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FIRE & C.D., REGION TX  
AUG. 1944 - JAN. 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Public Safety Sub-Commission  
APC 394

17 January, 1945

AC/12501/10/PS

SUBJECT : Fire Protection - Emilia Region.

TO : R.P.S.C. thru Regional Commissioner Emilia Region,  
(attention Capt. H. Backman).

1. Reference fire report for Emilia Region dated 10th December 1944 submitted to you by Capt. H. Backman and forwarded to this Headquarters.
2. The question of appointing a Commandante for the Rimini Fire Corps in place of Neri Alfredo is under consideration by the Ministry of Interior.
3. The motor pump and W.D. truck standing by at Florence for use in Bologna may be called forward for use in Forli Province or elsewhere in the Emilia Region.
4. Two other W.D. trucks with water tanks, portable pumps and minor fire equipment are standing by at Rome and will be dispatched immediately upon receipt of your request for these vehicles.  
  
Trained firemen are also available and should be asked for if wanted.
5. Small wrecking tools such as axes, picks and shovels and ropes might be obtained from the Ministry of Interior (Civil defence) if details of your requirements can be made known to us.

*John W. Chapman*  
JOHN W. CHAPMAN  
Colonel, J.A.G.D.  
Director Public Safety  
Sub-Commission.

Copy to Ministry of Interior.

A.J.B./C.

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HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

SUBJECT: Report of fire stations, equipment and personnel, Forli Province. 10 December 1944

TO : Lt. Col. E.J. BYE, Public Safety Division, Emilia Region.

330 Corpo Vigili del Fuoco

The following is a report of a survey made of the Fire Stations, Equipment and Personnel of the Province of Forli.

Fire Stations City of Forli

There are two fire stations located in the City of Forli.

Headquarters station located on Via Matucci 11; before hostilities, had a personnel of twenty (20) men. This station was badly damaged, but repairs are being made. The firemen are assisting in cleaning up the debris and in the repairs in addition to their other duties.

At present the second station in the City, location Viale Corriolomi, is occupied by British Troops. This station is in good condition and is used as a garage. It had accommodation for twenty (20) men most of whom are now stationed at Headquarters. This has resulted in some overcrowding at Headquarters as the men sleep in the Air Raid Shelter or Basement and there are also civilians there.

There are no lights, water, fire alarm or telephones. Part of Headquarters building is in use to house two pieces of apparatus. The workshop and store house located across the yard were not damaged to any extent.

Fire Fighting Equipment

In peace time there were sixteen (16) pieces of fire apparatus in the City. At present there is only one five hundred (500) gallon trailer pump and a ladder truck which was moved from Cesana to tow the pump. (See attached sheet).

Many parts are needed throughout the Province so that some of the old pieces can be made usable.

There are about one hundred (100) lengths of good hose on hand and more can be obtained from Cesana if necessary. Other appliances such as play pipes, wyes, gates, etc. are sufficient.

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Many parts are needed throughout the Province so that some of the old pieces can be made usable.

There are about one hundred (100) lengths of good hose on hand and more can be obtained from Cesana if necessary. Other appliances such as play pipes, wyes, gates, etc. are sufficient.

There are no batteries, tires or tubes and not sufficient gasoline and oil.

#### Personnel

At present the Comandante is in jail charged with having Allied property in his possession and the department is in charge of a volunteer, Captain Orlati Battista who is Acting V. Comandante. He is 55 years old and was appointed by the prefect.

There are three permanent men and 32 volunteers, but the latter are on a permanent basis for the present making a total of 35 full time firemen. The last pay received was October 31.

Rations consist of 100 grams meat, 425 grams bread, 28 grams vegetables.

A list of clothing requirements has been submitted to Major Chaney.

The firemen are allowed one day off in five. This system keeps about 30 men on duty all of the time.

While there is some overcrowding in the sleeping quarters there were no complaints.

The men in addition to their regular duties of fire fighting are inspecting dangerous buildings and walls, removing bodies when necessary, and are assisting the AMG officials in any way possible.

As there are no telephones, one fireman is detailed to the British Army Fire Fighting Section. His duty is in case of fire to ride his bicycle to the station and notify the firemen.

Recommendations

1. That some means of communication be established with the fire department throughout the province.

2. At present there is no public water supply and it is necessary to carry water for extinguishing fires. Water will probably be available in a few days and a modern pumper should be sent to this city. This does not mean that one pump will provide sufficient protection. A mobile squad of water tanks and pumps is being formed in Rome and would recommend that six of these be sent to Forli as well as the pump mentioned above. Ladders are also needed. The value of a tank truck was demonstrated on the night of Dec 2, when bombs were dropped in Cesana setting fire to the railroad station. The tank truck from the Cesana Fire Station responded and extinguished the fire.

