

ACC 10000 | 125 | 284

63/3 PAT.

INF. ON BAND IN ENEMY TERRITORY

AUG. 1944

2053

INF. ON BAND IN ENEMY TERRITORY

- AEMILIA (REGION IX) + NORTHERN TUSCANY (REGION VII)

AUG. 1944

63/3 PAT.

~~TOP SECRET~~

INF ON BANDS IN E.N. TERRITORY

HEMILIF (Point IX)

FD Northern Tisbury (Point VIII)

E.O. 11652, Sec. 1.4 (a) (1) or (2)
DECLASSIFIED
BT
1/16/74
2/3/75

10000 / 125/284

IN FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

2035

INF. ON BAND IN E.N. TERRITORY

ARMILIA (Region IX)

FD Northern TASHCHNY (Region VIII)

E.O. 11652, DECLASSIFIED
BY [Signature] 1/4/74
3/3/75

10000 / 125 / 28A

IN FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM Aug. 1944
TO _____
CATEGORIE -

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

REGION IX

PIACENZA

PARMA

REGGIO

MODENA

BOLOGNA

FERRARA

RAVENNA

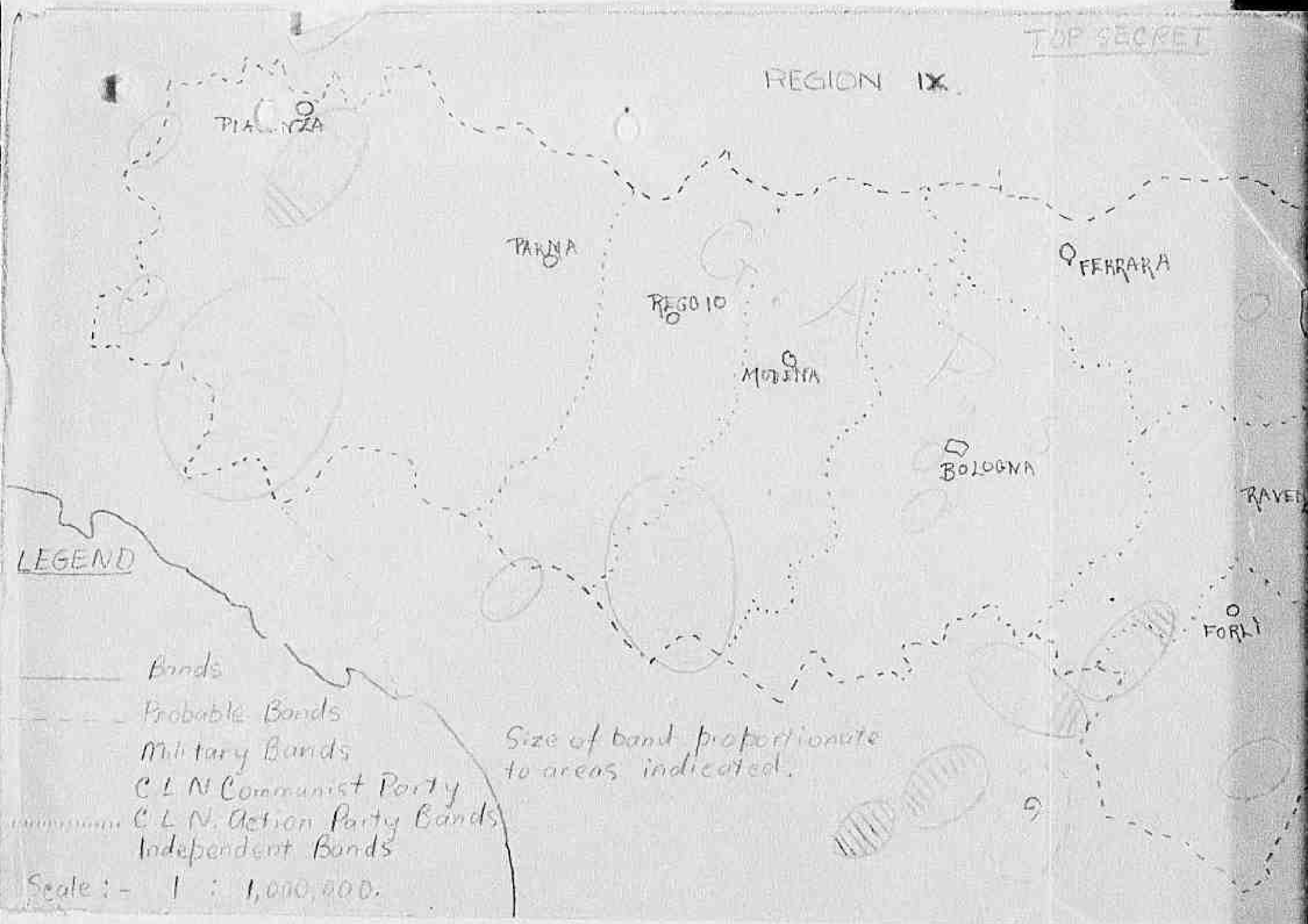
FORLI

LEGEND

- Bands
- Probable Bands
- Military Bands
- C L N Communist Party
- C L N Action Party Bands
- Independent Bands

Size of band proportionate to areas indicated.

Scale :- 1 : 1,000,000.



TOP SECRET

1-18-64

REGION IX

TARNA

REGGIO

MODENA

FERRARA

BOLOGNA

RAVENNA

FORLI

N.B.
This information is incomplete and the situation is liable to fluctuate.

Size of band proportionate to areas indicated.

Party Bands
000.



9



Top secret
Report by Orlando
son of Gen Orlando C.C. RR. ROME
11/9/44

Military situation - The Corpo d'Armata Centro Emilia ex Garibaldi brigade, occupies and controls all the REGGIANO-MODENESE Apennine area between the following localities and centres:

Castellarano	44° 45'	29"	N-1	43'	25"	W
Carpineti	44° 40'	9"	N-1	58'	5"	W
Gatta	44° 35'	46"	N-1	58'	38"	W
M. Regnolo	44° 51'	17"	N-2	5'	33"	W
M. Cafaggio	44° 53'	16"	N-2	52'	55"	W
Ligonchio	44° 28'	32"	N-2	6'	13"	W
M. Cusna	44° 25'	12"	N-2	3'	35"	W
Foce Le Radici	44° 18'	19"	N-1	58'	5"	W
S. Anna a Pelago	44° 16'	10"	N-1	54'	24"	W
M. Cantiere	44° 23'	48"	N-1	48'	41"	W
Piane di Moggio	44° 26'	48"	N-1	45'	11"	W
Barbona	44° 37'	46"	N-1	42'	37"	W
Montebonello	44° 33'	16"	N-1	39'	5"	W
M. S. Andrea	44° 41'	N-1	N-1	44'	5"	W
M. Scisso	44° 43'	55"	N-1	42'	45"	W

These map readings are not very exact because the coordinates were taken on a tourist map at 1:50,000. For every group of coordinates there is a partisan formation of 50 to 100 armed men. All the area thus indicated is completely under the control of the Corpo d'Armata; there is no danger of attacks on the roads of delle Radici, highway between MODENA and VAL DEL SERGIO in a vehicle of the command of the 2nd Division located at PIAN DELL'AGOTTI.

In this area is at the disposal of the command the most important electric power station of Central Emilia at the spring of the river TULLO. A methane gas spring at the village of FERRARINO. Three entire communes, FERRARINO, MONTE FIORINO and COLLAGNO are under the administration of the Corpo d'Armata, which supplies the civil population with food, tax well as the major part of other communes in the province of REGGIO which have been visited.

The Corpo d'Armata is of 10,000 men but the number has increased at the moment when it left in July, about 1,000 men had been armed and 6 droppings received. The Corpo d'Armata is formed of 2 divisions: each division is of 2 brigades and each brigade is of 2 battalions that is 2 companies of a 100 men each. men without arms are grouped in formations only for each division.

Armament consists of about 1 fourth or a fifth of ten or Italian -retta machine guns, the remaining armament is of rifles and guns of various types.

S. Anna a Pelago	44°	16'	10"	N-1	54'	24"	W
M. Centiere	40°	23'	48"	N-1	48'	413"	W
Piane di Mocogno	44°	26'	78"	N-1	45'		W
Barbona	44°	34'	46"	N-1	42'	11"	W
Montebonello	44°	33'	16"	N-1	39'	37"	W
M. S. Andrea	44°	41'	N-1	N-1	44'	5"	W
M. Scisso	44°	43'	55"	N-1	42'	45"	W

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In this area is at the disposal of the command the most important electric power station of Central Emilia at the spring of the river POLO. A Metano gas spring at the village di FRA SANCIO. Three entire comuns, FRASCONO, MONTE FIORINO and POLINAGO are under the administration of the corpo d'armata, which supplies the civil population with food, tax well as the major part of other comuns in the province of REGGIO which is haven. V. 11.11.44.

The Corpo d'armata is of 10,000 men but in 1944 the men had been armed and droppings received. The Corpo d'armata is formed of divisions: each division is of 2 brigades and each brigade is of 3 battalions what is 4 companies of a 100 men each. men without arms are grouped in formations one for each division.

Armament consists of about 1 fourth or a fifth of ten or Italian Lretta machine guns, the remaining armament is of rifles and guns of various types; a few 81 mm machineguns, some sub machine guns 45 and 75 and mortars, with the last droppings (1/ July) a few 81 mm mortars were received.

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Ammunition for the Stens is sufficient. There is none for rifles and guns as these weapons were captured in individual attacks and there was no spare ammunition. There are also a certain number of S. Etienne rifles, and about 20 sub-machine guns (20 mm) completely without ammunition.

Communications: With the exception of some telephone lines in bad order there are no means of communication (not even a field W/T set) We have a few maps.

There is a possibility of landing for gliders or "cologne" if a de warning is given to flatten out the destined locality.

The name of the commander of the Corpo d'Armata in Aemilia is "ARMANDO". Headquarters are at Montefiorino.

Arms: Until I was in the zone the armament of the Corpo d'Armata was of a great number of weapons (not automatic) captured in individual attacks against fascists in the plain (Italian rifles and a certain number of French S. Etienne). For all these weapons there is no ammunition and the patriots armed with rifles had only 2 or 3 rounds each. They have been supplied with automatic weapons by the allied Air-Force. Until the time I left they had received only 6 droppings for an area of 80 square Km. Of a total of 9,000 men, 4,500 are armed and there are 700-800 Sten automatic weapons. They also received a certain number of Brens (upto the 15th July no Brens had been dropped according to reports received) but subsequently (I was at PIANDELGATTI, near CRIMALE) 20-30 between Brens and Italian Breda machine guns were received. In the two last droppings of 16th and 17th July some 81 mm Italian mortars were received. With the last droppings a major (British or American) was sent with a W/T set and set-up.

Some Russians part of the Corpo d'Armata, had formed an armed formation of men equipped with Stens.

These Russians ex P.O.s distinguished themselves in the fight in the middle of July at PIANDELGATTI - S. ANNA above PIEVEPIAGO against German armoured formations also armed with mortars and batteries of about 3-400 Germans, and obliged them to retreat to ABETONE.

In the Corpo d'Armata there were also 2 Belgians, one Pole and some American and French prisoners who had fought with the Allies in Africa. About 15 American and British P.O.s (officers and privates) belonging to the Corpo d'Armata, left the band to try and cross the lines.

To conclude, it would be necessary to intensify air-droppings in the area as the Corpo d'Armata will increase considerably (in the plains in the FEDEMONTANA area there is a big organization of action squads who cannot join the

2061

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To conclude, it would be necessary to intensify air-droppings in the area as the Corpo d'Armata will increase considerably (in the plains in the FEDEMONTANA area there is a big organization of action squads who cannot join the band in the mountains for lack of arms) and as there are already 9,000 men of which only 4,000-4,500 armed as above stated, it is necessary to send a lot of ammunition for all the Italian weapons in their possession and especially for rifles type 91.

Funds and food-supplies are available but with some difficulty in the plains.

For the already mentioned reasons, the patriots have to rely only on the defensive and their activities consist of small group actions and road sabotage. (They have blown 5 bridges near FOCE and RADICI on the provincial road FOCE-RADICI-MONTEFIORINO-SASSUOLO. The bridges between CASTELLORANO and SASSUOLO have also been blown).

SITUAZIONE MILITARE. Il Corpo d'Armata Centro Emilia, ex Brigata Garibaldi occupa e controlla saldamente la zona ~~non~~ appenninica del reggiano-modenese delimitata dalle seguenti localita' o capisaldi:

CASTELLARANO 44° 45' 29" N. - 1° 43' 25" W. CARPINETTI RR 44° 40' 0" N. - 1° 58' 5" W.;
 GATTA 44° 35' 46" N. - 1° 58' 58" W.; M. REGNOLO 44° 31' 17" N. - 2° 5' 33" W.;
 M. CARAGGIO 44° 33' 16" N. - 2° 32' 55" W.; LIGONCETO 44° 28' 32" N. - 2° 6' 13" W.;
 M. CUSNA 44° 29' 19" N. - 2° 3' 28" W.;
 FOCE LE RADICI 44° 18' 19" N. - 1° 58' 5" W.; S. ANNA A PEIACO 44° 16' 10" N. - 1° 54' 24" W.;
 M. CANTIERE 44° 23' 48" N. - 1° 48' 41" W.; PIANE DI MOCOGNO 44° 26' 48" N. - 1° 45' W.;
 BARBONA 44° 34' 46" N. - 1° 42' 11" W.;
 MONTEBONELLO 44° 35' 16" N. - 1° 39' 37" W.; M. S. ANDREA 44° 41' N. - 1° 44' 5" W.;
 M. SCISSO 44° 43' 55" N. - 1° 42' 45" W. -

Queste indicazioni topografiche non sono molto precise perche' ho preso le coordinate su una carta turistica al E 30.000. Per ogni gruppo di coordinate corrisponde pressappoco una formazione partigiana di confine cioe' dai 50 ai 100 uomini armati. Tutta la zona cosi' delimitata e controllata in modo assoluto dal C. d'A.; sullo strale ivi compreso si viaggia senza timore di attacco alcuno (ho viaggiato io sulla strada provinciale delle Radici, che mette in comunicazione Modena con la Val del Serchio, in automezzo del comando della II divisione di stanza a Pianedelgotti).

