodies on 25 Jan. 492

3,000 SOLDIERS ex PICENO

7. In spite of phone calls there is still no reply from AFHQ on whether 3,000 soldiers ex PICENO can return. Have phoned 15 Army Gp and asked them to send hastener to their recommendation.

ORVIETO BASE DEPOT

8. Had successful visit to ORVIETO with BERARDI and then went on to 1 Dist. Problems settled satisfactorily. AQ has asked AFHQ to instruct 1 Dist to increase accommodations from 4,000 to 6,000 personnel. Notes are at Folio 31 on file G/2/1.

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

MARIOTI appears to have the situation under control although there is still unrest. 2 i/c attended meeting with Chief Commissioner A.C. who agreed that the extra two bns, the Montegranaro Bn and the Mobile Column should be sufficient to supplement the existing Island resources and so take care of further trouble. S/G/53

TERRITORIAL LAYOUT

3. Authority has now been received for adv parties to work fwd of Army Rear Bdys and herewith is a draft which I think should follow our original letter. S/G/12 (Herewith)

GARIBALDI DIV.

4. In spite of BARNES agreeing verbally over a week ago NOT to stage a come-back on us, AFHQ has now done so. Gen. MOOR G-3 Org ordered that it should be done. We have given a paraphrase to CABELL for information but otherwise waited for your return. Folio 94 & 95 S/G/31 (Herewith)

C.A.C's D.C. LETTER

5. Draft 6 points are att marked Flag A.

MOVES

6. Adv parties of LEGNANO and FOLGORE have been ordered to move fwd on 15 Jan and main bodies on 25 Jan. 492

3,000 SOLDIERS ex PICENO

7. In spite of phone calls there is still no reply from AFHQ on whether 3,000 soldiers ex PICENO can return. Have phoned 15 Army Gp and asked them to send hastener to their recommendation.

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NORTH AFRICA DIST/2 DIST

9. I hear that North Africa Dist is to be broken up soon. While waiting to be used in NW ITALY HQ 2 Dist will move to LIDO DI ROMA and take charge of North Africa, Sardinia, Corsica, Marseilles and possibly RAAC!

Lt. Col.
G. S.

6

12 I 45.

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

6 I Sec
6 II (J)
6 II (W)
6 II (C)
6 II (O)
6 II (P)

G

SECRET

(31)

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. M.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/S/1
10 Jan 45

NOTES ON VISIT OF G I MMIA TO ORVIETO BASE DEPOT AND HQ 1 DISTRICT 9/10 JAN 45

1. ORVIETO Base Depot is catering for 3500/4000 personnel at present under orders AFHQ and MMIA will have to write to AFHQ explaining fully why the increase to 6000 is required. AG

2. 1 Dist consider that the increased commitment could be catered for. One possibility would be to move 108 S.A. Gen Hosp whose sisters are in grave danger of being molested by the 4000 Italian Call-ups at present in ORVIETO Camp. 1 Dist

3. 200 personnel ex ORVIETO ATC FORECOMMCOM 18 Jan
1400 " " " " " 16 Jan
remainder of personnel to be clear by early Feb. G

4. It is NOT possible to increase the ration scale although a local arrangement of overdrawing one day and under-drawing the next would probably meet the local conditions of the Camp. Capt. BOURNE

5. A few more cooking utensils are required. Capt BOURNE with 1 Dist

6. 1 Dist has given priority of work to the repairs of the Camp but these repairs are seriously hampered by the personnel of the Camp who are without discipline. Gen BERARDI included this point in his address to the men. GIF (L)

7. Gen HEYLEMAN is most anxious that a small levy shall be made on the present Italian occupants of ORVIETO Camp to pay for barracks damages. Will MMIA write to 1 Dist on this subject. AG 492

8. Med arrangements are now satisfactory and Gen BERARDI is enquiring why 6 out of the 7 offrs of 31 Fd Hosp were all on leave when the Hosp moved up. GIF (L)

9. Clothing is satisfactory except for underclothing which is required. AG

10. Camp reports that more water is required. 1 Dist

11. Gen BERARDI would like a cinema to be requisitioned. 1 Dist

12. There is plenty of space for outdoor instruction of 3500 personnel as at present or 6000 as envisaged. G

13. Gen BERARDI enquired if greater facilities could be given [illegible] of vegetables. 1 Dist

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

1. ORVIETO Base Depot is catering for 3500/4000 personnel at present under orders AFHQ and MMIA will have to write to AFHQ explaining fully why the increase to 6000 is required.

2. 1 Dist consider that the increased commitment could be catered for. One possibility would be to move 100 S.A. Gen Hosp whose sisters are in grave danger of being molested by the 6000 Italian Call-ups at present in ORVIETO Camp.

3. 800 personnel ex ORVIETO STA FORNOVO/PO 12 Jan
1400 " " " " " 15 Jan
Remainder of personnel to be clear by early Feb.

4. It is NOT possible to increase the ration scale although a local arrangement of overdrawing one day and under-drawing the next would probably meet the local conditions of the Camp.

5. A few more cooking utensils are required.

6. 1 Dist has given priority of work to the repairs of the Camp but these repairs are seriously hampered by the personnel of the Camp who are without discipline. Gen BERARDI included this point in his address to the men.

7. Gen MAYNEMAN is most anxious that a small levy shall be made on the present Italian occupants of ORVIETO Camp to pay for barracks damages. Will MMIA write to 1 Dist on this subject.

8. Med arrangements are now satisfactory and Gen BERARDI is enquiring why 6 out of the 7 offrs of 91 Fd Hosp were all on leave when the Hosp moved up.

9. Clothing is satisfactory except for underclothing which is required.

10. Camp reports that more water is required.

11. Gen BERARDI would like a cinema to be requisitioned.

12. There is plenty of space for outdoor instruction of 3500 personnel as at present or 6000 as envisaged.

13. Gen BERARDI enquired if greater facilities could be given for the local purchase of vegetables.

14. Ministry of War will make representations to 1 Dist for Welfare through Italian Welfare channels

15. Camp requires an additional detail of 5 lorries for 10 to 14 days.

AQ

1 Dist

G

Capt. BOURNE

Capt BOURNE with 1 Dist

GII (L)

492

GII (L)

AQ

1 Dist

1 Dist

G

1 Dist

GII (L)

1 Dist

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

16. The chain of command was explained. The camp is a BN-ITI Camp under Col SPADA. This Camp is under HQ 209 Div which is the Italian Adm Div of 1 Dist. Maj TUNBATH commands the Br Cadre. — 1 Dist

17. Approx 200 Sicilians who were causing grave political unrest in the camp by holding meetings and poluting the remainder of the personnel will be broken up into small parties and exchanged for a like number of personnel in other Italian Units under command 1 Dist — Capt. BOURNE and 1 Dist.

18. It would be most beneficial if HQ 209 Div could be moved to a more central position within 1 Dist - say FOLIGNO. — 1 Dist

19. 1 Dist will investigate necessity for taking over IRSI from 228 Div when latter moves fwd. — Capt. BOURNE

20. A good understanding exists between 1 Dist and FIFTH Army for the calling fwd of personnel from AREZZO R.E. — AG

21. Explained why Call-up of 1914-24 Class in UMBRIA - MARCHE Area had been postponed. 1 Dist will inform MGIA as soon as accomodation can be freed. — 1 Dist

22. Gen HEYDEMAN was away on final exercise of FRIULI Gp. Just prior to Gp move fwd a det of RPs will be posted by 1 Dist to prevent desertion. — G Spec Sec

23. No difficulty envisaged over Italian Territorial Layout in 1 Dist. — G

24. Explained C.O.C's views on patriots. — G

25. All 1 Dist Staff are most co-operative and helpful.

Lt. Col. 4923
G. S.

Distribution:
Q. 1 Dist (2)
MGIA LO 1 Dist
G
AG
Spec Sec
File

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

CONFIDENTIAL

6/2/1. 30

R9

G Notes on Visit of Lt-Col MORIARTY to HQ MMA - 6/7 Jan 45

1. Please press for Banda Maiolla to be made available soonest as Muleteers. Destination FOGGIA/MERCHE.

2. Please press for Italian Increment 7 Mtn Regt to be made available as Muleteers. Destination FOGGIA/MERCHE.

3. CANTANZO Depot after early Feb is planned to be a BRI-ITI Base Trg Depot for 1924/25 Call-up ex APULIA. No-one else to be sent there. Camp is 1 DIVISION responsibility.

4. Please forward all details of BRI-ITI Camp at FOGGIA/MERCHE. I gather it is solely for Muleteer Trg. Is this so ? What is accomodation like ? How many is it holding now and please report intake as it occurs. Please knit up the British responsibility with ITALIAN ARMY i.e., Cadre etc.

5. You have GOC's views on Patriots.

6. MMA does not agree to 'spare file' Coy being formed and certainly not incorporated into Gd Bns which are ITI-BRI.

7. ITI tgt for Gd Bns being pursued.

8. Please apply at present to 15 ARMY GROUP for BR-ITI rfts although we are trying to persuade AFHQ to instruct you to indent on MMA once a month in bulk.

9. Dossier of ITI personalities. Have you received our letter ?

10. Revised recommendation for SUSSISTENZA det (2 Offrs and 10 ORs) to 228 Adm Div HQ will receive attention.

4927

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

3. ORVIETO Depot to be a EKI-ETI Base Tag Depot for 1924/25 Class. Camp is APULIA. No-one else to be sent there. 1 DISTRICT responsibility.

4. Please forward all details of EKI-ETI Camp at FORSAMERGEN. I gather it is solely for Unlettered Tag. Is this so ? What is accomodation like ? How many is it holding now and please report intake as it occurs. Please knit up the British responsibility with KINGS ARMY i.e., Cadre etc.

5. You have COO's views on Patriots.

6. MGIA does not agree to 'spare file' Coy being formed and certainly not incorporated into Gd Bns which are EKI-ETI.

7. ETI tpt for Gd Bns being perused.

8. Please apply at present to 15 ARMY GROUP for EK-ETI rfts although we are trying to persuade ARMY to instruct you to indent on MGIA once a month in bulk.

9. Dossier of ETI personalities. Have you received our letter ?

10. Reduced recommendation for SUBSISTENCE Det (2 Offrs and 10 OKs) to 228 Adm Div EK will receive attention.

11. Please tell ROUTE as far in advance as possible of the move forward of EKEI Camp in case 1 DISTRICT should want to take over the Barracks. LATER..... understand 1 Dist

12. You have our ideas on Adv Portion of Territorial HQs, Districts and Depots working forward with ARMY Rear Bdys. Am pressing for official recognition.

4923

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

20721

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

13. Please see that no TDY Interpreters, LOs or other unauthorized Military Personnel are sit to units in forward areas unless on a TA or for which a TA has been applied.

14. You will be receiving [redacted] Group into AMZT Area in a week or so. When this Group arrives Maj [redacted] will be appointed LO to the CORPS under which the Group operates and do be available to look after all units within the CORPS and keep in touch with the CORPS HQ itself. Copies of correspondence to and from [redacted] will then be sent to you.

Please report to which CORPS the Group is assigned.

Lt-Col.
Gen-Staff.

Distribution :- [redacted] TO TEAM [redacted] AREA (2)
AG
Files

28

"G" Notes for C.O.C. up to 22 Dec 44.

Ops

1. During the last fortnight Eighth Army has advanced 8 m on the coastal sector. Present position is that Fifth Army is 9 m and Eighth Army is 30 m from BOULOGNE.

15 Army Gp

2. w.e.f. 16 Dec 44 AAI became 15 Army Gp. Field Marshall ALEXANDER (C in C) Gen HARDING (CGS) and Gen ROBERTSON (CAD) are at AFHQ. Gen Mark CLARK (C in C), Gen CRUEWTHER (C of S) Gen BRAND (G 3) and Gen TATE (G A) are at SIENA. G/6

Territorial HQ layout.

3. The OK from 15 Army Gp only arrived 20 Dec so hold up letter to all concerned pending your return. Draft, agreed 2 i/c and AQ, is att herewith (Flag A) TS/C/12

Spec folder herewith

Base Reinft Depots.

4. KERR, MEAKES, TIDSLEY, LEFFINGWELL and self all attended meeting at AFHQ on 11 Dec. Meeting was really for the benefit of G-3 org in educating other branches of AFHQ in Italian matters. 50 offrs attended. Minutes of meeting are at Folio 22 in TS/C/4. Salient features are that (a) Territorial, HQ, Dist HQ, and Depots were "re-agreed" in addition to Adm Div HQs. TS/C/4

(b) DMT to call separate meeting on trg.
(c) G-1 (Brit) to call separate meeting on reinfts and documentation.

Our recommendations for WEs of Br cadre and Italian staff for Br-ITI depots have been submitted and Col P will get WEs off shortly for Combat Gp Reinft Centre. We propose that only basic trg and personnel selections shall take place at BR-ITI depots and that any "specialists" trg i.e. Sigs, Engr, shall, if possible, take place at specialist schools serving Combat Gp Reinft Centre in new location (CBSAM). Economy in overheads and use of equipment will thus be effected. Hope you approve. SD/51 S/C/29/43

4929

Call - ups

5. (a) ABRUZZI call-up completed. Just over 2000 personnel were available instead of 6000, which is a poor result; this is in spite of having NWIA LO on the spot chasing matters. R of W reporting fully on change in exemption regulations. SD/53

SD/12

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

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Territorial HQ layout.

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492

Call - ups

5. (a) ABRUZZI call-up completed. Just over 2000 personnel were available instead of 6000, which is a poor result; this is in spite of having MMIA LO on the spot chasing matters. M of W reporting fully on change in exemption regulations. SD/53

(b) Call - up in SICILY has started with poor results. HOWARD has been sent specially to ginger-up MARIOTI. SD/49

(c) Have suggested to AFHQ, recall from SARDINIA 10000 in Feb and 10000 in Mar 45. Fo 5 - SD/53/1

(d) Have asked M of War to consider plans for call-up of latter half 1924 class and whole of 1925 class. SD/53/1

/sheet 2

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PICENO GP

6. AFHQ finally decided NOT to form PICENO Gp in order — S/G/29/18
(a) to provide muleteers for 15 Army Gp — SD/3/1
(b) to provide a larger holding of rfts for remaining five gps. AFHQ signal at Folio 23 file S/G/29/18.