3. As Cesana seems to have saved most of its equipment more use can be made of it in other Communes.

4. The Provincial Fire Officer should make frequent inspections of the stations and equipment to check the progress that is being made as well as the cleanliness of apparatus and quarters also the needs of the stations and men.

5. That refugees should not be allowed to live in the Air Raid Shelter in the basement of headquarters. Air Raid Shelters are for emergency use and not to be used as a home. This applies to other Air Raid Shelters in the City also.

6. That public buildings and places of assembly be inspected by firemen before being used.

7. Pails of water should be placed in buildings where movies are held and exits properly marked and illuminated.

8. There is a large water tank truck located in the Ufficio Autotrasporti (Civilian Motor Truck Pool) located at 66 Vittorio Emanuele which should be placed in running order and used by the fire department. It is the property of the Comune and has a capacity of about 4 meters.

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9. That some wrecking tools be provided.

42

*Henry W. Backman*  
Capt.

HENRY W. BACKMAN  
Capt, Spec Res  
Fire Officer, Emilia Region.

413

HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

HWB/vfs

10 December 1944

SUBJECT: Report of fire stations, equipment and personnel, Cesena

TO : Lt. Col. E.J. BYE, Public Safety Division, Emilia Region

Cesena

The fire station located in Cesena also the equipment was the best of any in the Province. The station and billets were clean and the stock room neat.

There are billets for 25 men.

No fire alarm system or telephones are in service, however there are lights and water part of the time. There are approximately 30 hydrants having a pressure of 2.5 Atms.

Equipment

Prior to the war there were six pieces of apparatus including a passenger car. Due to the foresight of the officers and men all of this equipment was hidden until the Germans had left. (See attached sheet).

In addition to the above there were two old hand pumps and an extension ladder.

There is about 2600 feet of hose on hand and a sufficient amount of play-pipes, wyes, and various connections as well as refills for foam and other types of extinguishers, also short wall and scaling ladders.

Personnel

The personnel consists of one permanent fireman and 22 volunteers. All are employed full time at present.

These men are not getting heavy rations but this was brought to Major Chancy's attention. A list of clothing requirements has also been submitted to him.

The department was paid up through October 31.

The firemen are performing similar duties as in other parts of the Province.



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#### Personnel

The personnel consists of one permanent fireman and 22 volunteers. All are employed full time at present.

These men are not getting heavy rations but this was brought to Major Chaney's attention. A list of clothing requirements has also been submitted to him.

The department was paid up through October 31.

The firemen are performing similar duties as in other parts of the Province.

There are two sections of the Army Fire Service located here.

The men receive one day off in five.

#### Recommendation

1. That some means of communication be established, as soon as possible, with the fire department throughout the Province so that mutual aid can be established, also with the Army Fire Units.
2. The department probably has enough equipment but should not be drawn too heavily upon by other towns.
3. There is a scarcity of wrecking tools and machinery throughout the Province and some should be provided.
4. While the premises were kept in good condition under the circumstances, the Comandante of the Province should make frequent inspections to check on the officers and men.

HENRY W. BACKMAN  
Capt., Spec. Res.  
Fire Officer Emilia Region

HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
AFO 394

HWB/vfs

SUBJECT: Report of fire stations, equipment and personnel, Rocca S. Casciano  
10 December 1944

TO : Lt. Col. E.J. HYE, Public Safety Division, Emilia Region

Rocca S. Casciano

Part of the Municipio was used as a fire station until the arrival of Polish troops in the town. These troops took over the station and the firemen were obliged to move their apparatus and equipment to a nearby building.

There are no telephones or fire alarm system, nor lights, water, heat or billets in the present building.

Equipment

As this was always a small volunteer department, very little apparatus and equipment was kept here. It consisted of one Fiat pumper and a Bianchi passenger car and a small portable pump, also an old hand pump. The portable pump was taken by the Polish Troops and has not been recovered yet.

While there is sufficient hose there is a shortage of play pipes and fittings.

The hand pump should not be relied upon for protection.

There are about 50 hydrants in the town with a pressure of 4 Atms.

Personnel

The department consists of 22 volunteers all on full time at present. Same working hours are in force as in Forli and Cesana.

Last salary was received through October 31.

Rations consist of 500 grams of bread. There was some complaining about this.

A list of clothing requirements has been submitted to Major Chaney.

There are no billets in the station and the men sleep at home.

In addition to their regular duties, the men are helping out where necessary.

There are not less than 14 men on duty during the day and evening.

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4239

#### Recommendations

1. Provisions should be made so that the firemen can sleep in quarters near the apparatus.
2. Some means of communication should be established between this department and the others in the Province.
3. That every effort be made to recover the pump taken by the Polish Troops.
4. Frequent inspections of equipment and men should be made by the Provincial Comandante.
5. A siren should be installed to notify the firemen in case of fire.