In questa zona si trovano, a disposizione del Comando, la centrale elettrica piu' importante del Centro Emilia (alle sorgenti del fiume Dolo), una sorgente di produzione di gas metano (a Sassatolla di Frassinore). Sotto l'amministrazione del C. d'A. sono quindi tre comuni interi che provvedono all'approvvigionamento della popolazione civile e cioe' Montefiorino, Frassinore e Felinore (oltre gran parte di molte altre e quelli di questa zona compresi nella provincia di Reggio e che io non ho visitati). Il C. d'A. consta di circa 10000 (diecimila) uomini, ma e' suscettibile di ampliare notevolmente i suoi quadri; al momento in cui io me ne andai (18 luglio) aveva potuto armare circa R 4.000 (quattromila) uomini (aveva avuto in tutto sei lanci). Il C. d'A. e' ordinato su quattro divisioni; ogni divisione su due brigate, ognuna di due battaglioni (cioe' quattro compagnie di cento uomini circa ognuna). Gli uomini disarmati sono raggruppati in formazioni, una per divisione.

L'armamento e' costituito da circa 1/4 - 1/5 di Sten o mitra italiano Beretta mod. M1 38 SM; il rimanente da moschetti e fucili di vario tipo; qualche mitragliatore Breda; pochissimi mitragliatori Brem; qualche mitragliatrice Fiat mod. 35 e Breda 37m; con ~~xx~~ l'ultimo lancio (17 luglio) sono stati inviati loro qualche mortaio da 81.

Munizionamento per Sten a sufficienza; per moschetto o fucile quasi nulla (essendosi procurate queste armi con azioni su singoli individui o gruppi non aventi con loro scorte di munizioni - tenere presente che ~~W~~ hanno un certo numero di S. Etienne). Hanno in oltre una ventina di mitragliere da 20 mm., ma sono privi completamente di munizioni.

Mezzi di collegamento, tranne qualche telefona mal funzionante, nessuno (non hanno neppur una radio campale). Pochissime carte topografiche. Nella zona vi e' la possibilita' di atterraggio di alianti e di cicorno previo avviso per lo spianamento e l'adattamento della zona destinata.

Il nome del Comando del Corpo Armato centro Emilia (ex Brigata Gambaldi) è "Ariete". - Il suo Comando ritrae il Montefiorino.

Armi. - Fino a quando io mi sono trovato nella zona l'armamento del corpo d'armate era costituito per lo più da un gran numero di armi non automatiche raccolte dai vari individui e di gruppo centro sportivo presenti nella provincia: moschetti, Tolomari e un certo numero di S. Etienne francesi. - Ho visto di conseguenza che per tutto questo armamento il numero di uomini o quasi; era superiore in totale a quello dei carri e dei camion.

Per le armi automatiche era stato rifornito dall'azione alleata; attualmente sono circa 9000 uomini della mia divisione, essendo stati effettuati 6 lanci aereo in tutta la zona (circa 50 km² x 80 km²) in un complesso di 9000 uomini circa di cui 4500 armati, e circa 700-800 armi automatiche di maggior calibro. - Erni hanno anche ricevuto, per un certo numero di Bren, più esattamente fino al 15 luglio, perfino un Bren che è stato lanciato come un aereo di combattimento) suo armamento è di tipo

Repubblicano fascisti nella prigione: Muschetti, Toloni e
 un certo numero di S. Etienne francesi. - No viene
 di conseguenza che per tutto questo avvenimento il
 numero di uomini o quasi; ~~essi avevano in dotazione~~
 4 pistole, ornate di marchio avverso infatti in
 media da 2 o 3 caricatori e tanta. -

Per le armi automatiche emi sono stati riforniti
 dell'azione alleata; ~~intenzionalmente~~ ~~in un can~~ fino
 al momento della prima partenza, essendo stati
 effettuati 6 lanci soltanto in tutto la zona (circa
 50 tonnellate X 50 tonnellate) in un complesso di 9000
 uomini circa di cui 4500 armati, e i rimanenti

700-800 armi automatiche di maggioranza
 Steen - Essi hanno anche ricevuto, ~~per un certo~~

numero di Bren; fra esattamente fino al 15
 luglio neppure un Bren era stato lanciato (come
 mi è stato dichiarato) ma successivamente so (mi
 Trovavo e Psicodologia^{me} I, vicino al canale) che circa

~~da~~ 20-30 Bren e Para Mitragliatori Broda
 italiani erano stati ricevuti - Negli ultimi lanci
 (16-17 luglio il 16 e il 17 luglio sono stati lanciati
 e ricevuti anche alcuni mortari da 81 italiani. -

2065

Con il penultimo lancio è stato inviato un messaggio inglese (americano) con medio e servizio radio. -

Nello scoppio di Hiroshima si riscontrano, e avevano costituito una formazione ~~3~~ armata esclusivamente di tipo di "ignominia" Rum' che si sono particolarmente distinti nella battaglia avvenuta circa alla metà di luglio, e Pionalegati - S. Anna sopra l'isola di Capri, formazione di batterie aerea tedesche e antiaeree (circa 3-400

Teuchi), ~~è~~ ricacciando all'Atene. -
Vi ricordano anche ~~3~~ due helgo, in solco, e

oltre ~~to~~ qualche formazione americana e francese che aveva combattuto con gli alleati in

Africa - C'era una formazione tra ufficiali e "colletti" inglesi e americani in mare e

frutti allestiti dal Corpo d'armata -
alla metà di luglio per tentare di passare a Cina. -

La conclusione sarebbe necessaria ~~è~~ interferire i lanci nella zona, avendo il Corpo d'armata disponibile di equipaggiamento aereo (nelle prime e finalmente nella base polverizzata e in tutta una notevole e vasta area di ricerca di qualche ordine che non possono raggiungere ~~la~~ la montagna per mancanza di

morte tedeschi e spagnoli
 Tedeschi, ~~è~~ vicino ai soldati dell'Africa -
 Vi ricordiamo anche ~~3~~ due belgi, un polacco,
 e forse qualche frangente omerico e
 forse che avere combattuto con gli alleati in
 Africa - C'è una promozione tra ufficiali
 e capitani in Africa e americani in nave a
 S. Pietro all'istituzione del corpo d'armata
 della metà di luglio per tentare di pensare

G. C. -
 In conclusione sarebbe eccitante ~~il~~ l'intensificarsi
 i lavori nella base, essendo il corpo d'armata
 suscettibile di cambiamento terrestre (nella guerra
 e fuisionante nella base polidimensionale in
 fra una notevole e vasta esperienza di
 questo ordine che non sembra sufficiente
 per ~~l'attuale~~ le montagne per mancanza di
 armi, e avendo ~~in~~ in una forza di
 circa 9000 uomini, già incorporati nelle bandi
 soltanto 4000 - 4500 armati nel modo
 sopra detto - sarebbe eccitante mettere molto
minuziosamente le teste e armi e
 in loro possesso, soprattutto Wachtel / 91
~~Wachtel~~ / 91

2067
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Le. O. deano e i vivai em se lo proamuo in
modo abbastanza soddisfacente, ma anche
con notevolissima fatica in primavera. -

Per tutto ciò che mi è detto em deano
venti nulla di nuovo, trovare piccole
ozioni di gruppi a tranne il sottopetto
Chelidone (Em hanno fatto notare
Cugno parti vicino a Foco o Pochi della
Stada pariviale Foco Pochi - Mandi finis.
Sonnolo - ugualmente sottopetto
parti Tra Cartellonno o Sonnolo.

2068

Chaque parti, Vieu & Joco o Pado, Delle
 Thode par visible Joco o Pado - Mendeforino.
 Sonolo - Igual mente soltet, sono i
 parti. Tri Castellonens o Sonucho.

8017

Top Secret.

14-8-44

PATRIOT BANDS ALONG THE NORTHERN APENNINE

The position of the bands in the area North of the front line for a depth of about 40 to 50 miles appears to be approximately as follows:

1. Province of PESARO (Region 5)

No organized large bands. The 5th Garibaldi Brigade which existed around Mount NERONE crossed into liberated territory which existed in the mountainous region of the Province.

There is a certain number of cells of the Gruppi d'Azione Patriottica (G.A.P.)+ in the towns along the coast and in the hilly district. The most important groups of G.A.P. cells are to be found in PESARO, FANO and FOSSOMBRONE. Each cell contains usually from 5 to 12 men. No information about the number of the cells.

2. NORTHERN TUSCANY (Region 8)

Northern Tuscany includes the area south of the Apennine as far as the front line.

(A) - Province of Arezzo

There appear to be about 250 men in ALPE DELLA LUNA, north of SANSEPOLCRO.

The Tani Battalion of the 23rd Garibaldi Brigade appears to be in the AL'E DI CATENAIA, N.E. of Arezzo. Possibly not more than 150-200 badly armed.

The bands of MONTE NUMAIOLO had been obliged to disperse and there is no news if they have been reorganized.

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+ In the Garibaldi organization, military organization of the Committee of National Liberation, a distinction is made between "brigades" and "gaps" / The "brigades" are to be found in the mountains and should be about 450 men strong. ; the "gaps" are the units of the clandestine cellular organizations existing in the towns and in the plains. There is been however a tendency for gaps to get together and form "gap brigades".

- 2 -

What remains of the 4th Garibaldi Brigade (C.O. Capt. Rossetti?) and of the Mameli Brigade is still to be found on the eastern slopes of the PRATO MARCHO. On the western slopes of the same range can be found what remains of the Sandro Brigade of the 23rd Brigade.

(B) Province of FLORENCE

Before the enemy withdrew from the northern sector of Florence, the situation was approximately as follows:

To MONTE GIOVI, N.E. of Florence had gone the 22nd Garibaldi Brigade (c.o. first BRUNO then LANGIOTTO) which had incorporated smaller formations already organized in the area. To Monte Giovi had also gone, coming from the west, another Brigade which had previously been reported at Monte Morello (c.o. Lt. Col. BORRASKI of the Soviet Army?); and another un-named group of 250 men.

Between FLORENCE and BORGO SAN LORENZO were several units of the 1st(?) Garibaldi Brigade. One of the leaders was POTENTIS, another one MOLLE. About half of that formation, with possibly 900 men, was north of FLORENCE.

The Carabinieri who had found shelter in the estate of Gen. Infante, were reported to number about 400 and to be concentrated around MONTE MORELLO (N.W. of Florence). Nothing has been heard about these for a while and what remains of that group is probably now in Florence.

On the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO between the SAN LORENZO - FARNIA highway and mount FALTERONA was reported the presence of another Garibaldi Brigade (c.o. Libero). Altogether from the FUTA to the FALTERONA, and including Libero's brigade was reported the presence of about 1200 armed men.

Another 400 men were reported north of the PISTOIA-PRATO road.

(C) Province of LUCCA

Three small bands are reported on the MONTE PISANO between PISA and LUCCA.

In the Alpi APUANE and in the GARFAGNANA was reported the presence of a number of fairly highly organized bands with the total strength of 1020 men.

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30/10/64
 From: Special Intelligence Summary
 No. 23 (8th Army).

Secret.

63/3

RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS.

Interest is centred on the situation in FLORENCE, as elsewhere, the organiser of resistance was the Committee of Liberation, under which worked a military Junta responsible for organising GARIBOLDI Brigades throughout TUSCANY. GARIBOLDI Brigades, being active guerrilla units, did not function in the city itself. However, for such purposes as liquidation of Fascists, propaganda etc., the town was divided by the Committee into four zones, each under an inspector. The area south of the ANMO was Zone 1, under a professor called D.L.I. Each zone controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppo Azione Patriottica or G.A.P.).

On our arrival we found in the southern part of the city some 400 partisans of 22 GARIBOLDI Brigades (also called the LANCIOOTTO Brigade), together with the Brigade Commander, Lieutenant BARBERI, alias POTENZA. The bulk of this unit had, as previously reported, been compelled to retire from the PRATO-ANMO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. As we approached FLORENCE the Brigade drifted into the town from the surrounding hills, and POTENZA, with two companies, established himself in a villa overlooking the BOLOGN Gardens. Accretions from partisan elements already in the city have brought their numbers up to some 6,000.

The Germans had left south of the ANMO a great many snipers, mainly Fascists believed to have been organized by FAVOLINI, fascist administrator of Popular Culture. It was decided to employ the partisans in small patrols to assist in mopping them up. By agreement with the commander, the partisans wanted in their arms, which were stored in an armoury under Partisan Guard and issued as required. Unfortunately, POTENZA was recently killed on a sniper-hunt. At the moment of writing his body is lying in state at the Partisan Headquarters, and, on Allied initiative, will shortly be given a public funeral.

In the town north of the ANMO there are believed to be some 1,200 partisans, including the other two companies of the LANCIOOTTO Brigade, under "BERTO". The partisan commander is an energetic Italian colonel of the Military Junta. Orders have been sent to them not to fight in the city, but to prevent demolitions and reprisals, and as soon as the German attempts to take over control of the area in conjunction with G.A.P.

the ANNO was Zone 4, under a professor called PINTI. PINTI was controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppo Azione Patriottica or GAP).

On our arrival we found in the Southern part of the city some 400 partisans of 22 GARIBOLDI Brigade (also called the LANCIONE Brigade), together with the Brigade Commander, Lieut ASICE BARDUCCI, alias PONTINI. The bulk of this unit had, as previously reported, been compelled to retire from the PAVIGNANO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. As we approached PAVIGNANO the Brigade drifted into the town from the surrounding hills, and PAVIGNANO, with two companies, established itself in a villa overlooking the BONOLI Gardens. Accretions from partisan elements already in the city have brought their numbers up to some 6/800.

The Germans had left South of the ANNO a great many snipers, mainly Fascists believed to have been organized by PAVIGNANI, fascist administrator of Popolar Culture. It was decided to employ the partisans in small patrols to assist in mopping them up. By agreement with the commander, the partisans handed in their arms, which were stored in an armory under partisan guard and issued as required. Unfortunately, PAVIGNANO was recently killed on a sniper-hunt. At the moment of writing his body is lying in state at the partisan headquarters, and, on allied initiative, will shortly be given a public funeral.

