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MONTHLY REPORTS, SUB-COMMS.
AUG. 1944 - JAN. 1946

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext 442 & 254; 478480)

HEB/to

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20905/A/1

9 January 46

SUBJECT: Final Report on Archives, MFAA S/C.

TO : VP CA Section

1. Submitted herewith is the Final Report on archives, Part I (20905/A/1/MFAA, 1 Jan 46) .

2. May one of the additional copies please be transmitted to the Chief Commissioner and one to the Executive Commissioner .

H.E. Bell Major
H.E. BELL
Maj A.E.C.
Archives Officer

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APG 394

SUBCOMMISSION FOR MONUMENTS FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES

FINAL REPORT ON ARCHIVES

PART I : ITALIAN ARCHIVES DURING THE WAR

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1st January 1946

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

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20905/A/1/NTAA

1 January 1946

FINAL REPORT ON ARCHIVES

PART I : ITALIAN ARCHIVES DURING THE WAR

Whatever may be the position in international law of the archives of a state that is fought over (it is not clear, for instance, to what extent they may derive protection from certain clauses in the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907), no modern state can, in fact, afford to countenance their wholesale destruction. Protective measures may be undertaken with very different motives, good or bad; but some form of protection there is bound to be.

The pages that follow attempt, in general terms, a description of the vicissitudes of Italian archives during the war, and, more specifically, an account of the archives policy of the states concerned - that is, Italy herself, the Vatican, Germany, and the Allied Powers.

An outline survey of the state of Italian Archives at the close of the war forms Part II of this report.

I. ITALY

(1) PERSONNEL AND ORGANISATION

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PART I : ITALIAN ARCHIVES DURING THE WAR

Whatever may be the position in international law of the archives of a state that is fought over (it is not clear, for instance, to what extent they may derive protection from certain clauses in the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907), no modern state can, in fact, afford to countenance their wholesale destruction. Protective measures may be undertaken with very different motives, good or bad; but some form of protection there is bound to be.

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I. ITALY

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(1) PERSONNEL AND ORGANISATION

At the outset of war, Italian archives, whatever dangers they might face, nevertheless appeared to enjoy two advantages - first, that there was in Italy a relatively large number of state archivists; second, that as late as 1939 consolidated archives legislation had been passed, which was remarkably inclusive in its provisions. It is worth considering to what extent these factors did actually operate advantageously.

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The apparently large number of archivists available was, as a matter of fact, illusory. It is true that the decentralization of Italian archives, deriving from the time when Italy was composed of separate states, meant that there were more archivists than, for instance, in Great Britain, where the Public Records are centralized. On the other hand, the decentralized system is not economical of personnel, and, if the total number of archivists was greater, so also was the need for them. Shortage of archivists, indeed, was a serious problem in Italy. It had begun to be noticeable even in the years before the war. Low salary rates had been responsible for a drift out of the profession into university teaching, and in 1939 racial discrimination had deprived Jewish archivists of their positions. With the coming of war, military service demanded some of the younger men (three of whom later became prisoners of war in Allied hands); again, Nazi-Fascist persecution accounted for the death of two members of the profession.

On the second point, the advantage of the 1939 archives legislation was more apparent than real. The Nuovo Ordinamento degli Archivi del Regno was potentially a law of great value. It consolidated a good deal of earlier, piecemeal legislation regarding the state archives, instituting the Consiglio Superiore and Giunta at the Ministry of Interior, from which these archives were to depend. More important, the act included provisions for the safeguarding of semi-public and private archives which, if implemented, would have put Italy, in this connection, well to the fore amongst European states. Nine Archives Superintendencies were created (at Torino, Genova, Milan, Venice, Bologna, Florence, Rome, Naples and Palermo), and the very wide powers of inspection etc., with which they were endowed, gave promise of an archives policy that might be truly national in its scope. In fact, however, this high promise was never realised. Superintendents were appointed, but the war had begun before they were well settled in their new positions or generally accepted in the exercise of their functions. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Nuovo Ordinamento remained, not perhaps a dead letter, but at most a pious aspiration.

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These points have been made because they are an essential background to the work achieved by the Italian Archives Service during the war. The heavy calls made by the exigencies of war on the Italian archives administration were met by staffs numerically depleted, whose position, though strong on paper, had not been established in fact. That so much good work was done during the war period was due to the strong Italian tradition of archive conservation. The influence of this tradition extended beyond the state archives, staffed by

highly valued, as down to the smallest communal and notarial archives, looked after perhaps by the local uomo studioso. Basically, the reason why a great many archives were preserved during the war was that Italians were not lacking who thought them worth preserving.

(2) AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS : EVACUATION TO DEPOSITS

From what has already been said, it will be clear that a general account of protective measures organized by the Italians is not possible: these varied from one locality to another, and indeed each archive had its own separate history. That was true, too, with regard to the policy of evacuation and establishment of deposits; such a policy might be initiated and ordered by the central authority, but the effectiveness with which it was implemented depended on the archivists on the spot.

Air raid precautions were carried out, in the state archives at least, from the time of the Abyssinian War onwards. Early in 1941, danger of bombardment from the air led to a general policy of evacuation. In one way, Italian state archives were fortunately placed for evacuation. The principal problem in transfers of this sort is what to take and what to leave behind, for the splitting up of series, in order to put in safety what is most ancient and valuable historically, is undesirable on many grounds. In Italy, however, that question arose much less strongly than it did in other countries, owing to the existence in many archives of a fondo diplomatico, which already contained the oldest documents and provided a suitable start for transfer. (See Appendix, 1)

For the rest, evacuation by classes, or parts of classes, of archives continued throughout 1943. Some idea of the vast movement of records involved is gained from the simple statement that all, except one, of the Archivi di Stato, and most of the Sezioni di Archivi di Stato, established deposits - many of them more than one, and the Archivio di Stato of Torino as many as six. The difficulty of securing premises that were suitable, and, when these were found, of obtaining transport for the transfer scarcely needs repeating. Having regard to the conditioning factors and circumstances, it may be said that on the whole the work of evacuation

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The justification of the general line of policy of evacuation to deposits is in the number of archives that ended the war with buildings damaged or destroyed and actual records safe. On the other hand, what had been an excellent precaution against bombardment from the air was less effective as the campaign proceeded, for many of the deposits were

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peculiarly vulnerable when it came to ground fighting. Considerations of this sort led certain Directors to arrange for the return of deposits (e.g., at Lucca), and more would have been brought back to parent repositories had transport for the purpose been available. Lack of transport, too, prevented inspections from being made as frequently as was desirable, and physical conditions in some deposits deteriorated.

(3) CO-OPERATION WITH ALLIED ARCHIVES OFFICERS

Co-operation of the Italian Archives Service with Allied Archives Officers was excellent throughout. It is described in some detail at IV (6) and (10) below.