*Henry W. Backman, Capt.*

HENRY W. BACKMAN  
Capt., Spec. Res.  
Fire Officer Emilia Region

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HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

HWB/vfs

SUBJECT: Report of fire stations, equipment and personnel, Rimini 13 December 1944

TO : Lt. Col. E.J. EYE, Public Safety Division, Emilia Region

Rimini

The fire station in Rimini is located in a part of the large municipal garage. While the building was damaged some, the part occupied by the fire department was not damaged and troops have taken over part of the building.

The department was volunteer but there were accommodations for 26 men until the troops arrived. The men now sleep at home.

The office is clean and the section housing the equipment is neat and in order.

At present there is no telephone or fire alarm system.

Equipment

Before the war there were six pieces of apparatus housed here and at present there is only one, a Fiat tank truck and an old extension ladder on wheels. This piece being very useful at present.

Hose on hand consists of about 200 meters and some miscellaneous fittings.

Efforts are being made by the firemen to assemble apparatus from parts found around the City.

Two large water tanks are located here, but have no chasis.

A British Army Fire Fighting Unit, consisting of Headquarters and two Sections are located in the City and are very cooperative.

I inquired if any assistance could be given by the U.N.P.A. in regard to equipment but was informed that it did not function at present.

Water is on in part of the city. There are approximately 60 hydrants having a pressure of 4 Atms.

There are no spare tires, tubes, batteries, etc.

Personnel

4237

At present there is no telephone or fire alarm system.

#### Equipment

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I inquired if any assistance could be given by the U.N.P.A. in regard to equipment but was informed that it did not function at present.

Water is on in part of the city. There are approximately 60 hydrants having a pressure of 4 Atms.

There are no spare tires, tubes, batteries, etc.

#### Personnel

The department was volunteer and consisted of 26 men including officers. At present they are all employed full time.

Neri Alfredo is the Comandante in charge and was appointed by the Sindaco Nov. 1, 1944, replacing Bernucci Geom. Anselmo who was suspended Sept. 22, 44. The appointment of Neri Alfredo was a temporary measure until the Ministry of the Interior could make an appointment, which has not been done yet.

The men have a day off in three. This differs from the working hours in the rest of the Province.

At present no men are sleeping at the Caserme, but most of them live nearby. During the day and evening there are at least 16 men on duty.

Rations consist of 400 grams of bread.

Last pay received was for September and the Comandante had gone to Forli this day to see the Prefect in regards to their salary.

A list of clothing requirements has been submitted to Major Chaney.

Recommendations

1. Part of the station should be equipped as soon as possible so that at least some of the men can sleep there.
2. Some means of communication should be established between other stations in the Province.
3. That a Comandante be appointed by the Ministry of the Interior.
4. The men should have the same working hours as the other firemen in the Province.
5. Apparatus is needed and four pumpers should be secured.
6. As water is only two feet below the surface it has resulted in many of the cellars as well as Air Raid Shelters being flooded and if the latter are to be kept in condition must be pumped out.
7. There is a scarcity of wrecking tools and some effort should be made to secure some. There are many dangerous walls and buildings in the city.
8. The Comandante of the Province should make frequent inspections.
9. A siren should be installed to notify the firemen when there is a fire.

*Henry W. Backman, Capt.*

HENRY W. BACKMAN  
Capt., Spec. Res.  
Fire Officer Emilia Region

- 7. There is a scarcity of wrecking tools and some effort should be made to secure some. There are many dangerous walls and buildings in the city.
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*Henry W. Backman, Capt.*  
 HENRY W. BACKMAN  
 Capt., Spec. Res.  
 Fire Officer Emilia Region

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33 Corpo Vigili del Fuoco FORLI

List of equipment actually in use at the Corps

Forli Corps

- 1 Fiat 18 B.L.K. truck with pump and tank with a capacity of 4,000 liters (in need of new radiator.
- 1 SPA General service truck
- 1 Fiat 501- small pick-up truck (in need of new motor block, radiator needs repairs, various repairs to the body) and a complete wheel is missing.
- 1 Benelli 500 - tricycle - (completely useless)
- 1 Moto Taurus Tipo 500 - motorcycle (missing a tire, size 3.5x19)
- 1 Fiat 525 general service truck (missing a differential, two complete wheels and 5 tires, lamps, wiring and other accessories)
- 1 Cierame small pick up truck (no tires-size 740x140, no dynamo or magnet, no ventilator and body.
- 1 portable gasoline pump capable of pumping 600 to 1000 liters a minute, in good condition.
- 1 portable gasoline pump capable of pumping 500 liters a minute not in good condition.
- 1 Bosk generator in good use.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

- 3 ladders (adjoining, extension) 9.30 meters.
- 6 ladders (hook type) 4 meters.
- 2 ladders - folding rope type
- 200 meters of hose (canvas-hemp) 1/4" 70 and 45
- 6 hydrants adjustable for wood fires
- 12 nozzles
- 20 shovels
- 10 forks
- 10 pick-axes
- 3 ropes-bars

Rimini Detachment

- 1 Fiat 503 truck with tank
- 1 Scala Magirus aerial ladder extending 22 meters



- 1 Cierano small pick up truck (10 tires-size 740x140, no dynamo or magnet, ventilator and body.
- 1 portable gasoline pump capable of pumping 600 to 1000 liters a minute, in good condition.
- 1 portable gasoline pump capable of pumping 500 liters a minute not in good condition.
- 1 Bank generator in good use.