Staff of PICENO Gp HQ and specialists remaining after taking personnel for muleteers will form HQ staff of Combat Gp Rft Centre. — Folio 132B of SD/3/1

Moves

7. LECHANO Gp has now moved to BRACIANO and Combat Group Rft Centre is in process of moving to CESANO (near BRACIANO) completing move by 1 Jan 45. Accommodation at CESANO is good and improvements are being carried out. — S/G/29/37/2 S/G/29/43

GARIBALDI Div

8. This is an urgent matter. Correspondence is flagged at Folios 65, 74, 79 and 80/1 in file TS/G/31, herewith. Am calling on CASATI 1600 hrs Sat 23 Dec to get Italian Govt's final answer in writing. — TS/G/31

Gen OXILIA

9. Unfortunately new Italian Govt brought pressure to bear and suspended OXILIA from post of Under Secretary on grounds of epuration. Appointment of successor is awaiting your return. 2 i/c will speak.

Mobile CC.RR Columns

10. We have written to AFHQ vide Folio 137 file SD/28. — SD/28

Two Gd Bns in CALABRIA

11. AFHQ will bring two bns from SARDINIA to relieve two SICILY bns in CALABRIA. Latter will then return to SICILY. Movement will be approx 31 Dec. Folio 65, file SD/25. — SD/25

PW Org

12. As you said, C of S A.C. has written to AFHQ, copy to us, suggesting transfer of PW org to MENIA. — TS/A/42

PATRIOTS

13. Have written you separate note on this subject. — File TS/G/19 (part 4b)

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Centre.

Moves

7. LEGNANO Gp has now moved to BRACIANO and Combat Group Rft Centre is in process of moving to CESANO (near BRACIANO) completing move by 1 Jan 45. Accommodation at CESANO is good and improvements are being carried out. — S/G/29/37/2 S/G/29/43

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8. This is an urgent matter. Correspondence is flagged at Folios 65, 74, 79 and 80/1 in file TS/G/31, herewith. Am calling on CASATI 1630 hrs Sat 23 Dec to get Italian Govt's final answer in writing. — TS/G/31

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PW Org

12. As you said, C of S A.C. has written to AFHQ, copy to us, suggesting transfer of PW org to MBIA. — TS/G/20 142

PATRIOTS

13. Have written you separate note on this subject. — File TS/G/19 (herewith)

Can ITALIAN Army be self-supporting ?

14. No. This answer was conveyed to AFHQ vide our signal SD 1915 of 12 Dec at folio 12, file G/6/1. — G/6/1

23 Dec 44.

Lieut Colonel
General Staff

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

G.O.C.

Unregistered Patriots in Fwd Areas.

1. Please see our signal to AAI at F. 171 wherein we request enlistment into presently constituted Italian Army of large nos of patriots reported to be operating on Fifth Army front.

2. AAI's reply is at F. 175. They state that patriots are being employed as per their recent directive of 9 Dec.

3. This remarkable document is shown at F. 180. We are asked to comment.

4. As there is no immediate action, 2 i/c and I thought, for the sake of three days delay, you would like to comment yourself. Below are some notes :-

(a) We are NOT permitted to give food, clothing or equipment to persons NOT enrolled into Italian Army.

(b) Can it be argued that the nos now employed in the front line are an operational necessity and therefore overrules (a) above?

(c) Alternatively can it be argued that we are "employing" certain personnel for a specific job?

(d) We are certainly NOT permitted to give medical supplies and attention vide AAI's letter para 1h.

(e) It is interesting to note that AMG is not included on the distribution of the document.

(f) Have asked Patriot Branch for copy of their comments and have asked M of W if they know who is paying these personnel.

(g) Within the last fortnight only 114 personnel from patriots on Fifth Army front have enlisted into Army, although an additional screening agency has been mentd to facilitate and encourage enlistment.

4919

23/12

Lt. Col. G.S.

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

27

G.O.C.

"G" Notes for G.O.C's return as at 11 Nov 44.

1. Ops. Practically no movement of fwd tps owing to weather during last week. Fifth Army is now approx 6 m from BOULOGNA and Eighth Army has reached MONTI a distance of 36 m from BOULOGNA. Further advance does not seem possible until weather breaks.

2. Mulateers. Consequent on above provision of mulateers has become priority 1, and AFHQ has approved our plan to supply the 2000 mulateers asked for. More than threequarters are ready now and waiting to move fwd. SD/3

3. Italian Soldiers ex GREECE. We have been instructed by A/Chief Commissioner to make arrangements to receive 3700 ex-soldiers from GREECE ETA 11 Nov at TARANTO. This was increased by a further 2000. All arrangements have been made by appropriate G & AQ staff channels. AQ/12

4. P.W. Org. Chief of Staff's office has been slow in taking action on our letter TS/AQ/10 dated 1 Nov which stated that we would take on P.W. Org provided we were given necessary machinery. I have chased them several times and now gather that they will pass the proposal complete to AFHQ saying they concur. TS/AQ/10

5. Post War ITALY. Have received back your copy of TS/G/11 of 1 Oct Issued to Brig LUSH which has been seen by A/Chief Commissioner. Brig LUSH has been in London for a week and is due back any day now. TS/G/11

6. Territorial HQ Lay-out. Have received W.M's plot and have drafted suggested letter to AAI asking authy to implement to Army rear bdy/security line. TS/G/12 herewith.

4918

7. S.I.M. Still no reply to our S/SD/31 of 1 Sep in spite of repeated signals and phone calls to AAI. Position now accentuated as RWE press is raking attacks on S.I.M. These attacks are actually directed against MESSE. Several leaders of S.I.M. therefore threaten to resign and we have told Baumann to tell M of W NOT to accept resignation. As soon as we get our proposals agreed by AAI and AFHQ(which would take control away from MESSE)we could make a statement to the press to the effect that S.I.M. is controlled by Allies. Press attacks would then stop. S/SD/31

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

2. Muleteers. Consequent on above provision of muleteers has become priority 1, and AFHQ has approved our plan to supply the 2000 muleteers asked for. More than three-quarters are ready now and waiting to move fwd. SD/3

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Have told McQUEEN about above political implications and he has promised to send a reply to our letter as soon as possible. 2 i/c will probably want to talk to you about S.I.M.

8. Loan of FIGHO personnel to SOE. Complete scheme was cancelled on 9 Nov being the day before that on which Mov had arranged the majority of rail moves ! SD/28

9. Manpower situation for six Armd. Being watched carefully. Will write you separate paper in two or three days agreed by AQ and Col Pideley.

Sheet/2.....

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

10. Staff.

(a) Dalrymple sent what I thought was rather a rude answer to your personal signal asking if JACQUES was available. Have suitably replied, on your behalf, by DO. Copy flagged herewith. AQ/4 herewith.

(b) Butterworth has gone and Steinton from G II(Ops) 10 Corps has arrived and I am quite satisfied.

(c) Phillips G II(RE) has been with us 1½ years i.e. ever since Mission started. He is a regular soldier and I told Brig Cardale(DDE AAI)ou your behalf that we would release him. A relief is on his way from Eighth Army.

11. Visits.

(a) Col Greer, GI, [redacted] ROMANIA called and we gave him the outline of how [redacted]IA worked !

(b) Gen Torasselli, 228 Div Eighth Army called and expressed himself well satisfied with the treatment the Italians under his cond are receiving.

Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

11 Nov 44.

491

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

Notes on visit G 1 to AFHQ and NAPLES
27 and 28 Nov 44.

G/2. 26

G 2 Sec.

1. S.I.M. meeting file ref S/SD/31

MMIA and G 2 Sec Staffs were all for our new proposals.

Gen AHQ or G 5 were against making a change for following reasons :

(a) Megse would get another secret service if we took this one away.
(b) On principal to take away from Interservice is retrograde.
(c) Temp expedient - if a split present SIM would be sacked and we should get no infmn about Italy after the war.
(d) G 5 say that on principal it is contrary to our policy to take away from the Italians anything which they have got.
(e) Never has any I Sec worked so with any non-allied service and we do not want anything which would upset it.
(f) Megse would close up and be antagonistic whereas actually he and his followers provide useful inf to I branch.

It was therefore decided.

(i) To carry on as at present but I sec to devise a scheme which would, if possible, prevent leaders of S.I.M. from resigning. If not - its just too bad. It was considered, however, that satisfactory solution could be found. i.e. Change name, press publicity - meeting of "I" wallahs etc.
(ii) Agree to MMIA plan for regularizing fmns, strengths and categories less CALDRINI secs 2 and 3 (400 all ranks) which should be ITI-ITI not BRI-ITI.

G 3 Org

2. Brig Anderson pleased to hear PICENO move to CC.RR on loan, arranged satisfactorily. P.C.MMED, 5 - 10 Dec.

3. Figures for TARANTO Camp (ex GREECE refugees). These prove that camp staff must be retained but MMIA AQ must discuss with G 1 (Brit).

4. No reply received to MMIA letter S/G/2904 of 18 Nov re trg depot proposal. Graham will urge fwd. 4913

5. D.A.D.M.E. on MMIA WE. Discussed position. Smythe not in favour but will phone us after consultation with E.M.E.

NAPLES Office.

6. 31 Inf Depot has 1,020 personnel. NAPLES office to "screen" and phone recommendations to MMIA who will issue orders before quarantine period ends.

7. small transit camp? Will discuss with Col. Kerr.

8. AFRICOLA figures to be phoned daily. Agreed.

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

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G 3 Crg

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4. No reply received to MMIA letter S/G/210A of 18 Nov re trg depot proposal. Graham will urge fwd.

5. D.A.D.M.E. on MMIA WE. Discussed position. Smythe not in favour but will phone us after consultation with E.M.E.

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Lt. Col.
GS

30 Nov 44

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25. 25

Notes on visit G 1 to AFHQ and NAPLES
27 and 28 Nov 44.

G/2

G 2 Sec.

1. S.I.M. meeting file ref S/SD/31

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Gen AIKV or G 5 were against making a change for following reasons :

(a) Merse would get another secret service if we took this one away.
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(ii) Agree to MMIA plan for regularising fmns, strengths and categories less CALDRINI secs 2 and 3 (400 all ranks) which should be ITI-ITI not BRI-ITI.

G 3 Org

2. Brig Anderson pleased to hear PICENO move to CC.MT on loan, arranged satisfactorily. P.C.MMED, 5 - 10 Dec.

3. Figures for TARANTO Camp (ex GREECE refugees). These prove that camp staff must be retained but MMIA AQ must discuss with G 1 (Brit).

4. No reply received to MMIA letter S/G/2910 of 18 Nov re 492 depot proposal. Graham will urge fwd.

5. D.A.D.M.E. on MMIA ME. Discussed position. Scythe not in favour but will phone us after consultation with E.M.E.

NAPLES Office.

6. 31 Inf Depot has 1,020 personnel. NAPLES office to "screen" and phone recommendations to MMIA who will issue orders before quarantine period ends.

7. Small transit camp? Will discuss with Col. Kerr.

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

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GS

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

NOTES ON VISIT OF G-1 TO A.F.H.Q.
23 and 24 Nov 44

G/2 24

Record purposes only - All action taken by "G"

G-3 Org. Brig ANDERSON, Col. HARRIS, Maj. BARNES.

1. Reinforcement system and MRI-ITI depot org. promised to call meeting shortly. Assisted in writing notes for same.

2. Accomodation ABRUZZI call-up - Promised to speak to G.

3. GARIBALDI Div. ex Greece. Promised to send reminder to 37 Mil. Mission re its immediate release.

4. MMIA view on patriots unaltered. i.e. must enter Army.

5. 7 Mtn Regt. Will investigate with AAI the release of Italians and substitution of Basutos.

6. Territorial layout situation. Ball with AAI who must authorize emplementation to rear Army Sdy.

7. Montegranero Bn offered to 3 Dist for gds pending final disposal.

8. Return of two bns ex CALABRIA (?) not yet decided.

9. SARDINIA policy? Not yet decided.

10. Fate of PICENO? possibly loaned to CC RR till 15 Feb as originally planned.

11. Order of Battle alterations discussed.

12. Future call-ups. (a) ABRUZZI Dec 6,000
(b) SICILY Dec 10,000
(c) SICILY Jan 10,000 491

13. Move of MANTOVA? 29 Nov to area vacated by FRIULI.

14. Suggest reduce Service Units on priority List 8. Will consider.

G-5. Col. LEWIN HARRIS, Maj. DRIFFIELD WHITE

15. Give figures for receipts from GREECE. Satisfactory.

16. Italian Mission to TITO? Not agreed.

17. P.W. Org? Immaterial whether P.W. Sub Com or MMIA

G-3 (Plans). G-1

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

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16. Italian Mission to TIAC? Not agreed.

17. P.W. Org? Immaterial whether P.W. Sub Com or MMIA
G-3 (Plans). G-I

18 Future Italian layout. Reply received by Brig NICHOLSON from Brig CURTISS. "No preliminary peace treaty in any country. Policy large ITL Army now - small one afterwards - especially no Allied equip.".

19. I was asked what commitments Italian Army could undertake if hostilities ceased tomorrow. Replied "Will forward copy of Appx. to COC's DO to Brig NICHOLSON which not retained in G-3 (Plans) file.

G-2. Gen. AIREY

20. S.I.M. any answer? First impression to our proposal favourable but will hold meeting shortly.

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

21. Can we give inf to RUSSIANS and FRENCH? Not till reply comes from LONDON.

22. Obtained rough I layouts for L.O. talk.

NAPLES Office

23. Hasten Muleteers No. 1 priority.

24. Will hasten W/s instruction for 92? Div to take over AFRICOLA Camp under 3 Dist.

25. 3 Dist HQ move CASTELLAMARES to NAPLES early Dec.

Lt. Col.
G - 3

No distribution.
Record only.

4913

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

23

G/2

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14. Suggest reduce Service Units on priority List 8. Will consider.

G-5. Col. LEWIN HARRIS, Maj. DRIFFIELD WHITE

15. Give figures for receipts from GREECE. Satisfactory.

16. Italian Mission to TITO? Not agreed.

17. P.W. Org? Immaterial whether P.W. Sub Com or MMIA G-5 (Plans). G-1

18. Future Italian layout. Reply received by Brig NICHOLSON

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2. Accomodation ABRUZZI call-up - Promised to speek to C.

