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MAINTENANCE
MAY 1945 INFORMATION

HEADQUARTERS IV CORPS
Office of the Ordnance Officer
APO #304, U. S. Army

13 May 1945.

SUBJECT: CIVIL TRANSPORTATION (ROADS) PROGRESS REPORT

TO: Colonel Vennema, Ordnance Officer, IV Corps
Colonel Walker, S.C.A.G., AMG, IV Corps1. MILAN CITY AND PROVINCE.

A. April 30th. City entered and reconnaissance made re garages; some found to be intact. Major Saunders, (R Tn O, Piemont) in charge of transportation in the absence of the Lombardia Region and Provincial Officers.

B. May 1st. Civil transportation representatives contacted. HAGO estimated (approx) 1,400 trucks available (Milan Province), 400 being 40 T.LI and over. Type of fuel estimated at 85% diesel and 15% petrol. All heavy trucks are diesel engined. Fiat and ANI (Omnibus Company) garages reserved for U.A. di Milano. The latter garage is equipped for heavy repairs. German and Italian military trucks are not being used by the U.A. di Milano and are at present used by Partisans, as also are many civilian trucks.

C. May 2nd. Board of Directors formed and Managing Director appointed. Previous trucking organization, UDT, used as the foundation for U.A. di Milano. Temporary vehicle circulation permits issued, work tickets in operation. Approximately 80 vehicles available immediately. POL supplies NIL. UDT freight rates are being used as proposed IC rates are 50% too low. The effect of the transport rates on the economic situation is being watched and will be reported on later.

D. May 3rd. Approximately 10 days supply of POL brought in through Quartermaster, IV Corps - petrol, diesel and lubrication oil. First convoy of civilian vehicles (100 ton lift) dispatched to Mantova for grain from Italian sources. AOIP handling POL pending arrival of GIP representative

E. May 4th. Major Saunders and Capt Tredennick ordered to proceed to Turin immediately. Lt. Colonel Fitzgerald (Reg Tn O), Capt. Coleman (Prov Tn O) reported in and took over from Major Saunders. A Captain Piper, in the absence of Capt Nunn, the City Tn O, took over administrative duties re U.A. di Milano and liaison with PGO. The head officer of the Pirelli tyre plant was contacted. Provisional estimate of 2,000 new tyres in stock ("frozen") - chiefly German sizes for light trucks - detailed stock list and future production capabilities are to be supplied to Colonel Crump (Trade & Industry) within the next few days.

F. General Situation, May 8th. 1. Transport required for an additional 200 tons of supplies daily. Regional Food Officer negotiating with Fifth Army re location of food dumps and use of Fifth Army trucks.

ii. Two orders, relating to U. A. di Milano, declaration of vehicles and "freezing" of spare parts are being posted in the city and will be distributed in the Provinces.

iii. Many additional trucks (estimated number, 400 trucks and cars) will be obtained when the Partisans are disbanded.

iv. The Traffic Control Cadre has not been called for in order to avoid any friction which would certainly be caused by Partisan vehicles being stopped and checked. The Partisan question is being handled by the requisite authorities, who are expected to make a decision within the very near future.

v. Approximately 400 load carrying vehicles are now in operation and the daily tonnage carried is increasing.

vi. Capt. Coleman is now operating in Milan Province and will be setting up sub-offices of the U.A. di Milano in the communes.

vii. The administrative organization of the U. A. di Milano (head office in the City) is reported to be functioning adequately and a similar report has been received concerning the accounting and issuing of FOL by AGIF.

viii. RACI have supplied (copy, Appendix "A", attached) figures showing bulk capacity of vehicles, which from their records should be available, and types of fuel used by these trucks.

2. TURIN CITY & PIEMONTE REGION.

Visited Major Saunders at Turin May 9, 1945, and the situation there is as follows:

A. A civilian road transport organization known as UDT has been operating since November, 1943. This company has its head office in Milan and a sub-office in each Province. The head office is well organized and the Managing Director is Director of the Road Section of the Italian Ministry of Communications and also cooperates with RACI. This company will now be known as U. A. di Torino.

B. The Provincial offices will be checked up in the near future.

C. The financial situation is reported to be sound and an audited financial statement has been called for.

D. Particulars of available trucks in Turin Province (supplied by RACI) are:

3 - 50 Quintale	1,824 -	Petrol	875
		Diesel	51
		Coal	85
		Wood	510
		Methane	115
		Electric	88

5 - 10 Quintale, 3 wheelers . . .	450: -	Petrol	387
		Methane	11
		Electric	52

20 - 50 Quintale, with trailers 171 Breakdown on fuel not available.