II. THE VATICAN

(1) BASIS OF PRESENT ACCOUNT

A good description of the measures taken by the Vatican for the protection of Church archives was written by Professor Giulio Battelli, and appeared in Reclasia, March 1945. Other details are available in the publication, Libraries Guss of the Vatican during the Second World War. These sources have been supplemented, for the purpose of the present account, by additional material supplied from time to time by the Vatican.

(2) INDEPENDENT PROTECTIVE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VATICAN

The Librarian and Archivist of the Holy See, Cardinal Giovanni Mercati, held the view (later to be a main point of the policy laid down by the Allied Archives Advisors) that effective protection of archives depends on preliminary listing of what it is desired to protect. He therefore undertook the preparation of what, in circumstances had permitted its completion, would have been a census of Italian ecclesiastical archives. In November 1942, he issued to all dioceses copies of a pro forma for distribution to parishes etc., and in a covering letter stressed the value to historical studies of knowing exactly in what the archive patrimony of the

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(2) INCIDENTAL PROTECTIVE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VATICAN

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Parallel with this general inquiry, commonsense precautions were being taken in the Vatican itself. There, the likelihood of bombardment was always recognized to be small, but the separation of the best things of both Library and Archive into the so-called Reserve, and the storing of these in special safety, was a wise precaution - happily, of course, unnecessary in the event.

(3) PROMPTIVE WORK IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE GERMANS

With the development of the war - after September 1943, protective action, especially where flighting, was likely to be fiercest, along the main line of the Allied advance, became urgent. The Vatican Secretariat of State, therefore, made an agreement with the German Ambassador that measures should be taken at once to put in safety those archives that stood in greatest danger. To implement this, between December 1943 and May 1944, Professor Battelli of the Vatican Archive made a series of visits, mainly in the company of German Kunstschutz officers, to thirty-seven separate towns and villages. In these he either satisfied himself that everything possible had been done on the spot, and that the archives were in reasonable security, or, if conditions were unsatisfactory, offered to arrange transference to the Vatican; in this latter connection, another consideration was, of course, the intrinsic value of a particular archive.

As a result of Professor Battelli's tours, the following archives were transferred to the Vatican for safe-keeping - Anagni, parts of the Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescovile, and selected documents from the Seminario; Frascati, the Archivio Vescovile; Gaeta, parts of the Archivio Capitolare, including documents from Itri; Montefiascone, parts of the Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescovile; Tarchiana, parts of the Archivio Capitolare; Velletri, the Archivio Capitolare, and some volumes of the Archivio Vescovile; Veroli, parts of the Archivio Capitolare. In addition, the transfer was also arranged of certain important collections from libraries, which are not

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In the Marche, to which Professor Battelli also attended his visits, it was apparent that there were important Church archives which it would not be practicable to move to Rome. There was, therefore, for a time, a plan to con-

concentrate these in Assisi, but this was not put into effect, since local arrangements were thought to provide sufficient security.

(4) CO-OPERATION WITH THE ALLIES

With the war zone moved further north, the need was to organize recovery of records where repositories had been damaged or destroyed. In this connection, from June 1944 onwards, the Vatican authorities worked in the closest co-operation with the Allied Archives Officers, with whom Professor Battelli undertook tours to the principal centres in Lazio, Campania, Umbria, Marche and Toscana, a total of thirty-nine places being visited.

Details of the survey of Church archives, carried out by the Vatican at the request of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, will be found at IV (10) below.

III. GERMANY

(1) BASIS OF PRESENT ACCOUNT

The description that follows of German activities in connection with Italian archives is based on interrogations of certain of the Kunstschutz and other personnel who were engaged in this work; on documents found in the files of the Kunstschutz; and on evidence of members of the Italian and Vatican Archive Services.

(2) OPERATIONS BASED ON ROME, NOVEMBER 1943-JAN 1944

During the autumn of 1943 protective work started, under Sonderführer Hagemann, formerly of the German Historical Institute in Rome, and SS Lt. Scheibert. Properly speaking, however, there existed no effective organisation until November, when the Kunstschutz was set up, initially

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The work done during this period in a limited area was effective. Protective notices were posted on repositories, inspections were carried out to check up on precautions taken and, where judged necessary, archives that were at once important and vulnerable were evacuated to positions of greater security. In this way, the Archivio Comunale di Toscana and Viterbo were transferred to the Archivio del Regio in Rome; and the best mss. of the Archivio Comunale di Anagni were moved to the Vaticano.

The most extensive transfers undertaken at this time were, however, of Church archives. Consequent upon the agreement between the Vaticano and the German Ambassador for protective measures to be taken at once, a series of visits was undertaken - first to the area between Rome and the Garigliano, and later to other exposed regions. The evacuation of archives that resulted has already been described in the account given of Vatican activities. What should be stressed here, however, is that this work had full German co-operation, and that the transport necessary for it was sometimes furnished by the German Command. Particularly important, as already mentioned, the archives removed from Montecassino Abbey by the Hermann Goering Division were finally transferred to Castel Sant'Angelo, art & being in German hands for nearly two months. Of the personalities involved in these early stages of the work, Professor Battelli states that Major Evers and Lt. Scheibart "hanno compiuto il loro ufficio con sincero interessamento di studiosi"; and Dr. Lang, who was well known to both Vatican and state archivists as a bona fide scholar, was certainly a good choice for the position of archivist.

(3) THE NAZI PLAN FOR EVACUATION, APRIL-JUNE 1944

If somewhat limited in its scope, the archives work of the Kunstschutz might, in the spring of 1944, have been said to be developing satisfactorily. In Germany, however, it was apparently thought otherwise, and on existing arrangements there was superimposed a plan at once more grandiose, and infinitely more dangerous, than anything that had previously been conceived. In general terms, the new

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(3) THE ARCHIVE PLAN, FLORENCE, APRIL-JUNE 1944

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The direction of this plan was to lie in the hands, not of the Kunstschutz, but of Professor Theodore Mayer, the director of the Monumenta Germaniae Historica and of the German Historical Institute in Berlin. Fortunately, after

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visiting Italy early in 1944, Professor Mayer was persuaded of the absurdity, and indeed the impossibility, of realising these ideas - and of the danger of attempting to do so. An interesting memorandum that he wrote on 1st April shows that, on the one point, he had decided in favour of protection either on the spot or in local deposits, and, on the other, that for transfer of documents to Germany he proposed to substitute a large-scale photographic programme. He took the occasion in this same paper to expound at some length the very proper archive doctrine that individual documents should on no account be separated from the series in which they formed part. (See Appendix, 2).

Even this notwithstanding, some demanded a very considerable expansion of personnel, and organisational change. At a meeting held at Verona on 5th April and attended by Professor Mayer and by H.V. Aut. Chef and 38 Standardträger (by that time the Director of the Kunstschutz), responsibility for Italian archives passed to the German Historical Institute in Rome, one of whose members, Professor Mayer, was to assume direction during periods when Professor Mayer was absent. Liaison was to be maintained with the Kunstschutz, which was to remain in the link with the German Army. (See Appendix, 3).

