

ACC 10000/120/6314

ST/29

ITALIAN TRANSPORT

Sept. 1, 1945 - Nov. 13, 1945

4750  
4766



2061

Subject: Italian Army M.I.

To: War Ministry

Reference Q/5/10 dated 23 October 45.

1. The agreement by which the Ministry of Transport will replace Army vehicles with reconditioned vehicles obtained from Allied sources on a for ten basis has been, it is understood, the subject of conversations between the respective Ministers.
2. Army vehicles so far listed by AC/AM are detailed at Appendix 1. No additions will be permitted after 17 November and any amendment to Appendix 1 which is then necessary will be communicated.

All concerned will be notified that recovery action is not to be taken in connection with the vehicles so listed and any held should be released.

Vehicles identified as of military origin and found in possession of civilians should be seized when their identification appears on these lists. Should, however, a dispute arise as to whether or not a vehicle falls within the above agreement the civilian concerned should be informed that he must obtain from the appropriate AC/AG officer a certificate as to whether the vehicle in question has been listed. The vehicle should be immobilized pending receipt of this certificate.

The certificate should quote number and date of the letter which forwarded the list in question to H. A.C. If the certificate is produced it will be forwarded to the War Ministry for comparison with the latest information available and the vehicle may be released.

4166

If the War Ministry are unable to identify the vehicle mentioned in the certificate as coming within the agreement, the matter will be referred to I.I.A. who will verify the claim.

Additional information concerning the vehicles listed at Appendix 1 is being sought to enable the transfer documents to be prepared. No action will be taken to transfer any vehicle described on Appendix 1 until notification is received from I.I.A.

This will be given as and when the Ministry are in a position to state the number and tonnage of Allied vehicles received in exchange.

Hand Forces Sub Committee H.A.C.  
M.I. I. A.  
C. 034  
11 November 1945



Reference 2/7/10 dated 23 October 45.

1. The agreement by which the Ministry of Transport will replace Army vehicles with a replacement vehicle obtained from Allied sources on a ten for ten basis has been, it is understood, the subject of conversations between the respective Ministers.
2. Any vehicle so far listed by HQ/AGC are listed in Appendix 1A. No additions will be permitted after 17 November and any amendment to Appendix 1A which is then necessary will be communicated.

All concerned will be notified that recovery action is not to be taken in connection with the vehicles so listed and any held should be released.

3. Vehicles identified as of military origin and found in possession of civilians should be seized unless their description appears on these lists. Similarly, a report being as to whether or not a vehicle falls within the above agreement the civilian concerned should be informed that he must obtain from the appropriate HQ/AGC officer a certificate as to whether the vehicle in question has been listed. The vehicle should be impounded pending receipt of this certificate.

4. The certificate should state number and date of the letter which forwarded the list in question to H. A.G. If the certificate is prepared it will be forwarded to the War Ministry for comparison with the latest information available and the vehicle may be released.

4166

If the War Ministry are unable to identify the vehicle mentioned in the certificate or coming within the agreement, the matter will be referred to A.I.I. who will verify the claim.

5. Additional information concerning the vehicles listed in Appendix 1A is being sought to enable the transfer documents to be prepared. No action will be taken to transfer any vehicle described on Appendix 1 until notification is received from A.I.I.

This will be given as and when the Ministry are in a position to state the number and tonnage of Allied vehicles received in exchange.

It is to be understood that recovery action is only suspended and that transfer of ownership in the case of vehicles listed is dependent absolutely on the receipt by the War Ministry of an equivalent tonnage.

*[Signature]*  
R.A. CURTIS Lt. Col.  
for Major General,  
H. M. I. A.

Copy to:  
A.C. for Tn. Sub Comm.  
All H.M.I.A. I.Cs. (less Appendix 1A) which will be distributed by War Min.)  
S.T.  
R.H.V.D.

*[Signature]*



SUBJECT : Disposal of Vehicles

ST/29

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.)  
R O M E  
G/003  
7 November 1945.

TO : Ministry of War

1. Reference this Headquarters letter G/5/17 dated 7 May 1945.
2. Effective 15 November 1945 it will no longer be necessary to refer the disposal of Army vehicles to this Headquarters.
3. The War Ministry will have power to authorise disposal of vehicles, and submission of Appendix "A" to the above mentioned letter will, therefore, not be required.
4. The same will apply to spare parts, which if considered surplus to Army requirements, may be disposed of at your discretion.

Major General  
Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.  
(M.M.I.A.)

Copy: All MMIA L.O.'s  
Internal: R.E.M.E.  
S & T.

4765

me



CAPT CRAW PD

MMIA L.O. / 86 Area

36

SUBJECT : Control of Tyres and Tubes.