3. GARIBALDI Div. ex Greece. Promised to send reminder to 37 Mil. Mission re its immediate release.

4. MMIA view on patriots unaltered. i.e. must enter Army.

5. 7 Mtn Regt. Will investigate with AAI the release of Italians and substitution of Basutos.

6. Territorial layout situation. Ball with AAI who must authorize emplementation to rear Army Bdy.

7. Montegranero Bn offered to 8 Dist for gds pending final disposal.

8. Return of two bns ex CALABRIA (?) not yet decided.

9. SARDINIA policy? Not yet decided.

10. Fate of PICENO? possibly loaned to CC RR till 15 Feb as originally planned.

11. Order of Battle alterations discussed.

12. Future call-ups. (a) ABRUZZI Dec 6,000
(b) SICILY Dec 10,000
(c) SICILY Jan 10,000

4917

13. Move of MANTOVA? 29 Nov to area vacated by FRIULI.

14. Suggest reduce Service Units on priority List 8. Will consider.

G-5. Col. LEWIN HARRIS, Maj. DRIFFIELD WHITE

15. Give figures for receipts from GREECE. Satisfactory.

16. Italian Mission to TITO? Not agreed.

17. P.W. Org? Immaterial whether P.W. Sub Com or MMIA G-3 (Plans). G-I

18. Future Italian layout. Reply received by Brig NICHOLSON from Brig CURTISS. "No preliminary peace treaty in any country. Policy large ITI Army now - small one afterwards - especially no Allied equip.".

19. I was asked what commitments Italian Army could undertake if hostilities ceased tomorrow. Replied "Will forward copy of Apx. to COC's DO to Brig NICHOLSON which not retained in G-3 (Plans) file.

G-2. Gen. AIREY

20. S.I.M. any answer? First impression to our proposal favourable but will hold meeting shortly.

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21. Can we give inf to RUSSIANS and FRENCH? Not till reply comes from LONDON.

22. Obtained rough I layouts for L.C. talk.

NAPLES Office

23. Hasten Muleteers No. 1 priority.

24. Will hasten MAs instruction for 227 Div to take over AFRICOLA Camp under 3 Dist.

25. 3 Dist HQ move CASTELMARES to NAPLES early Dec.

Lt. Col.
G - S

No distribution
Record Only.

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

File B/2

229

"G" points for visit of Brig NAPIER - 30 Oct 44.

		Reference Number	Flagged at Folio
1.	Territorial Lay-out	TB/G/12 of 4 Oct	
2.	Call-up Appreciation	TB/G/4 of 22 Oct	
3.	Reinft Depots(necessity for getting started soon)	TB/G/4 of 22 Oct	
4.	Account for decrease in strength of 17,000 in Sep and Oct figures.	G/11/5 of 29 Oct	
5.	Units of PICENO to CC.MB	SD/28 of 27 and 28 Oct.	
6.	State of GRUPPI		
7.	P.W. Evacuee Org.		
8.	Difficulties in 3 District(clearing ANCONA. Tpt ex docks etc.)	SD/22/1 of 25 Oct	

4910

Maj Gen Brann
Brig Napier
re meeting G.O.C.'s Office
31 Oct 44

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2.	Call-up Appreciation	[illegible]/G/4 of 22 Oct
3.	Reinft Depots(necessity for getting started soon)	TS/G/4 of 22 Oct
4.	Account for decrease in strength of 17,000 in Sep and Oct figures.	G/11/5 of 29 Oct
5.	Units of PIGEND to CC.RR	SD/28 of 27 and 28 Oct.
6.	State of CRUFFI	
7.	P.W. Evacuee Org.	
8.	Difficulties in S District(clearing AFRAGOLA. Tpt ex docks etc.)	SD/22/1 of 25 Oct

4910

[illegible] Brown
Brig Napier
A-A Taylor

} to GOC's Mtg 31 Oct

31 Oct

c/

A-A

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2093

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"Q" PROBLEMS

Italian Transport.

Trouble a) Shortage of vehicles and spares on the mainland.

b) 600-700 vehicles, plus spares, in SARDINIA, but shortage of ships to bring over.

See Folios 161 (vehicles we have in SARDINIA)

174 (no ships yet)

180/1 (par 4 refers to ship unit vehicles and not to our Pool.)

191 (Commander's DC to Gen Clark explaining desperate position)

Present action AFHQ has sent an order to Allied Garrison Commander, Sardinia, that where the Master has no objection, Italian MT will be lashed on deck and brought over to the mainland on coalers. This should produce a steady trickle, but not solve the problem, which is greatly extended and extending Italian L of C, and diminishing transport.

4903

2094

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"Q" PROBLEMS

Clothing, Boots, etc.

I The main problem is clothing (BR-ITI'S)

Policy, 1st By British Ordnance throughout, under AFHQ letter AG 400/031 GDS-O of 8 Oct 44.

2nd a) By British Ordnance for Groups.

(Folio 554/1) b) By MMIA from items already provided from Allied sources and under PAD 338.

3rd By MMIA, using Italian channels to maximum extent. Provision by British out of "Incoms".

a) 10,000 each of B/D, boots and shirts.

(Folio 567) b) Steady flow for repair program.

c) 100,000 dyed B/D Dec/Jan.

NOTE Par 3 of Lt Gen Clark's letter (Folio 574/1) emphasises "Italian Army maintenance machinery."

II MMIA plan to implement above (Folio 257) at present subject of discussion by A/Q with AFHQ and DISTHREE:

a) ITI sub depots to handle BR-ITI stocks.

b) ITI Div HQ's for maintenance BR-ITI.

c) Indents from Div HQ's to Minister for War to MMIA.

d) Copy of Indent by MMIA LO direct to MMIA.

e) Priorities and instructions for issue to sub depot by MMIA through Minister for War.

490

III Final problem is supplies for the Combat Groups, and particularly blankets. This is a British Ordnance problem, but we can't sit back and see men deteriorate.

G/S
27 Oct 43

"G" Notes for visit of Lt Col NOAKES AFHQ to HQ 3 Dist
28 October

1. Regret my visit as envisaged in DC to GI 3 Dist has had to be postponed.

2. Enlarge on request for units to be moved out of AFRAGOLA cocnest.

3. Lack of tpt from Naples Docks to AFRAGOLA.

4. Request 3 Dist hasten MG of AFRAGOLA Camp with AFHQ.

5. Please explain functions of SIGSERVING Camp.

6. Please explain call-up and rft. system.

7. Warn 3 Dist about Sicily call-up of 20,000 spread over Dec and Jan. Tpt to mainland etc.

8. 3 Dist to move RAOC personnel to Palermo from AFRAGOLA. 3 Dist to advise what nos. now in AFRAGOLA cannot be moved within 6 days. These will be given to other units on priority list.

9. Request 3 Dist find area (suggest FOGGIA/CANICATTI) for Hq PIGEON and specialists. Total approx 2000.

10. Request Lt Col NOAKES approaches GI (Mr) AFHQ re G III.

11. GOC's TEA 3 Dist lunch time 2 Nov.

12. Request THRUPP be put in picture about all points. Extra copy of these notes herewith.

4907

Lt Col G.S.

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

27 G/S Oct 44

20

"G" Notes for visit of Lt Col NOAKES AG MMIA to HQ 3 Dist
28 October

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1. Regret my visit as envisaged in DO to GI 3 Dist has had to be postponed.

2. Enlarge on request for units to be moved out of AFRAGOLA soonest.

3. Lack of tpt from Naples Docks to AFRAGOLA.

4. Request 3 Dist hasten WE of AFRAGOLA Camp with AFHQ.

5. Please explain functions of MIRENVINO Camp.

6. Please explain call-up and rft. system.

7. Warn 3 Dist about Sicily call-up of 20,000 spread over Dec and Jan. Tpt to mainland etc.

8. 3 Dist to move MAAG personnel to Salerno from AFRAGOLA. 3 Dist to advise what nos. now in AFRAGOLA cannot be moved within 6 days. These will be given to other units on priority list.

9. Request 3 Dist find area (suggest FOGGIA/CERIGNOLA) for Hq PIGBAT and specialists. Total approx 2000.

10. Request Lt Col NOAKES approaches GI (Br) AFHQ re G III.

11. GOC's ETA 3 Dist lunch time 2 Nov.

12. Request THRUPP be put in picture about all points. Extra copy of these notes herewith.

4906

Lt Col G.S.

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

SECRET

Notes on visit of Col PIDSLEY, Lt Col NOAKES, and Lt. Col INGLEDEW to HQ AAI on Mon 23 Oct 44

G/2
25 Oct 44

SERIAL	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	Draft instructions entitled "Command and Adm of Italian Army" (ESD424) were agreed. AAI will fwd to AFHQ.	(SD AAI)
2.	MMIAs appreciation on method of maintaining in manpower the Italian Army, together with suggested reinforcement supply system (ref G/4 of 22 Oct) were accepted in principal by AAI who will comment and fwd to AFHQ for publication if agreed. G(SD)US AAI was anxious that C.G. NATOUSA should be informed as early as possible.	(SD AAI) S 1/s
3.	As soon as AFHQ approves Italian Territorial Layout (ref TS/G/12 of 4 Oct) AAI will agree to implementation as far north as Army Rear Bdy or security line. whichever is further fwd, and will agree to recall advance parties operating with AMG Rear Army.	G
4.	Cl SD AAI stated the future of Gruppi would probably be as follows (this NOT yet to be mentioned to M of W). (a) Issue of full scale equip to third and fourth gps to be delayed for three or four weeks. (b) Fifth gp probably to be equipped on light scales for i.s. duty in N.W. Italy. (c) Sixth gp under discussion. (d) No non gp or mtn increment required. No action on above to be taken until confirmation or otherwise received in writing from AAI.	(SD AAI)
5.	SD AAI will fwd to MMIA a copy of UNIT Maint Inspection report on FRIULI gp dated 12 Oct.	(SD AAI)
6.	Col PIDSLEY reported that first and second gps would be available for calling fwd w.e.f. 13 Nov and stated that he hoped third and fourth gps would not be left in their present area to train for longer than was absolutely necessary. AAI will signal calling fwd dates & order the moves.	(SD AAI)
7.	MMIA will look for suitable training area for fifth gp.	SPSg SSO

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4. G1 SD AAI stated the future of Grup,i would probably be as follows (this NOT yet to be mentioned to M of W).
(a) Issue of full scale equip to third and fourth gps to be delayed for three or four weeks.

(b) Fifth gp probably to be equipped on light scales for l.s. duty in N.W. Italy.

(c) Sixth gp under di-cussion.

(d) No mtn gp or mtn increment required.

No action on above to be taken until confirmation or otherwise received in writing from AAI. (SD AAI)

5. SD AAI will fwd to MMIA a copy of UNRRA Maint Inspection report on FRIULI gp dated 12 Oct. (SD AAI)

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AAI will signal calling fwd dates & order the moves. (SD AAI)

7. MMIA will look for suitable training area for fifth gp. SPEC SEC

8. SD AAI will give authority for Italian Inorgment on Br portion of AOC WE to be classed as NE.ITY and held in category 3 (SD AAI)

9. SIM. SD AAI will fwd reply to MMIA letter SD/51 of 1 Sep (SD AAI)

10. SD AAI stated that call-ups in SARDINIA should not be completely discounted . as shipping will probably becoms available appr x Feb 45. G

4905

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11. SD AAI stated that approx 140 vehs of 205 Div were being shipped now from SARDINIA in three special ships arranged by NATOUSA

AQ

12. MMLA agreed to arrange for as much "Smartening up" of 521 Gd Bn during staging in AFRIGOLA as possible.

C

13. Draft instruction re handing over control of Italian org by AAI to AFHQ w.e.f. 31 Oct was agreed.

L. Montgomery

Lt. Col. G.S.

DIST.: SD AAI
Comd
2/i/c
G
A/Q
Spec Sec
File (2)

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

SECRET

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G/2
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7.	MMIA will look for suitable training area for fifth gp.	SPEC SEC
8.	SD AAI will give authority for Italian Increment	

4900

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

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G(SD)US AAI was anxious that C.G. NATOUSA should be informed as early as possible. 2 1/2

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7. MMIA will look for suitable training area for fifth GP. SPEC SEC

8. SD AAI will give authority for Italian Increment on Br portion of ACC WE to be classed as BR-ITI and held in category 3 (SD AAI)

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

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12. MMIA agreed to arrange for as much "Smartening up" of 521 Cd Bn during staging in AFRIGOLA as possible. G

13. Draft instruction re handing over control of Italian org by AAI to AFHQ w.e.f. 31 Oct was agreed.

L. M. Ingledew

Lt. Col. G.S.

DIST.: SD AAI
Comd
2/i/c
G
A/Q
Spec Sec
File (2)

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

287

17

Ref No. G/2

Notes on visit of Col. Pidsley and Lt. Col. Ingledew to "50" to "53" HLUs incl and BA Trg Team (Italian Forces) 15 to 17 Oct 44.

SERIAL	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	Cremona Gp (51 HLU) would like to move to new trg area unless Gp is required by AAI in 2 or 3 weeks. Present area in ALTAVILLA is NLT large enough to do more than a pl exercise at a time.	Spec Sec
2.	Cremona Gp (51 HLU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals.	Spec Sec with 3 Dist.
3.	"51" HLU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to HLU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CREME to Gruppo W.E.	Spec Sec.
4.	Friuli Gp (50 HLU) has had 41 Veh accidents within last three weeks due principally to bad veh discipline. It is hoped new Gp Comd will improve this. Col. Pidsley advised that AFHQ had promised transfer of 300 dvrs from 1006 MT Coy to Friuli Gp.	A. G. ✓
5.	All Gruppi would like to know as exactly as possible the units which make up Adm Tail and which precisely each Gruppo is responsible for adm in addition to Gruppo units.	G. ✓ (with Spec Sec.)
6.	Friuli Gp proposes that 25 Oct be the date on which Prince Umberto should visit the Gp. Will MMIA please confirm to "50" HLU.	Spec Sec
7.	All HLUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through BMI - ITI channels.	489 G.
8.	SCRE MMIA and senior Italian Eng Staff Offrs from M of W are required to visit "50" HLU as soon as possible and also hold a meeting of HLU SCREs to discuss WE Eng units within Gruppi. It is not considered that present scales of tpt allow sufficient forward Eng recce.	SCRE
9.	"50" HLU would like to know result of Spec Sec conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs.	Spec Sec

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as a time.