In the town North of the ANNO there are believed to be some 1,500 partisans, including the other two companies of the LANCIONE Brigade, under "PONTINI". The partisan commander is an energetic Italian Colonel of the Military Junta. Orders have been sent to them not to fight in the city, but to prevent demolitions and reprisals, and as soon as the Germans manage to take over control of the area in conjunction with **GUIS**.

In the hills North and East of PAVIGNANO, two brigades are reported. The GARIBOLDI Brigade (10 Garibaldi Brigades) of four companies operates in the PAVIGNANO - SERRAVALLE area. The normal strength of a Garibaldi company is 120 men, but it is possible that a proportion of the brigades have come down into PAVIGNANO, and it is now estimated at about 300/400 men. The brigade is reported to be well-armed with automatic weapons, but short of ammunition. Its leader is "PONTINI". In the PAVIGNANO area is the PAVIGNANO Brigade of three companies, under "PONTINI" (possibly the same as Lt. Col. PONTINI, previously reported in this area). The brigade suffered heavy casualties when attacked by the Germans about 20 July, and its present

strength is probably not over 300. It is also known as 8
CAMPALDI Brigade.

These two Brigades, together with the LANCERIO Brigade
and the SERRAVALLE Brigade, or 22 bis SERRAVALLE Brigade, were at
the beginning of June formed into the AMO Division (not to be
confused with the AMO Division which was in the LAMPUNATA area)
under the command of POTENTE as the most vigorous personality.
The SERRAVALLE Brigade, which operated in the SAN GIOVANNI VALICIA-
NO area, has been over-run by our troops and the former commander,
DARTELLI, or "CHERRY" is now political commissar of the
LAMPUNATA Brigade.

None of POTENTE's little fresh information about partisan
activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men,
including British and Italian ex-PO and German deserters, is
reported in the RAVENNA area. Further east along the GOTTIC LINE
there is still no information about the powerful bands which
formerly operated in the AREA DI SAN DEMETRIO on either side of
the TULLIO-TOLEMI road, except that the leader, LIBANO, is
believed to have been killed. The fate of partisans to the South
West in the VERGASATO area is also obscure at the moment, but
information will probably be forthcoming from the Committee of
Liberation in FIORENZUOLA, the bulk of which is still on the wrong
side of the AMO.

In the STALIO-MANO and AREA DI CANTALIA, the withdrawal of
the bulk of the LANCERIO Brigade and the disbandment of the PIC
BONNI Brigade (23 SERRAVALLE Brigade) has left only isolated groups
of partisans. These have, however, been contacted, and are being
used as a most useful source of intelligence.

We are now 24 weeks into the following groups:

TARSA (N. 2145)	65 (under BUNTO, the former commander of a battalion of the PIC BONNI, who was slightly wounded some time ago).
FORNIO MAGORA (A 35)	20 (under STEFANO. 6014)
FORNIO CROCCIA (N 1450)	15 Italians.
PORZI (P 2062)	20 (under Dr. Piero RICCIARDI).
LIERNA (A 2266)	12 (under GIUGO)

DAVIDE BONTA, of whom is now political commissar of the
LANTANA Brigade.

North of TROVANTE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian ex-POW and German deserters, is reported in the M-2010 area. Further east along the GOTTHARD LINE there is still no information about the powerful bands which formerly operated in the hills of SAN BAMBINO on either side of the FLORENCE-PIZZI road, except that the leader, BIANCHI, is believed to have been killed. The fate of partisans to the South West in the VIGNANO area is also obscure at the moment, but information will probably be forthcoming from the Committee of Liberation in PICHANCO, the bulk of which is still on the wrong side of the ALNO.

In the FORTY-SEVEN and AREA DI CANTINA, the withdrawal of the bulk of the LANCETTI Brigade and the disbandment of the FIORENTI Brigade (23 GARIBOLDI Brigade) has left only isolated groups of partisans. These have, however, been contacted, and are being used as a most useful source of intelligence.

We are now in touch with the following groups:

TALIA (R. 2148)

65 (under BILINO, the former comd of a battalion of the GIOVANNI BOE, who was slightly wounded some time ago).

ROCCO P'ARONA (R 35)

60 (under STEFANO).

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POMPIO STEFANO (R 1459)

15 Sussiniis.

POCCHI (R 2062)

20 (under Dr. Piero MEGGIARDI).

LUZINA (R 2266)

12 (under CILINO)

STIA (R 1570)

35 (under DECIO).

14/8/44

PATRIOT BANDS ALONG THE NORTHERN APENNINE

The position of the bands in the area North of the front line for a depth of about 40 to 50 miles appears to be approximately as follows:

1. Province of PESARO (Region 5)

No organized large bands. The 5th Garibaldi Brigade which existed around Mount NERONE crossed into liberated territory after having collected three to four smaller groups which existed in the mountainous region of the Province.

There is a certain number of cells of the Gruppi d'Azione Patriottica (G.A.P.) in the towns along the coast and in the hilly district. The most important groups of G.A.P. cells are to be found in PESARO, FANO and FOSSOMBRONE. Each cell contains usually from 5 to 12 men. No information about the number of the cells.

2. NORTHERN TUSCANY (Region 8)

Northern Tuscany includes the area south of the Apennine as far as the front line.

(A) Province of AREZZO

There appear to be about 250 men in ALPE DELLA LUNA, north of SANSEPOLCRO.

The Tani Battalion of the 23rd Garibaldi Brigade appears to be in the ALPE DI CATENAIA, N.E. of Arezzo. Possibly not more than 150-200 men badly armed.

The bands on MONTE FUMICLO had been obliged to disperse and there is no news if they have been re-organized.

What remains of the 4th Garibaldi Brigade (C.O. Capt. ROSSETTI?) and of the Kameli Brigade is still to be found on the eastern slopes of the PRATO MAGNO. On the western slopes of the same range can be found what remains of the Sandro Brigade of the 23rd Brigade.

vince.

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The bands on MONTE FUMAILO had been obliged to disperse and there is no news if they have been reorganised.

What remains of the 4th Garibaldi Brigade (C.O. Capt. ROSSETTI?) and of the Mameli Brigade is still to be found on the eastern slopes of the PRATO MAGNO. On the western slopes of the same range can be found what remains of the Sandro Brigade of the 23rd Brigade.

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+ In the Garibaldi organisation, military organisation of the Committee of National Liberation, a distinction is made between "brigades" and "gaps". The "brigades" are to be found in the mountains and should be about 450 men strong. The "gaps" are the units of the clandestine cellular organisations existing in the towns and in the plains. There is been however a tendency for gaps to get together and form "gap brigades".

(B) Province of FLORENCE

Before the enemy withdrew from the northern sector of Florence, the situation was approximately as follows:

To MONTE GIOVI, N.E. of Florence had gone the 22nd Garibaldi Brigade (C.O. first BRUNO then LANCIOTTO) which had incorporated smaller formations already organized in the area. To Monte Giovi had also gone, coming from the west, another Brigade which had previously been reported at Monte Morello (C.O. Lt. Col. BERRASKI of the Soviet Army?), and another un-named group of 250 men.

Between FLORENCE and BERGO. SAN LORENZO were several units of the 1st(?) Garibaldi Brigade. One of the leaders was POTENTE, another one MOLLE. About half of that formation, with possibly 900 men, was north of FLORENCE.

The Carabinieri who had found shelter in the estate of Gen. Infante, were reported to number about 400 and to be concentrated around MONTE MORELLO (N.W. of Florence). Nothing has been heard about these for a while and what remains of that group is probably now in Florence.

On the ALPE di SAN BENEDETTO between ^{the} SAN LORENZO - FAENZA highway and mount FALTERONA was reported the presence of another Garibaldi Brigade (C.O. LIBERO). Altogether from the FUTA to the FALTERONA, and including Libero's brigade was reported the presence of about 1200 armed men.

Another 400 men were reported north of the PISTOIA - PRATO road.

(C) Province of LUCCA

Three small bands are reported on the MONTE PISANO between PISA and LUCCA.

In the Alpi APUANE and in the GARFAGNANA was reported the presence of a number of fairly highly organized bands with the total strength of 1020 men.

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(D) Province of APUANIA

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Besides a number of G.A.P. cells in the town of APUANIA there is a band which at one time was reported to be 590 strong, in the LUNIGIANA. This band is connected more closely with the bands of AEMILIA (Region 9) than with those of northern Tuscany (Region 8).

It appears likely that in the enemy occupied territory of northern Tuscany there were, before our occupation of Florence, not less than 7000 to 8,000 real Patriots, without including the G.A.P. cells in

the town.

3. Southern AEMILIA (Region 9)

(a) Province of PIACENZA and PARMA

In the mountainous regions of the Provinces of PIACENZA and PARMA was reported the concentration of rather large bands, particularly in the areas of VAL DI TARO and of BARDI (Brigade PICELLI). These bands were all part of the Garibaldi (C.I.N.) organization in northern Italy and claimed a membership of about 4000 men. In view of the mopping-up operations which appear to have taken place recently in that area, the position of these bands is rather uncertain.

(b) Provinces of REGGIO and MODENA

In the mountainous regions of the provinces of REGGIO and of MODENA was reported the presence of two Patriot Divisions, one located near Monte FIORINO and including the 6th Garibaldi Brigade at VILLA MINOZZO, the other located near FIGONCHIO. To the same group of bands belonged also the LUNIGIANA bands (see province of APUANIA). Without the last ones the total strength of the two divisions appeared to be around 3000 men.

(c) Province of BOLOGNA

~~We have no reliable information about the stretch of the northern Apennine slope which is included in the province of BOLOGNA.~~

(d) ROMAGNA

Several mopping-up operations had been carried out by the enemy in ROMAGNA (provinces of RAVENNA and FORLI). But still recently was reported the presence in the northern slope of the Apennine of three Garibaldi Brigades, each of them with a total strength of about 600 men - G.A.P. cells are numerous in the many towns of the zone: FORLI, FAENZA, SESENA, RIMINI, RAVENNA, etc.

It is possible that in the Apennine zone of Region 9 there were not less than 8,000 to 9,000

(b) Provinces of REGGIO and MODENA

In the mountainous regions of the provinces of REGGIO and of MODENA was reported the presence of two Patriot Divisions, one located near Monte FIORINO and including the 6th Garibaldi Brigade at VILLA MINCIZZO, the other located near VIGNONCHIO. To the same group of bands belonged also the LUNIGIANA bands (see province of APUANIA). Without the last ones the total strength of the two divisions appeared to be around 3000 men.

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It is possible that in the Apennine zone of Region 9 there were not less than 8.000 to 9.000 armed Patriots at the end of July.

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In central Italy, south of the ARNO valley, are found military bands connected with the Comando Bande of the Italian Army, political bands connected with the GIUNTA MILITARE of the C.I.F. and independant bands.

The situation along the northern Apennine belt appears to be different, as, with the exception of the Carabinieri at MONTE MORELLO, the military bands are practically non-existent. There are reports of more or less severe conflicts between

bands in northern Tuscany; those led by the members of the Action Party (Democrats) being in conflict with those led by members of the Communist Party. The Christian-Democrats (Catholics) also appear sometimes to have played a role with the bands.

It appears that in Region 9 the work of organization and centralisation has been carried further than in northern Tuscany. Various reports state that in the Provinces of PARMA and PIACENZA, REGGIO and MODENA, members of the Communist Party have succeeded in acquiring the leadership of the bands. In REGGIO the leadership is still divided between members of the C.P. and members of the Action Party. There has been vague reports about the existence of bands composed of members of the Christian Democrats Party (Catholics) in the mountainous regions of the province of BOLOGNA but nothing definite has come to the knowledge of this office. Either controlled by the C.P. or the A.P. all bands in Region 9 appear to be connected with the Garibaldi organization.

The fact that the leaders of bands belong to one political tendency or the other, does not mean that the Patriots in the bands follow that particular tendency. There is little doubt, however, that the greater energy and spirit of initiative on the part of the C.P. as compared to the energy and initiative of the Italian Army and of the other political parties has often put the C.P. in a position of control.

It is reported that during the last few weeks new groups of Patriots have joined the Garibaldi organization. It is possible therefore that there has been an increase in the figure mentioned in this report of 15,000 to 17,000 Patriots in enemy occupied Region 8 and in Region 9.

Province of BOLOGNA (Region III) - There are reports of bands of about 500 men in the mountainous areas of Sasso Toghnesso. S.A.F. groups are strong in the town and there are more small organized bands towards the Comacchio Marshes.

~~NOTE - The three brigades are possibly smaller than previously reported. One is possibly located between REGGIO PIACENZA and BOCCA SAN CASCIANO (500 men). Two smaller brigades are reported in the LANCONE valley, one in the area between Modigliana and RICCIONE, one in the upper valley towards MARANELLO.~~

PROVINCES OF REGGIO AND MODENA - Another Brigade included in the two divisions, forming the IV Garibaldi Army Corps, is

*Add. to
To page 3*

Patriot

been members of the C.P. and members of the Action Party. There has been vague reports about the existence of bands composed of members of the Christian Democrats Party (Catholics) in the mountainous regions of the province of BCILO-GMA but nothing definite has come to the knowledge of this office. Either controlled by the C.F. or the A.P. all bands in Region 9 appear to be connected with the Garibaldi organization.

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To page 3

Province of BOLOGNA (Region IV) - There are reports of bands of about 500 men in the mountainous areas of Sasso Tolognese. G.I.P. groups are strong in the town and there are more small organized bands towards the Comacchio Marches.

ROMAGNA - The three Brigades are possibly smaller than previously reported. One is possibly located between MACCETO SALICIANO and ROCCA SAN CASCIANO (500 men). Two smaller brigades are reported in the LANONE valley, one in the area between Medigliana and PARIGLIANA, one in the upper valley towards MARZANO.

Patriot

PROVINCES OF ARETINO AND MODENA - Another Brigade included in the two divisions, forming the IV Garibaldi Army Corps, is the Brigade Gino Bocchi, c.o. CRETO, with H.Q. somewhere near Montefiorino. The Brigade has about 250 men.