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.  
 ( M.M.I.A. )  
 R O M E  
 2/003  
 7 November 1945

ST/ 29

TO : Ministry of War,  
Dir. Gen. Artig. e Motorizzazione.

1. Reference this HQ letter Q5 dated 22 March 1945.
2. Effective 15 November 1945 the following amendment will be made to the system of transfer and recordings of stocks of tyres and tubes.
  - (a) No further returns of tyres and tubes - Appendix A,B or C will be sent by the War Ministry to MMIA.
  - (b) The signature of an MMIA Officer on Appendix "B" authorising the issue of tyres to a vehicle by the Repairs Unit, will no longer be necessary. It will be the responsibility of the OC Repairs Unit to ensure that the best possible use is made of existing stocks.
  - (c) MMIA authority to transfer tyres from one Repair Unit to another will no longer be necessary. Appendix "D" will therefore be no longer used, and the War Ministry will authorise such transfers as it deems advisable, and make the necessary arrangements.
3. Records of stocks will continue to be kept by War Ministry, and any information regarding stocks required by this Headquarters will be made available on request.

*R.A. CURTIS*  
 R.A. CURTIS Lt. Col.  
 for Major General  
 Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.  
 ( M.M.I.A. )

4764

Copy: All MMIA L.O.'s  
 Internal R.E.M.E.  
 S & T.



SUBJECT : Recovery Italian Army Vehicles

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.  
( M.M.I.A. )  
R O M E  
Q.031  
3 November 1945

TO : HQ. 2 District

Ref your 2365/4 G (SD 2) of 27 October authorising the withdrawal of Italian Military vehicles from captured enemy vehicle parks.

It is requested that all concerned may be informed that in accordance with the A.F.H.Q. Directive AG 386.3 Q (AE) - 0 d/2 October 45, M.M.I.A. are authorised to determine whether or not a particular vehicle is of civilian or military ownership.

While military vehicles can usually be identified by two stars to be found on the engine this is not the only nor invariable indication.

Not only are there civilian vehicles formally requisitioned by the Army and concerning which records are held by the War Ministry but the following types have been manufactured under War Ministry contract and do not bear the star:

Breda tractors  
Spa dovunque  
Spa 39 and 45  
Lancia 3 RO (with handle starting device)  
Isotta D 65.

It is therefore requested that your above quoted letter be amended to authorise release of all vehicles identified by M.M.I.A. as of Military origin.

R.A. CURTIES Lt, Col.  
for Major General  
Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.  
( M.M.I.A. )

Copy: All M.M.I.A. LO's.  
R.E.M.E.  
S.T.

/m



L.O. 86 lines.  
Maj Crawford.

ST/29

Subject: Vehicle documentation on transfer of units  
from RR-ITI to IPI-ITI Categories.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.  
(M. M. I. A.)  
ROME.

C.327

2 November, 1945.

To: Ministry of War.

1. On the transfer to the Italian Army of the Combat Divisions and various other units formerly of "Gruppi Tattici" or "Service" category, Allied vehicles in possession of such units will become the property of the Italian Army.
2. You are therefore requested to instruct Territorial Commands and Combat Divisions concerned that, with effect from the date on which RR-ITI units are transferred, no further returns in respect of Allied vehicles in their possession will be required by GHO GAF, and that vehicles will be accounted for to the War Ministry, STB by the submission of a monthly vehicle return similar to that which is at present rendered by IPI-ITI units.

3. In addition, will you please provide Territorial Commands and Combat Divisions with "blocks" of Italian Army Registration numbers (targa numbers) and arrange for the V.D. numbers at present displayed by the Allied vehicles to be replaced by the new numbers immediately the units concerned are transferred from RR-ITI category.

Lists showing the makes, types, original V.D. numbers, engine and chassis numbers of all Allied type vehicles held by each of the units concerned on the date of their transfer should be obtained by you and forwarded to this H.Q. It is important that this information should reach this H.Q. within 14 days of the date of transfer.

4. Further instructions will follow regarding the procedure to be adopted by such units for the evacuation and replacement of vehicles, and for obtaining vehicle spares of Allied manufacture.

4782

*R. A. G. L. A.*

R.A. G. L. A. Col.  
for Major General,  
M. M. I. A.



To:- Ministry of War.

1. On the transfer to the Italian Army of the Combat Divisions and various other units formerly of "Gruppi Tattici" or "Services" category, Allied vehicles in possession of such units will become the property of the Italian Army.

2. You are therefore requested to instruct Territorial Commands and Combat Divisions concerned that, with effect from the date on which PR-III units are transferred, no further returns in respect of Allied vehicles in their possession will be required by GHO GHE, and that vehicles will be accounted for to the War Ministry, S.M. by the submission of a monthly vehicle return similar to that which is at present rendered by III-III units.

