

ACC 078/L-P/9/PWU

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MISCEL
LIGURIA
JAN. 194

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MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS,
LIGURIA - PIEMONTE
JAN. 1945

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MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS UGURIA-PLEMONTE

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TO	
CONTAINS PAPERS	
FROM	JAN - 45
TO	
CATALOGUE	

Subject

Date	Ref	From
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5-1-45 P. 3/6/43 Og Eng. P-1 Personnel for unit clearance

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5 JAN 1945
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PIEMONTE REGION.
PEAR H.Q.

Tel. Ex. 546

CRS/ANM.

5th January, 1945.

REFERENCE : Plo/S/Gen/45.

SUBJECT : PERSONNEL FOR MINE CLEARANCE.

TO : C.S.O. C.A. SECTION, A.C.

1. The geographical and tactical situation in North West Italy, especially in Piemonte and Liguria Regions, of which the undersigned is Regional Engineer, will make this area an isolated region during the first days after occupation by Army. This assumption is based on the following:-

- (a) That the Germans will be forced to fall back on the Po line thus evacuating the area under discussion suddenly.
- (b) That the battle line will swing West leaving the area empty of army with the exception of a few occupation troops.
- (c) That the area will be thoroughly mined by the enemy before leaving. They have had ample time to do this and it is known that the Ligurian coast was mined by the Italians years ago.
- (d) That roads leading North into Bologna will be crowded by troop movements and supplies, and little space and transport will be available for AMV AC use.
- (e) That the mountains to the West and North will provide a barrier to adjoining countries due to winter conditions.
- (f) That the sea and its mined approaches will be a barrier to the South.

2. In view of the above, it is believed imperative to re-open, as soon as possible, the roads in this area. This is especially true of the roads leading from Piemonte to Liguria. With few or no Army engineers, the opening of these roads will be a responsibility of the AMV engineers.

3. Experience has shown that the Germans not only destroy bridges but mine the surrounding areas to delay recon-

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- enemies suddenly.
- (b) That the battle line will swing East leaving the area empty of Army with the exception of a few occupation troops.
 - (c) That the area will be thoroughly mined by the enemy before leaving. They have had ample time to do this and it is known that the Ligurian coast was mined by the Italians years ago.
 - (d) That roads leading North into Bologna will be crowded by troop movements and supplies, and little space and transport will be available for AMM AC use.
 - (e) That the mountains to the West and North will provide a barrier to adjoining countries due to winter conditions.
 - (f) That the sea and its mined approaches will be a barrier to the South.

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2. In view of the above, it is believed imperative to re-open, as soon as possible, the roads in this area. This is especially true of the roads leading from Piemonte to Liguria. With few or no Army engineers, the opening of these roads will be a responsibility of the AMM engineers.
3. Experience has shown that the Germans not only destroy bridges but mine the surrounding areas to delay reconstruction. Therefore it is essential for Piemonte-Liguria Engineer to have trained mine removal units for work on bridges and highways.
4. In order that trained mine removal units can be organized at the earliest possible moment, it is requested that a team of mine removal instructors be assigned to Piemonte-Liguria Region and attached to the Piemonte Hq. The administrative matters of this group can be handled by the P.W. & U. Division. Immediately upon entry into the area, this team will set up a school for the instruction of locally obtained personnel in mine removal. If this team is assigned at this time, it will facilitate the organization. If it is not available now, it is suggested that it be assigned to Piemonte and that Piemonte Region issue temporary orders assigning it to the duties desired of it presently but subject to a 48 hour recall.

SHEET TWO.

TO : O.S.O. C.A. SECTION (Contd.)

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER,

C.R. Buckett

C. R. BIRCHETT,

Lt. Col. C.E.

REGIONAL ENGINEER,

PIEMONTE-LICURIA REGION. ✓

Copy to : REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, PIEMONTE.

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, LIAISON.

P. W. & U. SUBCOMMISSION. ✓

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