The IV Garibaldi Army Corps controls an area with a radius of approximately 40 km. from their centre at Montefiorino.

remains of Reggio, Modena, Lucca and Aquania

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ADDENDA TO REPORT OF AUGUST 14, 1944 ON
PATRIOT BANDS ALONG THE NORTHERN APENNINES

21/8/1944

ROMAGNA (region IX)

It appears that the three Garibaldi Brigades supposedly existing in the mountainous areas of the provinces of Forlì and Ravenna are smaller than previously reported.

One Brigade, including about 500 Patriots is possibly located between Mercato Saraceno and Rocca San Cesario.

Two Brigades, including from 200 to 300 men are reported in the area of the Lamone river, one in the area between Modigliana and Brisignella, the other one in the upper Lamone valley towards Marradi.

Province of BOLOGNA (region IX)

It is reported that there is a band of about 600 Patriots under SASSIC, S.W. of Bologna. It is possibly the same band which was reported at Sasso.

Provinces of REGGIO and MODENA (region IX)

The two Modena Divisions in the mountainous areas of the provinces and the Emilia division which includes bands on the western slope of the Apennines towards Lunigiana and Garfagnana, are reported to have consolidated into the IV Garibaldi Army Corps.

The Brigade Gino BOZZI, c.o. Cecco, with H.Q. somewhere near Montecreto, includes about 250 men and is part of one of the Modena Divisions.

The IV Garibaldi Army Corps is reported to have controlled an area with a radius of approximately 40 km. from their centre at Montefiorino, in the provinces of Reggio, Modena, Lucca and Apuania. It has been subjected to heavy pressure from the enemy.

Provinces of PARMA and PIACENZA (region IX)

It is reported that the large concentration of Patriots in the upper VAL DI TARO controls areas in the provinces of Par-

- 2 -

na and Piacenza (region IX), smaller areas in the provinces of Spezia and Genoa (region X) and in the upper Magra valley (region VIII).

This concentration of Patriots which may include from 4,000 to 4,500 men, either corresponds to the 1st Ligurian Garibaldi Division or - which is more likely - includes the 1st Ligurian Garibaldi Div. It is reported that the 1st Lig. Garibaldi Div. is under Col. Fontana and is divided into seven Brigades.

The presence of a 3rd (?) Garibaldi Brigade (about 400 Patriots) is reported in the upper Trebbia Valley (prov. of Piacenza), between Bobbio and Rovegno.

On central Trebbia valley and west of it is reported the presence of two Garibaldi Brigades with a total of 850 Patriots (according to another source 1500), and a Giustizia e Libertà Brigade, under Faceto, with approximately 500 men.

Provinces of Lucca and APUNIA (Region VIII)

It is reported that there are three bands on the western side of the upper Serchio valley. One band would be west of Vagli, c.o. Versali (?) and would include about 600 men. A second band is possibly located between Vagli and Castelnuovo, c.o. Lombardi. The third band appears to be between Castelnuovo and Barga and is reported to be under a British officer.

It is not known if the a/m bands are part of the IV Garibaldi Army Corps or independent of it.

West of Aulla, between the Vara and Magra rivers is reported the presence of a band including about 250 Patriots.

Provinces of Spezia and Genoa (Region X)

Groups totalling 2,000 men are reported in the hilly district between the Vara valley and the sea. These groups probably include disbanded personnel as well as Patriots.

W. of Varese Ligure is reported the presence of a band of about 300 Patriots.

The band of 250 Patriots (mostly of moderate tendencies) in area Scoffera-Torriglia is probably connected with the 1st Ligurian Division.

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- 3 -

Note --

It appears that G.A.P. groups in the towns and plains of Region IX, from RIMINI to PIACENZA have increased in numbers and have formed several G.A.P. Brigades. G.A.P. Brigades are reported in Bologna, Modena and Reggio and in the province of FERRARA.

An interesting development is represented by the formation of the Giustizia e Libertà brigades. Previously Giustizia and Libertà brigades had been reported chiefly in certain Piedmontese valleys of Region X (VAL PERIO? VAL PELLICE, VAL CHIUSSE, etc.). Now a Giustizia and Libertà Brigade is reported in the province of Piacenza.

An effort had been made in northern Italy to include all Patriot bands in the Garibaldi formations. This effort had been fairly successful, except for ~~several~~ military bands of Piedmont and of Venetia.

The Communist Party had succeeded in putting their own members as leaders and commissars of possibly the majority of the "Garibaldi" formations. This has probably caused in many instances a situation of tension between pro-Communist and anti-Communist elements. It appears that this tension has resulted in several cases in the splitting-up of Garibaldi formations, with the anti-Communist elements seceding and forming their own formations, sometimes called Giustizia e Libertà Brigades. It is probable that the main body of Patriots in the G.L. Brigades are either members of the Action Party or sympathetic towards it. The rest of the Patriots in the G.L. Brigades are probably either Liberals, or right-wing Socialists, or Syndicalists or Catholics. There may also be a few Monarchists who do not have the possibility of joining the military bands.

Adding to the bands mentioned in the Report of August 14th, those mentioned in this report in the Provinces of Piacenza, Spezia and Genoa (as far as the Col di Scoffera), it is possible that in the northern Apennine zone the number of true Patriots is between 18,000 and 20,000.

Before the recent influx of fresh recruits was about 12,000 or 13,000.

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14-8-44

(Region IX)

The position of the Bands in Emilia appears to be approximately as follows

(a) Province of PIACENZA and PARMA -

In the mountainous regions of the Provinces of PIACENZA and PARMA was reported the concentration of rather large bands, particularly in the areas of VAL DI TASC and of SARRE (Brigade PIGELLI). These bands were all part of the Garibaldi (G.I.F.) organization in northern Italy and claimed a membership of about 4,000 men. In view of the mopping-up operations which appear to have taken place recently in that area, the position of these bands is rather uncertain.

(b) Provinces of REGGIO and MODENA -

In the mountainous regions of the provinces of REGGIO and of MODENA was reported the presence of two Patriot Divisions, one located near Monte PIGNINO and including the 6th Garibaldi Brigade at VILLA MINGOZZO, the other located near BIGNIGNO. To the same group of bands belonged also the LUNIGIANA bands (see province of SPERDIA). Without the last ones the total strength of the two divisions appeared to be around 3,000 men.

(c) Province of BOLOGNA -

There are reports of bands of about 500 men in the mountainous areas of SASSO BOLOGNESE. G.A.P. groups are strong in the town and there are more small organized bands towards the GORACCHIO Marais.

(d) ROMAGNA -

Several mopping-up operations has been carried out by the enemy in ROMAGNA (provinces of RAVENNA and FORLI). But still recently was reported the presence in the northern slope of the Apennine of three Garibaldi Brigades, each of them with a total strength of about 500 men - G.A.P. cells are numerous in the many towns of the zone: FORLI - FERRARA, CESENA, RIMINI, RAVENNA, etc.

It appears that in Region 9 the work of organization and centralisation has been carried further than in northern Tuscany. Various reports state that in the Provinces of PARMA and PIACENZA,

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- 2 -

REGGIO and MODENA, members of the Communist Party have succeeded in acquiring the leadership of the bands. In ROMAGNA the leadership is still divided between members of the C.P. and members of the Action Party. There has been vague reports about the existence of bands composed of members of the Christian Democrats Party (Catholics) in the mountainous regions of the province of BOLOGNA but nothing definite has come to the knowledge of this office. Either controlled by the C.P. or the A.P. all bands in Region 9 appear to be connected with the Garibaldi organisation.

The fact that the leaders of bands belong to one political tendency or the other, does not mean that the Patriots in the bands follow that particular tendency. There is little doubt, however, that the greater energy and spirit of initiative on the part of the C.P. as compared to the energy and initiative of the Italian Army and of the other political parties has often put the C.P. in a position of control.

It is reported that during the last few weeks new groups of Patriots have joined the Garibaldi organisation.

21/8/1944.

ADDENDA TO REPORT OF AUGUST 14, 1944, ON
PATRIOT BANDS IN EMILIA.

ROMAGNA (region IX)

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One Brigade, including about 500 Patriots is possibly located between Mercato Saraceno and Rocca S. Casciano.

Two Brigades, including from 200 to 300 men are reported in the area of the Lamone river, one in the area between Modigliano and Brisighella, the other one in the upper Lamone valle towards Marradi.

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Province of BOLOGNA (region IX)

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Provinces of REGGIO AND MODENA (region IX)

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The Brigade Sino BOZZI, c.o. Cecco, with H.Q. somewhere near Montecreto, includes about 250 men and is part of one of the Modena Divisions.

The IV Garibaldi Army Corps is reported to have controlled an area with a radius of approximately 40 Km. from their centre at Montefiorino, in the provinces of Reggio, Modena, Lucca and Arezzo. It has been subjected to heavy pressure from the enemy.

Provinces of PARMA and PIACENZA (region IX)

It is reported that the large concentration of Patriots in the upper VAL DI TARO controls areas in the provinces of Parma and Piacenza (region IX), smaller areas in the provinces of Spezia and Genoa (region X) and in the upper Maestra valley (region VIII).

This concentration of Patriots which may include from 4,000 to 4,500 men, either corresponds to the 1st Ligurian Garibaldi Division or - which is more likely - includes the 1st Ligurian Garibaldi Div. It is reported that the 1st Lig. Garibaldi Div. is under Col. Fontana and is divided into seven Brigades.

The presence of a 3rd (?) Brigade Garibaldi (about 400 Patriots) is reported in the upper Trebbia Valley (prov. of Piacenza), between Bobbio and Rovigno.

On central Trebbia valley and west of it is reported the presence of two Garibaldi Brigades, with a total of 850 patriots (according to another source 1500), and a Giustizia & Libertà Brigade, under Fausto, with approximately 500 men.

600?

Note --

It appears that G.A.P. groups in the towns and plains of Region IX, from RIMINI to PIACENZA have increased in numbers and have formed several G.A.P. Brigades. G.A.P. Brigades are

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- 4 -

reported in Bologna, Modena and Reggio and in the province of Ferrara.

An interesting development is represented by the formation of the Giustizia & Libertà brigades. Previously Giustizia & Libertà brigades had been reported chiefly in certain Piedmontese valleys of Region I (VAL PESIO, VAL PELLICE, VAL GHISONE, etc.). Now a Giustizia and Libertà Brigade is reported in the province of Piacenza.

An effort had been made in northern Italy to include all Patriot bands in the Garibaldi formations. This effort had been fairly successful, except for several military bands offedment and of Venetia.

The Communist Party had succeeded in putting their own members as leaders and commissars of possibly the majority of the "Garibaldi" formation. This has probably caused in many instances a situation of tension between pro-Communist and anti-Communist elements. It appears that this tension has resulted in several cases in the splitting-up of Garibaldi formations, with the anti-Communist elements seceding and forming their own formations, sometimes called Giustizia & Libertà Brigades. It is probable that the main body of Patriots in the G.L. Brigades are either members of the Action Party or sympathetic towards it. The rest of the Patriots in the G.L. Brigades are probably either Liberals, or right-wing Socialists, or Syndicalists or Catholics. There may also be a few monarchists who do not have the possibility of joining the military bands.

Adding to the bands mentioned in the Report of August 14th, those mentioned in this report in the Provinces of Piacenza, Spezia and Genoa (as far as the Col di Scofiera), it is possible that in Emilia the number of true Patriots before the recent influx of fresh recruits was about 12,000 to 13,000.

6003

29/8/64

Top Secret.

BAUDE DEL PARTITO D'AZIONE IN PROVINCIA DI FIRENZE E PISTOIA

Attività militare. - Si è cominciato nel settembre, dopo il 12, immediatamente. Vicissitudini varie e difficoltà enormi. Abbiamo avuto un solo lancio, e anche questo fu in parte perduto (qui a Firenze). Prima organizzavano squadre (fin dal tempo in cui era qui Bauer), poi gruppi, poi Brigate. Abbiamo messo in piedi 5 Brigate Rosselli: 1) quella dell'Alpe Tre Potenze, comandata da Durassini, rifornita ottimamente dalla 5^a Armata che ha combattuto ottimamente per vari mesi, e combatté ancora a nord di Pistoia; 2) quella del Mugello, che ha avuto vari scontri ed ha eseguito colpi di mano e sabotaggi (la comandava Biso e in vitkna con la collaborazione di Grimeni), scendendo poi alla fine di luglio a Firenze. Nell'ultimo combattimento è morto il Comandante e dei 180 uomini che erano con lui ne sono arrivati a Firenze - Campo di Marte - solo 17; 3) quella di Firenze sud, comandata da Del Monaco, che ha combattuto specie in giugno e luglio, ed ha partecipato in prima linea alla difesa di Firenze (comandante ferito grave, vice comandante morto, ecc.) nei punti più difficili del fronte; 4) quella di Impruneta, formata nel luglio, che ha partecipato brevemente alla difesa di Firenze; 5) quella cittadina che è entrata in azione l'11 ed è ancora in linea senza ripreso. Di questa faceva parte la S.A.S. (Sezione d'Assalto) la cui anima è stata Betocchi e che ha fatto cose magnifiche specie dalla fine di giugno ad oggi. Ora dei resti della Brigata, riorganizzati e ripresi, facciamo la Divisione Giustizia e Libertà, che sarà di circa 600 uomini.

63/3

Top Secret

FLORENCE = MUCCELLO = VALDARNO

A A I Arno Division includes:

- a) Castellani Group (c.o. Lt. Guello) in Caville area - 120 men -
- b) Ghietti group in Cavriglia area - 80 men.
- c) Cino group at Rignano - 200 men - H.Q. of Div. S.W. of Foggia alla Croce.

The bands under FONTANE now BERTORELLE had about 1900 men

- 2 Comp. south of Florence (240 men)
- 6 Comp. in Florence (700 men)
- 3 Comp. north of Florence (560 men).

A A I At Monte GIOVI : 22nd Garibaldi Brigade (Lanciotto Brigade)

- Possibly Communist with 400 men.
- Other group from M. Morello under Lt. Col. Bobruski.

A A I At TALLA (possibly in other area) 200 men under Bruno -
 Two more bands, one under Bacul and Licio Coy and Bob.

A A I - It is reported that the c.o. of Brigade (?), LIBERO, has his H.Q. at Mount VALTERONA, and that between

Poggio alla Croce.