It is difficult to see what function the new Organisation really had. Professor Beck set up in Florence, where on 17th April he was joined by Dr. Opitz. Contacts were made with personnel of the Italian Archive Service - the Superintendent (Professor Panella), and the Directors of Pisa, Siena and Arezzo. Professor Opitz visited the last-named place. A certain amount of information about these archives, and about some of the greater private archives of Tuscany, was obtained; but there is no evidence to suggest that any executive action, arising out of the details received, was taken. Nor does the plan for a photographic record appear to have gone ahead.

In fairness to the persons concerned, it should be said that judgement, on the present incomplete record of their activities, must be reserved. It is hard, however, to escape the impression that the Expedition proved a very damp squib. When the Allied Archive Officer entered

Mayer and by Dr. V. Bock, Director of the Kunstechnitz), responsibility (by that time the Director of the German Historical Institute for Italian archives passed to the German Historical Institute in Rome), and of whose members, Professor Bock, was to resume direction during periods when Professor Mayer was absent. It is to be understood that Mayer was to remain in contact with the German Army. (See Appendix, 3).

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In fairness to the persons concerned, it should be said that judgement, on the present incomplete record of their activities, must be reserved. It is hard, however, to escape the impression that the experiment proved a very dead squib. When the Allied Archivist Officer entered Florence in August, he naturally raised the question of what had been done by Professor Mayer and Dr. Bock - "the presence of these gentlemen, said the Director, did neither harm nor good. He was ineffective". The same idea was perhaps in the mind of Dr. Zaffel, the General Director of the German Archives, when (July 1944) he wrote to Professor Zaffel - "It is a pity that precious time has passed during which material would have been put in safety, if incompetent persons had not taken over the protection of archives".

(4) EMILIA, LIGURIA, PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA, MAY 1944 ONWARDS

In the northern regions of Italy, there was a return to the methods previously used around Rome. The deposit of the chapter library and archives of Verona, at Imbazzò, was provided with a protective notice, and in October Geff. Lehmann-Brockhaus was responsible for the transfer of the records to the Biblioteca Marciana at Venice. In the meantime, Dr. Lang had come north and was once again active. He made tours of the principal archives and their deposits, including amongst visits of this kind Bologna, Modena, Parma, Milan, Brescia, Bergamo, Como, Torino and Genova, advising on physical conditions and posting protective notices. Certain private archives were also included in the scope of his survey. At this time too, Sonderführer Ragemann, although his official duties were now in connection with Army Education and Information, appears to have assisted.

But if the methods were the same as those used six months previous in Rome, the results were less effective. In spite of the efforts of the Kunstschutz, the very important deposits from the Archivio di Stato of Bologna and Modena were both occupied by troops and serious damage done. Although under these circumstances, Professor Gencetti of the former archive requested the return of the Bologna records as early as August 1944, it was not until March 1945 that the transfer finally took place - by which time the risk of damage on the road was enormous. At the Genova deposit (Castello Bocchi di Trececi, near Torriglia), the Kunstschutz did enjoy a success, occupying troops being withdrawn in March 1945. On the other hand, a threat to the deposit of the Archivio Arcivescovile of Torino at Rivoli developed. This led to the proposal for a new staff order on the whole subject of archives (see Appendix 4); but there is no evidence that such an order was in fact issued.

In this final period of the Kunstschutz, there arose again the old, vicious idea of removal of records to Germany. Special instructions have been issued to prevent this.

advising on physical conditions and preserving the notices. Certain private archives were also included in the scope of his survey. At this time too, Sonderführer Hagemann, although his official duties were now in connection with Army Education and Information, appears to have assisted.

But if the methods were the same as those used six months previous in Rome, the results were less effective. In spite of the efforts of the Kunstschutz, the very important deposits from the Archivio di Stato of Bologna and Modena were both occupied by troops and serious damage done. Although under these circumstances, Professor Cencetti of the former archive requested the return of the Bologna records as early as August 1944, it was not until March 1945 that the transfer finally took place - by which time the risk of damage on the road was enormous. At the Genova deposit (Castello Bocchi di Tronessi, near Torriglia), the Kunstschutz did enjoy a success, occupying troops being withdrawn in March 1945. On the other hand, a threat to the deposit of the Archivio Arcivescovile of Torino at Rivoli developed. This led to the proposal for a new staff order on the whole subject of archives (see Appendix, 4); but there is no evidence that such an order was in fact issued.

In this final period of the Kunstschutz, there arose again the old, vicious idea of removal of records to Germany, special instructions being issued, on 6th September 1944, by the Generaldirektor of the Staatsarchiv for the locating and securing of

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(a) All Viennese archives surrendered to Italy under the Armistice Commission of 1918, the Treaty of St. Germain, and the various agreements of 1919, 1920, 1922 and 1924.

(b) All items in North Italian archives which, from their bearing on Austro-Italian relations, would be of importance to German historical research.

(c) A special group of archives of genealogical interest to the German Police (SD), which were said to be stored in the cellars of the Doge's Palace in Venice.

About the same time, a certain Dr. Sokoll visited Milan from Vienna, charged with the task of locating particular archives thought to be in deposit at Monza. Dr. Sokoll was unsuccessful, and Dr. Lang does not appear to have lost any sleep over his failure to find what he wanted. In fact, Dr. Lang behaved well, ignoring the General Order and giving no more than nominal co-operation in the first specific application of it. From the whole of Northern Italy, excluding the frontier areas where there was a very different story, the only removal reported is of the Gordon Craig theatrical archives from Verona to Bad Aussee. This was carried out by the Kunstschutz in September 1944, on orders from the Commander of the Sicherheitspolizei and SD at Verona (Dr. Weigle).

(5) THE FRONTIER AREAS

Archives in the north and north-eastern frontier areas of Italy did not fall within the scope of the arrangements so far described, but were separately provided for within the local German administrative organisations - the Operationszone Alpenvorland, which covered the provinces of Bolzano, Trento and Belluno, and the Operationszone Adriatisches Küstenland, which included the provinces of Udine, Gorizia, Trieste, Pola, Quarnero and Laibach. The two administrations were separate and operated independently.

(1) The Operationszone Alpenvorland

In September 1943, Professor Franz Huter was appointed Director of the Archivio di Stato of Bolzano, and also charged with the supervision of the Archivio di Stato at Trento and of archives generally in the provinces of Bolzano and Trento. Professor Huter, born in Bolzano, while it was still Austrian, had a purely

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(1) The Operationszone Alpenvorland

In September 1943, Professor Franz Mater was appointed Director of the Archivio di Stato di Bolzano, and also charged with the supervision of the Archivio di Stato at Trento and of archives generally in the provinces of Bolzano and Trento. Professor Mater, born in Bolzano, while it was still Austrian, had a purely Austrian background. He had served for fourteen years in the Haus-Hof- und Staatsarchiv of Vienna, and had been professor at the University of Innsbruck. In his new appointment he was - in fact, if not in name - archives adviser to the Oberster Kommissar, Gauleiter Franz Hofer.