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- 6 ladders (hook type) 4 meters.
- 2 ladders - folding rope type
- 200 meters of hose (canvas-hemp) m/m 70 and 45
- 6 hydrants adjustable for wood fires
- 12 nozzles
- 20 shovels
- 10 forks
- 10 pick-axes
- 3 ropes-hemp

Rimini Detachment

- 1 Fiat 503 truck with tank
- 1 Scala Magirus aerial ladder extending 22 meters
- 200 meters of hose (canvas-hemp) diameter 70 and 45; and other anti-incendiary material

4200

Cesena Detachment

- 1 Lancia Trikappa- salvage truck and wrecker
- 1 passenger car, Ansaldo, needs 5 tires.
- 1 Spa truck with tank capacity 4000 liters
- 3 portable gasoline pumps
- 2 portable hand pumps capable of pumping 200 liters a minute.
- 1 ladder (aerial) extension 25 meters
- 200 meters of hose (hemp) m/m 70 and 45
- 12 fire extinguishers, liquid and dry, various ladders and equipment necessary for the service.

Recca San Casciano Detachment

- 1 portable Fiat truck 507 to pump 1000 liters a minute
- 1 passenger car, Bianchi 5-5
- 1 portable hand pump 200 liters a minute, other equipment necessary to perform duty

33 Corpo Vigili del Fuoco FORLI

List of equipment that the Corps had in its possession prior to requisition by German troops.

FORLI CORPS

- 1 Fire truck, type Cierano C.R.48 with tank capacity of 3000 liters and pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute.
- 1 Fire truck, type Fiat 18 B.L.R. with tank capacity of 4000 liters and pump capable of pumping 400 liters a minute.
- 1 Fiat 626 Fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1500 liters a minute.
- 1 Fiat 15 Ter fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute.
- 1 Fiat 525 general service fire truck
- 1 Fiat 1100 " " " "
- 1 Fiat 501 " " " "
- 1 Fiat 519 " " " "
- 1 Fiat 15 Ter " " " "
- 1 Cierano small pick-up truck
- 1 Benelli 500 tricycle
- 1 Taurus MG 500 motorcycle with side car
- 1 Fiat 1100 passenger car
- 1 Fiat 621 fire truck with tank capacity of 2000 liters
- 6 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 500 to 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Bosch electric generator 100 watt

RIMINI DETACHMENT

- 1 Alfa-Romeo fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Fiat 501 fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Fiat 28/40 general service fire truck
- 1 Fiat 603 fire truck with tank capacity of 2500 liters
- 2 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 600 liters a minute

CESINA

- 1 Lancia Trikaype general service fire truck
- 1 Ansaldo passenger car
- 1 Spa fire truck with tank capacity of 4000 liters and a pump capable of pumping 500 liters a minute.
- 3 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 600 to 1000 liters a minute

ROCCA S. CASCIANO

- 1 Fiat 507 fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Bianchi 8-5 passenger car

- 1 Fiat 15 Ter " # " "
- 1 Clerano small pick-up truck
- 1 Benelli 500 tricycle
- 1 Taurus MG 500 motorcycle with side car
- 1 Fiat 1100 passenger car
- 1 Fiat 621 fire truck with tank capacity of 2000 liters
- 6 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 500 to 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Bosch electric generator 100 watt

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- 1 Fiat 501 fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Fiat 28/40 general service fire truck
- 1 Fiat 603 fire truck with tank capacity of 2500 liters
- 2 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 600 liters a minute

CESENA

- 1 Lancia Triappa general service fire truck
- 1 Ansaldo passenger car
- 1 Spa fire truck with tank capacity of 4000 liters and a pump capable of pumping 600 liters a minute.
- 2 portable gasoline pumps capable of pumping 600 to 1000 liters a minute

ROCCA S. CASCIANO

- 1 Fiat 507 fire truck with pump capable of pumping 1000 liters a minute
- 1 Bianchi 8-5 passenger car

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REC  
HQ EIGHTH ARMY  
MEMPHIS

46

FILE : R.IX/TM/22/25.

26 Dec 44.

SUBJECT : Report-Fire and PAD Report-Bavenna.