The bands under POTENTE now BURTONVILLE had about 1200 men

2 Comp. south of Florence (240 men)
 6 Comp. in Florence (700 men)
 3 Comp. north of Florence (260 men).

A A I at Monte GIULVI : 22nd Garibaldi Brigade (Lanciotto Brigade)
 - Possibly Communist with 400 men.
 - Other group from M. Morello under Lt. Col. BORUSKI.

A A I at TALLIA (possibly in other area) 200 men under Bruno -
 Two more bands, one under Raoul and Licio Coy unde Bob.

A A I - It is reported that the c.o. of Brigade (?), LIBERO,
 has his H.Q. at Mount PATERONA and that between
 PATERONA and TUTA are about 1200 men armed and 4000
 unarmed.

601

ALFRE TRE POTENZE (27/2009)

A well armed band (about 250 men) with many Ruselians
 and some English who had escaped from prison camps,
 together with two wireless operators.

.../. Florence, etc.

Around BISENZIO bands of partisans were forming, already equipped with enough explosive to blow up the road parallel to BISENZIO and to the main railway line (direttissima) FLORENCE - BOLOGNA (a road carrying a great deal of German military traffic). The carrying-out of such an operation would be made possible by dropping arms in the area sufficient to enable the partisans to block the road, which is closely guarded, for the time necessary to destroy it.

ARZONA (TAVENAZZE)

About 50 men armed with Tommy guns, Italian hand grenades, pistols, 2 L.M.G.'s and 1 Nvy M.G. They had sent away many volunteers through not having arms for them.

BISOGNO (73/C207)

About 150 men, fairly well armed. As was generally the case, this band could have increased its personnel if it had the means of arming them. It lacked also medical supplies and money.

Partisan formations have played a large part in the final liberation of the City of FLORENCE. All these formations depended on the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation (C.N.L. of Florence) which was connected with the C.N.L. of MILAN. Under it worked a military Junta responsible for organizing GARIBOLDI Brigades throughout TUSCANY. Garibaldi Brigades, being active guerrilla units, did not function in the city itself. However, for such purposes as liquidation of fascists, propaganda, etc. the town was divided by the Committee into four zones, each under an inspector. The area South of the ARNO was Zone 4, under a professor called DAMI. Each zone controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppo Azione Patriottica of C.N.L.).

The partisans were composed of elements of every party and also of apolitical elements. They elected their own military leaders and their own political commissioners. Their choice fell on individuals notable for courage and organising capacity. The C.N.L. only sent information and general directives to the Com-

6000

.../... (Florence, etc.)

mand HQ of the Division. The Division which operated in the Florence area was called the ARNO Division (not to be confused with the ARNO Division which was in the IPRUNTA area). It numbered about 2000 men operating in the zone PRATOMANO-MONTELOVE-MONTE MORIELLO-MONTE SCALARI.

Comando Divisione d'Assalto
Garibaldi "ARNO"

22nd Bde "Lanciotto" Pratomagno	22nd Bis Bde "Sinigaglia" M. Scalari	10th Bde "Caiani" Pratomagno	"Fanciullacci" Bde M. Morello
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The Division was divided into Brigades as above. It was formed at the beginning of June 1944.

When our troops arrived in the southern part of FLORENCE some 400 partisans of 22 Garibaldi Brigade (ie. the "Lanciotto" Brigade) together with the Brigade Commander Mient Adige RANDUCCI, alias POTENTE, were found there. The bulk of this unit had been compelled to retire from the PRATOMANO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. The Brigade drifted into the town as the Allied troops approached and POTENTE, with two companies, established himself in a villa overlooking the Boboli Gardens. Other partisan elements, already in the city brought their numbers up to 5/800. It was decided to employ them in clearing up the snipers which the Germans and Fascists had left in the town. By agreement with the commander the partisans handed in their arms, which were stored in an armoury under partisan guard and issued as required. Unfortunately POTENTE was recently killed on a sniper hunt.

The CAIANI (10 Garibaldi Brigade) Brigade of four companies operates in the FIESOLE-SETTIMANO area. It is said to be well armed with automatic weapons, but short of ammunition. Its said leader is "BRUNETTO".

5899

.../. Pld ace, etc.

- 4 -

In the MT. MORELLO area the FANCIULLACCI Brigade of three companies under "CITONE" is operating. The brigade suffered heavy casualties when attacked by the Germans about 20 July, and its present strength is probably not more than 300. It is also known as 6 Garibaldi Brigade.

The GERIGALLIA Brigade, which formerly operated in the SAN GIOVANNI VALCANNIC area, has been over-run by our troops and the former commander DANIELE BOLFI, or "GIORG" is now political commissar of the LANCIOTTO Brigade.

FLORENCE has given an opportunity of seeing from close quarters a Garibaldi Brigade in action. The British officer responsible for organizing the partisan patrols reports that he was very impressed by their keenness and discipline. Though his men wore gay red scarves and the red star on a white and green background POTENTE himself maintained that his band was non-political and these were not the Communist emblems, but merely the local national signs of the partisans in his area. He himself was a former clerk in the Ministry of Finance branch at COMO and served in SICILY as a lieutenant in an Italian parachutist regiment.

POTENTE's statements, even if possibly not entirely accurate, at least show the lengths to which he was prepared to go to make it possible for men of other political opinions to serve under him. It is probably also the case in other effective partisan bands that politics are not allowed to play a considerable part while the unit is still fighting. The LANCIOTTO Brigade was quite prepared to accept as Chief of Staff a parachutist Italian colonel, a regular staff officer whose experience had been gained as Chief of Staff of the Fifth Italian Army. The Colonel himself was quite happy to serve under a former minor civil servant, and in the partisan headquarters military salutes appear to be interchangeable with clenched fists.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian, ex PW and German deserters, is reported in the RAZZOLO area.

5998

.../. Florence, etc.

Further east along the GOTHIC LINE there is still no information about the powerful bands which formerly operated in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO on either side of the FLORENCE-FORLI road, except that the leader LIBERO is believed to have been killed.

The fate of partisans to the South West in the VERGHETO area is also obscure at the moment.

In the PRACONNO and ALPE DI CATENAIA the withdrawal of the bulk of the LANCOTTO brigade and the disbandment of the PIO BORRI Brigade (23 Garibaldi Brigad) has left only isolated groups of partisans.

S.W. MONTESAPONE, MONTECARRELLI - Many TODT workers have escaped from MONTECARRELLI, which has been occupied by partisans. In spite of German control, partisans had previously succeeded in capturing many of the TODT workers' tools. Resistance units of the area had thus obtained trucks and weapons. (13 June).

MARRADI - In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARRADI-PRISICHELLA area, in the direction of FARENZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the Germans, in which they had lost 8 dead and 10 wounded, whilst it is believed that the Germans lost 200 dead and about 60 wounded.

FIRENZE - MUGELLO - VALDARNO

62/3

Nella zona di FIRENZE non esistono elementi militari (Esercito)

Tutti riconoscono come Comando il C.I.N.

I patrioti generalmente non appartengono ad alcun Partito; se mai sono simpatizzanti per il Comunismo.

Nelle piccole città di provincia generalmente le bande dipendono da uno dei cinque Partiti.

A Firenze il più influente capo Patriota è Potente da cui dipendono 2 Compagnie di 240 uomini operanti a sud della città; 4 Compagnie di 480 uomini operanti in Firenze a sud del fiume; 2 Compagnie di 240 uomini nella città a nord del fiume, 8 Compagnie attorno alla città a nord del fiume composte di 360 uomini: in totale circa 1800 uomini.

La Banda è disposta a cedere volontariamente le armi.

5996

Banda dei Carabinieri Reali: non si hanno informazioni recenti. In un primo tempo si sono avute cattive informazioni.

FIRENZE - MUGELLO - VALDARNO

62/3

ALFI DI SAN BENEDETTO : Brigata Garibaldi, comandata da
Libero.

MONTE GIOVI : Brigata Lanciotto operante a sud di
Borgo San Lorenzo.

MONTE MORELLO : Banda composta di 250 uomini del C.I.N.
+ 400 Carabinieri, bene organizzati,
nel proprietà del Generale Infante.

MUGELLO : Gruppi delle bande "Potente", "Lanciotto"
e "Molle" della 1^a Brigata Garibaldi
con 1500 componenti, agli ordini del
C.I.N. di Borgo San Lorenzo in contat-
to con il C.I.N. di Firenze.

Potente was ALIGIO BAR-
DUCCI (nicked 8/8/hh). He
has been replaced by Col.
BERTORFELLE

IMPRUNETA Band of Major NARDI

MONTE MORIELLO

: Banda composta di 250 uomini del C.I.N.
+ 400 Carabinieri, bene organizzati,
nel proprietà del Generale Infante.

MUGELLO

: Gruppi delle bande "Potente", "Lanciotto"
e "Molle" della 1^a Brigata Garibaldi
con 1500 componenti, agli ordini del
C.I.N. di Borgo San Lorenzo in contat-
to con il C.I.N. di Firenze.

Potenti was ALIGIO BAR-
DUCCI (nicked 8/8/44). He
has been replaced by Col.
BERTORFELLE

IMPRUNETTA

Band of Major NARDI

8995

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63/3

Top Secret

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La Banda è disposta a cedere volontariamente le armi.

Banda dei Carabinieri Reali: non si hanno informazioni recenti. In un primo tempo si sono avute cattive informazioni.

5494

C O P I A

COMANDO RAGGRUPPAMENTO "M. ANIATA"

SECRET

MESSI SCITTORE DI CASTEL DI GABIO (Tolomea)
residente a FORNARA Lancia

63/3

Partito da S.; Marcello Pistolesi il 10 luglio ha fatto da guida a due ufficiali tedeschi fino a S. Cesario, arrivando il 20 luglio.--

RACCONTI:

Che è entrato a far parte della Brigata Versalovi e Comandaria Bar-
diara Rossa" il 20 maggio. La Brigata combatté nell' "Appennino Tosco-
Emiliano nel settore Modena - Bologna - Pistoia e comprende circa 6
o 7.000 uomini.--

La Banda nella quale prestava servizio il PRSI comprendeva da
400 a 500 unità ed aveva centro in S. Marcello Pistolesi.

Sull'Appennino Pistolesi le fortificazioni della linea Gotica non
sono ultimate perché gli operai della Todt lavorano lentamente e
svogliatamente, e dopo la presa di Roma ad esso buttati in maggioran-
za alla macchia disertando il lavoro.--

La Brigata manca di armi: alcuni violatori degli Alleani nella
zona del lago Scacciaolo (M. Corio alle Sciale) sono andati perduti.--

Il PRSI ricorda la seguente azione alle quali ha partecipato;
--20 giugno 1944 - Castellucero di Porretta, alle 10 del mattino at-
tacco di sorpresa ad una batteria contraerea della milizia: prese
le armi e tutti 30 prigionieri.

Il 16 giugno 1944 (Lignano in Belvedere) assalto alle casa di S.
Bocellenna Elaci.

Fine giugno: attacco alle stazioni di Melino del collone fatti sal-
tare alcuni vagoni, danni all'edificio, taglio linee telefoniche e tele-
grafiche, cattura di n. 15 tedeschi.--

Che è entrato a far parte della Brigata Garibaldi di Compagnia Ben-
 diero Rossa il 20 maggio. La Brigata costituita nell'Appennino Tosco-
 Emiliano nel settore Modena - Bologna - Pistoia e comprende circa 6
 o 7.000 uomini.-

La Banda nella quale prestava servizio il PRMSI comprendeva da
 400 a 500 unità ed aveva centro in S. Marcello Pistoiese.

Nell'Appennino Pistoiese le fortificazioni della linea Gotica non
 sono ultimate perchè gli operai della Todt lavorano lentamente e
 evolutamente, e dopo la presa di Roma ad sono buttati in massicran-
 sa alla macchia disertando il lavoro.-

La Brigata manca di Armi: alcuni aviolanti degli Alleati nella
 zona del lago Scaffaio (M. Corio alle Soale) sono andati perduti.-

Il PRMSI ricorda la seguenti azioni alle quali ha partecipato;
 -20 giugno 1944 - Castellucero di Sorretta, alle 10 del mattino at-
 tacco di sorpresa ad una batteria contrerea della milizia: Prese
 le armi e fatti 70 prigionieri.

Il 26 giugno 1944 (Misano in Belvedere) assalto alla casa di S.
 Eccellenza RIANI.

11a giugno: attacco alle stazioni di Molino del pollone fatti sal-
 tare alcuni vagoni, danni all'edificio, taglio linee telefoniche e tele-
 grafiche, cattura di n.15 tedeschi.-

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C O P I A

COMANDO R. S. BRIGATA "M. ANIATA"

SEGRETO

DA VITERBO

63/3

Il 20 luglio 1944 i tedeschi dopo aver portato via ogni macchinario e pezzo eportabile, facevano saltare il deposito locomotive delle FF. SS. di Porta a Prato.-

A scoppi avvenuti incitarono la popolazione del rione a raccogliere i rottami di ferro e metallici. Mentre avveniva la raccolta i tedeschi della compagnia stampa e propaganda giravano un documentario.-

2104

Il 26 luglio 1944 i tedeschi dopo aver portato via ogni macchinario e pezzo esplosibile, facevano saltare il deposito locomotive delle FF.SS. di Porta a Prato.-

A scoppi avvenuti incitarono la popolazione del rione a raccogliere i rottami di ferro e metallici. Mentre avveniva la raccolta i tedeschi della compagnia stampa e propaganda giravano un documentario.-

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2105

4 AUG Recd

(COPY)

4/8/55

Top Secret

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TRANSLATION

~~63/Pat.~~
63/3 Sat.

SUBJECT: - Resistance in PARMA region.

Source: Reliable and well placed informant.

13 July 44

At the end of Sep, a group of 200 men was formed at the instigation of the Italian Communist Party and under the direction of MARINI, a leading Communist in Northern Italy. It operated at the time in the region PARMA - PLACENZA, confining its activity to active propaganda.