The main trend of policy in this area, was a transfer of archives to deposits suspiciously close to the Austrian border - castles Campo Tures, S. Erasmo, Scena and Brunico received the best things from the Archi-

via di Stato di Bolzano; Cast. Senna the archivi comunali of Bolzano and Merano; Cast. Campo Tures the archivio comunale of Brennero; most significant of all, in December 1944 Professor Huter ordered the removal to Campo Tures of eighty-four chests of archives from the Archivio di Stato di Trento, which up to that time had been held in the castle. Prof. Huter asserted that all these transfers were made to save the archives from the danger of bombardment, and was at pains to point out that all the deposits were located in Italian territory. The drift towards the frontier was, however, unmistakable, and it is difficult not to believe that eventual seizure by Germany was intended. Another interesting line of policy was that by which the Preture were given back their own archives, although elsewhere these have been held in Archivio di Stato since its long ago as 1850.

A very extensive work of photography of archives was also carried on by Professor Huter - indeed he was engaged on this task from data very much previous to his being charged with the care of the archives. In the course of two years, 1941-3, he had the assistance of one other scholar, named Kramer, and of at least six photographers. At first they worked the large ecclesiastical archives, and then the Reichial archives; only in the autumn of 1943 were they able, after strong local opposition, to extend their researches to the archival comunali. The dovetailing of this work with the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Landes und Volksforschung is not yet clear; but that the whole had a political significance seems highly likely. Professor Huter stated that the greater part of the films was sent to the Reichsarchiv at Berlin for developing and retention; a smaller quantity went to Innsbruck.

(ii) The Operationszone Adriatisches Küstenland

Direction of policy in regard to archives was in the hands of Abteilung V (Wissenschaft und Unterricht) of the Oberster Kommissariat Trieste. Up to date, evidence

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(ii) The Österreichische Adriastrategisches Kabinet

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of the Oberster Kommissar at Trieste. Up to date, evidence
is lacking of the policy pursued by the first head of this
section, Dr. Friedrich Scheide. But the plans of Dr. 1526
Heribert Huber, who succeeded him in March 1944, are all
too clear.

During Dr. Huber's administration, the Atti del
Tribunale della Guerra di guerra austro-ungarica di Pola
(1908-1918), and the Regli matricolari militari of the
same fonds, were transferred to Vienna. Moreover, a large-
scale proposal was formulated for the creation at Klagenfurt,
in the Institut für Carinthian Research, of an archive

consisting of all modern and historical documents of importance for the study of the Operationszone. This was to be under the direction of a certain Dr. Walter Friesacher, professor at the Oberschule in Villach, and Dr. Huber issued instructions to all heads of provincial administrations to locate and secure archives, noting those that were important for the study of the Operationszone, for Deutschum in the region or as throwing light on the connections between Carinthia and the south. (See Appendix, 5 (a) and (b)).

In fact, owing to wartime difficulties, this ambitious programme was not implemented. An effort was made to remove the Archivio Mussilano of Gorizia. On 17th November 1944, twelve cases of records from this archive were, in fact, dispatched by Dr. Franz Xavier Zimmermann, representative of the Institute for Carinthian Research at Gorizia, to Dr. Friesacher at Tarvisio. The excuse given is the usual one - that the move was undertaken to safeguard the documents. Actually, they got no further than a barrack at Eisenstein, near the Austrian frontier, where they were abandoned at the time of the German collapse. Part of this material was later located, after being subjected to further moves, by an Allied Archives Officer, acting in conjunction with a local Partisan Leader. Until I plan to move the Archivio Mussilano of Udine became impossible after the building which housed it received a direct bomb-hit in February 1945. It is worth noting that initiative for recovery work in this archive was taken by Frau Hanfstaengl, a member of the Abteilung Denkmalschutz - a body which was apparently only concerned with archives when they were damaged by bombardment and stood in need of recovery or structural repair.

IV. THE ALLIED POWERS

(1) ORGANISATION AND SCOPE OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES

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IV. THE ALLIED POWERS

(1) ORGANISATION AND SCOPE OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Within the framework of Allied Military Government, measures for the protection of archives were even more closely associated with arrangements for the safeguarding of monuments and fine arts than was the case in the parallel German organisation. The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission had the same responsibility towards Italian archives as it had towards the country's monuments and fine arts.

From the academic point of view, exception might be taken to the bringing together in one organization of functions so diverse. In fact, however, the union of the two separate activities came about naturally enough. In the first Sicilian phase, Monuments and Fine Arts Officers undertook the protection of certain repositories of ancient archives. Later, on the recommendation of the Archives Advisors of the U.S. War Department and British War Office, who visited Italy early in 1944, protective measures were extended to cover all archives, modern as well as ancient; and at that time it was decided that the existing organization, suitably strengthened, should assume this wider responsibility.

So it came about that the archives side of the Sub-Commission's work grew. That its development placed a considerable strain on an already overworked body is beyond doubt. On the other hand, specialist personnel were made available to undertake the bulk of the field work in connection with archives, and to advise the Director on technical matters affecting policy.

(2) PERSONNEL

Details of the personnel who, at various dates during 1944-5, were assigned or attached to the Sub-Commission for work on archives are as follows:

Archives Advisors

Mr. Hilary Jenkinson, C.P.E., Secretary of the Public Record Office and Archives Advisor to the War Office; February to May 1944, August to September 1944, June to July 1945, October to November 1945.

Mr. Fred W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, N.Y., and Archives Advisor to the War Department; April to May 1944, November 1944.

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Archives Officers

Captain T.B. Brooke, R.F.R.C., as Assistant Keeper of the Public Records: April 1944 to May 1945. 1525

Captain (later Major) R.H. Ellis, R.N.R., as Assistant Keeper of the Public Records: May to November 1944.

Captain W.D. McCain, C.A.C., Director, Department of History and Archives, State of Mississippi: August 1944 to September 1945.

Major H.E. Bell, A.E.C., Lecturer in Modern History, University of Durham, and formerly of the Public Record Office: December 1944 to date of present report.

In particular it is necessary to stress the very great value of the work of the two Archives Advisors, Mr. Jenkinson and Mr. Shipman, who not only put their wide experience at the disposal of the Sub-Commission but also gave the whole subject of archives much-needed prestige. Mr. Jenkinson's memorandum of 30th April 1944 on the duties of archivists attached to the Sub-Commission, and a similar paragraph in Mr. Shipman's first report as Temporary Archives Advisor, sketched in outline the policy that was subsequently followed. (See Appendix, 6 (a), (b)).

(3) ARCHIVES AND THE ARMY: INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED

Against many of the hazards to which archives were subject in the course of the Italian campaign it was difficult to make general provision. In one connection, however, the duty of the Sub-Commission was absolutely clear: itself a part of the invading armies, its first responsibility was to prevent destruction or dispersal of archives by occupying troops.