3. In addition, will you please provide Territorial Commands and Combat Divisions with "blocks" of Italian Army Registration numbers (target numbers) and arrange for the V.D. numbers at present displayed by the Allied vehicles to be replaced by the new numbers immediately the units concerned are transferred from PR-III category.

Lists showing the makes, types, original V.D. numbers, engine and chassis numbers of all Allied type vehicles held by each of the units concerned on the date of their transfer should be obtained by you and forwarded to this H.Q. It is important that this information should reach this H.Q. within 14 days of the date of transfer.

4. Further instructions will follow regarding the procedure to be adopted by such units for the evacuation and replacement of vehicles, and for obtaining vehicle spares of Allied manufacture.

4882

*R. A. Cortes*  
R.A. CORTES Lt. Col.  
for Major General,  
M. H. I. A.

RAC/fem

Copy to: GHO for C(AE)  
2 District  
3 District  
R.A.A.C.  
ALL B.S.Us.  
ALL M.M.I.A. L.Os.  
SMRE Ufficio Servizi

Internal: S.T. (5)  
R.S.M.E.



2068

23  
 Lt. St. Leger  
 M. J. Bradford  
 R.F. [unclear]  
 21/29

STAFF :- Transfer of Vehicles to Italian Army.

2/5

Land Forces Sub Command. (MILIT.)  
 ROME  
 Tel : Rome 469081 Ext 526

29 Oct 45

To :- War Ministry.

1. Pursuant to this office letter Q/5/40 of 23 October, the transfers of vehicles referred to therein should be handled as follows :-

(a) Initial Handover.

On receipt of information showing the areas in which each batch of vehicles will be made available, you will agree with the Ministry of Transport, this HQ, the local Territorial Command and the M/LA LO attached thereto on a suitable site in which the vehicles are to be handed over. The Territorial HQ will be responsible for taking over the vehicles on this site, for the temporary provision of guards, and for a detachment of the Repair Unit to segregate any inefficient vehicle (or vehicles handed over for cannibalisation) and arrange for the transfer of such vehicles to the Local Repair Unit.

(b) On completion of the handover.

(i) The Territorial Command will give the Ministry of War (SHEIL and Directorate General of Artillery and Motorization) particulars in respect of all vehicles taken over, and apply for a "block" of new RE target nos for the vehicles in question.

(ii) All efficient vehicles will be transferred to the nearest Efficient Vehicle Park, who will be responsible for obliterating the original markings, substituting the new target nos referred to above, and informing the Ministry of War, S.M.A.E. daily, through the appropriate Territorial Command, of the number of vehicles which will not be shown as

4761



2069

Subject :- Transfer of Vehicles to Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm. (MIL.)  
NOTE  
Ref: Rq 489031 Ref 526

2/5  
20 Oct 45

To :- War Ministry.

1. Further to this office letter 0/5/45 of 23 October, the transfers of vehicles referred to therein should be handled as follows :-

(a) Initial Handover.

On receipt of information showing the areas in which each batch of vehicles will be made available, you will agree with the Ministry of Transport, this HQ, the local Territorial Comd and the MIA LO attached thereto on a suitable site in which the vehicles are to be handed over. The Territorial HQ will be responsible for taking over the vehicles on the site, for the temporary provision of guards, and for a detachment of the Repair Unit to segregate any inefficient vehicles (or vehicles handed over for cannibalisation) and arrange for the transfer of such vehicles to the local Repair Unit.

4701

(b) On completion of the handover.

- (i) The Territorial Comd will give the Ministry of War (SME and Directorate General of Artillery and Motorisation) particulars in respect of all vehicles taken over, and apply for a "block" of new IE target nos for the vehicles in question.
- (ii) All efficient vehicles will be transferred to the nearest Efficient Vehicle Park, who will be responsible for obliterating the original markings, substituting the new target nos referred to above, and informing the Ministry of War, S.M.A.E. daily, through the appropriate Territorial Comd, of the number completed and ready for issue. Vehicles will not be shown as available for issue until the new military target numbers have been painted on them, and the new target nos will not be painted onto any vehicles unless they are efficient.
- Territorial Commands should be instructed to attach, temporarily, to the E.V.P.s concerned, personnel from their respective Repair Unit, in order to expedite this work.
- It is most important that I.M.P.s should clearly distinguish in their daily telegrams to S.M.A.E., Ministry of War, between vehicles of Italian and those of Allied manufacture.

(c) Releases in respect of all Allied type vehicles will be controlled by Ministry of War S.M.A.E. in conjunction with this HQ, irrespective

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- 2 -

of the E.V.P. in which such vehicles are held.