TO : Lt-Col E.J. BEE, S.O.A.P.O. (2).

69° Cerro Vigili del Fuego  
Fiero Dept. Bavenna.

Dec. 26, 1944

Fire Fighting Equipment

Due to the foresight and splendid cooperation between the officers and members of the fire department, all apparatus was hidden in various localities underground, and most of it has been restored.

There is sufficient apparatus and equipment on hand to protect the Province.

At Paenza the same procedure was carried out, and three pumps have been uncovered, since the enemy left.

As Lago is still in enemy hands no report can be given.

While there is sufficient apparatus at present it would not be advisable to transfer any to another province until Lago is free and an inventory taken.

Apparatus is usually purchased by the Province but if necessary, after careful investigation or in an emergency the Ministry can purchase it for a Province.

Mutual aid was always extended by one Province to another but apparatus was not permanently assigned. At present under war conditions it may be necessary to assign equipment from one Province to another.

As the department is just re-organizing a list of appliances and small equipment was not available but the Comandante is preparing one. However, the appliances and fittings that I saw will be sufficient to allow for the efficient operation of the dept.

There are no Army Fire Units in the Province at present.

The Com makes frequent inspections of equipment.

As Lago is still in enemy hands no report can be given.

While there is sufficient apparatus at present it would not be advisable to transfer any to another province until Lago is free and an inventory taken.

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As the department is just re-organizing a list of appliances and small equipment was not available but the Comandante is preparing one. However, the appliances and fittings that I saw will be sufficient to allow for the efficient operation of the dept.

There are no Army Fire Units in the Province at present.

The Com makes frequent inspections of equipment.

At present there are three large pumps, nine trailer and portable pumps, two launchers mounted on wheels and short ones on a truck, a Com. car, a motorcycle and a tank.

**Personnel**

The personnel consists of seventy men including officers.

Comandante MAXIMILIANO CESARE, a very efficient officer was appointed to his present position by the Ministry of the Interior 10 Mar. 41, previous to this he served as Vice Com. since 1929 and a fireman since 1921.

The Comandante has always taken a deep interest in the Department and takes pride in knowing that he has helped to make this one of the best departments in the

country and from my observation this is the most efficient department that I have seen so far in Italy. While many departments were losing their apparatus this department hid theirs with the result that the apparatus is practically intact.

Firemen have received O.K. by F.S.S.

In 1936 all P.D. in Italy became nationalized and came under the control of the Ministry of the Interior who made up the Rules and Regulations for all departments, established the number of men for various depts. and classified departments according to the size, population, and importance of cities. The Ministry is also responsible for the working hours, salaries, and clothing of the firemen.

At present there is some need for clothes, shoes, and leather for shoes repairing. A list will be presented to Major Baldwin by the Com.

Salaries have been paid up through Nov. 27.

Rations are obtained from the Consorzio and consist of 425 grams of bread, 100 grams meat, 28 grams sugar.

This was a volunteer department but since 1 July 1940 the men have been on a permanent basis and at present the working schedule allows for one day off in three. There are 40 men on duty at all times.

#### Duties.

At present the duties are varied and consist of regular fire fighting and fire prevention work, also all kinds of rescue work, razing dangerous walls, inspecting wrecked buildings, supplying water in emergency cases and assisting ANR officials in any way possible which has been greatly appreciated. The Com looks over jobs before assigning the men to them.

#### Pensions

As the department was volunteer there was no pension system.

#### Fire Stations

The Provincial Fire Headquarters Station is located in the City of Ravenna. It was a modern and model station. Unfortunately it has been almost totally destroyed and cannot be used. The firemen are on the job clearing up, but cannot rebuild the station.

At present the apparatus is stationed in a large garage located on Via Ponte Marino.

The caserma is located nearby on Via XII Giugno 2 e.

Duties

At present the duties are varied and consist of regular fire fighting and fire prevention work, also all kinds of rescue work, raising dangerous walls, inspecting wrecked buildings, supplying water in emergency cases and assisting AMG officials in any way possible which has been greatly appreciated. The Com looks over jobs before assigning the men to them.

Pensions

As the department was volunteer there was no pension system.

Fire Stations

The Provincial Fire Headquarters Station is located in the City of Ravenna. It was a modern and model station. Unfortunately it has been almost totally destroyed and cannot be used. The firemen are on the job cleaning up, but cannot rebuild the station.

At present the apparatus is stationed in a large garage located on Via Ponte Marino.

The caserma is located nearby on Via XIII Giugno 2 a.

The garage where the apparatus is now stationed was also damaged. The firemen have made temporary repairs and while somewhat crowded will take care of the needs during the emergency. A shop is located in the garage and apparatus and equipment is kept serviceable.