This implied the issue, through normal military channels, of instructions to formations. The principal archive repositories were included in the "Historici Buildings", requisition of which was strictly controlled by H.Q. A.D.I. Administrative Instruction No. 10, dated 30th March 1944. Equally important, para. 13 of the same Administrative Instruction forbade the destruction or dispersal of all collections of archives wherever found. It is difficult to exaggerate the significance of this Administrative Instruction, and of A.F.H.Q. Administrative Memoranda No. 54, dated 6th December 1944, and No. 20, dated 3rd April 1945, which successively amended, and (so far as archives were concerned) strengthened, the original order. In effect, these instructions gave the Sub-Commission a locus standi; consequent upon their issue, it was able to intervene, when occasion demanded it, to prevent unnecessary risk of damage and loss. (See Appendix, 7 (a), (b), (c)).

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As has been indicated above, in the instructions so far described archives were treated alongside of monuments and similar provisions governed the protection of both. With the imminence of the advance into Northern Italy, however, the special need to safeguard deposits of archives on the line of advance led to the issue of separate, and specific, instructions on the subject of their preservation. A.F.H.Q. letter dated 22nd February 1945 laid down that, except where military operations necessitated their use, all buildings housing archives were to be put out of bounds to all troops. (See Appendix, 8).

In an effort to reach the individual soldier as well as the orderly room, and to explain the practical significance of archives, an article entitled Not for Salvage was inserted in the Army Bureau of Current Affairs periodical War, No. 52, dated 29th November 1944.

(4) LISTS OF ARCHIVE REPOSITORIES

If the aid of the armed was to be enlisted in securing the protection of archives, it was reasonable, and indeed essential, to make available a clear statement of what it was desired to protect. In other words, the construction and issue of lists of British archives were clearly necessary.

As early as August 1943, a list of the most important repositories had been compiled by Dr. Ernst Posner for the Committee of the American Council of Learned Societies on Protection of Cultural Treasures in War Areas. Under the headings Address, Official Head, Holdings, Building, this gave much valuable information. Its existence facilitated the inclusion of archive repositories in the Sub-Commission's Lists of Protected Monuments, issued May-August 1944.

These remarks, however, a considerable difficulty. So far as monuments were concerned, the Sub-Commission proceeded on a basis of rigid selection: it sought to protect, and preserve, the best. From their very nature, archives, on the other hand, demanded a different treatment. Apart from the great historical collections, many categories of regional and local records, often still current, were of such importance either for historical purposes or for the conduct of the war and the reconstruction of civil life that their protection was a matter of urgency. Since these could not be included in the Lists of Protected Monuments without hopelessly upsetting the balance between monuments and archives, it was necessary to produce an additional, and more detailed, list of archives.

The resultant Brief Memorandum with Appendices and Lists

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The resultant Brief Memorandum with Appendices and Lists on the Protection of Italian Archives contained a summary classification of all Italian archives; a list of ancient civil and ecclesiastical archives, arranged in alphabetical order of places for each of the eighteen regions of Italy; and a description of the most prominent classes of modern public archives, with an indication of where these were to be found. The relevant sections of this list were placed in the hands of A.C.I.D. Regional and Provincial Commissioners; copied and also read by all officers of the Sub-Commission, and the list was in fact the basis of subsequent field work. Additions to it were made from time to time as fuller information became available.

(5) FILM WORK: DISPOSITION OF PERSONNEL & AREAS COVERED

A major preoccupation of the Sub-Commission was the disposition of the very limited number of Archives Officers held on its strength in order to secure the maximum coverage of archive repositories. What was done in this connection can best be described under three heads:

(i) Sicily and Southern Italy, April-May 1944

Tours were made by Mr. Simpson, Mr. J. J. Kinison and Captain Brooke through Sicily, Calabria, Puglia, Lucania, and Basilicata, and part of Campania. During these, it was not only possible to give valuable assistance locally, but also to obtain an impression of the kind of records that would be met with in the area farther north.

(ii) Rome and Central Italy, June 1944-April 1945

Captain Brooke entered Rome on 5th June 1944. It was immediately apparent that, though the great archive collections of the city had escaped damage, his continued presence was desirable, both to deal with pressing questions connected with the archives of the ministries, and to maintain day-to-day contact with the central Italian archives authority and with the Vatican.

It was therefore arranged that the other Archives Officer, Captain Ellis, should be responsible for oversight work, being attached to either 8th Army or the 5th Army as circumstances demanded, while Captain Brooke maintained contacts in Rome and was responsible for follow-up work as the archives moved on. This plan, once up-and-down, was persisted in until the final great advance of April 1945, and worked extremely well. Subsequent to the transfer of Captain Ellis to another theatre of operations in November 1944, Major Bell succeeded to his duties in the forward areas, though not, unfortunately, to his exact position, since the Sub-Commission was unable to secure Major Bell's attendance to the Archives as it had been able to do in the case of Captain Ellis; on the other hand, the sympathetic co-operation of senior officers with both Bell and the Sub-Commission, and the presence of his presence.

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During this period, Captain McCain, who joined the Sub-Commission in August 1944, was attached to the Intelligence Collecting Unit, and with them and in Rome made plans for safeguarding deposits of ministerial archives in the North.

(iii) Northern Italy, April-August 1945

Major Hall entered Bologna on 21st April 1945, and was thereafter responsible for archive matters in Emilia and Venezia Regions, also making one tour of the principal repositories of Piemonte. Captain McCain went to Lombardie Region on 5th May, where, in addition to looking after the normal archive repositories of the area, he did valuable work in locating and protecting the innumerable deposits of ministerial archives - work that, on occasion, took him into the neighbouring regions of Venezia and Piemonte. Owing to the posting of Captain Brooks to another theatre and the pressure of work in the North, for a period of about two months it was not possible to retain an Archives Officer in Rome.

For the rest, it is appropriate to acknowledge the work in connection with archives done by the Monumental Officers of the Sub-Commission. From the nature of the positions they occupied as A.F.O.s. Officers with the 6th and 5th Armies, Major N.W. Newton and Captain D. Keller were faced with every kind of problem; and to them, archives as well as churches and pictures were part of the day's work. With the Regional M.F.A. Officers the position was rather different: but, on occasion, they too had responsibilities towards archives - especially those who served in regions for which it was not possible to spare an Archives Officer. In this connection, mention should be made of the conscientious work of Captain F.H.J. Maxse in the Abruzzi-Marche, and of Captain E.E. Enthoven in Piemonte.