2. Since the number of vehicles which will be taken over are likely to exceed existing vehicle facilities by a large margin, it is intended eventually to transfer vehicles of Allied manufacture from the various Efficient Vehicle Parks in which they will initially be held and concentrate them in two or three Parks only. With this in view, you are requested to advise Nos 3 and 4 Territorial Commands that they should immediately review the sites of No 7 and 6 E.V.Ps. at UTMW and VINCOW respectively, and take all necessary steps to ensure that these parks are each capable of housing at least 800 vehicles. Should the existing sites be unsuitable, emergency steps should be taken to find new ones of the type required.

WJGJ/ag

Copies to :- AIR MMIA LOs.

Internal :- ST.  
VJGJ.

*W. J. G. J.*  
For Major General,  
.....

4360



Subject:- Italian Army A.C.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.  
M. M. I. A.)  
ROME.  
9/5/45

22 October, 1945.

To:-

War Ministry.

1. With reference to the recovery of Italian Army vehicles at present in the hands of various civilian firms and being operated by them under A.C./AC permits, it has been proposed that the Ministry of Transport retain the Italian Army vehicles and turn over to the Army, in lieu of such vehicles, an equivalent tonnage of Allied vehicles which are being made available to the Italian Government.

The Allied vehicles will be turned over "reconditioned". As no more are now available, additional vehicles will be turned over to the Italian Army for cannibalization.

2. In view of the opposition which has been encountered in the recovery of Italian Army vehicles and to remove the possibility of political trouble and discontent which might result from pressing the legitimate claim of the War Ministry, the above proposal has been accepted by M.M.I.A. at the request of AC/ACG and the Italian Civil Government.

3. M.M.I.A. will obtain from AC/ACG a list of all vehicles now held giving tonnage etc. numbers and tonnage. Once this list has been agreed with A.C. no additional vehicles may be added and recovery action will be taken in the case of all Army vehicles not shown on the AC/ACG lists.

4. The Ministry of Transport will make available Allied vehicles, commencing on 29 October with the tonnage equivalent of 155 vehicles already declared.

The Ministry of War will be notified later as to details of this transfer.

It is promised that delivery will be made thereafter at the rate of 500 vehicles per month, beginning 1 May 45.

5. The procedure to be followed will be as follows:-  
(a) War Ministry will notify M.M.I.A. number and tonnage of vehicles received from Ministry of Transport.  
(b) M.M.I.A. will then furnish particulars of Italian Army vehicles for which they will deliver transfer documents to the Ministry of Transport. When the transfer document has been received

4158



1. With reference to the recovery of Italian Army vehicles at present in the hands of various civilian firms and being operated by them under A.C./A.S. permits, it has been proposed that the Ministry of Transport retain the Italian Army vehicles and turn over to the Army, in lieu of such vehicles, an equivalent tonnage of Allied vehicles which are being made available to the Italian Government.

The Allied vehicles will be turned over "reconditioned". As no swares are now available, additional vehicles will be turned over to the Italian Army for cannibalization.

2. In view of the opposition which has been encountered in the recovery of Italian Army vehicles and to remove the possibility of political trouble and discontent which might result from pressing the legitimate claim of the War Ministry, the above proposal has been accepted by M.V.I.A. at the request of A.C./A.S. and the Italian Civil Government.

3. M.V.I.A. will obtain from A.C./A.S. a list of all vehicles now held giving type, etc. numbers and tonnage. Once this list has been agreed with A.S. no additional vehicle may be added and recovery action will be taken in the case of all Army vehicles not shown on the A.C./A.S. lists.

4. The Ministry of Transport will make available Allied vehicles, commencing on 29 October with the tonnage equivalent of 153 vehicles already declared.

The Ministry of War will be notified later as to details of this transfer.

It is promised that delivery will be made thereafter at the rate of 300 vehicles per month, beginning 1 Nov 45.

5. The procedure to be adopted will be as follows:-  
(a) War Ministry will notify M.V.I.A. number and tonnage of vehicles received from Ministry of Transport.  
(b) M.V.I.A. will then furnish particulars of Italian Army vehicles for which you will deliver transfer documents to the Ministry of Transport. When the transfer document has been delivered to the Ministry of Transport the Italian Army vehicle will be struck off Army records.

(c) Specimen transfer document is attached at appendix 1.

Copy to:  
A.C. for Exec. Comm.  
M. Sub Comm.  
M.V.I.A. I.O.S.  
S.E.  
R.E.I.A.

for  
R.A. Curries Lt. Col.  
Senior General,  
R. H. I. A.

*Handwritten signature*

4859

X



2073

Appendix 1.1 to JTRM letter  
7/5/11 Dated 23 October 1953

Certificate No. ....