2. Cremona Gp (51 MLU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals. — Spec Sec with 3 Dist.

3. "51" MLU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to MLU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CREME to Gruppo W.E. — Spec Sec.

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7. All MLUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through MMI - IVI channels. — 489 G.

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9. "50" MLU would like to know result of Spec Sec conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs. — Spec Sec

10. "50" MLU and MMIA LO att "50" MLU would like to know what tpt accompanies the gd units of Mantova and Picono due shortly in S. Giorgio area. Local ovens are working to capacity therefore extra bread for above units will have to come from Naples area unless additional Fd Bky is made available. — G — Q

11. "50" MLU proposed alterations to WEs vide their A/2/11 of 8 Oct. As this matter is urgent will MMIA please state what action has been taken. — Spec Sec

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12.	"53" BLU is short of offrs and [illegible] will contact CZE. Sig Sec was NOT considered necessary at present by "53" BLU but BLU was instructed to demand personnel as soon as possible.	SOR Sigs
13.	Considered advisable to call meeting of all SOR Sigs as soon as practicable.	SOR Sigs
14.	San Marco Bn has still not moved from Taranto - presumably on account of tpt difficulties. Will MMIA hasten.	G.
15.	Sigs communication to "53" BLU and "52" BLU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMIA please take up with Dist L of C Signals.	SOR Sigs
16.	Will MMIA please support GOC Fulgero's recommendations to Minister of War re cond of Marine Regt.	Col Pidsley
17.	RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it effects RA trg.	G. Spec Sec
18.	RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them.	G.
19.	The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMIA.	Col Pidsley
20.	Italian Arty are asked to provide rax up-to-date survey instruments (GONIOMETRI)	G
21.	TENENTE GIACOMO PIRZIO-BIROLI is a volunteer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being thoroughly suitable.	489 G.
22.	"52" BLU states that in spite of MMIA's request to M of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain.	G. with Spec Sec
23.	"52" BLU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress.	Ord.
24.	In spite of previous requests, "52" BLU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail.	Spec Sec

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

14. on account of tpt difficulties. [illegible]

15. Sigs communication to "53" ELU and "52" ELU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMIA please take up with Dist L of C Signals. — SCR Sigs

16. Will MMIA please support GOC Fulgero's recommendations to Minister of War re cond of Marine Regt. — Col Pidsley

17. RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it effects RA trg. — G. Spec Sec

18. RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them. — G.

19. The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMIA. — Col Pidsley

20. Italian Arty are asked to provide rax up-to-date survey instruments (GONIOMETRI) — G

21. TENENTE GIACOMO FIRZIL-BINOLI is a voluntoer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being thoroughly suitable. — 489? G.

22. "52" ELU states that in spite of MMIA's request to M of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain. — G. with Spec Sec

23. "52" ELU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress. — Ord.

24. In spite of previous requests, "52" ELU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail. — Spec Sec

25. "52" ELU recommends move of LEGNANO Gp to more suitable trg area between CERRETO and NAPLES. Col Pidsley is investigating with 3 Dist. — Spec Sec

L. McIngledew.
Lt. Col. GS

Dist: AQ (3)
RE
R Sigs
Ord
Spec Sec (3)
File (3)

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Appendix 'A' to G/2

COMP RATION SCALES

ENGLISH			ITALIAN	Def IT Sc
Bread	12	12	Flour	-
Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Macaroni)	1½
Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	-
Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
Friut	4	4	Fruit	"
Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	"
Jam	1½			
Bacon	3		+ 5 Litre Cash	
Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre wine	
Supper element	1½			
Milk	2			
Margarine	1½			

+2

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	Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Macaroni)	1½
	Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	-
	Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
	Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
	Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
-2	Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
	Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
	Friut	4	4	Fruit	-
	Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	-
	Jam	1½			
	Bacon	3		+ 5 Litre Cash	
	Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre wine	
	Supper element	1½			
	Milk	2			
	Margarine	1½			

10
26
loss 2
Deficit less 24 oz

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

Ref No. 2.5 16

Notes on visit of Col. Pidsley and Lt. Col. Ingledew to "50" to "53" BLUs incl and RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) 15 to 17 Oct 44.

SERIAL	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	Cremona Gp (51 BLU) would like to move to new trg area unless Gp is required by AAI in 2 or 3 weeks. Present area in ALTAVILLA is NOT large enough to do more than a pl exercise at a time.	Spec Sec
2.	Cremona Gp (51 BLU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals.	Spec Sec with 3 Dist.
3.	"50" BLU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to BLU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CREME to Gruppo W.E.	Spec Sec.
4.	Friuli Gp (50 BLU) has had 41 Veh accidents within last three weeks due principally to bad veh discipline. It is hoped new Gp Comd will improve this. Col. Pidsley advised that AFHQ had promised transfer of 300 dvrs from 1006 MT Coy to Friuli Gp.	A. G.
5.	All Gruppi would like to know as exactly as possible the units which make up Adm Tail and which precisely each Gruppo is responsible for adm in addition to Gruppo units.	G. (with Spec Sec.)
6.	Friuli Gp proposes that 25 Oct be the date on which Prince Umberto should visit the Gp. Will MMIA please confirm to "50" BLU.	Spec Sec
7.	All BLUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through BRI - ITI channels.	G.
8.	SCRE MMIA and senior Italian Eng Staff Offrs from M of W are required to visit "50" BLU as soon as possible and also hold a meeting of BLU SCREs to discuss WE Eng units within Gruppi. It is not considered that present scales of tpt allow sufficient forward Eng recce.	489 SCRE
9.	"50" BLU would like to know result of Spec Sec conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs.	Spec Sec

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2. Casamona Gp (51 BLU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals. — Spec Sec with 3 Di[illegible].

3. "50" BLU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to BLU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CREME to Gruppo W.E. — Spec Sec.

4. Friuli Gp (50 BLU) has had 41 Veh accidents within last three weeks due principally to bad veh discipline. It is hoped new Gp Comd will improve this. Col. Pidaley advised that AFHQ had promised transfer of 300 dvrs from 1006 MT Coy to Friuli Gp. — A. / G.

5. All Gruppi would like to know as exactly as possible the units which make up Adm Tail and which precisely each Gruppo is responsible for adm in addition to Gruppo units. — G. (with Spec Sec.)

6. Friuli Gp proposes that 25 Oct be the date on which Prince Umberto should visit the Gp. Will MMIA please confirm to "50" BLU. — Spec Sec

7. All BLUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through BRI - ITI channels. — G.

8. SCRE MMIA and senior Italian Eng Staff Offrs from M of W are required to visit "50" BLU as soon as possible and also hold a meeting of BLU SCREs to discuss WE Eng units within Gruppi. It is not considered that present scales of tpt allow sufficient forward Eng recce. — 489 SCRE

9. "50" BLU would like to know result of Spec Sec conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs. — Spec Sec

10. "50" BLU and MMIA LO att "50" BLU would like to know what tpt accompanies the gd units of Mantova and Piceno due shortly in S. Giorgio area. Local ovens are working to capacity therefore extra bread for above units will have to come from Naples area unless additional Fd Bky is made available. — G / Q

11. "50" BLU proposed alterations to WEs vide their A/2/11 of 8 Oct. As this matter is urgent will MMIA please state what action has been taken. — Spec Sec

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12. "53" BLU is short of offrs and ORs on WE but will contact OZE. Sig Sec was NOT considered necessary at present by "53" BLU but BLU was instructed to demand personnel as soon as possible. — SOR Sigs

13. Considered advisable to call meeting of all SOR Sigs as soon as practicable. — SOR Sigs

14. San Marco Bn has still not moved from Taranto - presumably on account of tpt difficulties. Will MMLA kindly. — G.

15. Sigs communication to "53" BLU and "52" BLU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMLA please take up with Dist L of C Signals. — SOR Sigs

16. Will MMLA please support GOC Fulgore's recommendations to Minister of War re cond of Marine Regt. — Col Pidsley

27. RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it affects RA trg. — G. Spec Sec

18. RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them. — Q.

19. The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMLA. — Col Pidsley

20. Italian Arty are asked to provide two up-to-date survey instruments (CONICOMETRI) — G

21. TENENTE GIACOMO PINZO-PINOLI is a volunteer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being thoroughly suitable. — G.

22. "52" BLU states that in spite of MMLA's request to M of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain. — G. 4th Spec Sec.

23. "52" BLU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress. — Ord.

24. In spite of previous requests, "52" BLU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail. — Spec Sec

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14.	San Marco Bn has still not moved back to Naples - presumably on account of tpt difficulties. Will MMIA liaison.	G.
15.	Sigs communication to "53" ELU and "52" ELU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMIA please take up with Dist L of C Signals.	SOR Sigs
16.	Will MMIA please support GOC Fulgero's recommendations to Minister of War re cond of Marine Regt.	Col Pidsley
17.	RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it effects RA trg.	G, Spec Sec
18.	RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them.	Q.
19.	The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMIA.	Col Pidsley
20.	Italian Arty are asked to provide rax up-to-date survey instruments (GONIOMETRI)	Q
21.	TENENTE GIACOMO PINZO-BINOLI is a voluntoer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being throughly suitable.	G.
22.	"52" ELU states that in spite of MMIA's request to H of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain.	G, 4th Spec Sec.
23.	"52" ELU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress.	Ord.
24.	In spite of previous requests, "52" ELU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail.	Spec Sec
25.	"52" ELU recommends move of LEGNANO Gp to more suitable trg area between CERRETO and NAPLES. Col Pidsley is investigating with 3 Dist.	Spec Sec

L. M. Ingledew.
Lt, Col, GS

Dists: AQ (3)
HE
R Sigs
Ord
Spec Sec (3)
File (3)

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Appendix 'A' to G/2

COMP RATION SCALES

ENGLISH			ITALIAN	Def IT Sc
Bread	12	12	Flour	-
Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Maccaroni)	1½
Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	-
Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
Friut	4	4	Fruit	"
Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	"
Jam	1½			
Bacon	3		+ 5 Lire Cash	
Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre Wine	
Supper element	1½			
Milk	2			
Margarine	1½			

+2

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	Bread	12	12	Meat	
	Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Macaroni)	1½
	Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	-
	Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
	Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
	Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
-2	Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
	Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
	Friut	4	4	Fruit	-
	Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	-
	Jam	1½			
	Bacon	3		+ 5 Lire Cash	
	Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre wine	
	Supper element	1½			
	Milk	2			
	Margarine	1½			

10
26
loss 2
Deficit loss 24 oz

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Ref No. G/2

Notes on visit of Col. Pidsley and Lt. Col. Ingledew to "50" to "53" ELUs incl and RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) 15 to 17 Oct 44.

SERIAL	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	Cremona Gp (51 ELU) would like to move to new trg area unless Gp is required by AAI in 2 or 3 weeks. Present area in ALTAVILLA is NOT large enough to do more than a pl exercise at a time.	Spec Soc
2.	Cremona Gp (51 ELU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals.	Spec Soc with 3 Dist.
3.	"51" ELU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to ELU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CHEME to Gruppo W.E.	Spec Soc.
4.	Friuli Gp (50 ELU) has had 41 Veh accidents within last three weeks due principally to bad veh discipline. It is hoped now Gp Comd will improve this. Col. Pidsley advised that AFHQ had promised transfer of 300 dvrs from 1006 MT Coy to Friuli Gp.	A. G.
5.	All Gruppi would like to know as exactly as possible the units which make up Adm Tail and which precisely each Gruppo is responsible for adm in addition to Gruppo units.	G. (with Spec Soc.)
6.	Friuli Gp proposes that 25 Oct be the date on which Prince Umberto should visit the Gp. Will MMIA please confirm to "50" ELU.	Spec Soc
7.	All ELUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through RMI - ITI channels.	G.
8.	SCRE MMIA and senior Italian Eng Staff Offrs from N of W are required to visit "50" ELU as soon as possible and also hold a meeting of ELU SCREs to discuss RE Eng units within Gruppi. It is not considered that present scales of tpt allow sufficient forward Eng recce.	SCRE
9.	"50" ELU would like to know result of Spec Soc conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs.	Spec Soc

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2.	Cremona Gp (51 MLU) would like to draw rations every 2 or 3 days instead of every day. This would enable them to vary their meals.	Spec Sec with 3 Dist.
3.	"51" MLU would like early advice of proposed increase in tpt to MLU W.E. and will be recommending addition of CREME to Gruppo W.E.	Spec Sec.
4.	Friuli Gp (50 MLU) has had 41 Veh accidents within last three weeks due principally to bad veh discipline. It is hoped now Gp Comd will improve this. Col. Fidaleo advised that AFHQ had promised transfer of 300 dvrs from 1006 MT Coy to Friuli Gp.	A. G.
5.	All Gruppi would like to know as exactly as possible the units which make up Adm Tail and which precisely each Gruppo is responsible for adm in addition to Gruppo units.	G. (with Spec Sec.)
6.	Friuli Gp proposes that 25 Oct be the date on which Prince Umberto should visit the Gp. Will MMIA please confirm to "50" MLU.	Spec Sec
7.	All MLUs would like it confirmed that Gruppi are on AFHQ order of battle in order that petrol may be drawn through NMI - IWI channels.	G.
8.	SCRE MMIA and senior Italian Eng Staff Offrs from H of W are required to visit "50" MLU as soon as possible and also hold a meeting of MLU SCREs to discuss WE Eng units within Gruppi. It is not considered that present scales of tpt allow sufficient forward Eng recce.	SCRE
9.	"50" MLU would like to know result of Spec Sec conference at MMIA on 5 Oct re WEs.	Spec Sec
10.	"50" MLU and MMIA LO att "50" MLU would like to know what tpt accompanies the gd units of Mantova and Picano due shortly in S. Giorgio area. Local ovens are working to capacity therefore extra bread for above units will have to come from Naples area unless additional Fd Bky is made available.	G Q
11.	"50" MLU proposed alterations to WEs vide their A/2/11 of 8 Oct. As this matter is urgent will MMIA please state what action has been taken.	Spec Sec

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12.	"53" BLU is short of offrs and ORs on WE but will contact OZE. Sig Soc was NOT considered necessary at present by "53" BLU but BLU was instructed to demand personnel as soon as possible.	SOR Sigs
13.	Considered advisable to call meeting of all SOR Sigs as soon as practicable.	SOR Sigs
14.	San Marco Bn has still not moved from Taranto - presumably on account of tpt difficulties. Will MMIA hasten.	G.
15.	Sigs communication to "53" BLU and "52" BLU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMIA please take up with Dist L of C Signals.	SOR Sigs
16.	Will MMIA please support GOC Fulgero's recommendations to Minister of War re comd of Marine Regt.	Col Pidsley
17.	RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it affects RA trg.	G. Spec Sec
18.	RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them.	G.
19.	The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMIA.	Col Pidsley
20.	Italian Arty are asked to provide two up-to-date survey instruments (GONIOMETRI)	G
21.	TENENTE GIACOMO FIRZE-BIROLI is a volunteer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being thoroughly suitable.	G.
22.	"52" BLU states that in spite of MMIA's request to M of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain.	G. with Spec Sec
23.	"52" BLU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress.	Ord.
24.	In spite of previous requests, "52" BLU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail.	Spec Sec

489

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15. Sigs communication to "53" BLU and "52" BLU is definitely bad. Signals take three days and phone is extremely poor. Will MMIA please take up with Dist L of C Signals. — SCR Sigs

16. Will MMIA please support GOC Fulgero's recommendations to Minister of War re cond of Marine Regt. — Col Pidsley

17. RA Trg Team (Italian Forces) is anxious to be kept fully informed of any "Gruppo" policy as it affects RA trg. — G. Spec Sec

18. RA Trg Team points out difference between BRITISH and ITALIAN scales of rations vide Appx A and suggests that in winter Italians will require an addition to their scale if they are to accomplish the tasks allotted to them. — G.