On the other side of the account, it may be remarked that, aside from their specialist duties, the Archives Officers were able to make some contribution to the A.F.O. work of the Sub-Commission. One of them, Captain Ellis, did indeed serve for two and a half months in the capacity of Monumental Officer. The others, led by their duties to remote communes half off the map, were able to bring back to their A.F.O. colleagues a certain amount of information about monuments, of secondary significance in themselves perhaps, and certainly not figuring on the

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(5) FIELD WORK: REPORTS ON DAMAGE

The first duty of the Archives Officer in the field was one of fact-finding: he had to inspect repositories, report on the condition of buildings and records and, where damage had occurred, establish its cause. Copies of reports of this

kind made it possible for the Sub-Commission to build up a record which was not only practically useful in determining policy to be followed but which also indicates, in retrospect, the various measures to which Italian archives were subject during the war. On the basis of this material, it can be stated that, broadly speaking, damage was found to be due to the operation of one or more of the following causes, which are listed with illustrative examples.

(i) Bombardment

Situated in cities that were often important military centres, or on German lines of communication etc., many of the principal archives of Italy inevitably suffered some damage in greater or less degree. There occurred serious damage of this kind to the repositories of Archivio di Stato at Cagliari, Genova, Milan, Palermo, Parma and Torino; and to the repositories of Archivio di Alessandria, Catania, Foggia, Livorno, Messina, Pistoia, Potenza, Trapani and Verona. Church archives were also hit, e.g. the Archivio Arcivescovile di Ancona, Benevento and Palermo; the Archivio Vescovile di Fano, Fano, Foligno and Grosseto; the Archivio Capitolare di Ancona, Livorno, Palestrina and Verona.

The point must be made, however, that in these and similar cases damage to documents was by no means always commensurate with damage to premises. Partly this was due to the very extensive measure of evacuation that had been carried out; partly to the fact that, in some ways, archives are surprisingly resilient, and many were recovered intact from the rubble of ruined repositories.

Unquestionably the most serious damage to archives, as contrasted with the buildings that held them, resulted from the bombardments of Milan and Palermo. The Archivio di Stato in both places had established deposits, but bulk of material and anything like complete evacuation impossible and much that was left behind perished - in August 1943, one of the two Milan repositories burnt for a period between ten and twenty days. Unfortunately too was the almost complete loss of the archives of the former

of Archivi di Stato at Cagliari, Genova, Milan, Palermo, Parma and Torino; and to the repositories of Decreti at Alessandria, Catania, Foggia, Livorno, Messina, Pistoia, Potenza, Trapani and Verona. Church archives were also hit, e.g. the Archivi Arcivescovili of Ancona, Benevento and Palermo; the Archivi Vescovili of Fano, Pistoia, Poggio and Sarsina; the Archivi Capitulari of Ancona, Livorno, Palestrina and Verona.

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Less heavy damage, but still serious enough, occurred to the archives of Parma, Torino, Foggia, Messina, Pistoia, Potenza and Trapani.

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(ii) Ground Fighting

The main archives escaped lightly in the actual fighting. The Archivio di Stato at Florence and at Pisa suffered from their position on the Arno, but in neither case was there a serious loss of records. For the rest, it was fortunate that the most bitter fighting took place in areas remote from the great centres of population, so that the main damage to archives was confined to those of the country communities; amongst the latter, losses were especially great along the winter lines of 1943-44 and 1944-45.

(iii) German Troops

The German record is blotted for all time by the brutal and senseless destruction of the most valuable records of the Archivio di Stato of Naples, deliberately burnt in their deposit at the Villa Montesano near San Paolo Belisio. An account of this tragic episode - by far the greatest loss to Italian archives during the war - is at the end of the book, p. 5.

It would seem that this criminal act made an impression even in the German army, for nothing approaching it occurred elsewhere. Of the great archives, indeed, only three others suffered from German occupation - the Archivio di Stato at Siena, Modena and Bologna, all of which had deposits, where troops were quartered - in the Modena and Bologna deposits in spite of protective notices, posted by the Kunstschutz. In both these places occupying troops were responsible for dispersion and destruction of archives. In the Modena deposit, a villa at Montebello, losses were not heavy. At the Villa Tadini, San Donnino, where some of the best of the Bologna archives were transferred, it is probable that a large amount of material was destroyed and went astray, in such great confusion did the Germans leave the records that re-ordering, and a tentative assessment of losses, are not yet complete. The report of the Superintendent of Archives of Emilia on this incident is illuminating:

"I piatti di legno della legatura più antichi

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"I listi di legno delle legature più antiche furono spezzati e il cuoio strappato e portato via; i cartoni vuoti e il loro contenuto sparpagliato in terra, adoperato per accendere dopo il fuoco, massi e volumi trasportati....

Il materiale responsabile dei danni più gravi era stato sostituito da uno di qualità, il cui comandante, maggiore Mannar, s'impadronì dell'ordinale, il più prezioso deposito del materiale. Ordinamento, per ora, è stato eseguito, e altri spostamenti erano stati eseguiti, e

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Certo solo parsialmente rispettato perché anche dopo la sua emanazione la truppa tedesca si era (anzi per usarli agli scopi più vari (per esempio per sciogliervi dentro del fesso), non si faceva scrupolo di rovesciare sui mucchi delle carte la sudatura della caserma per evitare la fetide di portarle allo scorio e continuava a servirsi dei documenti d'archivio per accendere la stufa."

Up and down the country the Germans did a certain amount of harm to the smaller communal and notarial archives. "Military necessity", and the resultant mining of buildings, accounted for some of these instances; and the slackness of individual commanders for others. It is fair to say that, in this connection, the German record is not particularly bad. One unsavoury feature, however, was the destruction of municipal buildings and their contents as a reprisal for local partisan activity: that happened at Cassino, where both Archivio Comunale and Archivio Notarile were burnt, at Villaminozzo, and at Bever; the destruction of war. From the Archivio Comunale of Cassino, in deposit at Brindis also so as to have been undertaken as a reprisal.

Of looting, either organised or individual, little evidence has come to light.

(iv) Allied Troops

In general, it may be stated categorically that the instructions described in (3) above proved effective.

So far as Archivio di Stato and Sectioni are concerned, only three allegations of damage by Allied troops - none of them of great magnitude - were made. At Potenza it is alleged that British troops, quartered in the office of the Sindaco, broke into the actual repository, disturbed the records, and carried off some fifty packets of title of the Intendenza di Basilicata (1818-1860) and a hundred and eighty-five files of the Prefettura amministrativa series (1893-1937). At Bari,

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It will not escape notice that two out of these three incidents resulted from action taking place, or at least initiated, before the archives section of the Sub-Commission was established. Potenza and Bari were visited at the earliest possible moment by both Archives Advisors, and Bari also by the Deputy Director of the Sub-Commission.

Amongst the smaller command and notarial archives there is evidence of a certain amount of wilful damage, generally occurring in the immediate post-combat phase. The temptation to use "a lot of old papers" to light the stove was on occasion too much for troops - especially in the inclement conditions of the Italian winter. At one village Allied troops are reported to have co-operated with the inhabitants to find a highly novel use for archives - it is said that the bulkiest and stoutest files were used to make a road! However, it should perhaps be added that the village concerned, Coriano in the Romagna, changed hands seven or eight times in the fighting; and this fact by itself may account for most of the archives that are missing or destroyed.