Full name and address of owner:

.....

.....

.....

is authorized to hold and operate the vehicle described

below which has been struck off Army charge:

Make.....

Engine No.....

Chassis No.....

Tax No.....

Signed .....

4758



SUBJECT :- Precautions to be taken against damage to M.V. vehicles by frost.

ST/1915

27 Sept 45

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. ( M.E.I.A )  
ROME  
Tel : Rome 469081 Ext 526

To :- S.M.R.E., Ufficio Automobiliismo.

In order to prevent damage by frost to M.T. vehicles during the coming winter, the following points are brought to your notice. The exact method to be adopted in each case rests with the Officer Commanding Unit, and depends upon the working conditions of each unit.

Please ensure that these points are incorporated in your own directive which will be circulated to all units, copy to this H.Q.

1. When a vehicle is to remain parked for any length of time and will not be required for immediate use :-

- (a) The radiator cap will be removed, and if detachable, will be put in a place of safe custody on the vehicle, e.g., in the vehicle tool box.
- (b) The water will be drained off from the cooling system. In order to do this the vehicle will stand on level ground and all drain cocks fitted to the cooling system will be opened. The drain cocks may be situated in any part of the cooling system, e.g., radiator, pump, water, jacket, etc. Care will be taken to ensure that no drain cock is clogged, and that the whole of the cooling system is drained.
- (c) When all water has been drained off, the engine will be run for one minute and then switched off. The fuel tap on petrol engines will then be closed.
- (d) The engine will then be wrapped up with the bonnet cover or ~~mat~~ <sup>blanket</sup> if available, suitable bonnet covers will be improvised.
- (e) The methods of starting up an engine on which the above mentioned precautions have been carried out can be adopted, according to the severity of the frost :-
  - (i) Close all drain cocks and fill the cooling system. The water must be taken to the vehicle, and not the vehicle to the water. Free the engine bearings by turning the engine over by hand, ~~the by running it~~



In order to prevent damage by frost to M.T. vehicles during the coming winter, the following points are brought to your notice. The exact method to be adopted in each case rests with the Officer Commanding Unit, and depends upon the working conditions of each unit.

Please ensure that these points are incorporated in your own directive which will be circulated to all units, copy to this H.Q.

When a vehicle is to remain parked for any length of time and will not be required for immediate use :-

- (a) The radiator cap will be removed, and if detachable, will be put in a place of safe custody on the vehicle, e.g., in the vehicle tool box.
- (b) The water will be drained off from the cooling system. In order to do this the vehicle will stand on level ground and all drain cocks fitted to the cooling system will be opened. The drain cocks may be situated in any part of the cooling system, e.g., radiator, pump, water, jacket, etc. Care will be taken to ensure that no drain cock is clogged, and that the whole of the cooling system is drained.
- (c) When all water has been drained off, the engine will be run for one minute and then switched off. The fuel tap on petrol engines will then be closed.
- (d) The engine will then be wrapped up with the bonnet cover or <sup>if</sup> if available, if not available, suitable bonnet covers will be improvised.
- (e) The methods of starting up an engine on which the above mentioned precautions have been carried out can be adopted, according to the severity of the frost :-
  - (i) Close all drain cocks and fill the cooling system. The water must be taken to the vehicle, and not the vehicle to the water. Free the engine bearings by turning the engine over by hand, switch on and start up. Warm up the engine by running it quickly without racing the engine, keeping it wrapped up with the bonnet cover and muff.
  - (ii) If the frost is very severe, water will be brought near the vehicle in containers. Close all drain cocks, start up the engine, and immediately fill the cooling system with water, endeavour being made to provide a continuous flow until the radiator is full. Warm up the engine as described in sub-para (i) above. This method will only be carried out under supervision by a responsible person.



2. In cases where the above mentioned procedure cannot be adopted, or where the situation necessitates a vehicle standing ready for immediate use, the engine will be kept covered a run at a fast speed, but without racing, for five minutes, at intervals, the interval depending on the severity of the frost. This also applies to vehicles which are temporarily halted.

3. If a vehicle has a thermostatically controlled water circulating system the element of the thermostat will be removed except in those vehicles whose cooling system can be satisfactorily drained with the thermostat in action.

4. Other methods to be adopted in cold weather to maintain the temperature of an engine are :-

(a) The blanking-off of part of the radiator.

(b) The removal of the fan belt, providing this belt does not also drive the water impeller or dynamo.

5. Damage, indirectly due to cold weather is caused through :-

(a) Starting the engine without water and not immediately filling the cooling system.

(b) Running the engine for too long a period after the water is drained off.

(c) Endeavouring to start an engine without first freeing the bearings by first turning the engine by hand.