19. The advantages of British arty procedure over Italian arty procedure were signalled to MMIA. — Col Pidsley

20. Italian Arty are asked to provide wax up-to-date survey instruments (GONIOMETRI) — G

21. TENENTE GIACOMO FIRZIC-BIROLI is a volunteer Italian L.O. for SHAEF and is recommended as being thoroughly suitable. — G.

489

22. "52" BLU states that in spite of MMIA's request to M of W 3 weeks ago for removal of 2000 surplus personnel from LEGNANO Gp, 1800 still remain. — G. with Spec Sec

23. "52" BLU was instructed to contact Ord direct re recent unsuitable consignment of part worn British battle-dress. — Ord.

24. In spite of previous requests, "52" BLU has NOT received copies of WEs of individual units within Gruppo. Would also like WEs of units of Adm Tail. — Spec Sec

25. "52" BLU recommends move of LEGNANO Gp to more suitable trg area between CERRETO and NAPLES. Col Pidsley is investigating with 3 Dist. — Spec Sec

Dists: AQ (3)
NE
R Sigs
Ord
Spec Sec (3)
File (3)

L. McLaglen.
Lt. Col. GS

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Appendix 'A' to G/2

COMP RATION SCALES

ENGLISH			ITALIAN	Def IT Sc
Bread	12	12	Flour	-
Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Macaroni)	1½
Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	-
Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
Friut	4	4	Fruit	-
Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	-
Jam	1½			
Bacon	3		+ 5 Litre Cash	
Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre wine	
Supper element	1½			
Milk	2			
Margarine	1½			

-2-

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	Bread	12	12	Flour	-
	Meat	7½	3 3	Meat Pasta (Macaroni)	1½
	Rice or Oatmeal	1	1	Rice	"
	Sugar	2½	1	Sugar	1½
	Coffee	1½	½	Coffee	1
	Cheese	1	1	Cheese	-
~~2~~	Dried Veg Peas etc	1	3	Dried Veg	
	Fresh Veg	20	8	Fresh Veg	12
	Friut	4	4	Fruit	-
	Cooking fat	½	½	Oil	-
	Jam	1½			
	Bacon	3		+ 5 Lire Cash	
	Dried Fruit	4/7		+ ½ litre wine	
	Supper element	1½			
	Milk	2			
	Margarine	1½			

10/26

lops 2

Deficit less 24 oz

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7. Reported into DDST, Two District.

a. Saw Capt Purcell who stated that about 1000 barrels of salted Sardines had been landed for Italians, of these, so far 8 barrels had been found bad. Instructions regarding disposal of bad stocks and rapid consumption of remainder is required.

b. He reported that stocks off JOSEPH THAL were being off loaded without difficulty.

c. Lt.Col Burrel, ADST Transport, stated he was arranging that the Amb Pn just being formed should be attached for all purposes to 1002 It GT Coy Brindisi. 17 new Ambs were to be drawn from 14 Veh Park Naples, on 25th May. These Ambs will operate from Taranto, Brindisi, Lecce, Bari, Barletta perhaps to Foggia.

d. Col Burrel stated that Cadre of 1004 It GT Coy was assembling. One Pn of 1003 It GT Coy had been sent to Naples. Remainder were at Palo del Colle and were being equipped with Tippers. 1001 It GT Coy had gone forward and were now working with AMG Eight Army. 1002 It GT Coy Brindisi had improved considerably and was to receive a Pn of new Vehicles.

e. Capt Breakal is O i/c Cadre of 1003 It GT Coy, Palo del Colle.

f. Lt.Col Peake, ADST Supplies asked that Italians at CAMPOBASSO be made to draw from Italian Distribution Sup Depots. He stated that at present they were drawing from DADs but that this must stop. This matter requires to be taken up with Ministry of War.

8. Called in at Italian Drivers Training School, Poliznano.

a. Capt Izat, O i/c Brit Cadre said that his improvised Cadre was as follows:

One Capt; two WOs Class II; eight Cpl Instructors; one Cpl Admin Duties; one Cpl Fitter; one Cook & one Orderly (Domestic purposes).

b. Capt Fiora, Italian Officer i/c School stated that he had issued Boots and clothing to pupils going through the School and that they had exhausted his supply. He asked that replacements should be made as soon as possible. 789

c. At present, during May, they have two Courses running concurrently, i.e. one of 30 days driving and two of 10 days duration. The long course is for Inf and personnel with no driving experience at all, and the short course is for partly t trained personnel. By the 3rd June, 50 trained Drivers will have passed through the School, and they would continue through June at the rate of 120 per month. Failures averaged about 4%.

d. Capt Izat asked that Min of War be approached to provide immediately 300 Instruction Booklets "Ispezione, Mantenimento & Cura dei Veicoli dell 'Esercito". These were required urgently for the next Course.

9. Called into 1002 It GT Coy, Brindisi.

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to Foggia.

d. Col Burrel stated that Cadre of 1004 It Gr Coy was assembling. One Pn of 1005 It GT Coy had been sent to Naples. Remainder were at Palo del Colle and were being equipped with Tippers. 1001 It GT Coy had gone forward and were now working with AMG Eight Army. 1002 It Gr Coy Brindisi had improved considerably and was to receive a Pn of new Vehicles.

e. Capt Brenkal is O i/c Cadre of 1005 It GT Coy, Palo del Colle.

f. Lt.Col Penke, ADST Supplies asked that Italians at CAMPOBASSO be made to draw from Italian Distribution Sup Depots. He stated that at present they were drawing from DADs but that this must stop. This matter requires to be taken up with Ministry of War.

8. Called in at Italian Drivers Training School, Polignano.

a. Capt Izat, O i/c Brit Cadre said that his improvised Cadre was as follows:

One Capt; two WOs Class II; eight Cpl Instructors; one Cpl Admin Duties; one Cpl Fitter; one Cook & one Orderly (Domestic purposes).

b. Capt Ficara, Italian Officer i/c School stated that he had issued Boots and clothing to pupils going through the School and that they had exhausted his supply. He asked that replacements should be made as soon as possible.

c. At present, during May, they have two Courses running concurrently, i.e. one of 30 days driving and two of 15 days duration. The long course is for Inf and personnel with no driving experience at all, and the short course is for partly t trained personnel. By the 3rd June, 50 trained Drivers will have passed through the School, and they would continue through June at the rate of 220 per month. Failures averaged about 4%.

d. Capt Izat asked that Min of War be approached to provide immediately 300 Instruction Booklets "Ispezione, Mantenimento E Cura dei Veicoli dell 'Esercito". These were required urgently for the next Course.

9. Called into 1002 It GT Coy, Brindisi.

There were no complaints of any sort.

a. Major Milne had taken over from Major Christmas.
b. The accidents have been reduced to negligible. Now average eight a month.
c. Availability of Transport to strength has increased considerably.
f. There are fewer daily Vehicles being sent to Workshops.
g. VD figures are falling.
h. Inspected Cookhouse and found large quantities of Veal, Sheep and Hams all being prepared for a special feast to be held on 28th May. These items had been bought out of the cash increment which had been saved over a period.

[redacted], ADST

28 MAY 44.

ADAT 3RD and 10TH AGC

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REPORT ON VISIT TO NAPLES, CASTELLAMARE BARI, DURING 23rd to 27th MAY, 1944, BY LT.COL. H.B.FINCH, AC, ADSE, AMIA.

I. Reported in at AMIA Office, Naples, Wed 24th, saw Lt.Col. Offenhauer and staff; SF/GI affairs appeared to be going smoothly.

a. There was a little difficulty regarding feeding of Congedati who were arriving from Sardinia at the rate of approx 2000 a day. They were due for discharge and were to be put to work in Foggia area. When Mov had transportation available they required two days hard rations for the journey. SF AMIA were instructed to arrange that early information regarding numbers should be obtained at the arrival at the Port by the Italian Port Det and communicated to Italian Distribution Supply Depot who should be instructed to issue hard rations accordingly.

b. It was reported that after urgent telegrams had been sent to GF AMIA Lequile, some 546 tons of F.Meat (gross) had been discovered in GF Depot PBS. All that could be spared in the South, 56 tons of F.Meat, had been sent to Naples in response to the telegram. This means that there is an acute shortage now in the South and large stocks in Naples as a result.

c. Large quantities of salted Sardines are arriving in Naples. Estimated as sufficient to feed all troops in that area for over two months. It is doubtful whether these sardines would keep two months. A ruling regarding early issues and consumption is required.

d. It would appear that Direzione Commissariato Naples Sector have been issuing F.Meat etc in lieu of Fish when stocks of Fish are still existant. This matter was taken up with Col Riso, the Italian Director, and the practice will be stopped immediately.

e. Major Krisl reported that 94 DID were a little worried because they were having to issue rations at the Combat Scale "A" to: Italian Government 2200 a day
Commando Supremo 700 4893
Italians with H.Q. ACC 994 Total 5194 a day.

including Olive Oil, Fresh Veg, etc.
At the same time Salerno Distribution Depot was also issuing for the same people Olive Oil, Fresh Veg etc.
A ruling is required regarding this matter.

f. It would appear that the Ministry of War has still made no provision for transport for the Officer i/c Italian Port Det. This matter requires to be taken up with the Ministry of War.

g. AMIA Office, Naples, is still suffering from difficulties of Transport. There are eleven Officers and at present only three Vehicles available for their use. Col Offenhauer asked that the old part of the Humber Wireless Utility Truck be sent to Naples for exchange.

h. Lt. Tonks reported that the markings on goods arriving are becoming worse and worse. One whole consignment of Coffee arrived ex CONRAD KAISER with no IBI markings on at all. This

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arrange that early information regarding numbers should be obtained at the arrival at the Port by the Italian Port Det and communicated to Italian Distribution Supply Depot who should be instructed to issue hard rations accordingly.

b. It was reported that after urgent telegrams had been sent to CC AMIA Lequile, some 546 tons of P.Meat (gross) had been discovered in CC Depot PMS. All that could be spared in the South, 56 tons of P.Meat, had been sent to Naples in response to the telegram. This means that there is an acute shortage now in the South and large stocks in Naples as a reeult.

c. Large quantities of salted Sardines are arriving in Naples. Estimated as sufficient to feed all troops in that area for over two months. It is doubtful whether these sardines would keep two months. A ruling regarding early issues and consumption is required.

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g. AMIA Office, Naples, is still suffering from difficulties of Transport. There are eleven Officers and at present only three Vehicles available for their use. Col Offenhauer asked that the old part of the Number Wireless Utility Truck be sent to Naples for exchange.

h. Lt. Tonks reported that the markings on goods arriving are becoming worse and worse. One whole consignment of Coffee arrived ex CONRAD WEISER with no ITI markings on at all. This increases their difficulties immeasurably.

i. Col Offenhauer stated that a Villa where all the officers would live was in the process of being obtained.

/FTO/

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j. Col Offenhauer asked that in future when letters are sent to the AMIA LO at an Outstation and marked "for Information", where the AMIA LO is required to check up on the Italians, that they are taking action, would xxxx H., AMIA please say so, i.e. write "For Information, Please follow up." He also asked that the name of the signing officer be typed in under the signature.

2. Saw Major Smith, Assist Dir PBS, Naples.

a. He stated that he was very pleased the way AMIA was working with PBS. That Sardines had been wrongly despatched and also Meat had been wrongly manifested. Both matters had been mutually and satisfactorily settled.

b. He agreed that GS Depot PBS would accept list of items such as Pork Gravy, Orange Juice etc which had been wrongly despatched to the Italians and which could not be used in the Italian Ration Scale or as an equivalent. He asked that AMIA should take the matter of exchanging these items for commodities included in the Italian Ration Scale up with NATOUSA. On receiving orders from NATOUSA they would be prepared to hand over any commodities as instructed.

3. Reported into Col Lawley and Lt.Col Gaw, Adv Adm Sch.

a. He agreed to action as asked by Major Smith, 2.b. above.

b. Col Gaw asked about distribution of repaired shoes. I was unable to give information regarding this matter.

c. Both officers appeared satisfied regarding issues of Foodstuffs.