Experience proved that the most serious danger from Allied troops was to modern administrative records. The most grave examples of this were at the Ministry of Air in Rome, at the time (July 1944) when it was used as the H.Q. of A.A.I. at the H.Q. of the Fascist Party, hurriedly cleared for use as a rest camp; and, later in the year at Mussolini's residence, Rocca delle Caminate, near Forlì. In all these cases the Sub-Commission pressed for inquiry and the necessary administrative action to prevent continuance, or repetition, of abuses of this kind. The presence of Archives Officers undoubtedly prevented other incidents that would have been more discreditable; insistence by the Archives Officer concerned on proper treatment of the records of the Ministry of Corporations at the time the Allied Commission took over its premises in Jan. 1946, and repeated visits, May-July 1946, to the Villa Bettini, Badoglio, where the archives of the Presidenza del Consiglio were

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(v) Civilians

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War-time conditions accounted for considerable destruction by civilians. Where this took place on a large scale, its basis was of course political, as, for instance, in the burning of the communal archives of Capri, Mesochio and Veria. Sometimes it was as a result of the deliberate desire to suppress evidence, - as in the case of the burning of the Archivio del Tribunale di Ferrara and of one section of the Archivio del Tribunale di Bologna.

or in many of the offices of the Republican ministries, where the last act of the Fascists was to attempt to cover their tracks.

There was, however, a host of minor instances of destruction that admit of no rational classification. Under what head is to be placed, for example, the damage (luckily not serious) that occurred to the Archivio Notarile of S. Giovanni in Marignano, when the floor of the room above collapsed under the weight of refugees sheltering in it, and the party was precipitated into the archives? Or the other group of refugees whom the Archives Officer found living in the Archivio Comunale at Montescudo, and using its contents ("but none of the best documents") to keep the home fires burning? Or the communal records of Gambettola, which the inhabitants used - and quite effectively by all accounts - to give some protection in lieu of sandbags?

(vi) Slackening of Standards of Conservation

It is difficult to find a title adequately to cover the final cause of deterioration of Italian archives during the war period, for certainly 'neglect' is an ungracious word to use of archivists who, in general, stood up to the challenge of war magnificently. Inevitably, however, on occasion there did occur a slackening of standards from the normal peacetime practice of archives administration - sometimes so serious as to threaten the physical safety of the records, as in the Archivio Notarile at Palermo, where archives were damaged by failure to move them from a part of the repository where rain was entering through the roof, or in the Sezione at Siracusa where a leak from the Prefect's lavatory was allowed to cascade into the archives.

Conditions in deposits were sometimes a little odd, especially where military factors prevented inspection by archives staff. A case in point - at Cagliari, an important deposit of records from Florence, the Archives Officer, conducting one of the Archives advisors on tour, was able to face him with a problem that up to date does

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For the sake of clarity these are main causes of damage have been separately described. It must again be stressed, however, that more than one of them might operate in any single archive. The Sezione at Palermo ran unhelpfully through the whole gamut: it was bombed, deserted by its staff, looted by civilians and successively disturbed by German and by Allied troops.

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(7) FIELD WORK: FIRST AID

The other immediate tasks of the Archives Officer arose directly out of the particular dangers to which he found a repository subject. Putting it in medical terms, first-aid treatment had to follow hard on the heels of diagnosis.

In most of the great repositories, necessary immediate action consequent upon bombardment was found to have been taken by the Archives staff. But in the smaller Archivii Comunali and Notarili, and in some cathedral archives, the situation was very different. Here there was no specialist staff available - only a harassed segretario comunale or cancelliere, with many preoccupations. In these circumstances much depended on the Archives Officer's initiative and powers of improvisation. Where a building was hopelessly hit, he had to find alternative accommodation for the records - itself no simple task, in a village with perhaps upwards of 70% of its buildings damaged; and a new locale found, there was still the question of labour to effect the transfer of documents. The recovery of damaged archives took many forms. At least two full-dress excavations of documents from the rubble of a ruined building were carried out under the supervision of Archives Officers; and others were initiated. Especially amongst the smaller archives, there was the further question of documents damaged by water or fire. In this connection a translation of the British Records Association Memorandum No. 5, First Aid for Damaged Manuscripts, proved invaluable.

A further preoccupation was the implementation of I.C.A. Administrative Instruction No. 10 and successive instructions of the same kind. Where troops and archives were in too close proximity, it was necessary to arrange for the removal of one or the other. Towards the end of the war difficulties of this sort became very much less pressing. Partly this was due to the rapidity of the final advance, which meant that in large areas of Northern Italy few troops were quartered. It was also undoubtedly due, however, to the admirable 'Protected Monument' notices, which the Italian Archives with the two armies assigned

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 to the principal advances.

One incident in connection with these notices is worth
 recording. The Archivio di Stato of Parma had placed its
 most valuable records, including the part held by Parma of
 the Archivio Parmense, in deposit at the Villa Pagnini,
 near Gelsone. The Germans had given to the Sisterhood, who
 shared the villa with the documents, one of their Kunstschutz
 notices, and one of the sisters, with some facility that way,
 had translated it into English. Her foresight was rewarded.

An American detachment went both the M.F.A.A. and the Archives Officers to the villa, but on being shown the German protective notice, the officer sought billets for his men elsewhere. It is a nice comment on the sense of responsibility in these matters that the Archives developed.

Deposits were, in some ways, the greatest embarrassment of all. To their existence was no doubt due the saving of much precious material that would undoubtedly have been destroyed by bombardment, and there can be no question as to the rightness of the general policy of evacuation, at the time it was carried out. But records in deposit, though relatively safe from bombardment, were subject to other risks. In many cases situated in the countryside, when warfare became mobile, deposits were liable to be entered by the troops of either side; and, in view of their remoteness and inaccessibility, effective protection was difficult to organize. Again, physical conditions were not always good: the archives of the Republic of Lignano, in deposit at the Certosa, Calci, were found to be suffering seriously from damp and from the attentions of rats; the Torino deposit at Montaldo Torinese was also endangered by damp. In both deposits movement to better quarters had to be arranged. All this meant that inspection of deposits had to be regarded as work of the highest priority.

(8) REACTIVATION OF THE ITALIAN ARCHIVE SERVICE

From the earliest days it was apparent to both Archives Advisors that, granted the small number of Archives Officers likely to be available, co-operation with officials of the Italian Archives Service was not only desirable but essential. If the work of protection and rehabilitation was to be effective. They not only recommended such co-operation, but set the example for it by establishing immediate contact with the two Superintendents of Archives, responsible for the parts of Italy at that time in Allied hands - Dr. Ubaldo Gentile of Sicily, and

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The really important development, however, occurred when news was reached and contact was made with Commendatore Emilio Re, at that time Director of the Archivio del Regno and Superintendent of Archives for Umbria and the Marche. Commendatore Re's position as head of the Italian Archive Service was underlined by his appointment, by decree of 19th October 1944, as Commissario per gli Archivi del Regno to take over the functions of the Consiglio Superiore and Giunta per gli Archivi. It is difficult to overstate the

importance of the service rendered to Italian archives by Commandatore Es, and not the least significant feature of it was his loyal co-operation with the Archives Officers of the Sub-Commission.