(d) Racing the engine when warmed up.

6. In the case of the Combat Groups, it is probable that limited quantities of anti-freeze fluid will be made available by 2 DISTRICT for units stationed at high altitudes, and for certain types of combat vehicles when the use of such fluid is considered operationally essential.

4450

*W. H. White* for Lt. Col. ADST.,  
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. ( M.K.I.A.).



in action.

4. Other methods to be adopted in cold weather to maintain the temperature of an engine are :-
  - (a) The blanking-off of part of the radiator.
  - (b) The removal of the fan belt, providing this belt does not also drive the water impeller or dynamo.
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  - (a) Starting the engine without water and not immediately filling the cooling system.
  - (b) Running the engine for too long a period after the water is drained off.
  - (c) Endeavouring to start an engine without first freeing the bearings by first turning the engine by hand.
  - (d) Racing the engine when warmed up.
6. In the case of the Combat Groups, it is probable that limited quantities of anti-freeze fluid will be made available by 2 DISTRICT for units stationed at high altitudes, and for certain types of combat vehicles when the use of such fluid is considered operationally essential.

4850

WRR/ag

*Substantive* for Lt. Col. ADST.,  
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. ( M.M.I.A.).

Copy to :- ALL MMIA IOs.  
" ELUs.  
S & T 2 District.

Internal:- C.



ST/29 17SUBJECT: - Italian Army Trf.Liaison Officer  
Land Forces Sub Comm AC NMIA,  
c/o HQ. 86 Area

ST/29

21 Sep 455, TERRITORIAL COMMAND, UDINE

In reply to your letter 2101/S/5/1 dated 19 Sep.

- 1.- This car has been stolen.
- 2.- 2/Lt ROATTA notified you of theft on 18 Sep. 45.

WASCMajor RASC  
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. NMIA.

4755

A.



2079

12/5  
MILITARY (ST) WE 1747  
13

Subject: Recovery Italian Army Vehicles.

Land Forces Sub Commission L.O.  
(M. I. A.)  
2/5/46  
September, 1945.

To:-

ALL M.M.I.A. L.Os.

1. The following extract is from A.F.H.Q. Instruction AG 451/227 OCT-4 dated 31 Aug 45, issued to A.C. and to all Allied H.Qs. including British Troops in Austria.

"1. The anticipated transfer of the Italian Army to Italian Government control makes it imperative that every vehicle which belonged at any time to the Italian Army, whether Republican or Co-belligerent, should be handed over forthwith to the Italian War Ministry.

2. You are requested to initiate an immediate check by all Allied units of transport in their possession, with a view to the prompt return to Italian Army control of all vehicles of Italian Army origin. The existence and location of all such vehicles will be reported to the nearest M.M.I.A. Liaison Officer who will arrange disposal.

The following particulars will be given:

- (a) Registration Number (RE.....)
- (b) Type of Vehicle.
- (c) Unit in possession of vehicle.
- (d) Location.

3. M.M.I.A. Liaison Officers, in addition to those at XIII Corps, and District Headquarters, are located at:

- RAI
- MILAN
- GENOA
- TURIN
- LEGHORN
- TRIESTE
- (c/o 34 Area)
- (c/o 52 Area)
- (c/o 60 Sub Area)
- (c/o 451 Sub Area)
- (c/o PHS)
- (c/o AIRBORNE City Command)

4854

4. In order to take possession of Italian Army vehicles in improper possession of civilians and others, authority is given for the Italian Army to supply representatives to be present at Allied road-blocks to identify and impound all subject vehicles. Allied authorities will afford every facility to these representatives to enable them to carry out their task successfully.

SC 29  
 Subject :- Italian Army - Return of VEHs

11  
 HQ AF (Army) Area.  
 CMB.

Q 10.

6 Sept 45.

List "A"  
 -----

1. The anticipated transfer of the Italian Army to Italian Government control makes it imperative that every vehicle which belonged at any time to the Italian Army, whether Republican or Co-belligerent, should be handed over forthwith to the Italian War Ministry.

2. An immediate check will be made by all units of AF in their possession with a view to the prompt return to Italian Army control of all vehs of Italian Army origin.

3. Addressees will render a return to this HQ by 14 Sep stating as follows :-

- (a) Numbers and type of Italian vehs held.
  - (b) Registration numbers (RE.....)
  - (c) Units in possession.
  - (d) Locations.
- WMC

17/10/45  
 Lt. - Col.  
 Asst. & QMB.  
 HQ (Army) Area.

File ST/29<sup>10</sup>Subject :- Tpt for Food Depot at MESTRE.

ST/1229

30 Aug 45

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. ( M.M.I.A. )

ROME

Tel : Rome 439081 Ext 526To :- Ministry of War  
Direz. Gen. Commissariato.