4. Reported to DDST, AMI, Caserta.

a. Brig Hinde said that he could not under any circumstances spare any more personnel for AMI.

b. He stated that he could not obtain anything from North Africa.

c. He said that he had so many future commitments that he would be forced to withdraw some of the personnel (RASC) he had loaned to AMI.

d. Saw Lt.Col Smith, ADST Supplies, who stated that letter written direct by ST AMI to War Ministry regarding holding reserves of cigarettes had been withdrawn and that another letter would be issued. He asked that AMI. give authority for a reserve of cigarettes to be held in Combat Zone for Italians.

e. He asked that the Macaroni now in British Depots be exchanged as quickly as possible for Biscuits by the Italians. War Ministry requires to be asked to expedite this. Biscuits pound for pound ex British stocks should be returned to the nearest British BSD (Major Odell)

f. British Troops are requiring Tibben, and asked that Italians be asked to accept Hay instead of Tibben. This was agreed to. Hay is to be released in Calabria. A part of Tibben will be released:

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matter of exchanging these items for commodities included in the Italian Ration Scale up with NATOUSA. On receiving orders from NATOUSA they would be prepared to hand over any commodities as instructed.

3. Reported into Col Lawley and Lt.Col Gaw, Adv Adm Sch.

a. He agreed to action as asked by Major Smith, P.b. above.

b. Col Gaw asked about distribution of repaired shoes. I was unable to give information regarding this matter.

c. Both officers appeared satisfied regarding issues of Foodstuffs.

4. Reported to DDT, AAI, Caserta.

a. Brig Hinde said that he could not under any circumstances spare any more personnel for AAI.

b. He stated that he could not obtain anything from North Africa.

c. He said that he had so many future commitments that he would be forced to withdraw some of the personnel (ADST) he had loaned to AAI.

d. Saw Lt.Col Smith, ADST Supplies, who stated that letter written direct by SE AAI to War Ministry regarding holding reserves of cigarettes had been withdrawn and that another letter would be issued. He asked that AAI. give authority for a reserve of cigarettes to be held in Combat Zone for Italians.

e. He asked that the Macaroni now in British Depots be exchanged as quickly as possible for Biscuits by the Italians. War Ministry requires to be asked to expedite this. Biscuits pound for pound ex British stocks should be returned to the nearest British RSD (Major Odell)

f. British Troops are requiring Tibben, and asked that Italians be asked to accept Hay instead of Tibben. This was agreed to. Hay is to be released in Calabria. A part of Tibben will be released at Potenza (Major Smyth Tyrrell).

g. Saw Lt.Col Bain, ADST Transport, who stated that the Cadre for 1004 It GT Coy was in the process of being formed.

5. Saw Col Riso, Head of Direz. Commissariato, Naples.

a. Instructed Direzione that in future, F.Meat etc would be issued in lieu of Fish only when Fish stocks had been exhausted. This order must be implemented immediately.

6. Reported into DDST, Three District.

a. There were no complaints, difficulties or troubles.

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Notes on Comd. M.M.I.A. Visit to SICILY 23 May 1944

1. Gen HEYDEMAN stated that the SABAUDA Division were badly in need of soap and towels, especially the latter. He thought that the Ministry of War should be made to requisition them. (Incidentally, the Italian Red Cross have recently supplied a large amount of material for towels for refugees, so presumably such material would be available.)

2. 1 District's NCOs Course for Italians.

The Italians have been issued with shorts, but the Italian C.O. has received orders from XII Corps not to wear them. 1 District is sending XII Corps an order (and stating that this order is backed by MMIA) to issue all the shorts they have and to wear them.

At present these NCOs are damaging their uniforms by wearing them on this course. The Allies are providing battle dress which is in short supply. Therefore Comd MMIA considers we have a right to tell the Italians to use such clothing as we issue to them in the way which helps us best.

Could socks be issued for use with the shorts?

3. Charter for Control in SICILY.

A charter or working procedure was made out by the Staffs of 1 Dist and MMIA (Col PIDSLEY) and agreed to by Gens. HEYDEMAN and BROWNING.

GOC 1 Dist. is sending this to AAI, requesting approval. Col PIDSLEY has a copy which GOC wishes to be put on the appropriate file.

(Sgd) C.W.D. CHAYTOR, Capt.

4897

Notes on Visit by Commander MMLA to CALABRIA on 13-14 May 1944.

1. BOOTS and CLOTHING

Gen CORONATI has a continual turnover of men and gets newly called up men in place of those leaving CALABRIA. He fits them up as well as possible with boots and clothing, but when they arrive at Allied Units they are believed usually to be re-dressed in Battle Dress. Their old Italian uniform is never returned to CALABRIA - it is thought that it is not returned (as it should be) to SMRE, but is kept as working clothes. At present there are some 4,000 men in CALABRIA (mostly in Depots) without any uniform or underclothing, and many have no boots.

Incidentally, Gen CORONATI welcomed the proposal that men should be released for harvesting, as the men without uniforms could not be kept employed on military duties and were very apt to go absent without leave.

Including those now under orders, some 14,000 men have been sent from CALABRIA in 1944 all reasonably well dressed, but no clothing has been sent back to CALABRIA, either direct or through SMRE. A good instance of this occurred when a Bn of 211 Div went from REGGIO to PALERMO and is known to have been re-dressed by the Allies.

SMRE have apparently blocked the issue to 211 Div of the 3,000 suits of Battle Dress released for this Div by MMLA.

2. VEHICLES.

Lt Col HOWARD reported that about 60% of the MANTOVA Div's vehicles were effective. Of the remaining 40%, most were out of action owing to lack of tyres, but many of them were on loan to and working for the Allies, e.g. Forestry Companies.

3. INTERNAL SECURITY

A large number of different places scattered over the province have to be guarded, and troops are still collecting into dumps and guarding war material. All this necessitates the employment of a considerable number of troops, and though the numbers are reducing, Gen CORONATI asked that such orders for bodies of troops to go away be avoided as, if such orders are continued, it will make it very difficult for him to keep his organisation running smoothly.

Lt Col HOWARD reported that the MANTOVA Div was distributed round CALABRIA in small groups, and could not train for battle as it could not be withdrawn from its security duties in sufficient numbers at any time. It was about 15% under strength. 2 Bns (except for 1 company at REGGIO) were guarding the Silent Lakes. There were also Italian A.A. Units guarding these lakes and power stations, but they were not allowed to open fire as they had no British units with them and were not connected to the Early Warning System. Col HOWARD suggested that in view of the extreme importance of these Power Stations, authority be obtained for the Italian A.A. to open fire, or that they be reinforced by some British A.A. personnel.

4. ITALIAN ARMY STRENGTH

Many individual Italian soldiers are employed by Allied Units as cooks, waiters, etc., and Forestry Units also have a large number of Italian Army drivers.

It was suggested that these should be returned to the Italian Army in view of the restricted number of their manpower.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

Lt Col HOWARD stated that mail from HQ MMLA often took a fortnight to arrive at CATANZARO, and asked if communications could be accelerated. The Commander suggested that an air mail service might be arranged between HQ MMLA, NAPLES and CATANZARO.

6. MMLA STAFF

Lt Col HOWARD asked if he could retain his present staff at CATANZARO as they were all fulfilling necessary duties satisfactorily.

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7. SUMMARY and GENERAL IMPRESSION

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Including those now under orders, some 14,000 men have been sent from CALABRIA in 1944 all reasonably well dressed, but no clothing has been sent back to CALABRIA, either direct or through SHAPE. A good instance of this occurred when a Bn of 211 Div went from REGGIO to PALERMO and is known to have been re-dressed by the Allies.

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A large number of different places scattered over the province have to be guarded, and troops are still collecting into dumps and guarding war material. All this necessitates the employment of a considerable number of troops, and though the numbers are reducing, Gen CORNATI asked that such orders for bodies of troops to go away be avoided as, if such orders are continued, it will make it very difficult for him to keep his organisation running smoothly.

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Lt Col HOWARD stated that mail from HQ MAIA often took a fortnight to arrive at CATANZARO, and asked if communications could be accelerated. The Commander suggested that an air mail service might be arranged between HQ MAIA, NAPLES and CATANZARO.

6. MAIA STAFF

Lt Col HOWARD asked if he could retain his present staff at 483 CATANZARO as they were all fulfilling necessary duties satisfactorily.

7. SUMMARY and GENERAL IMPRESSION

Lt Col HOWARD has a very good grip of things. CORNATI and BOLOGNA (MANTOVA) Div doing a good job under difficult circumstances. The inevitable squalor and unclothed personnel in Depots is rather pathetic.

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Part II - ACTION TAKEN OR REQUIRED

1. INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE COMMANDER

(a) On his forthcoming visit to SICILY, Lt Col HOWARD to ascertain and report as to what happened to the Italian uniforms of the Bn of 211 Div which went there from XXXI CORPS and was re-dressed by the Allies.

(b) Lt Col HOWARD to report on the necessity for required frequency of an Air mail service between NAPLES, CATANZARO and HQ MMIA (Send MMIA Signal to remind him).

2. FURTHER ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY H.Q. MMIA

(a) Instructions to be obtained as to the circumstances in which Italian A.A. units guarding the Silent Lakes may open fire. Should they be reinforced by British AA Units? The Public Safety Commission of ACC to be consulted.

(b) Commander to discuss with Col KERR, Lt Col HOWARD's letter of 1 May, ref G 2/20 Subject XXXI Corps.

(c) Commander to raise the question as to how Italian soldiers employed by Allied Units as cooks etc. should be dealt with.

(d) MMIA to ask AAI to send out instructions to Allied Units that when they re-dress Italian Units, the old uniforms should be returned to SMPE.

(e) Suggest to SMPE that XXXI Corps be helped by providing them with some Italian uniforms, either those returned when troops are re-dressed by Allies, or otherwise, aand that SMPE expedite the delivery to 211 Div of the 3,000 suits of Battle Dress recently released for them by MMIA.

15 May 1944

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

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REPORT ON VISIT TO DISTWO, BARI AND 52 AREA T. ANTO BY
LIEUT. COL. H.B. FINCH. ADST. MMIA.

1. Saw Capt. SELLERS Port Det. LC. BARI, who had no complaints.
He stated that he had seen the Pink copies of Broken Down Ships Manifest, which he described as Shipping slips. He stated that in his experience they were inaccurate and that the Real Manifest had in fact proved more accurate. He stated that the work of the Italian Port Det. had improved greatly and the accounting at ships side was now good and could be relied upon. He stated that in his opinion it was not difficult to smuggle goods out of the Dock Area even with all the present safe-guards.

2. Visited DDST. DISTWO but Col. WARREN was on leave.
Saw Lt.Col. PARKE and MAJOR. ADoST Supp & Tpt respectively.
Apologised for not having asked Col. WARREN permission before asking officers of 71 Area ST to lecture on Supply Accounting. Explained that only one lecture from each officer would be asked for. Asked how Italian G.T.Coy. TARANTO was getting on. Was told:-

1000 It.C.T.Coy. TARANTO was getting on quite well.
1001 " " " PALO DEL COLLE was an "Excellent Company". This is the one that experienced so many difficulties at first.
1002 " " " BRINDISI was not good but improving.
1003 " " " CORATO were waiting for their British Cadre to assemble. As soon as British Cadre had reported it was intended that they would take the place of 1001 at PALO DEL COLLE after the latters move.

3. Called in at 500 ACD and obtained spares and tools for MMIA Vehicles duly handed over to Camp Cmdt.

4. Visited MONTECATINI Main Supply Depot. Saw Col. BALDINI and Lt. CRAWFORD. Found Depot neat and tidy. The large open shed in about ⅓ full well stacked and methodically done. Found that Factory Building had been closed in and prepared for stores. Satisfactory except that rain will beat in through high windows and the roof leaks. Building was locked and is still occupied by the Polish Guard. I asked Officer i/c Polish Guard if he could move. He said that he would consult his Superiors. His personnel were guarding the British Ordnance shed and not the Italian Depot. Col. BALDINI complained of their presence in his depot stating that it was impossible to check pilfering. I discovered that British Ordnance were still retaining large lock up wooden shed.

5. Saw Lt.Col. ROBINSON. AA & QMG 52 Area.
Requested that he vacate MONTECATINI Depot in view of some 4000 tons Flour from NAPLES being on rail down and a further 7700 tons P. Nent expected to arrive shortly. He would not concede to request so I asked to see Area Comdr, but was told that he was absent at a meal at 6 p.m. Finally Lt.Col. ROBINSON flatly refused to move from MONTECATINI till ordered to do so by DISTWO.

6. Saw Lt.Col. STUDDY ADOS. 52 Area, who spoke very well of No.1001 Italian G.T.Coy. He stated that Capt. PORCELLERI had been suspended by Gen. LOMBARDI [illegible] suspicion, that his replacement had been involved in a traffic accident and had had his leg broken. An Italian Major was expected to arrive shortly to command the Company. In the mean time the in advance of Traffic Accidents had risen slightly.

7. Lt.CRAWFORD asked that the Italian Port Det. and the Port Det L/C. personnel from BRINDISI should be transferred over to TARANTO, because BRINDISI is having no work, where as TARANTO is likely to be very busy.

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2. Visited Base. Draft but Col. [illegible] on leave.

Saw Lt.Col. PEAKE and BARKL. ADoST Sups & Tpt respectively.

Apologised for not having asked Col. WARREN permission before asking officers of 71 Area ST to lecture on Supply Accounting. Explained that only one lecture from each officer would be asked for. Asked how Italian L.A.Coy. TARANTO was getting on. Was told:-

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17 May 44.

Lieut.Col., RASC,
A.D.S.T., Army Sub Comm. AAI.

Distribution:- Original to:- Comdr (then to Col Officehamor)
Copies to :- G(SD)
AQ
ST
Reports File (ST)
Circ File (then to MMA IO Distro)

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

Summary of Infm obtained by G111(I)'s visit to CATANZARO 23, 24 March 1944

Object of Visit Obtaining infm

(a) on internal security in CALABRIA.
(b) on important Italian military personalities in HQ 31 Corps.

From: Public Security, AMG, CATANZARO. No infm of special interest.

From: Gen CERRATI, Comd 31 Italian Corps. Discussed Internal Security under two headings

(a) Military (b) Political

(a) Military Attack on CALABRIA by Germans unlikely but sabotage of plants round SILAN Lakes. ~~Allies have not tried sabotage there in pre Armistice days.~~ Stressed need for an op div in CALABRIA (in addition to the MANTOVA), with Regts at(say) REGGIO C, NICASTRO or CATANZARO, COSENZA. This div to be trained for ops and not employed manually. With the return from APULIA to CALABRIA of its third Regt, C wants "MANTOVA" Div also to be operationally trained, and left off other duties. Many MANTOVA men went to depots duties vacated by 210, 227 Div personnel. Reiterated units being prepared for combat must not be distracted by being sent alabouring.

