

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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AIR PHOTOS, MFA
MAY, JUNE 1946

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

ARCHIVES BRANCH

Ref :- 26/AB

14 June 1946

SUBJECT:- Disposition of A.C. Archives.

TO :- Allied Forces Records Administrator, AFRE.

At a meeting with the A.F. Records Officer on Thursday
June 12th, the disposition of Allied Commission
Archives was agreed as follows :-

- (a) that all documents within A.C. files shall be numbered consecutively.
- (b) those documents necessary for microfilming shall be sent to Micro Film Depot within the original covers and returned in these to Archives Branch for storage.
- (c) those documents not deemed necessary for filing but which may require inspection for various reasons, shall be retained by Archives Branch within a second jacket in their order of number.

The period of such retention to be decided at a later date.

For Executive Commissioner

M. H. Harkness

M. H. HARKNESS,
Major,
Chief Archives Officer.

Copies to: Executive Commissioner File 9205.
7th Section Archives.
File. ✓

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

AB/

Ref: 9265/EC.

8 June 1946.

SUBJECT: Archives - Air Photographic Prints.

TO : ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Attn: G-5 Section.

1. You have recently raised queries with Major Harrison, Archives Section, and myself, regarding the prints of air photographs alleged to be held by the British School in Rome.
2. Your impression is that these prints are the property of the Allied Commission and you have queried the retention of them by the British School. The total photographic material originally in the possession of the Allied Commission can be divided into two parts:
 - (a) photos taken by the Allied Air Forces, prints of which were passed to the Allied Commission, Monuments & Fine Arts Sub-Commission, in order that they could assess war damage done and also arrange for protection from bombing. These are properly the property of the Allied Commission and are in the archives of the Allied Commission, safe and sound;
 - (b) a number of prints taken by the Royal Air Force during operations based on Italy during 1944-45. These constitute the remaining portion of the print-collection held by RMAF and passed to AC by RAAF for safe custody at the time of the dispersal of the former body. The basic and original intention for the future of these photographs is that they should be used for scientific and cultural research. The AC can lay no claim to retention of these photographs and were merely custodians. At the proper time and with the full consent of the Under Secretary of State for Air to whom the Director of the British School made application on 21 February, these photographs have been handed to the British School for use with certain conditions of copyright.
3. I hope this clarifies the situation and I should like to add that I am perfectly satisfied that the British School certainly intended to retain the prints mentioned in para 2 above but that it would be a great loss to scientific and cultural research if they were not left in that School.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Copy to: Archives Branch,
British School, Rome.

M. S. [Signature] 392
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

26 AB

To Executive Commissioner.

- (a) G-5 (Lt. Col. WILIE) has telephoned asking the location of some 3 tons of Air Photographs taken by Allied Air Force over the whole of Italy covering Buildings of Historical Interest. It is considered that these should be housed in Archives.
- (b) Capt. Bradford has returned to his museum in England and nothing later than letter of J Deo appears on file, so I have taken abstracts from MFA file in question.
- (c) Do you agree that those copies marked [redacted] should be forwarded to G-5? No reply to the letter to Lt. Col. Dinkarrin - Greece is on file, but it is interesting reading.

24/5/46

W M Haxworth
Major
Br
O/k Archivist

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PA.

David Perkins / Br School will have the answers.

1/15/25/4.

Executive Commissioner

Sir
 Ward Perkins has telephoned. He states that the photos were assigned to him by Air Ministry for Educational purposes & only originally under Alcom until final disposition could be arranged. I am calling at Br. School on Friday to establish contact. I can then see the Air Ministry Authority & inform G-5 accordingly.

W M Haxworth

(c) Do you agree that those copies marked G 5? No reply to the letter to Lt. Col. Dumbarton - Grace is or file, but it is interesting reading.

MMHarrison
may Br
Oik Archib

24/5/46

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PA David Perkins of Br School will have the answers.

1/5/25/4

Executive Commissioner 3

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MMHarrison may. Believe

if you agree.

27.5.46 MM 27/4 4.

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Executive Commissioner

Ward Perkins called 31/5 & confirmed information at 3. He telephoned G5 & gave them his report. Matter apparently satisfactorily settled & no further action required. MMHarrison may. Archib

5.6.46

While not do not Mr. P. was I showed the letter the authorisation so that I can send a copy who are reporting

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