Reference your letter 4651/IO/RIS dated 28 Aug.

1. The M.M.I.A.O in the area concerned has informed this H.Q. that there is sufficient transport available to meet all commitments of the Food Depot at MESTRE.
2. Therefore we take it your request is now redundant.
3. If the Tpt situation deteriorates in the future this matter can be brought up for review.

JMC/ag

*for Lt. Col. ADST.,*  
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (M.M.I.A.).

Copy to:- M.M.I.A LO 86 Area.

W.H.C.

4352

SUBJECT :- Italian Army Transport - Control of Vehicles.  
Releases, Issues of Windshield Labels and  
Vehicle Registration.

ST/1001

25 Aug 42

Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. (MILA)

ROME

Tel : Rome 489081 Ext 526

Distribution :- See below

1. Issue of Windshield Labels, detailed vehicle documentation and registration, and releases of Italian Army Vehicles (with the temporary exception of vehicle releases for Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Admin Tpt Coys where MILA LOS have been given authority to issue vehicle to complete Tpt units to WL/TO) are at present controlled by this office.

2. It is intended to hand over to the War Ministry complete control of vehicle documentation and Windshield Label issues, and partial control of vehicle releases.

3. VEHICLE DOCUMENTATION AND REGISTRATION - W. e. i. 1 Sept 45 records showing the current holdings of Italian Army Vehicles by all Italian Army Units will be maintained by S.M.A.E. With effect from September inclusive, this HQ will no longer require copies of the monthly vehicle returns, either from MILA LOS or from the Ministry of War. Returns will, of course, continue to be rendered by formations or units TO the Ministry of War, for action, and to MILA LOS for information. Similarly, documents showing vehicles which have passed from possession of units, to Repair Units, will continue to be submitted to S.M.A.E. for recording, but will no longer be required by this HQ.

4. Day-to-day records will be maintained by S.M.A.E. to reflect all issues of vehicles to units, and all vehicles passing from the possession of units.

5. A weekly return (as at Appx 'A') will be submitted to this HQ by 1100 hrs each Saturday, showing the holdings of Italian Army vehicles by all authorised Italian Army Units as at 1800 hrs the previous day. This return will take into account all adjustment which have taken place since the previous return. The first of these returns will be submitted on 1 September 45.

20 86 Area - File 29.9



Distribution :- See below

1. Issue of Windshield Labels, detailed vehicle documentation and registration, and releases of Italian Army Vehicles (with the temporary exception of vehicle releases for Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Admin Tpt Coys where MIA LOs have been given authority to issue vehicle to complete Tpt units to WE/TO) are at present controlled by this office.
2. It is intended to hand over to the War Ministry complete control of vehicle documentation and Windshield Label issues, and partial control of vehicle releases.
3. VEHICLE DOCUMENTATION AND REGISTRATION - W. G. I. 1 Sept 45 records showing the current holdings of Italian Army Vehicles by all Italian Army Units will be maintained by S.M.R.E. With effect from September inclusive, this HQ will no longer require copies of the monthly vehicle returns, either from MIA LOs or from the Ministry of War. Returns will, of course, continue to be rendered by formations or units TO the Ministry of War, for action, and to MIA LOs for information. Similarly, documents showing vehicles which have passed from possession of units, to Repair Units, will continue to be submitted to S.M.R.E. for recording, but will no longer be required by this HQ.
4. Day-to-day records will be maintained by S.M.R.E. to reflect all issues of vehicles to units, and all vehicles passing from the possession of units.
5. A weekly return (as at Appx 'A') will be submitted to this HQ by 1100 hrs each Saturday, showing the holdings of Italian Army vehicles by all authorised Italian Army Units as at 1800 hrs the previous day. This return will take into account all adjustment which have taken place since the previous return. The first of these returns will be submitted on 1 September 45.
6. ISSUE OF WINDSHIELD LABELS. - With effect from 1 Sept 45 S.M.R.E. will be entirely responsible for the issue of Windshield labels, and stocks at present held by this office will be handed over to S.M.R.E. It is emphasised that these labels may only be issued to Italian Army Units authorised by this HQ to hold Italian Army transport, and that under no circumstances will labels be issued to units in excess of their approved transport WE/TO, nor will any labels be issued for any application to vehicles without large numbers.
7. Up-to-date records must be maintained by S.M.R.E. to account for each label issued, and kept available for examination, if required, by this HQ.

- 2 -

8.