In view of the fact that its adherents were becoming very numerous, MARINI proposed to divide the group into several brigades, when, however, he was arrested by the Fascist Police. His successor (name unknown) put his plan into operation. Three brigades were formed, operating in the PARMA region, the most important of which is said to be the Guido PICELLI Brigade, fighting in the BARDI Sector.

All the brigades are represented at PARMA by a cert in SERGIO, the political commissioner (Translator's note: 7 for the brigades) who responsible for recruitment, propaganda, distribution of orders and the political direction of the various bands.

Our informant has not been able to give exact details of their strength, armament, or the scope of the military section which they have undertaken. Only the following particulars have been obtained:-

- (a) Recruitment takes place throughout all classes of society.
- (b) The brigades only number 20% Communist.
- (c) Armament is always insufficient, even though arms have been sent. by the Allies.
- (d) The Group is said to be in radio contact with the Allies, making use of two call signs with LONDON radio.

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Top Secret.

I

PARMENSE

1 S.F. reports that the large concentration of Patriots in area Bergotaro-Bardi, has a total of 4,500 men and forms the 1st Ligurian Division, under Col. Fontana. The Division would be divided in 7 Brigades: 1st., c.o. Carpio (1,000 men); 2nd, c.o. Battistini (500 men). ; 3rd, c.o. Quartini (500 men); 4th Brigade, c.o. Ricchetti (500 men); 5th Brig., c.o. Lett (300 men); 6th Brigade, c.o. Brihi (200 men); 7th Brig., c.o. Mazzola (1,200 men).

The 3rd (?) Garibaldi Brigade is reported in area between Bobbio and Rovigno. c.o. Marzo.

On central Trebbia valley and W. of the valley is reported by 1 s.f. the presence of two Garibaldi Brigades with 1,500 men and one Giustizia e Libertà Brigade, with 500 men under Fausto.

SW. PARMA-FORNIVO (June) - A large band of partisans who wear German or Republican uniforms are operating in the hills to the south of this town. From all accounts they are well armed and well disciplined.

5300

In the zone of PARMA there has been a Garibaldi Brigade "PIOMBINI" organized. At PIACENZA the Partisan movement organized by officers was very strong.

The following report of partisan activities in the PIACENZA Province is given in the Fascist official report.

"It is confirmed that for some time past bands of partisans have been moving towards the province of Piacenza or in the frontier districts/rom Tuscany and Liguria. They ./.

.../. Parmense.

can be divided into three categories - Badoglioian, activist bands (bande d'azione) and Communist bands. While at one time groups of rebels were operating on the frontiers of the province, recently they have stationed their command HQs in the following localities: MORFASCO as the HQ of the Communist bands; GRUPPO DI FIOZZANO, SERRA-CORARA and (NALE?) as those of the Barigaldi Brigade, MEZZANO SCOTTI and BOBBIANO DI TRAVO as those of the Badoglioian bands. A group of 100 men appear to be in the Provincial Park and the Albergo Provinciale, while the bands patrols are thrusting towards CHIAVENNA, and CASTELARQUATA above TAVASCA.

In the neighbourhood of FARINA D'OLMO the following bands are operating "Red Star" 120 men, "Istriano", 100 men, "Montelaura" 200 men, "Captain Caspere", 200 men, "Captain Selva" 200 men. This is a radius of a few km. 620 armed men are stationed. Discipline in the bands is strong, they are generally composed of defaulters of the 1920, 1921, 1942, 1925 and 1926 conscript classes.

"Every" band is exceedingly well-armed; for example the "Captain Caspere" band has eight heavy machine guns and 30 ordinary machine guns and the "Istriano" eight automatic sub-machine guns and 52 ordinary machine-guns.

Our armament is simply negligible as compared with this abundance of automatic weapons, and this has a great influence on the morale of our soldiers.

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63/3

Top Secret.

10-8-44

According to DAVIS there are:

At FIVIZZANO DI COSELIA in Lungiana under Joes (Col. Mario FONTANA ?) about 6,000 men.

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COPIA

COMANDO REGIONALE MILITARE "M. ANIATA"

SEGRETO

63/3

INFORMAZIONI LINEA GOTICA

Il geometra GIORGI Giorgio -

-Via Aranci n.2

DUESSA

Ha lavorato e disegnato vari settori della linea Gotica, può dare (casolare non sia stato deportato in Germania) interessanti informazioni.

5987

Top Secret

63/3

LUCCA = GARFAGNANA = VERCELLIA = LUNIGIANA

A A I at Mount PIZANO three small bands with about 200 men.

In Garfagnana, according to A A I group of large bands with 1020 men. - According to other source only 500

In Lunigiana, according to ind-source a band of about 500 men.

S.O. of bands in Verellia in January was Col. BROFFENIO -
Active organizer also PWTACCHI brothers.

The band in area FIVIZZANO-CASTELNUOVO is reported to be
connected with Emilia Division.

5986

Top Secret.

LUCCA - APUANIA

1. S.F. reports presence of three bands on Apuane side of Garfagnana:

- a) 600 Patriots under Verali near Vagli (river Ebron)
- b) ? Patriots under Vagli between Gallignano and Castelnuovo.
- c) ? Patriots under Oldham N. of Barga.

The Rutland band (about 250 men) would be between Magra and Vara, N. of Aulla.

MONTE TORO DI GARFAGNANA

A band commanded by a British major (Major Johnstone) from the Commandos, dropped by parachute together with a British W/T operator and five Italian Officer Specialists. It is amongst the best organized and equipped as regards arms and means of communications. It was not yet in contact with the more distant band in the same zone. Sources established contact for it with "Corpe" at MONTESPESICCO. So far has only about 85 men.

CAPANNE (GARFAGNANA)

A band of about 50 men, adequately armed. In touch with Maj. Johnstone for receiving parachute supplies.

CORPE

A band of about 30 men armed with British automatic weapons. In touch with Major Johnstone.

- 2 -

.../. Lucca-Apuania.

S. OF LUCCA - A large body of Russians on horse-back enquired at SAN FREDIANO. A SETTIMO for information about partisans on the VERRUCA. They were in the area more than 8 hrs and then rode towards the Pisan hills. (10 and 13 July).

N. OF LUCCA - There is intense partisan activity in the SERCHIO valley NW OF BAGNI DI LUCCA and the LIVA valley to the NE as far as AREPONE. There were S.S. garrisons in CARPIGNANA (UPPER SERCHIO valley). (June).

NW OF PISA - In May it was reported that partisans are active in this area. A Young and energetic Air Force officer, Lt. LOMBARDI is in command.

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63/3

Top Secret.

BOLOGNESE - FERRARESE

COMACCHIO : o.r.i. reports presence of an efficient band of about 100 men.

~~MONTECASSALE - SCORRETTA~~ : o.r.i. reports presence of a mixed (n.s., Soc. Party military) band of about 250 Patriots.

~~SANTA SOFIA - SAN PIETRO IN D.~~ - c.s. reports presence of about 300 Patriots (May).

BASSO BOLOGNESE : c.s. reports presence of 500 Patriots (May).

5983

Top Secret.

20-8-44

BOLOGNA PROVINCE

No. 1 S.F. reports presence of band of about 600 men
S.W. of Bologna, c.o. Gaggio.

There is one brigade C.A.P. at BOLOGNA.

63/3

(From the daily paper "Unità" c 27/7/44)

The "Brigata Romagnola"

=====

These are the words of "Dola" partisan for 8 months of a Garibaldi brigade operating in the mountains of ROMAGNA - "A fine Unit, a real small organised army".

A few days after the Armistice "Liberio" from Trieste, who had fought under Tito, formed the "Brigata Romagnola". At the start it was composed of seven to eight young men armed only with revolvers. (Later on it was formed of 3 Garibaldi formations). They armed themselves fighting. Many recruits joined the brigade. It grew so large that it was divided into companies, it had a recruiting centre and an administrative service. It became a real organisation.

The first activities of the Brigade was to clear away all the fascists of the area. Attacks were made every night against carabinieri and fascist militia garrisons and Commands. Having liberated the area for a radius of many kilometres, attacks were then made on the German lines of communication and arms and prisoners were captured. The population helped in every way and was helped in return by the Patriots who distributed corn taken from the Germans and gave money to the poor. Of great importance was the support given to the workers in the strikes of November and May at Imola and Cesena.

Sant'Agata Feltrina was a well defended town, strong with machine gun sitings and a number of fascist units. The partisans of the Garibaldi Brigade, one night came down from the mountains and with a stratagem (they entered the town in the Mercato Saraceno bus having obliged the passengers to get out before reaching it) and taking the fascists by surprise captured most of them. The old mediaeval tower was attacked by three partisans armed only with hand grenades and it was captured without a single shot being fired from the machine gun covering the entrance. 800 quintals of corn, 10 quintals of sugar and pasta and cloth from 2 warehouses were distributed. At night, when the partisans returned to the mountains, the population accompanied them for several miles.

German reprisal was pitiless and brutal. An entire Nazi division and a number of fascist battalions were sent to attack the partisans. In the subsequent fighting the German losses could be rated at 50/1 against partisan losses. The Germans unable to capture the patriots, revenged themselves on the civil population and villages. All those villages between Stia and Castagnoli were destroyed.

At Freggheto a severe fight took place between the Brigade led by its commander "Falco" and the Germans. Many Germans were killed. The partisan losses were: 2 dead, many slightly wounded who were carried away by their comrades in the retreat for 4 nights and days, 3 partisans were seriously wounded and could not be saved.

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The 2 Patriots killed were brothers - they died a few minutes one after the other. The first cried out to his brother " - I am dying, kill them all, Long live Stalin" - The second brother cried out - " Mother! Long live Communism!

633

Top Secret.

ROMAGNA

27/7/44 - o.r.i. and A.I. reports presence of three Garibaldi Brigades in upper Romagna, each of them with an approximate strength of 600 men.

MERCATO SARACENO - ROCCA SAN CASCIANO - o.r.i. says there are 500 Patriots (end July).

BRISICHIELLA - MODIGLIANA - o.r.i. reports presence of 200 Patriots (end July).

VIA LAMONE - MARRADI - According to o.r.i. 200 Patriots (end July).

Santa Sofia - S. Pietro in B - c.s. report presence of about 300 Patriots (May)

MARRADI - In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARMI-BRISICHIELLA area, in the Direction of PANZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the

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598

SAITTA AND ROMAGNA

About 3 months ago "Gambaldi" Brigades were organized in the ROMAGNA. After a severe round-up for men these brigades were dispersed. About a month and a half ago one of the brigades was reformed, and another two were reorganized in the zone between SORBI and the MARCHE. There exist also brigades of G.A.P. one at FORLI and one at RAVENNA, with a strength of about 120 to 150 members.

MODENESE - REGGIANO - PRIGNANO

27-6-44 : Reported presence of two Garibaldi Divisions, one with H.Q. at LUONCHIO and the other with H.Q. at MONTE-TIOTINO - with a total strenght of about 3,000 men. The two divisions also probably include the bands in Lunigiana and Garfagnana.

In May c.s. reported presence of about 600 Patriots in upper Modene-
nese.

Patriot Ivano (Sergio Viverelli) reports that Brigata Garibaldi, CINO BOZZI is under CICCIO and includes about 250 men. The H.Q., was at Orsigna and is probably now at MONTE CRETA.

The Brigata Bozzi is part of the Aemilia Division It is divided into two formations:

- a) - Primo Filoni, c.o. Sergio Biondi;
- b) - Cino Bozzi, c.o. Pompiere.

They have little armement which is not much good. About July 21st. they were supposed to receive stores from the air but the stores were collected by the Germans.

The Brigade is also connected with the G.L.N. of Pistoia.

5490

Patriots control the area in a 40 Km. radius from MONTEFIORE,

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The Brigata Bozzi is part of the Emilia Division

It is divided into two formations:

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- b) - Gino Bozzi, c.o. Pompiere.

They have little armement which is not much good.

About July 21st. they were supposed to receive
stores from the air but the stores were collected
by the Germans.

The Brigade is also connected with the C.I.I.
of Pistoia.

5890

Patriots control the area in a 40 Km. radius from MONTEFICINO,
including SESTOLA, PANARO, Fressinoro, LEBIO, parts of
Ludiana and of Garfagnana.

The Emilia Division is part of the IV Garibaldi Army which includes
possibly 12 Brigades. They were attached by the Germans
on August 3.

Top Secret.

MODENESE - REGGIANO

S.F. reports: the (IVF) Garibaldi Corps, c.o. Amadio, includes the 1st Modena Div. (1500 men), the 2nd Modena Div. (1,500 men) and the Asmillan Division (1020). All together about 4,000.

The most important and best organized band had its H.Q. at MONTEFIORINO (86/3035) and was organized as a "Corpos" covering the area SAN MARTINO - PIAN BENEDETTI - PASSO DELLE RADICI - PASSO DELLE FORBICE - MONTE GIOVANNINO - MONTE SCALCERDOLO = high ground between CERRETO and MONTE SANTA GIULIA.

Patrols from the "Corpos" cover the surrounding areas reaching by day and by night, the latter in particular, to a distance of 25-30 kms from the above line. Other bands occupy the area of ESTOBA (97/4221) and FAVANO in the MODENA area. The patrols operating in area of REGGIO are in contact with the bands in the PARMA area. The "Corpos" has a strength of about 5,500 men, of which 1,000 are at present without arms.

These bands were confining their attention to the garrison of the above-mentioned areas and to raids on the GIARDINI DEL CERRETO road, attacking the Germans on the March. There were also occasional raids on the EMILIA road.

Results obtained through the destruction of bridges included the interruption of transport on the GIARDINI road and of motor convoys for about one week on the CERRETO road.

During June about 15 bridges were destroyed on the secondary and main roads. The German telephone line between MODENA and BOLOGNA has been out.

The electric power stations at LIGNONCHIO (97/0932), FARNETA, PETRAVONIA, GAZZANA and SIAVATA were in the hands of the partisans who limited productivity to the needs of the civilian population.

5979

.../. (Modenese - Reggiano)

- 2 -

OSPITALE, (beyond the GIARDINI road and out of the area of the "Corps").

A point of contact between the mobile forces of the "Corps" and the roving bands depending on partisan commands in TUSCANY. Generally, these were about 20 strong. The bands in TUSCANY generally had a better armament than those in the area of MODENA or LIGURIA, having received supplies more regularly by parachute; while their means of obtaining food were worse.