At Faenza the station was also damaged to a great extent. However the walls are standing and it may be possible to cover the building. At present troops are using some of the buildings, but were expected to move in a weeks time.

As the enemy had just left the fire officers are getting their hidden equipment ready and will find a place to station it and find billets for the men.

### Water Supplies

Water for the City is obtained from a reservoir located in Madini. The supply main has been ruptured in several places and it may be some time before water will be on in the system although repairs are being made. Fortunately there are many wells and a canal and sufficient water can be obtained from these for fire fighting purposes.

There are about 200 hydrants in the City which ordinarily had a pressure of 5 Atms.

### Climatic Conditions

Freezing temperatures, snow and ice are common in the winter months. This is a handicap to the fire department but again due to the efficiency of the Condemnate, the hydrant locations as well as other sources of water supply are plainly marked. On buildings bearing the hydrant sign will also be found the distance and direction so that no time will be lost in locating water. In addition to the familiar I for Hydrant will be found markers for Canal and Stern Drains.

### Types of Fires

Fire calls average about one a day. Most calls being for brush, chimney and factory fires.

The dock and wharf area as well as the gas and electric plants which were target hazards have been destroyed.

There are no coal or large lumber yards at present.

In addition to the above Ravenna is a railroad center, with its usual hazards.

### Road Conditions

Roads leading to and from Ravenna to various communes are all in ~~very~~ good condition and it is possible to assign apparatus for mutual aid to any part of the Province not held by the enemy.

### Records

Records of fires and fire losses are kept. Insurance losses paid are not made known to the department.

### Insurance

Insurance companies do not pay for losses caused by bombs, shells, mines etc.

### Suspicious Fires - Sabotage

There have been no fires, since the war, of a suspicious nature or due to sa-



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Records of fires and fire losses are kept. Insurance losses paid are not made known to the department.

#### Insurance

Insurance companies do not pay for losses caused by bombs, shells, mines etc.

#### Suspicious Fires - Sabotage

There have been no fires, since the war, of a suspicious nature or due to sabotage nor have any attempts in either case been discovered.

422

#### Building Construction

As the buildings are mostly of concrete, stone or other fire proof construction the damage of fire to these buildings is slight. However, the contents in most of the buildings are of a combustible nature. The department responds to many chimney fires but the fires are usually confined to the chimneys or stores.

#### Confederation Hazard

Due to the materials used in construction there is very little danger of a

conflagration. The so-called target hazards such as lumber yards, gas and electric plants, docks, wharves, and railroad yards have been badly damaged and there is little danger of serious fires in these places at present.

There are no exceptionally high winds, long seasons of extremely hot weather or drought, or long seasons of frozen water supplies that would be conducive to a conflagration.

Through<sup>out</sup> the province there are many farms and grain fields and extensive damage can be caused by fire during a dry season.

FIRE ALARMS SYSTEM

There is no fire alarm system or telephones at present. Calls are usually conveyed by persons riding to the station.

Theaters

As usual the theaters were overthrown, smoking permitted, exits not marked or illuminated, no fire protection such as rolls of water of blankets.

Recommendations

The fire department is in the hands of a well qualified fire officer and recommend that he be retained in his present position and his assistants and advice be sought, if necessary, in regard to other provinces in the Region.

In the fire station Barrenus and Paezra were both damaged, would recommend that they be repaired as soon as possible. The work to start on the Havana station.

There is need for clothes and shoes. Leather is in urgent need to repair shoes and as there is a shoemaker on the dept. recommend that some leather be secured as soon as possible.

Some means of communication should be established as soon as possible between the departments in the Province.

Rolls in theaters should be plainly marked and illuminated and recommend that the person in charge make an announcement before performances calling attention to the various egresses, smoking and overloading.

Also recommend that rolls of water be on hand, especially in close proximity to portable motion picture machines.



2207

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Public Safety Sub-Commission  
APO 394.

3A

AG/14501/10/PS.

Tel. 489081 - 365.

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12th Dec 1944.

SUBJECT : Fire and C.D. Emilia.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region.  
(Attention R.P.S.O.)

1. Forwarded herewith, for your information, are lists giving information as to the Fire and C.D. organisation in Emilia.

*John W. Chapman*  
JOHN W. CHAPMAN,  
Colonel, J.A.G.D.,  
Director, Public Safety  
Sub-Commission.

Enclosures: Lists.

422

FJW/ea.

MINISTERO dell'INTERNO  
DIREZIONE GENERALE DEI SERVIZI ANTINCENDI e P.A.