ASSIGNMENT OF ITALIAN ARMY VEHICLES. - With effect from 1 Sept 45 S.M.R.E. will be responsible for the detailed preparation of Vehicle Release Notes, to units as agreed with this HQ. In order to implement this, S.M.R.E. are requested to proceed as follows :-

- (a) Take immediate steps to revise the existing forms of Vehicle Release Note, and arrange to print stock of a modified type as agreed with this office.
- (b) Submit to this HQ by 1100 hrs each Saturday a weekly return showing the number of Italian Army vehicles held available for issue by Efficient Vehicle Parks as at 1800 hrs each Friday (vide Appx 'D'), and, at the same time, a list of the units to which it is proposed to allocate these vehicles, in accordance with Appx 'C'. This proposed allocation will then be discussed, and, on agreement being reached, S.M.R.E. will make out the necessary Release Notes and Windshield Labels and despatch them to the appropriate formations and units. This office will remain responsible for notifying MIA LOs of releases authorized.

9. MIA LO's will continue to be responsible for allocating vehicles to units of the 6 Northern Territorial Commands until these units are complete to to WE/TC, as shown hereunder. Completion should be reported to this HQ by the LOs concerned, so that control of issues may be assumed by ROL.

| UNIT             | TERR. CMD.     | MIA LO responsible for controlling issue of vehs until WE/TC complete. | E.V.P. from which to be drawn vehs.                           |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| No 1 C.T.A.      | No 1 Terr. Cmd | MIA LO N.W. ITALY                                                      | 4750<br>No 7 E.V.P. MILAN<br>'A' E.V.P. TORIN                 |
| No 2 C.T.A.      | " 2 "          | do                                                                     |                                                               |
| No 3 C.T.A.      | " 3 "          | do                                                                     |                                                               |
| No 3 Amb Car Sec | do             | do                                                                     |                                                               |
| No 4 C.T.A.      | No 4 Terr. Cmd | MIA LO 1 DISTRICT                                                      | No 6 E.V.P. VERONA<br>No 5 E.V.P. BOLOGNA<br>'B' E.V.P. UDINE |
| No 4 Amb Car Sec | do             | do                                                                     |                                                               |
| No 5 C.T.A.      | No 5 Terr. Cmd | MIA LO 1 DISTRICT in agreement with MIA LO 55 Area.                    |                                                               |
| No 6 C.T.A.      | No 6 Terr. Cmd | MIA LO 1 DISTRICT                                                      |                                                               |
| No 62 Amb Car    | do             | do                                                                     |                                                               |

Note, and arrange to print stock of this office.

(b) Submit to this HQ by 1100 hrs each Saturday a weekly return showing the number of Italian Army vehicles held available for issue by Efficient Vehicle Parks as at 1200 hrs each Friday (vide Appx 'B'), and, at the same time, a list of the units to which it is proposed to allocate these vehicles, in accordance with Appx 'C'. This proposed allocation will then be discussed, and, on agreement being reached, S.M.R.E. will mark out the necessary Release Notes and Windshield Labels and despatch them to the appropriate formations and units. This office will remain responsible for notifying MIA LOs of releases authorised.

9. MIA LO's will continue to be responsible for allocating vehicles to units of the 6 Northern Territorial Commands until these units are complete to to WE/TO, as shown hereunder. Completion should be reported to this HQ by the LOs concerned, so that control of issues may be assumed by ROE.

| UNIT               | TERR. CMD.     | MIA LO responsible for controlling issue of vchs until WE/TO complete. | E.V.P. from which to be drawn vchs.                            |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| No 1 C.T.A.        | No 1 Terr. Cmd | MILANO N.W. ITALY<br>do<br>do<br>do                                    | No 7 E.V.P. MILAN<br>'A' E.V.P. TURIN                          |
| No 2 C.T.A.        | " "            |                                                                        |                                                                |
| No 3 C.T.A.        | " "            |                                                                        |                                                                |
| No 3 Amb Car Sec   | do             |                                                                        |                                                                |
| No 4 C.T.A.        | No 4 Terr. Cmd | MILANO 1 DISTRICT<br>do<br>do<br>do                                    | No 6 E.V.P. VIGONZA<br>No 5 E.V.P. BOLOGNA<br>'B' E.V.P. UDINE |
| No 4 Amb Car Sec   | do             |                                                                        |                                                                |
| No 5 C.T.A.        | No 5 Terr. Cmd |                                                                        |                                                                |
| No 6 C.T.A.        | No 6 Terr. Cmd | MILANO 55 Area.<br>MILANO 1 DISTRICT<br>do                             |                                                                |
| No 62 Amb Car Sec. | do             |                                                                        |                                                                |

4750

*[Handwritten signature]*

Lt. Col. ADST.,  
Land Forces Sub Comm A.C. ( MIA ).

Internal :- File ST/1011  
" " ST/1005

WEL/ag

Distribution :- M. of War (3)  
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