MANDROLINI

A band of about 40 men, adequately armed. With them was an Italian wireless operator; without radio, lost during descent.

PORTAFRANCA (near ORSIGNA)

A well armed band of about 30 men. In contact with MANDROLINI and the bands in TUSCANY.

ROMA AORTA (near ORSIGNA)

Well armed band of about 30. In contact with MANDROLINI and bands in TUSCANY.

ORSIGNA

Occupied by the "Bucchi Brigade" under the MONTEPULCINO "Corps" H.Q., who were carrying out raids about 15 July 44 on the PORTAFRANCA road and in the area of PRACCHIA.

MACGLIA

Well armed band of about 35 in contact with MANDROLINI and L'ALPE TRE POTENZE.

There is one brigade GAP at REGGIO EMILIA. There is also a partisan detachment at VADO, a GARIBOLDI BRIGADE on the MODENESE APENNINES.

63/3

PRATEMAGNO - CASENTINO - VAL DI CHIARA

A A I (end of July) - On ridge a band of 250 men
On W. side " " " 300-400 men

23rd Garibaldi Brigade was in area, C.C. SABBONI

The 23rd Car. Br. is the same as the Pio BORRI brigade of which the Tanti Batt. is still reported in the area (possibly 250 men).

On western side of Pratemagno was MAMELI Brigade under Capt. GHIOSI (300-400 men).

In Pian di SCO group of 200 under a Col. Exporting sorties.

A A I - Another group at La LAMA.

A A I At BIBBENA and LUCCIANA H.Q. 4th GARIBALDI Brigade (2,000 (?) badly armed). c.o. Cap. Rossetti.

Cortona - La Teppa Band (c.o. Lt. CIABATTINI)

- Also a Detachment of the Garibaldi Brigade under VALLI

C.L.N. band, c.o. NENCETTI (shot by the Germans May 26).

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5978

63/3

Interessanti informazioni sulla linea GOTICA (almeno per il tratto comprendente Pistola potrà darle il Commissario DAMIANI abitanti in Via Viareggio n. 222 Luoca. --
 Il Commissario DAMIANI è antitedesco ed in qualche occasione ha aiutato i Patrioti. --

Il tratto più fortificato sarebbe il Passo della CISA specialmente nel settore di Pontromoli (Km. 18 per passo della CISA). --

Da Viareggio a Luoca i tedeschi hanno piazzato cannoni in diverse località. --

Risulterebbe bene fortificata la linea:

Sarzana - Aulla - Passo Cerreto - Porrettana. --

Fino alla fine di maggio risultava sprovvista di ogni fortificazione la strada che passa per Bagno di Romagna. --

Gli autisti della SUPRAL di Firenze - Viareggio-Pisa e gli autisti di altre Società di trasporti di dette località, potranno dare particolare informazioni sulla linea GOTICA perché nell'esercitare la loro mansione molto hanno potuto vedere di quanto costruito dai tedeschi.

aiutato i Patrioti.--

Il tratto più fortificato sarebbe il Passo della CISA special-
mente nel settore di Pontremoli (Km.16 per passo della CISA).--

Da Viareggio a Lucca i tedeschi hanno piazzato cannoni in diverse
località.--

Risulterebbe bene fortificata la linea:

Sarzana - Aulla - Passo Cerreto - Torretana.--

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5977

A V I O L A N C I

Tirli - 8 - 9 - 10 giugno:	50	Sten.
Boecchegiano 12/6	24	"
Manciano 5/6	58	"
Vagliagli 10 - 15/6/44	27	"
Totale	189	

Avvolanci 7 di cui 1 caduto in mano tedesca nonché 200 + 200 + 200 + 200
effettuati fuori zona richiesta

Il volontario Francesco GRICCIOLI del RAGGRUPPAMENTO "M. AMIATA" arrivato a Siena l'8 agosto u.s. da Firenze riferisce:-
 Il mattino del 18 luglio viene preso dai tedeschi in una retata nei pressi di Castel Fiorentino.- La sera è fatto partire in un torpedone per il Nord.-

Due chilometri a Nord di Pietramala, approfittando di un rallentamento del torpedone, apre la portiera posteriore del Fulman e scatta sulla strada. Immediatamente lo segue il tenente DE SANTIS pure appartenente al "raggruppamento "Amiata".-

La strada, nei punti di facile accesso (perchè fiancheggiata da prati o ripiani) è protetta da reticolato alto m.i.-

Ai due lati della strada (che, dopo Pietramala, abbandona la rotabile n.65, si dirige a Pezcolo e va ad allacciarsi alla rotabile Firenzuela - Imola) esistono gruppi d'artiglieria di circa 8 pezzi da 88 mm.-

Il volontario GRICCIOLI, dovette ritornare sulla rotabile n.65 perchè una sentinella tedesca di servizio vicino ai pezzi intimò il "CHIVIA!".-

Ritornati sulla strada statale n.65 attraversano un boschetto di circa 200/300 ml., sulla destra ed incontrano reticolati con andamento perpendicolare a quelli fiancheggianti la strada e si quali si allacciano.- I reticolati coprono tutto il settore. Fra il bosco ed i reticolati sono piazzati per pezzi di artiglieria di calibro superiore al medio.-

All'interno, sulle vetre più alte sono batterie contraereo con baracche per truppa.-

Venendo da Bologna prima di Pietramala sulla destra, circa 500 ml prima del paese stesso, è piazzato un gruppo contraereo (circa 8 cannoni) ben mascherati in profonda pianura.-

Sul monte Peri che strapiomba sulla rotabile n.65 (mentre dal ver-

mento del torpedone, apre la portiera posteriore del Falanx e salta sulla strada. Immediatamente lo segue il tenente DE SANTIS pure appartenente al "aggruppamento "Amiata".

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All'interno, sulle vette più alte sono batterie contraeree con baracche per truppa.

Venendo da Bologna prima di Pietramala sulla destra, circa 500 m prima del paese stesso, è piazzato un gruppo contraereo (circa 8 canoni) ben mascherati in profonde piazzole.

Sul monte Roni che strapiomba sulla rotabile n. 65 (mentre dal versante opposto è di facile accesso) esiste oltre alla consueta postazione contraerea un'antenna o traliccio oltre circa m. 30 trenta.

La strada continua fiancheggiata da reticolati. Prima di Coviglia (dove la strada forma una curva) esiste un gruppo contraereo di 8 pezzi su piazzole profonde che consentono di vederne solo la canna.

././.

2129

- 2 -

PASSO FUTA - FIRMINE

Appena passato il Passo, sulla destra il bosco degrada ed in questa zona è facile ritenere esistano delle opere di fortificazione - anche se non visibili - perchè si notano delle radure (recentemente coperte) od i cui lavori sono in corso) ottenute abbattendo il bosco.

Al Km. 44 la strada si accentra in una gola: a sinistra la strada si appoggia al monte, a destra strapiomba su di un torrente. Risalendo la costa del monte, dalla riva destra del torrente, si nota una mulattiera recentemente costruita.

Su detta mulattiera si aprono all'incirca 15 caverne la cui funzione può essere: ricovero truppa, deposito munizioni e nel primo tratto anche postazioni per armi leggeri battenti la strada.

La sola strada può essere sotto il fuoco di queste postazioni perchè ad un certo punto la mulattiera scende rapidamente e si congiunge alla statale n. 65 dopo il ponte costruito sul torrente suddetto.

S. LUCIA

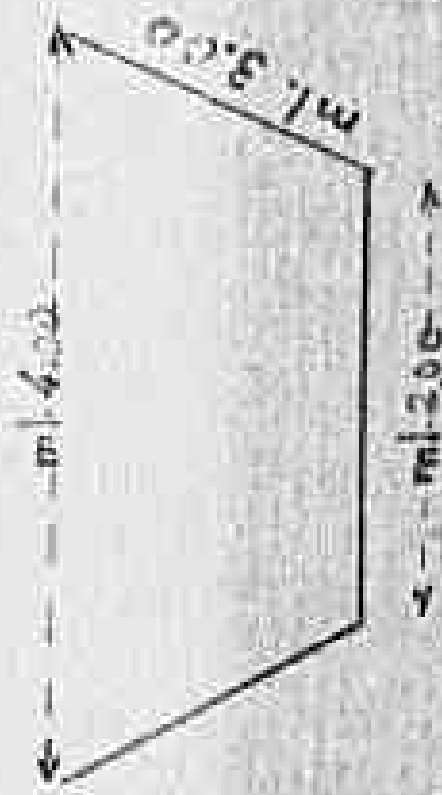
Evidentemente è il primo sbarramento della linea Gotica.

Passato il paese la strada piega immediatamente in tourniquet per poi piegare nuovamente verso Sud. Nel gomito vi è un ripiano protetto da una rete mimetica, sotto la quale dovrebbe esistere un piazzale avente forma ovale, ed un'grande opera fortificata della misura di circa ml. 150 x 200.

Poi vi sono reticolati di cm. 0,50 legati fra loro da filo spinato in duplice o triplice catena.

Sempre in questo settore esistono cavalli di frisia e filo spina to a matasse allentate di circa $\frac{1}{2}$ mc.

Così arrivano ad un fossato anticarro.



5475

latteria recentemente costruita.-

Su detta mulattiera si aprono all'incirca 15 caverne la cui funzione può essere: ricovero truppe, deposito munizioni e nel primo tratto anche postazioni per armi leggeri battevoli la strada.-

La sola strada può essere sotto il fuoco di queste postazioni perché ad un certo punto la mulattiera scende rapidamente e si congiunge alla statale n.65 dopo il ponte costruito sul torrente suddetto.-

S. LUCIA

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Sempre in questo settore esistono cavalli di frisia e filc spina to a matasse allentate di circa $\frac{1}{2}$ mc.

Così arrivano ad un fossato anticarro.-



Questo fossato anticarro attraversa le pendici delle colline ad un chilometro circa dalla statale n.65, scende fino alla strada statale e prosegue oltre.-

Più avanti sulla sinistra della strada n.65 si notano due cascine. Le nuovissime che potrebbero essere "bunkers". Da questo punto a Vi- renze non esistono altre fortificazioni

././.

2130

GIUGGIOLI VASCO e LUNCHI MARIO entrambi della S.E.P.R.A.I.

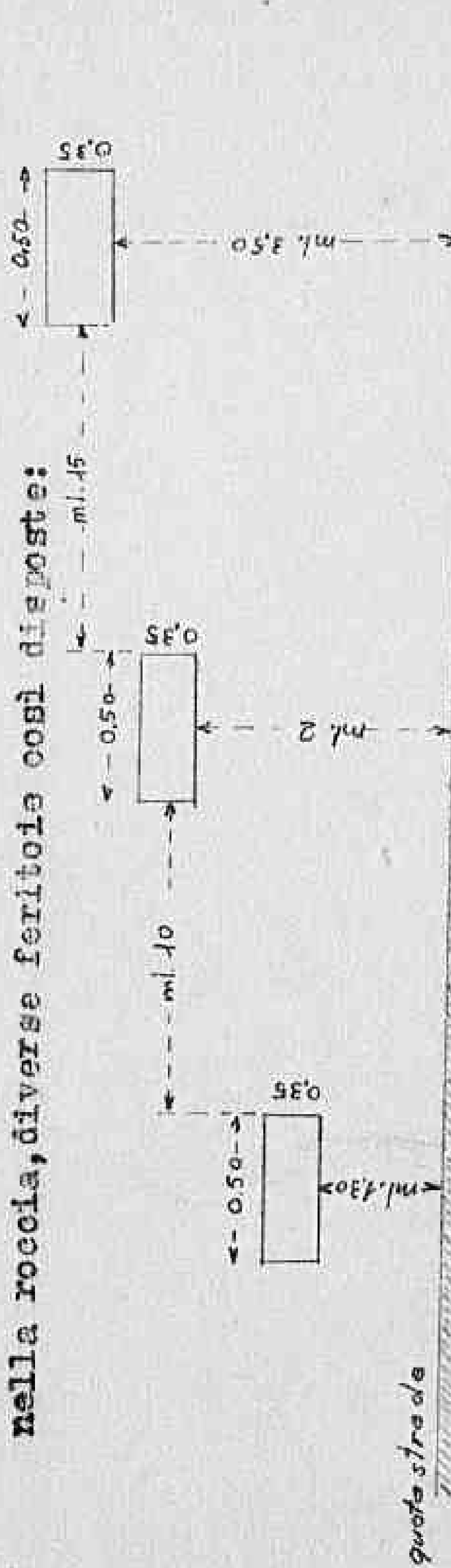
S I E N A

Riferisco:

Il 20 giugno hanno coperto il viaggio Firenze - Bologna con il seguente itinerario: - Firenze - FUTA - RADICOSA - BOLOGNA. -

Il settore comprendente la "LINEA OTTICA" (secondo loro) andrebbe da S. Lucia a Pietramala e da PIETRAMALA a LOIANO. -

Da S. Lucia a Pietramala (circa Km. 20) si osservano sulla sinistra, nella roccia, diverse feritoie così disposte:



Si osserva pure l'entrata di alcune forchioni. -

Sulla destra: - alcuni piazzali di ml. 10 x 7 con cannoni, fosse da 88 mm. mimetizzati e coperte di frasche. -

Fra Pietramala e Loiano, sulla sinistra vi è un gran piazzale mimetizzato. -

In diversi viaggi a Rovigo hanno sempre sentito parlare bene del Prefetto MENNA, che, caso raro tra i repubblicani è definito una buona persona. Il Prefetto MENNA avrebbe protetto un giovane pilota americano, abbattuto con l'apparecchio in località vicino a Rovigo.

2132

63/3
62/2/1/109

3. RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS - 4 AUG Recl

On the immediate Army front partisans are not at present very active. In the Adriatic sector the powerful bands operating in the MACERATA - ANCONA area have now been over-run. Further west, the CAGLI - URBINO SAN SEPOLCRO area was formerly a centre of partisan activity directed from CAGLI.

