

Reception Agency

by Capt. A. ANDRE' RECEPTION AGENCY

Unknow entity



Col. CIPRIANI Chief of the Reception Agency, receives a spanish NCO.

All those who haven't passed at least once through the receiving agency, please raise your hands (but without throwing a stone). This article is addressed to these people, to those who, among hundreds and hundreds of people, don't know that this agency was the first to operate "in the field" back in January 2001, even before all this started, before the "merry-go-round" started and the "aircrafts" took off, or at least tried to considering that the runway was missing and the pilots were quarrelling. We have tried to give meaning to the saying "facts and not words". Then we should examine these facts, we have gather, examined, dissected, elaborated them, in other words we were "nit-pickers". What follows is a summary of the work.

Lodging:

Type	National staff	International staff
In service ASI, AST, ASC assigned	194	//
Guest House (temporary stay)	24	14
Free market lodgings rent in Lonate Pozzolo	10	
Free market lodgings rent shortly available in Gallarate	12	
Lodgings found through estate agencies	49	28

We have contacted about 250 agencies in the area (Solbiate Olona) to help find flats to rent within a radius of about 30 kilometres, obtaining in many cases excellent terms, fee reductions and at times extra services, which are normally not included.



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Fiscal assistance

Probably not every one knows that it is virtually impossible to do anything in Italy without a "CF" (Fiscal tax Code). For Italians this is normal since they have one from the day they are born, but it would never occur to a foreigner that you would need one even to buy a telephone card.

Thanks to the good relationship with the Fiscal Agency in Busto Arsizio, this service is now faster and, in consideration of the statistics we have indicated above, 113 documents have been to date issued to the military personnel and their families arriving from abroad.

Health assistance

Even in this field hitches are not lacking given the differences in the conventions stipulated between the EU Member States and non-EU countries.

For personnel arriving from non-EU countries the agency and local health offices (ASL) managed to obtain a "green book" for their health service.

Residence permit

All the aspects related to the foreign military personnel and their families' stay in Italy have been cleared up with the foreign office at the Police Station in Varese. Through the receiving agency it has been possible to obtain residence permits for the families of colleagues and foreign friends very quickly, getting around all the bureaucracy.

School education

The members of the agency have provided direct assistance to all personnel whose children need to attend a school, including the European School in Varese.

Agreements have been made to enable foreign personnel and their families to learn Italian. The aim is to organize on-base courses to give families in particular a chance to better integrate into our society.

What else?

If what already said it is not sufficient for you, we could talk of the assistance given to personnel for water, electricity, gas and telephone connections, satellite dishes, opening a bank account and so on, or we could talk of the hundreds of facilities and reductions that our organisation has arranged with various companies, retailers, etc. in our country.

**SEE YOU SOON,
DEAR READERS AND FRIENDS.**



German NCO assisted by a staff member of the Reception Agency.