FORZA PRESENTE AI CORPI DELLA REGIONE EMILIA NEL MESE DI LUGLIO 1941

CORPO	Ufficiali Permanenti	Ufficiali Volontari	Vigili Permanenti	Vigili Volontari	Vigili Volontari provvisori
BOLOGNA (14°)	3	3	49	116	200
FERRARA (30°)	—	3	5	112	—
FORLÌ (33°)	1	2	5	80	—
MODENA (53°)	1	—	18	27	19
PARMA (59°)	1	1	33	23	67
PIACENZA (64°)	1	—	18	36	31
RAVENNA (69°)	—	1	12	35	16
R. EMILIA (71°)	1	2	12	11	55

## MINISTERO dell'INTERNO

## GENERALE DEI SERVIZI ANTINCENDI e P.A.

EMILIA NEL MESE DI LUGLIO 1943

Fla.

Uomini	Vigili Permanenti	Vigili Volontari	Vigili Volontari provvisori	Totale	Note
	49	116	200	371	
	5	112	—	120	
	5	80	—	88	
	18	27	19	65	
	33	23	67	125	
	18	36	31	86	
	12	35	16	64	
	12	11	55	81	

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*File*

TERO del INTERNO  
Direzione Generale dei Servizi Antincendi e P.A.

ELENCO DELLE CASERME DEI CAPOLUOGHI E DEI DISTACCAMENTI DELLA REGIONE " EMILIA ",  
ESISTENTI NEL MESE DI LUGLIO 1943.

14° Corpo VV.F. - BOLOGNA -  
 Capoluogo: BOLOGNA  
 N° 5 distacamenti: Imola  
 Budrio  
 S. Giovanni Persiceto  
 Castel S. Pietro  
 Porretta

30° Corpo VV.F. - FERRARA -  
 Capoluogo: FERRARA  
 N° 3 distacamenti: Ponte Lagoscuro  
 Copparo  
 Cento

33° Corpo VV.F. - FORLÌ -  
 Capoluogo: FORLÌ  
 N° 3 Distacamenti: Cesena  
 Rimini  
 Rocca S. Casciano

53° Corpo VV.F. - MODENA -  
 Capoluogo: MODENA  
 N° 5 distacamenti: Carpi

36

33° Corpo VV.F. - FORLÌ -

Capoluogo:

N° 3 Distaccamenti:

FORLÌ

Cesena

Rimini

Rocca S. Casciano

53° Corpo VV.F. - MODENA -

Capoluogo:

N° 5 distaccamenti:

MODENA

Carpì

Mirandola

S. Felice

Finale Emilia

Castelfranco

59° Corpo VV.F. - PARMA -

Capoluogo:

N° 3 distaccamenti:

PARMA

Busseto

Fidenza

Salsomaggiore

64° Corpo VV.F. - PIACENZA -

Capoluogo:

N° / distaccamenti: / /

PIACENZA

422



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(2)

69° Corpo VV.F. - RAVENNA -

Capoluogo:

RAVENNA

N° 2 distaccamenti:

Lugo  
Faenza

71° Corpo VV.F. - R. EMILIA -

Capoluogo:

R. EMILIA

N° 1 distaccamento:

Guastalla

2213

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

785016

427

MINISTERO dell'Interno  
Direzione Generale dei Servizi Antincendi e

ELENCO DELLE MACCHINE ESISTENTI PRESSO I CORPI DELLA REGIONE "EMILIA", AL MESE

C O R P I		Autopompe	Autopompe con serbatoio	Autobotti ed " forcia	Autocarri con motopompa	Autocarri trasporto	Motopompe	Autofornu	Autoscale	Autocarri schiumogeno	Autocarri CO <sub>2</sub>	Autofoto-
BOLOGNA	(14°)	8	3	4	21	3	27	1	-	4	-	-
FERRARA	(30°)	5	2	-	6	3	4	-	-	-	-	-
FORLI'	(33°)	3	-	2	6	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
MODENA	(53°)	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
PARMA	(59°)	2	1	-	3	2	8	-	1	-	1	-
PIACENZA	(64°)	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RAVENNA	(69°)	3	1	1	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-
REGGIO E.	(71°)	3	1	-	2	2	18	-	-	-	-	-
		29	10	8	45	11	61	1	2	1	1	-

RO dell' I. ...  
 ale dei Servizi Antincendi e P. A.

LA REGIONE "EMILIA", AL MESE DI LUGLIO 1943.-

Idropompe	Autografi	Autoscaie	Autocarri schianogeno	Autocarri CO <sub>2</sub>	Autofoto- elettriche	auto ambulanze	Autovetture	Motocarri	Motocicli	TOTALE	NOTE
27	1	-	4	-	-	3	7	2	5	85	
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	25	
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	24	
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	4	5	24	
8	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	2	4	27	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	13	
7	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	3	22	
287	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	3	23	
61	1	2	1	1	1	4	25	17	27	243	

3/15  
 Filu.

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
Public Safety Sub-Commission  
APO 384

*new file*

*2A*

ACC/14501/10/PS

Tel : 478709


-----  
23 September, 1944.

SUBJECT : Fire Extinguisher.