(b) Political

(i) Some arms still uncollected, but internal security poen OK. Small civilian disturbances occasionally occur through food shortage. Other agitations caused by small timers, with large crime sheets and with purely personal ambitions to lead a fray, or more cultured types (ex-Diputati) who want to be returned again as Regional or Provincial Deputies. Quoted COSENZA prefect as example of the latter type (MANCINI, a Communist).

(ii) Morale in 31 Corps Good but could be improved by sup of boots and clothing. Difficult for soldiers to have self respect and look like soldiers, if shabbily dressed or in civilian clothes. Many men have no boots, and some only one shirt, and that unwashed for months through lack of soap. Under these conditions, men who still have pride in themselves, who still respect and salute their offrs, do not lack morale.

Desertions. Majority of 31 Corps who are MERIDIONALI; men do not wilfully desert. Absenteeism is better description.

Civilian refugees who make being refugees their profession, and refuse work might be a germ of internal disorder. AMG aware.

Concluded that was optimistic both as regards military and political security and that he feared no trouble on either account.

C appeared most co-operative and willing to help. Is staunch Monarchist, as are his Chief of Staff and Asst Chief of Staff.

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Capt KENTON, MEIALO to 31 CORPS, also present.

From: Col ALMICI, Chief of Staff, 31 Corps. Aged 53. No infm. Willing, anxious to help, but seemed rather an old woman. Referred everything to Asst Chief of Staff.

From: Lt Col CAPOFRESSI, Asst Chief of Staff. Aged 45. Efficient and helpful and a hard worker. No further infm.

From: COSENZA. Nothing useful from Italian Garrison or AMG.

Other infm not of general interest entered in dossier of Italian military personnel.

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REPORT ON VISIT TO DISTWO BARI and FLAMBO, NAPLES on 3rd - 5th MARCH 44.
BY LT. COL. H.B. FINCH. ADST & ASC. ACC.

1. Reported to Col. Warren DDST. DISTWO BARI.
(a) Introduced me to Capt. Edwards formerly Adj. 12 L of C Tpt Coln and explained that he was being lent for one month to put 1001 Italian G.T. Coy on its legs. He would be assisted by a Lieut. Westwood as Technical Officer and another Captain. Would I give him his orders.
(b) I was instructed to telephone Flambo Brig. Hinde, DDST, and did so. Brig. Hinde asked me if I was satisfied with Capt. Edwards who would be loaned me.
(c) I was informed that a Lieut. Halstead ~~xxxxxx~~ of Internal Trans Sub Com. wished to see me. I understood that Lieut. Halstead was the ACC Representative to whom 1001 Italian GT Coy was to be handed over.
(d) I proceeded to give Capt. Edwards his orders. I was informed by Col. Warren that 1001 Italian GT Coy no longer belonged to him as he had definitely handed it over in accordance with AFHQ Adv Adm Ech letter No. 56/21/Q3 dated 8th Feb 44, to HQ. ACC. Lt. Halstead stated that he had been ordered to refuse to take the Unit in its present state by his Superior Lt.Col. MaCaffery of No.2 Region. MATERA. I gave Capt. Edwards a copy of appertaining orders and told him to proceed with the preparation of this 1001 Italian GT Coy so that Lt. Halstead of Int Tpt Sub Com was satisfied. I told him to communicate with me at ~~MOLA LEQUILE~~ when he got into difficulties.

2. Inspected the Supply Depots at NAPLES.
(a) Found that the Distribution Supply Depot was now quite a separate department from the Deposit Supply Depot under different C.Os.
(b) Went to Deposit Supply Depot or Main Supply Depot. Found that all the Sups off S.S. Davie had been discharged and that all accommodation was nearly full. It was therefore necessary to obtain further accommodation.
(c) Stacking had been done hurriedly but considering difficulties it had been done well. I saw one instance of pilferage. This is exceptional. Depots were well systemised and properly arranged. Difficulties had been experienced due to their being only one narrow entrance.
(d) There had been difficulties at the Port on account of Transport Turnround and the Italians had been unable to check off the ship as Sups were landed on the quays. The American Port Operations had subsequently disagreed with the figures as shown by the Italians.

3. Visited Col. Risso, Head of Italian Commissariato.
(a) He complained that he required more accommodation and that Italians had been ~~xx~~ refused it by PBS.
(b) He complained that he had received orders from Ministry of War that he must check Sups as they were landed. That the BBS Dock Operations had not permitted this and that the figures could not be reconciled.
(c) He requested that he should be given more notice of the arrival of ships because he said that all available labour had already been taken by PBS and British, and that he experienced great difficulty and required time to obtain the necessary labour to handle his stores.
(d) While I was talking to Col. Risso a message from the Docks arrived saying that the "James Whitcomb Riley" had just docked and would be discharging immediately. Col. Risso said that this was the first information he had received, he would require 5 hours to find the labour and he could not help holding up the Port. 488

4. I took Col. Risso to PBS and saw Lt.Col. Foster, G-4.
(a) Col. Foster agreed to make accommodation available to the Italians if they found it outside the Port Area. They agreed to do this.
(b) Col. Foster stated that the Port would not produce any figures and said he would look into the matter. I said that I would do my best to obtain a ST. LO to Italian Port Det.
(c) Col. Foster promised to obtain earlier information regarding arrival of ships.
(d) [illegible] have an Italian Col. and Capt as LO in the PBS Building.

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(a) He complained that he required more accommodation and that Italians had been refused it by PBS.
(b) He complained that he had received orders from Ministry of War that he must check Sups as they were landed. That the PBS Dock Operations had not permitted this and that the figures could not be reconciled.
(c) He requested that he should be given more notice of the arrival of ships because he said that all available labour had already been taken by PBS and British, and that he experienced great difficulty and required time to obtain the necessary labour to handle his stores.
(d) While I was talking to Col. Risso a message from the Docks arrived saying that the"James Whitcomb Riley" had just docked and would be discharging immediately. Col. Risso said that this was the first information he had received, he would require 5 hours to find the labour and he could not help holding up the Port.

4. I took Col. Risso to PBS and saw Lt.Col. Foster, G-4.
(a) Col. Foster agreed to make accommodation available to the Italians if they found it outside the Port Area. They agreed to do this.
(b) Col. Foster stated that the Port would not produce any figures and said he would look into the matter. I said that I would do my best to obtain a ST. LO to Italian Port Det.
(c) Col. Foster promised to obtain earlier information regarding arrival of ships.
(d) I find that PBS now have an Italian Col.and Capt as LO in the PBS Building.

5. I took Col. Risso to ACC and saw Col.Farren (British)and Lt.Col. Clough(American) who have taken place of Col Rathbone.
(a) I explained necessity and urgency for additional Staff for ST, and arranged as follows:-

For HQ. MOLA, LESQUILA.

× Major Grey	American as	DADS (Inspector)
× Capt. Bannati	" "	S/Capt S (Inspector)
× Cpl. Lamartia	"	Clerk ST.

For ST. LO to PORT DET. NAPLES.

× Lieut. Reggio	American as	ST. LO Naples Port
Senior NCO (QM)	" "	" "
Junior NCO (QM)	" "	" "
Clerk	" "	" "

/..... PTO

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(6) [illegible]

(a) [illegible] thought natural that those marked x had been allotted and should report in a day or two. He stated that the remainder would be difficult if not impossible to find; however he promised to do his best.

b. Visited Pluton and met Capt. Thrupp, M.C., R.O.

(a) explained Italian distribution as per 3, a, b, c, d, above and told him that Lt. Wight should report to Capt. Bonino on Monday 6th March at 10 to 10 Italian Post.

(b) asked Capt. Thrupp to ensure getting figures for the actual strength of Labour Companies and Service and Supply Companies filled in by latter (2/1/) date [illegible] which gave details of duties to be performed by Unit detachments.

c. Reported to Brig. Finlay's Office.

(a) I had unfortunately [illegible] and proceed with [illegible] authority all types of [illegible].

(b) I explained that [illegible] could not operate [illegible] with insufficient personnel. I showed a copy of signed [illegible] letter. This said that 1 Italian Officer and 2 Italian O.R. were required to be with each Italian Labour Company and that no Italian Officer was to be employed under British command. I explained that an Italian Company was self contained [illegible] and that it was to [illegible] its duties, also it was to be operated under British [illegible] and that Italian personnel [illegible] decisions on Italian organisation which were not suitable or workable. He agreed that things were unsatisfactory and for that reason Capt. Thrupp and two other officers had been attached to my H.Q. for one month. I asked for [illegible] in addition to be issued for the [illegible]. This he refused. I put forward a recommendation that all the leaders of [illegible] should be [illegible] as [illegible] the letter regarding [illegible] to be issued in a similar manner to the Unit [illegible] he disagreed to this.

(c) I asked about [illegible] had [illegible] previously promised, [illegible] Major Williams as [illegible] should have received.

[illegible] had been mentioned but his rank was unknown.

(d) With regard to previous arrangements the following was asked for:-

[illegible]

[illegible] (Inspector
[illegible] Capt. Thrupp
[illegible]

(e) For Some Unit [illegible] should each.

[illegible] last on list.
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] each for Units I and [illegible] only.

[illegible] a total of 3 officers 3 [illegible] 2 Junior [illegible] 2 weeks for Unit detachments.

(f) [illegible] that he and Gen. Arbuthnot in this matter because he informed that a Division [illegible] by the issue of [illegible]. He also stated that no orders had been given by the Unit and that until such orders were received he could not post people.

Yours [illegible],

In the Field.

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

21391

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

GO HEADQUARTERS ORGANIZATION.

Enclosure to Report No.

Item.	SUPPLIES. Present Staff.	SUPPLIES. Additional Required.	SUPPLIES. Additional Available.	ORDNANCE. Present Staff.	ORDNANCE. Additional Required.	ORDNANCE. Additional Available.	[illegible] Present Staff.
Central Supervision Officers.							
Major D.A.D.C. Capt A/Capt. Maj or NCO's. Junior NCO's) Clerks)	Lt.Col.FINCH. Major CANE. Capt CRAIG. S/Sgt WILLS. (Chief Clerk) Cpl.GARRETT.	@ Major PAPENOE. @ ..... @ ..... @	+Maj.Gen. +Capt.BARRETT. +Cpl.LAMARTIA.	Maj.GEN. T/S DAVIDSON.	+Maj.GRIFFIN. +Capt.HEALEY. +Sgt.HILL. (a) +Sgt.DILLON. (a)		Major Hill.
Port Detachments.							
Capt or Sub. Senior NCO or NCO. Junior NCO. Clerks.		@ ..... @ ..... @ ..... @ ..... @ ..... @	+Lt.FIGGIS. + ...		+Cpl.GRIFFIN. +Cpl.[illegible] + ... @	.....	

NOTE: @ Found by ST FLAMING. + Found by AAG, AQG. (a) Employed as Junior NCO's with Port

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Evidence to Nuremberg by ADC. Army Pub Comm ADC 4/6 Feb

INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION.

U.S.S.R.		GERMANY.			N.K.V.D.		
Additional Duties.	Additional Appointments.	Present Staff.	Additional Duties.	Additional Appointments.	Present Staff.	Additional Duties.	Additional Appointments.
Major PARTRIDGE.	+Maj. GRAY. +Capt. BARRATT.	No.1 GROUP.	+Maj. CROCKER. +Capt. BELLAMY. +Sgt. HALL. (a) +Sgt. MILLER. (a)		Major HALL.		
	+Cpl. LOVATT.	I/C DATABOOK.					
	+Pte. RIGBY.						
			+Cpl. [illegible]				
			+Cpl. [illegible]				

+ Found by ADC, ADC.

(a) Employed as Junior ADC's with Port Dets.

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

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

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

Cereal				
Bacon				
Salmon				
Del. Tomatoes				
Baby Beets				
Dried Peas				
Chocolate				
Mixed Nuts				
Index (Daily Ration)				
Breakfast (Ration)				

(* = 144 lbs)

2143

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

887

Report by Licut. Col. H. [redacted] FINCH. A.D.S.T.- M.M.I.A.
On Visits to Italian Supply Depots in CALABRIA, between 31st Jan and 3rd Feb 44.

1. Saw Major Lentzner M.M.I.A. LO. separate report submitted.

2. Visited Italian Supply Depot COZENZA. Comdr.Major Julio Meringolo.
(a) Depot is feeding approx 5,000 men.
(b) Accommodation is ample and there appear to be considerable stocks in Store. Supplies are averagely well kept. Stores clean and tidy. No Italian Rations were seen.
(c) Comdr made complaints that Railway Wagons arrived completely undocumented and sometimes pilfered. He found it very difficult to investigate the circumstances or to discover the extent of loss.
(d) A Military Bakery was also inspected. Very clean and tidy. The loaves however were small and heavy. They were made from British issue flour.
(e) Comdr said that Supe were continually being pilfered by civilians and asked that Guards might be provided. He was instructed to apply to his Italian Superiors.

3. Visited Italian Supply Depot CATANZARO. Comdr Lt.Col. Appicsintali.
(a) Depot feeds approx 12,000 men.
(b) Depot clean tidy and well laid out. Considerable quantities of Italian Sups were seen.
(c) A flour store was infested by rats and mice. Comdr explained that he could not keep cats because they were killed and eaten as hares by the civilians.

4. Visited VIBO VALENTIA. Comdr Lt.Col. Ceparatti Arturo.
(a) Feeding approx 4,000 men.
(b) Excellent accommodation which contained nearly all Italian Supplies.
(c) Some tins of biscuits had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption. inspection showed that only some were unfit for human consumption. It was pointed out that supplies should be sorted before being put on one side and condemned.
(d) Some Italian Preserved Meat was also observed which had become blown. It appeared that though Italians have Analyst Officers, these do not seem to go round and visit depots. The whole system of inspection appears weak. Stocks appear to be kept and permitted to deteriorate until they rot. It does not appear anyone's duty to ensure timely turn over.
(e) There were considerable quantities of empties.