The main bands were 5 GARIBALDI Ede (theoretically communist) in the Mt NERONE area (R7942) and its liberal counterpart, 1 PROLETARIAN Shock Bde at PIETRALUNGA (R7329). An account by two British ex-PW officer of life with the former unit will be found at Appendix "C". Both units are now South of the line. The Proletarians were over-run when we entered PIETRALUNGA in the first half of July. On the following day the Garibaldini received a message to come down from the mountains to help our troops at PIETRALUNGA who were being counter-attacked. After some discussion and under the impression that they would be allowed to continue fighting with us as ordinary infantry, they tardily obeyed and arrived at PIETRALUNGA to find that we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further North were subsequently contacted but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 5 GARIBALDI Ede (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far South as ROME, where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman Press

3. RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS CONTD

There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

In the area from SAN SEPOLCRO to South of FLORENCE partisans have been kept in check by savage German reprisals. Some idea of their severity may be obtained from the large number of villages reported burnt in this report. The cumulative effect of this systematic destruction, combined with indiscriminate shooting and hanging of civilian hostages or organized massacres, such as those perpetrated at S. POLO and CIVITELLA, has been to cause a rift between the civilian population and the partisans which in some areas has approached actual enmity. Such bands as remain South of the Gothic Line are of little account. In the ALPE DELLA LUNA there are reported to be some 250 men and in the ALPE DI CATENAIA clemente from the TANI Bn of the PIO FORI B de may still remain. The only unit left on the PRATOMAGNO in the "Sandro" Bn of the same "Brigade", which is, however, very disorganised after having been more or less disarmed by the more powerful communist LANCIO Ede before the latter left for the FLORENCE area. Finally, on either side of the INCISAN-FLORENCE road there are rather ineffective partisan elements in the Pt VOMO DI SASSO (R068) and Mt MOGGIO (R044) areas.

Further back along the Gothic Line and in the hills round FLORENCE partisans have been very active in the past. No recent information has been received of the strong bands which existed some time ago in the area of Mt FUMAILOLO (R4569) and it is possible that they have gone to ground as German forces concentrate on the Gothic Line. The same may be true of the GARIBALDI Ede commanded

to find that we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further North were subsequently contacted but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 5 GARIBOLDI Ede (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far South as ROME, where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman Press

3. RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS CONTD

There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

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Further back along the Gothic Line and in the hills round FLORENCE partisans have been very active in the past. No recent information has been received of the strong bands which existed some time ago in the area of Mt FUMAIOLIO (E4560) and it is possible that they have gone to ground as German forces concentrate on the Gothic Line. The same may be true of the GARIBOLDI Ede commanded by a certain LIBERO in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further west.

To the North West of FLORENCE a strong body of partisans has collected round Mt GIOVI (E5779). They have recently been joined by the LANCIOITTO Ede from the PRATOMAGNO which is now South of FORGO SAN LORENZO. According to one report the band based on Mt MORELLO (E7780), North of FLORENCE - PONTASELVE road, where a band of some 250 men was previously reported. It is not known whether they have been followed by their ideologically not very sympathetic neighbours on MONTE MORELLO, a band of some 400 Carabinieri, complete with officers, which was reported by the same source. The former M.A. LONDON and ...

-2-

109A

Italian High Command in Liberated ITALY. It remains to be seen whether at the appropriate moment the carabinieri will be disarmed with their fellow partisans, or whether they will take part in the collection of arms from their communist comrades.

4. RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS
Gothic Line and South

a. The "Potente" "Lanciotto" and "Molle" Groups are operating in the area of BORGIO SAN LORENZO (09088). They belong to the FIRST Brigata Garibaldi, their strength is abt 1500 men. They are under the control of the Committee of Liberation of BORGIO SAN LORENZO, which is in liaison with the Committee of FLORENCE. The infmts belong to the "Molle" Gp which is smaller than the other, having a strength of abt 150 men. It has been recently formed. The gps were very active in the past months. A village (VICCHIO) was occupied in Feb for one day and during a moppingup of Hermann Goering Div they fought for 36 hrs. Another moppingup was organized by Germans with Italian tps of the bns "San Marco" and "Muti" without any results. The partisans cannot act now because of German reprisals. The partisans are now waiting for the Allied attack on FLORENCE, in order to harry the Germans from the other side. It is not difficult for the partisans to find sups, because the peasants help them, but they are in need of weapons, having only five or six Sten, an Italian IMG, some German and Italian rifles and revolvers.

b. All bns on rd SCHEGGIA - SASSOFERRATO
blown. Alleged to have been done by Partisans?
Reliability - fair.

NZ GURBIO 19 July
SCHEGGIA R 9224
SASSOFERRATO
S 0727

c. 3 Bn of the PIO BORDI Bde (23 GARIBALDI Bde) consisting of 250 men (comd "LELLI" or "SANDRO", 2nd i/c "ROSSI") is on the PRATOMAGNO. It is organized in HQ pl (20 men) and 4 coys each of abt 50 men, and now has its HQ at CARDA (R 1053), having moved from the ruins of TALLA. As a result of German mopping-up, it is very disorganized, and has little in the way of armament; what it once had was mainly taken off it by the more powerful Communist Lanciotto Bde (22 GARIBALDI Bde), before the latter moved up to the BORGIO SAN LORENZO area (see para (a) above). The former comd, Bruno, was wounded when the band signalled to a passing German plane under the impression that it was British, and received a bomb instead of the expected supplies.

5972

Top Secret.

3-8-44

63/3

Nella provincia di Pesaro: 5[^] Brigata Garibaldi, possibilmente comunista. Collegata con la Brigata d'assalto proletaria a Pietralunga. Dirigenti della Brigata d'Assalto sono possibilmente dei liberali.

ALPI DELLA LUNA - 250 uomini.

ALPI DI CATENAIA - composta di elementi della Banda Tani della Brigata Pio Borri (23[^] Bg. Garibaldi.)
Comandante: Sandro Telli
2[^] Comandante : Rossi.

PRATO MAGNO
- Banda Sandro della Brigata Pio Borri
(23[^] Bg. Garibaldi) - Disarmati dalla Brigata Lanciotto

Zona di FIRENZE - Brigata Lanciotto
Comandante : Bruno . Ora dislocata a Monte Ciove.

5971

PUNTA UOMO DI SASSO - I componenti di questa Banda si sono dispersi.

ALPI DELLA LUNA - 250 uomini.

ALPI DI CATANIA - composta di elementi della Banda Tani della Brigata Piorri (23^a Bg. Garibaldi.)
Comandante: Sandro Lelli
2^a Comandante : Rossi.

PRATO MAGNO - Banda Sandro della Brigata Piorri (23^a Bg. Garibaldi) - Disarmati dalla Brigata Lanciotto

Zona di FIRENZE - Brigata Lanciotto
Comandante : Bruno . Ora dislocata a Monte Giove.

5871

PUNTA UOMO DI SASSO - I componenti di questa Banda si sono dispersi.

MONTE MAGGIO - I componenti di questa Banda si sono dispersi.

MONTE PUMAILOLO - Forti bande ora probabilmente disciolte.

C O P I A

COMANDO RAGGRUPPAMENTO "M. MLIATA"

SEGRETO

Informazioni evute dal Sig. SCHIARI Aquilino - Mulino Muratori

S I E N A

VIAGGIO ATTRAVERSO LA LINEA GOTICA

15 giugno 1944

Andata: Firenze - Prato - Castiglione dei Pepoli SASSO-

Bologna - Reggio Emilia.

FORTIFICAZIONI

A Castiglione dei Pepoli erano in lavoro, e le curava la TODT, vi lavoravano molti operai e venivano costruite gallerie come sotto descritte e postazioni di cannone.

La zona fortificata va da 20 Km. sopra Prato e Castiglione dei Pepoli.

A circa Km. 20 da Castiglione dei Pepoli verso Vergato vi era un forte nucleo di contraerei (con circa 20 cannoni e diverse mitragliere).

La zona di difesa contraerea si estende per circa un chilometro durante il quale la polizia e lo S.S. facevano due controlli ai documenti ed alle persone e macchine in transito.

Forse la postazione era a difesa di tre ponti ferroviari colpiti dagli aerei alleati e che erano in ricostruzione.

Il paese di Vado è tutto distrutto causa i bombardamenti subiti dal vicino ponte ferroviario colpito e che era in ricostruzione. Per il traffico esisteva una deviazione prima di Vado.

Complessivamente tutto il fondo stradale sulla Firenze Prato - Castiglione dei Pepoli - Sasso - Bologna Reggio Emilia è buono.

M. B. L'autista fece questa strada perché il Ponte e Misa - Pistoia - Vergato era interrotta dovuta a bombardamenti del ponte sul Reno presso Vergato.

20 giugno 1944

5570

Bologna -Reggio Emilia.

FORTIFICAZIONI

A Castiglione dei Pepoli erano in lavoro, e le curava la TODT, vi lavoravano molti operai e venivano costruite gallerie come sotto descritte e postazioni di cannoni.--

La zona fortificata va da 20 Km. sopra Prato e Ostiglia dei Pepoli.

A circa Km. 20 da Castiglione dei Pepoli verso Vergato vi era un forte nucleo di contraerei (con circa 20 cannoni e diverse mitragliere).--

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20 Giugno 1944

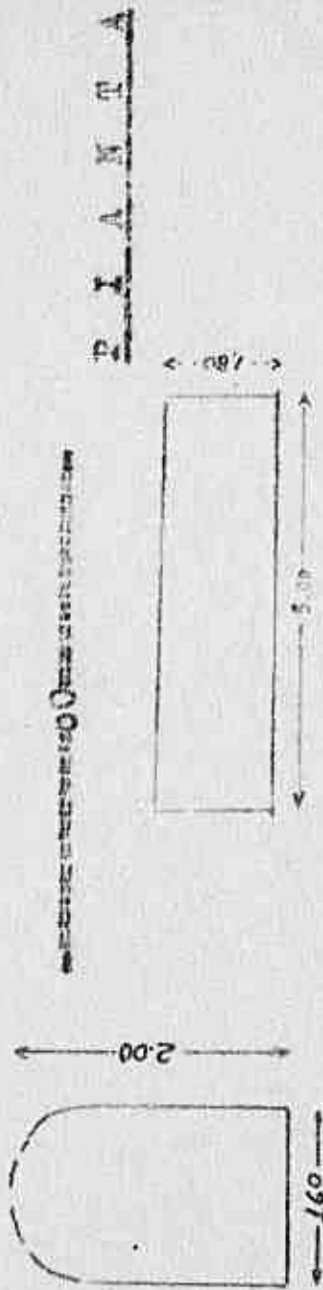
Ritorno: Reggio Emilia- Bologna -Pianoro -Lolano -La

Futa -Pratolino -Firenze.--

A Bologna le strade erano piene di truppe tedesche che a piedi si avviavano verso Firenze. L'autocarro fu fermato dai germanici e dovette accompagnare diversi soldati tedeschi per un buon tratto. La Polizia al Passo della Futa non vi è nessuna fortificazione -solo a circa

km. 30 da Bologna, verso la Fua, l'informatore vide un osservatorio militare con tanto di cartello indicatore.

Arrivato ad Ospedale incontrò gallerie e distanza di ml 30 l'una dall'altra e più stretti a ml 500 l'una dall'altra. Le gallerie sono ai lati della strada obbligamente con l'imboccatura verso Firenze.



Sulla sinistra a 500 ml. fuori della strada nella montagna costruivano altre gallerie uguali.

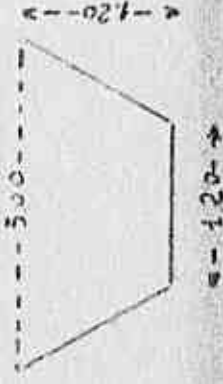
Tra Trebbio ed Ospedale era già costruito un grande piazzale sulla sinistra della strada con un raccordo stradale. Il piazzale era pavimentato con reti coperte di erba e non fu possibile vedere che cosa ci fosse, ma era tutto pieno.

PIAZZALE DI FORCA OVALE.

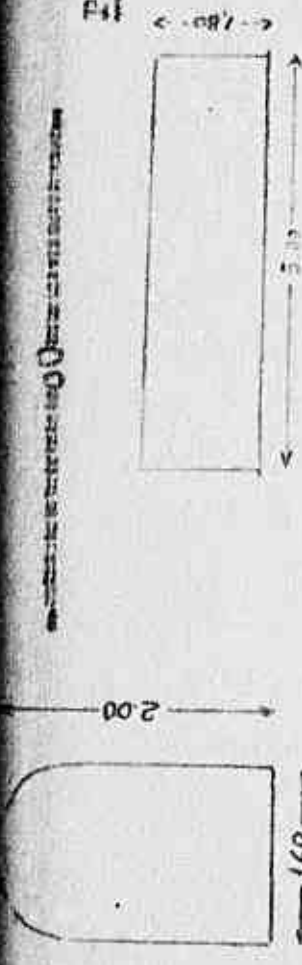


Più avanti circa 100 metri, sulla sinistra della strada, sulla sinistra esisteva una palificata di pali di pino piantati in terra della misura di ml. 50 x 40.

Prima di Trebbio una trincea taglia tutta la montagna.



P I A N T A



Sulla sinistra a 500 ml. fuori della strada nella montagna costruivamo altre gallerie uguali.

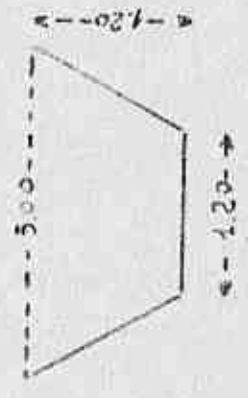
Fra Trebbio ed Ospedale era già costruito un grande piazzale - sulla sinistra della strada - con un raccordo stradale. Il piazzale era simmetrizzato con zeri coperte di erbe e non fu possibile vedere che cosa ci fosse, ma era tutto piano.

PIAZZALE DI FORMA OVALE.



Più avanti circa 100 metri, sulla strada destra della strada, esisteva una palificata di pali di pino piantati in terra della misura di ml. 50 x 60.

Prima di Trebbio una trincea taglia tutta la montagna.



5900

MISURE TRINCEA

Poi tutta la zona è protetta da reticolati bassi.



Da Trebbio a Firenze non esistevano fortificazioni, non c'era l'organizzazione TODT e non si vedevano militari.