TO : Headquarters Region IX  
(R.F.S.O. through R.C.).

1. Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of copies of R.IX/PS/22/3 dated 25 August and R.IX/PS/22/4 dated 20 Sept. *IB* *IA*
2. Reference R.IX/PS/22/3 dated 25 August.

It is suggested that as these extinguishers are of Italian pattern they should be inspected, tested and refilled by the Italian Fire Service personnel.

*for* *Major*  
  
 A. E. YOUNG Col.,  
 Acting Director  
 Public Safety  
 Sub-Commission.

GMLM/G.

*Henry W. Beckman*  
**1A**

HEADQUARTERS, REGION IX  
ALBERTA HERITAGE GOVERNMENT  
Public Safety Division  
AIO 394

20 Sep 44.

FILE : H.IX/15/22/4.

SUBJECT: Hydrants.

TO : Provincial Public Safety Officers, Region IX.

THRU : Provincial Commissioners, Region IX.

1. The following notes, compiled by Capt. Henry W. Beckman, Fire and P.A.D. Officer for the Region, are forwarded to you for information and action, as necessary.

- i). Is water is the most commonly used extinguishing agent for fires, it is well to know the locations of various public supplies, and a very good practice to ascertain if there is water in the system.
- ii). Flush type hydrants or water outlets are usually designated by a black circle from 6 to 20 inches in diameter painted on a building or other nearby object. The centre of the circle is white and inscribed on this white background is a large letter "H" in black which stands for "Hydrant" or "Hydrant".
- iii). The outlet will be within a few feet of the indicating marker and will be found by removing an oval shaped metal cover which is flush with the sidewalk or street, and outlets will be found to attain small hose. There will also be a controlling hand valve close to the outlets.

*E. J. Byrnes*  
E. J. Byrnes, Lt-Col.,  
Regional Public Safety Officer,  
Region IX.

HDB/ert.

4213

Fire and P.S.D. Officer for the Region, are forwarded to you for information and action, as necessary.

- i). As water is the most commonly used extinguishing agent for fires, it is well to know the locations of various public supplies, and a very good practice to ascertain if there is water in the system.
- ii). Flush type hydrants or water outlets are usually designated by a black circle from 8 to 20 inches in diameter painted on a building or other nearby object. The centre of the circle is white and imposed on this white background is a large letter "H" in black which stands for "Hydrant" or Hydrant.
- iii). The outlet will be within a few feet of the indicating marker and will be found by removing an oval shaped metal cover which is flush with the sidewalk or street, and outlets will be found to attach small hoses. There will also be a controlling hand valve close to the outlets.

*E. J. Byrnes*

E. J. Byrnes, Lt-Col.,  
Regional Public Safety Officer,  
Region IX.

421J

HJB/ert.

Copy to: Major Mason, Public Safety Sub-Commission. ✓

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HEADQUARTERS, REGION IX  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
Public Safety Division  
AEO 594

25 Aug 44.

22/3.

FILE : G. IX/PS/44/47.

SUBJECT: Fire Extinguishers.

TO : Provincial Public Safety Officers, Region IX.

THRU : Provincial Commissioners, Region IX.

1. The following notes, compiled by Capt. Henry W. Backman, Fire Officer for the Region are forwarded for information and guidance.

There are many fire extinguishers located in buildings throughout Italy. These are mostly designed to have the liquid expelled by chemical action which builds up a pressure and forces the liquid out through a small opening and is directed at the base of the fire.

An extinguisher of this type can become a very dangerous appliance unless it is properly maintained, which has not been the case in most instances.

Many have been dropped, which has a weakening effect on them. Many have been stored in basements and other damp places which has a corrosive effect. The presence of a white salt like substance near the outlet is usually sulphurous acid salts (sulphites) and has a corrosive effect on the metal.

We do not know who filled these extinguishers last. (Extinguishers have been used frequently by saboteurs).

We do not know the proportion of chemicals in the extinguishers.

We do not know when they were last subjected to a pressure test to determine if they can withstand their maximum pressure with a sufficient factor of safety.

4218

Extinguishers have a small extinguisher cylinder



4218

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Some extinguishers have a small extinguisher cylinder attached which contains a compressed inert gas as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). When this gas is released into the liquid chamber it forces the liquid out of a small opening the same as the chemical extinguisher and the pressure may be so great as to rupture the extinguisher due to some of the above reasons.

If one of these extinguishers were to be used there is a possibility that it may explode which would seriously injure the operator.

Pails of water, or pump cans, if available, should be substituted for chemical extinguishers until such a time as all of the extinguishers containing any liquid can be emptied, tested and refilled under the supervision of a qualified official.

*Handwritten signature*

E.J. BME, Lt-Col.,  
Regional Public Safety Officer,  
Region IX.

Copy to: Major Mason,  
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

2221