5. Visited REGIO CALABRIA. Comdr Lt. Verducci.
(a) Depot was very untidy and generally dirty. Stocks were badly stacked and in some cases would be impossible to take stock of. Accommodation was very good and there was every reason that this should have been a good Depot.
(b) The Unit Comdr did not appear at all.
(c) Feeding approx 6,000 men.
(d) There were considerable stocks of British Sups in this Depot.
Approx. 300 boxes of Compo Rations.
40 bales of Latrine Paper.
42 Cases of Porridge Oats.
Bigstock of Sweet Biscuits.
Big stock of Tinned Milk.
Small stock of Candles, Baking Powder and Pickles.
(e) There were also considerable quantities of Empty cases awaiting disposal.

6. Visited Italian Supply Depot, CROTONE. Comdr. Capt. BARRILL.
(a) Feeding approx 5,000 men.
(b) In forage store with bales of straw, an Officer and the men were seen smoking. [illegible] evidences of any sort were to be seen anywhere.
[illegible] at stacking properly were just piled up to the

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3. Visited Italian Supply Depot CATANZARO. Comdr Lt.Col. Appo[illegible]
(a) Depot feeds approx 12,000 man.
(b) Depot clean tidy and well laid out. Considerable quantities of Italian Sups were seen.
(c) A flour store was infested by rats and mice. Comdr explained that he could not keep cats because they were killed and eaten as hares by the civilians.

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42 Cases of Poridge Oats.
Bigstock of Sweet Biscuits.
Big stock of Tinned Milk.
Small stock of Candles, Baking Powder and Pickles.
(e) There were also considerable quantities of Empty cases awaiting disposal.

6. Visited Italian Supply Depot, CROTONE. Comdr. Capt. BARRILLE.
(a) Feeding approx 5,000 men.
(b) In forage store with bales of straw, an Officer and the men were seen smoking. No fire appliances of any sort were to be seen anywhere.
(c) Stocks with very little attempt at stacking properly were just piled up to the roof in the various warehouses used. It would have been quite impossible to take stock. As far as turn over was concerned, it was from appearances, unlikely that stocks at the back ever were issued for less counter.
(d) A system of detailed issues was all mixed up with bulk issues. There appeared to be no system at all. Sacks of Soap which had a distinct odour were stacked up against flour and would undoubtedly contaminate it, making it unpleasant if not unfit for human consumption.
(e) Depot had quantities of stocks which were border line and doubtfully fit for issue. These should have been inspected by an Analyst Officer.
(f) Warehouses in Dock Area had men, supposed to be guarding, sleeping in with the stocks. There was every reason to think these men were helping themselves judging by the large biscuit tin of sugar seen, and other items broached.
(g) This Depot being of the first importance on account of its port and bulk Distribution Duties, should be under the command of a most efficient Officer.

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(h) Instead the Comdr appeared indolent and uninterested. This is by far the worst Depot so far inspected.

7. Visited Italian Supply Depot. PETILIA POLICASTRO. Comdt Lt Cascione Franco.
(a) Feeding 400 men.
(b) Staff running it 1 Officer and 18 O.Rs.
(c) Whole Depot consisted of one small room and had entirely Italian Rations. The stocks in the store should have kept the 400 men supplied for a month.
(d) It is examples of this nature that show a complete lack by the Italians of adjusting their organisation to their requirements. It is believed that this little Depot is being closed down and withdrawn.

8. Visited Italian Supply Depot, NICASTRO. Lt. BELLOTTI.
(a) Feeding between 6,000 to 7,000 men.
(b) I was very impressed by the knowledge, interest and keenness shown by this very Junior Officer. He could tell the exact quantities, and full details of every stack as we came to them.
(c) He had had a delivery of dried figs, some of which he did not consider were fit upto the correct standard. He had obviously inspected them very carefully and had selected and rejected certain portions.
(d) Once again quantities of British Issue Biscuits had been put on one side as unfit for human consumption which should have been sorted before rejection and condemnation. This was pointed out.
(e) From what was seen during a very hasty inspection, this Depot is the best yet seen in Italy.

9. Visited Italian Supply Depot SPEZZANO ALBANESE. Comdr Capt. MARTINO PASQUALI.
(a) Feeding 1,600 men in some 12 Sub Units.
(b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 20 O.Rs.
(c) Whole stock was housed in one Room and could have been easily managed by a C.Q.M.S. of a British Inf. or Equiv. Unit.
(d) Depot was well cared for and neat. Officer in charge a keen smart man, who was very anxious to do a good job of work. I am of the opinion that little Depots of this sort are uneconomical in every way.

10. Vissited Italian Supply Depot CASTROVILLIARI Comdr, Capt TUCCI RAFFAELLI.
(a) Feeding approx 1,500 men.
(b) Staff running Depot 2 Officers and 23 O.Rs.
(c) Depot was neat clean and tidy.
(d) Considerable quantities of Captured German Stocks were in store.
Salt - Tea - Dried Veg - Flour - Marmalade - Oatmeal.
(f) Stocks were suffcient to have kept dependant Units fed for a month or more. It is obvious that not only are these little depots most uneconomical, but they are also holding up quite large quantities of Reserve Stocks in places where they are not wanted.

Lt. Col.
A.D.S.T.- M.M.I.A.

In the Field
4th Feb 44.

Original to:- Comd.

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

Depot is being closed down and withdrawn.

8. Visited Italian Supply Depot, NICASTRO. Lt. BELLOTTI.
(a) Feeding between 6,000 to 7,000 men.
(b) I was very impressed by the knowledge, interest and keenness shown by this very Junior Officer. He could tell the exact quantities, and full details of every stock as we came to them.
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Lt. Col.
A.D.S.T.- M.M.I.A.

In the Field
4th Feb 44.

Original to:- Comd.
Copies to :- G.SD.
Q.
ST.
Circ. File.
Policy File (ST).

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

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

ARMY FORM C-213
(Prds of 100)

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS: IN / OUT

No. of Groups: Seen OK Carp also see

TO: MMIA

ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM: COL QUINN-SMITH

			Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
Ro	Col	Finish	and	Main	Chow
Ro	be	ready	Ro	Vast	when
able	by	wood	Vimarms	5th	further
instructions	fm	Brig	Tonight	Sad	Bump
Car	Ro	Bindi	Tea Time	To-day.	
Col QUINN-SMITH		is dining	at Legion	Tonight and	
Tonight.					

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means
* (Except)
( ) Wireless
Signed

If Cipher is to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this Message must be sent in Cipher
Signature

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time of Origin
T.H.I. 488
T.O.O.

*Originator may delete (Except and Insert (Including)

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender
P	04 1245										

Report by Lt.Col. H. B. Finch. A.D.S.T. M.M.I.A.
on visit to Italian Naval Installations in Taranto and other visits on 17 Jan 1944.

1. Visited Min War LECCE, Lt.Col.Lordolfi (Sussistenza).
Col Lordolfi was worried because Italian Units drawing in BRINDISI had not been issued their quota of F.Meat, Sugar and Coffee. The Italian Navy had also been unable to draw their allotment from BRINDISI. Both had been told to apply to TARANTO.

2. Called in at 1) DPO BRINDISI (Lt.Col. White).
Reason for above is:-
(a) Bulk Supply Depot at TARANTO is closing down and every effort is being made to dry it up.
(b) MFO is anxious to issue all commodities left in TARANTO.

3. Proceeded to TARANTO and saw Italian Military Supply Depot commanded by Lt.Col. Motta Francisco.
(a) Depot is sited in very good accommodation and is well kept in every way.
(b) There are fair quantities of Italian Supplies in stock.
(c) Depot feeds about 14,000 men.
(d) The usual troubles and difficulties had been experienced.

4. Contacted Major Taylor and Capt Potenziere, 100th (I) G.A.Coy.
(a) Handed Capt Potenziere copy of Italian Ration Scale.
(b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations.
(c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Coy Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accomodation for Italian Soldiers.

5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.N. TARANTO.
(a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.

6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt.Col Fiorni.
(a) Depot in excellent building. Bulk stock rather small. Distributing depot under excellent conditions.
(b) Quantities of bad supplies from British Supply depot had assumed serious proportions. F.Meat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also bad in lesser quantities.
(c) Saw about 200 tins of M & V Ration all blown.
(d) Coffee in salvaged Petrol Tins had been carefully filtered before issue.

7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery.
(a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery.
(b) Matched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding.
(c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Two rolls of 150 grams each constituted a man's ration per day. However, better moulding would produce a larger loaf.
(d) Installation capable of producing 24,000 lbs of bread a day.

In the Field.
19 Jan,1944.

Lt.
A.D.S.T. M.M.I.

Original to:- Comd.
Copies to :- G. [illegible] C.
[illegible].

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(b) M.P.O. is anxious to issue all combatants [illegible]

5. Proceeded to TARANTO and saw Italian Military Supply Depot commanded by Lt.Col. Motta Francisco.
(a) Depot is sited in very good accommodation and is well kept in every way.
(b) There are fair quantities of Italian Supplies in stock.
(c) Depot feeds about 14,000 men.
(d) The usual troubles and difficulties had been experienced.

4. Contacted Major Taylor and Capt Potenziere. 100% (I) G.S.O.
(a) Handed Capt Potenziere copy of Italian Ration Scale.
(b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations.
(c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Dep Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accommodation for Italian Soldiers.

5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.N. TARANTO.
(a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw Deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.

6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt.Col Ricci.
(a) Depot in excellent buildings. Milk stock rather muddled. Distributing depot under excellent conditions.
(b) Quantities of bad Supplies from British Supply Depot had caused serious proportions. Meat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also bad in lesser quantities.
(c) Saw about 200 tins of M.& V. Action all blown.
(d) Coffee in salvaged petrol tins had been assiduously pilfered before issue.

7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery.
(a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery.
(b) Batched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding.
(c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Two rolls of 150 grms each constituted a man's ration per day. However, better moulding would produce a better loaf.
(d) Installation capable of producing 24,000 lbs of bread a day.

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Lt.
A.D.C. to G.O.C.

In the Field.
19 Jan,1944.

Original to:- Cond.
Copies to :- G. SO.
Q.
SI.
Circ File.
Policy File (SI).

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

Report by Lt.Col. H. St Finch. A.D.S.T. N.T.I.F.
On visit to Italian Naval Installations in Taranto and other visits on 17 Jan 1944.

1. Visited Min War HEQTR, Lt.Col.Landolfi (Sussistenza).
Col Landolfi was worried because Italian Units drawing in BRINDISI had not been issued their quota of P.Meat, Sugar and Coffee. The Italian Navy had also been unable to draw their allotment from BRINDISI. RoW. had been told to apply to TARANTO.

2. Called in at 13 RPO BRINDISI (Lt.Col. White).
Reason for above is:-
(a) Bulk Supply Depot at TARANTO is closing down and every effort is being made to dry it up.
(b) RPO is serious to issue all commodities left in TARANTO.

3. Proceeded to TARANTO and saw Italian Military Supply Depot commanded by Lt.Col. Motta Francisco.
(a) Depot is sited in very good accommodation and is well kept in every way.
(b) There are fair quantities of Italian Supplies in stock.
(c) Depot feeds about 14,000 men.
(d) The usual troubles and difficulties had been experienced.

4. Contacted Major Taylor and Capt Potenziere, 100 (I) C.A.Coy.
(a) Handed Capt Potenziere copy of Italian Ration Scale.
(b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations.
(c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Coy Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accomodation for Italian Soldiers.

5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.N. TARANTO.
(a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.

6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt.Col Tiorsi.
(a) Depot in excellent building. Bulk stock rather unfilled. Distributing Depot under excellent conditions.
(b) Quantities of bad Supplies from British Supply Depot had assumed serious proportions. P.Meat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also bad in lesser quantities.
(c) Saw about 200 tins of M & V Ration all blown.
(d) Coffee in salvaged Petrol Tins had been seriously pilfered before issue.

7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery.
(a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery.
(b) Watched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding.
(c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Two rolls of 150 grms each constituted a man's ration per day. However, better moulding would produce [illegible] loaf.
(d) Installation capable of producing 24,000 lbs of bread a day.

In the Field.
19 Jan, 1944.

A.D.S.T.

Original to:- Comdr
Copies to :- G.
Q.

487

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

(b) RPO is anxious to issue all commodities left in TARANTO.

3. Proceeded to TARANTO and saw Italian Military Supply Depot commanded by Lt.Col. Motta Francisco.
(a) Depot is sited in very good accommodation and is well kept in every way.
(b) There are fair quantities of Italian Supplies in stock.
(c) Depot feeds about 14,000 men.
(d) The usual troubles and difficulties had been experienced.

4. Contacted Major Taylor and Capt Potenziere. 1000 (I) S.S.Coy.
(a) Handed Capt Potenziere copy of Italian Ration Scale.
(b) Checked 10 day break down of Italian Rations.
(c) Warned Major Taylor to assist Italian Coy Comdr to encourage Italians to improve conditions of accomodation for Italian Soldiers.

5. Contacted British Base Accounting Officer R.N. TARANTO.
(a) Comdr Flint was away, but saw deputy and explained accounting system for Italian Naval Rations.

6. Visited Italian Naval Victualling Depot commanded by Lt.Col Tiossi.
(a) Depot in excellent building. Bulk stock rather muddled. Distributing Depot under excellent conditions.
(b) Quantities of bad Supplies from British Supply Depot had assumed serious proportions. Wheat in considerable quantities was unfit for human consumption. Cheese and tinned fish was also bad in lesser quantities.
(c) Saw about 200 tins of U.S.A. Ration all blown.
(d) Coffee in salvaged Petrol Tins had been seriously pilfered before issue.

7. Visited Italian Naval Bakery. 4873
(a) Installation equipped with excellent machinery.
(b) Watched moulding and came to the conclusion that Italian bakers do not take sufficient trouble with the process of moulding.
(c) Product was very good, better than Bakery at BARI. Two rolls of 150 grms each constituted a man's ration per day. However, better moulding would produce [illegible] loaf.
(d) Installation capable of producing 24,000 lbs of bread a day.

In the Field.
19 Jan, 1944.

A.B.

Original to:- Comd
Copies to :- G. SO.
Q.
ST.
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Policy File (ST).

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