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NAVALE MECCANICA WORKS
FEB. - MAY 1945

823/11

3A

NAVALE MECCANICA.

Location of the firm:- NAPLES.

Management:- Dr. PETACCIA - Admin. & Manager
Ing. PIERRO - Workshops Manager

Labour:- At the present 160 workmen are employed by the firm.

Capital: 96,000,000. Liras

Present production:- The firm are manufacturing tools and light weight machinery.

Programme for the future:-

The firm intend to be transformed but have not yet made their mind as to which line to follow.

2A

From : Air Forces Sub Commission,
H.Q., Allied Military Government,
Naples Commune, APO 394.

To : Air Forces Sub Commission,
Allied Commission, Bari.
(Attention Wing Commander Gladstone)

Date : May 6th, 1945.

Ref : AFSC/H/823/I2/Eng.

MONTHLY REPORT ON FACTORIES AND WORKS - MARCH 1945

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your AFSC/H/S.823-I2/Eng dated 4th May, 1945.

2. It is noted that for the time being the Civilian Firms in this area working for the Italian Air Force are still controlled by the Italian Air Ministry in Rome through Major Celi, but that this situation may change in the near future. Should such a change take place it will be appreciated if you will advise us direct.

3. As regards the radiators at the Navalmeccanica and their workmanship, we think we cannot do better than enclose a translation of a report issued by Major Celi following upon his visit to Lecce on 28th April, which goes thoroughly into the whole question and explains the present situation.

(W.L.Winter)
Wing Commander,
for Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

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Copy to : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

REPORT ON UNSERVICEABILITY OF A/C RADIATORS
PRODUCED BY THE NAVALMECCANICA AVIATION WORKS

The undersigned, Major S. CELI, I.A.F. Engineering Officer paid a visit to Lecce on 28th April 1945 where he confirmed the follo ing information :-

Although the radiators in question had undergone a vibration test and had been passed as being in a perfect state of service-ability, it has been revealed that various leakages have developed in them.

2. The leakages are located particularly at the undermentioned points of the radiators :

Rivet heads
Radiating slots or tubing assembly
Joint between half casings
Parts which have been drilled to admit bolts for fitting radiators to A/C.

3. It seems that the leakages, apart from those which are located in the radiating system, have developed owing to the fact that the framework components were not treated with an initial welding operation to strengthen them as required.

4. It was therefore considered worthwhile to examine each individual leak so as to check them against the probability that a high rate of water leakage may develope, thus seriously endangering the aircraft. It was then verified that this probability solely existed as a result of the leakages developed at the joint between the two half-casings of the radiators. The remainder of the defects, however, only entail the loss of a few centimeters of water per minute. It was then thought that the fitting of a sheet-brass covering over the joint between the half-casings, would constitute an important safeguard of the radiators' efficiency which although at the same time would not guarantee a water-tight result but with only a negligible loss of the liquid content of the casing.

5. We have, in consequence of the above report, reached the following agreement regarding theconstruction and the use of the radiators: 218

The consignment of fifteen radiators which have been delivered to the I.A.F. will be held at Lecce and the modifications outlined in this report will be carried out on the spot. Six of these radiators are to be fitted to aircraft and will thus be tested in flight at Lecce. This test should, at all events prove either

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6. A representative from the MONA Firm will proceed from Lecce to the Navalmeccanica Aviation Works in order to inform this Firm of the modification which is to be applied on the radiators at present still under construction.

7. We have, moreover, instructed Navalmeccanica that the completed radiators now being tested at their Establishment are to be held until the results of the flight-tests at Lecce have been communicated to us. Should the results of the flight-tests be favourable, Navalmeccanica are instructed to effect the delivery of the completed radiators or, on the other hand these radiators

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From :- Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission, NAPLES.

To :- Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission, BARI.

Date :- 27th February, 1945.

Ref :- Navalmeccanica.

RADIATORS FOR MACCHI 205
FROM NAVALMECCANICA - NAPLES.

B

1. Attached please find translation of latter reference 1032/2 dated 20th February written by the Cobstruction Section, Italian Air Force, Naples, to Headquarters, Fighter Group, Lecce, regarding the unsuitability of the Spitfire type radiators for the construction of Macchi 205 radiators, and requesting the immediate despatch of Hurricane type radiators instead.

2. It is presumed that the necessary action will already have been taken by the Fighter Group, Lecce, but it is thought advisable to bring this matter to your attention in case nothing should yet have been done.

(W.L.Minter)
Wing Commander,
for Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Copy to :-

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission, ROME.

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1B.

From : "Sezione Costruzioni Aeronautiche.
Italian Air Force. Pomigliano.

To : Technical Section.
Headquarters I.A.F. Fighter Group. Lecce.

Date : 20th February. 1945.

Ref : 1032/2

RADIATORS TYPE SPITFIRE

With reference to your letter 455/Ra/o. we hereby wish to notify you that the tubing-assembly which is to be taken from the twelve Spitfire type radiators recently delivered to the Navalmeccanica Aviation Workshops is not suitable for the construction of radiators for Macchi 205 aircraft.

The length of the Spitfire tubing is 520 mm. whereas the required length is 560 mm.

It is therefore requested that a further consignment of Hurricane type radiators be despatched to Navalmeccanica in order to avoid a hold up in the production work in hand at this Firm. Please inform us as to where we should return the Spitfire radiators delivered to Navalmeccanica presumably by mistake.

(signed) THE DIRECTOR
(Maggiore GARI CELL Salvatore)

Copies to :-

Air Forces Sub-Commission. A.C.C. Naples.

"Direzione Centrale Costruzioni Aeronautiche"
I.A.F. Air Ministry. Rome.

Italian Air Force Headquarters. Bari.

(Translation)