E. Inventories from spare part stores have been called for.

F. Partisans have many civilian trucks but are being requested to register same with U. A. di Torino.

G. The pre-occupational freight rates are being used pending the issue of a new rate by the Transportation Sub-Commission. Proposed AC rate 50% too low for Milan and it is essential that all the three Regions, Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia work with the same rates or vehicles will be switched from one region to another, in order to work at a higher rate.

H. POL is being handled by AGIP pending arrival of GIP representative. POL is hauled by road from Genoa, but Fifth Army has been contacted re future supplies and the setting up of AC dumps nearer Turin. The AMG (Turin) garage is at present the only petrol point in the city.

3. LIGURIA REGION.

Major James, Reg Tn 9, contacted May 11th, 1945, and the following information obtained.

A. GENOA PROVINCE.

i. Genoa City entered 28th April 1945.

ii. U. A. di Genoa, formed by 30th April.

iii. 1,500 trucks registered up to May 10th. Breakdown of 1,226 of these vehicles is:

Public Utilities (specially adapted vehicles)	134
1 to 10 Quintale	394
11 to 20 Quintale	302

21 to 50 quintals	323
Over 50 quintals	66
tractors	7

Included in the above are 163 unserviceable trucks which require repair prior to availability:

1 to 10 quintals	16
11 to 20 quintals	28
21 to 50 quintals	97
Over 50 quintals	34

iv. POL has been obtained from civilian sources through the Partisans. After repeated requests, the 93rd Division arranged on May 11th to make available POL supplies for seven days. The Reg Commerce Division are in contact with Fifth Army AMG re future POL supplies. A CIP representative is in charge of distribution at the AGIP depot.

v. RACI has been re-organized and now working efficiently. Temporary circulation permits are being issued.

vi. List of spare part stores and inventories of stocks have been called for.

vii. Estimate of tyres and tubes required (in requisite sizes) will be forwarded at a later date.

viii. It is anticipated that the supply of trucks will be sufficient to meet the demand for haulage of civil supplies. 1,755 tons carried (100% food) period May 4th - 10th inclusive.

ix. AC, freight rates (SO 42) have been enforced and with the exception of a few minor complaints there appears to be no objection to this tariff.

B. SAVONA PROVINCE.

i. Prov Tn C reported for duty May 2nd, 1945.

ii. 220 Trucks registered and available on May 4th.

iii. All transport bids for civil supplies have been met.

iv. 2 POL not available from military sources. First consignment of petrol, 6,000 litres, dispatched to AGIP, Genoa, 11 May.

v. Work tickets and temporary circulation permits in use.

C. LA SPEZIA.

- i. Prov Tn O reported for duty April 30th.
- ii. 38 Trucks registered and available May 2nd.
- iii. All transport bids for civil supplies have been met.
- iv. POL available.
- v. Work tickets and temporary circulation permits in use.

4. GENERAL SITUATION.

- A. Civilian companies are being formed on standard lines as laid down by Tn Sub-Commission.
- B. The question of a uniform freight rate will, I hope, be settled within the next few hours.
- C. POL supplies are difficult now, but should improve within a few days.
- D. Vehicles generally seem to be in a fair condition.
- E. Two important plants, the FIAT works at Turin, which is still producing small vehicles and the Pirelli tyre plant at Milan, which requires fuel and raw materials, should be a considerable asset to civilian transport in the future.

J. F. D. HALSTED
Captain, R.A.S.C.
Transportation Officer
A.M.G., IV Corps

Copies to: The Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, H.Q., Allied Commission
Movements Section " " " " 2794
Lt. Colonel Harris " " " "
File (3)

2793

SPECCHIO RIEPILOGATIVO AUTOGARRI CIRCOLANTI A TUTTO IL 30/4/45
CON PORTATA SUP. AI 20 Q. LI

CARBURANTE	NUMERO	Q.LI
Benzina	185	5407
Petrol	1273	9560
Gas Legna	200	6540
Gas Carbone	262	9040
Metano	294	8614
Elettrico	98	3762
	<u>N.1314</u>	<u>Q.LI42923</u>
Totale		

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