Lower down the scale, that co-operation was reflected in the relations between Superintendents and Directors, on the one hand, and Archives and M.I. A. Officers on the other. It was the Archives Officers' task to re-establish the Superintendents' contacts, both with the Commissary in Rome and with Directors of Archives within his Superintendency; the first was achieved by keeping one Archives Officer more or less permanently in Rome, the second by securing transport facilities for the Superintendents, or their representatives, to visit the archives for which they were responsible. In the whole area north of Rome, moreover, the Archives Officers' own tours were planned in consultation with the appropriate Superintendents. Lists of archives supplied by the latter (and especially those produced at Bologna and Florence) added usefully and extensively to the information contained in the Brief Memorandum and Lists.

In the whole difficult matter of reconstruction, the problem of personnel was crucial. Here the main trouble was the acute shortage of archivists. Inevitably, too, some of those who had the technical qualifications were not satisfactory from other points of view. For finds the weak spots in character and physique alike, and there were bound to be archivists who, excellent at a calendar or an index, were not fitted for the administrative responsibility of reconstruction. Again, there were cases, mercifully few, where connections with the former regime were, or were alleged to have been, too close. To a limited extent it was possible to counteract the shortage of archivists in two ways - by bringing back men who had been deprived of their positions under Fascist racial legislation, and by securing the release of archivists who were prisoners of war in Allied hands. All work of this kind was undertaken on the basis of the closest co-operation with the Commissary.

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As and when conditions in a particular area were sufficiently stable to make it possible, one or other of the Archives Officers accompanied Commandatore Re on a series of tours of repositories. In this way, all the Archivi di Stato (except for Palermo, Parma, Polesano, Trento, Trieste and Zara) and manyazionali were visited. Thus the handover of administrative responsibility was realistic and practical.

An indication of the renewed vitality of the Italian Archives Service was provided by the opening of exhibitions at Siena, Lucca and Modena: the Lucca exhibition, designed to illustrate the relations between that City and Great Britain, was particularly interesting.

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(2) ARCHIVES OF THE MINISTRIES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

The protection of modern governmental archives was a problem of such intrinsic importance that it demanded a great proportion of the time and energy of archives officers. Basically, the difficulty of the question lay in the fact that these records were of current significance, and that many categories of them were scheduled for exploitation by Allied intelligence agencies. A further difficulty (and this also arose from the currency of the archives) was that many of them had been moved north by the Republican Government prior to the Allied capture of Rome.

Regarded in retrospect, the work done over a period of two years on this complex problem can be seen to fall into three divisions:

(1) Control of Intelligence Exploitation

From the outset it was recognised that intelligence exploitation, urgent and essential as it was, nevertheless presented some danger to the integrity of these archives. It was felt that, in the enthusiasm of having located material that interested them, intelligence officers were liable to carry off whole files, to remove single papers from their related documents, to disturb the order of papers, and so on, without realising what, by doing so, they were not only impairing the historical value of the collection but also impeding the work of other agencies that might follow them.

To guard against these risks of indiscernible use, in April 1944 the Archives Advisers worked out with the responsible officers of G 2 Document Section, A.F.H.Q., a system whereby intelligence seizures were to be made on an orderly basis. Under the terms of A.F.H.Q. Intelligence Instruction No 38, dated 4th June 1944, all documents removed for exploitation were to pass eventually to G 2 Document Section A.F.H.Q., and, subsequently, this procedure was amplified by registration with G 2

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Throughout succeeding months, the Sub-Commission kept close contact with the various intelligence organisations concerned - with G 2 Documents Section, the Bombing Survey Unit M.A.A.F., the Intelligence Collecting Unit, P.W.F., and in the ultimate period the intelligence agency, set up by the American State Department and the British Foreign Office. To officers of these, and all other agencies using Italian archives, the importance was constantly stressed

of a rapid obsolescence of the rules described above. Moreover, it was reportedly represented to Higher Authority that, except when over-riding military or political considerations necessitated retention of archives of this sort, their ultimate return to the Italian Government was in the highest degree desirable.

(ii) Ministerial Archives in Rome

Responsibility for the safe keeping of modern archives in the ministries and public offices of Rome was initially, at the time of the Allied entry into the city, undertaken by E. Morea, Advanced Intelligence. This body organized the posting of guards, control of entry to repositories, and all removals of documents; it searched in all 330 targets prior to the passing of its functions to G 2 Rome Region A.K.G.

The magnitude of their task in Rome meant that the intelligence agencies inevitably left serious gaps, and it was the function of the Archives Officer as far as possible to fill the breach. His early contacts with Italian officials led to the location and guarding of the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini, a valuable collection of 100,000 files housed in the Vittoriano. He was also able to bring to the notice of the appropriate intelligence agencies, and subsequently to transfer to the Vittoriano, not-unimportant caches of documents, found in the Palazzo Venezia. In another way his presence was useful. Within the first few days there was very considerable relaxation of the strict system of guarding, and units requiring accommodation at times found it in buildings containing government archives. This led to losses amongst the records of the War Ministry and of the Headquarters of the Fascist Party, located in the Foro Mussolini and there can be little doubt that, but for the intervention of the Archives Officer, similar losses would have taken place elsewhere - notably in the Archives of the Ministry of Corporations at the time when the buildings in Via Vittorio Veneto were taken over by the Allied Commission.

(iii) Ministerial Archives in Northern Italy

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(iii) Ministerial Archives in Northern Italy

During 1943 and the early part of 1944 the Fascist Government transferred to various places in Lombardy and Veneto the great part of the archives of the principal ministries and other government departments. The location and protection of these archives, and their eventual dispersal, became a major preoccupation of the Sub-Commission, and one of the greatest tasks it had to undertake.

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The first step, taken immediately after the entry into Rome, was the preparation of a list of the addresses to which the archives of the various ministries and other offices had initially been evacuated; this was based on information obtained from the Italian Government. In fact, when the liberation of Northern Italy made possible inquiries on the ground, this list was found in some respects to have erred. In the months immediately preceding the German-Fascist collapse, further transfers had taken place from the localities originally selected, and in particular there had been a tendency towards concentration around Milan. Nevertheless, the list provided a starting-point for the inspections carried out by Archives Officers, May-July 1945. It was also made available, in its original and revised forms, to intelligence agencies, by whom it was presumably found equally useful.

The protection of deposits of archives, often situated in unsuitable buildings and sometimes in remote villages, presented a sufficiently difficult problem. Those which had been given a high priority for intelligence examination and exploitation were placed, at least in the initial phase of Allied occupation, under military guard. Others, again, became the responsibility of A.M.G. Public Safety Officers or Civil Affairs Officers. For the great bulk of archives, however, the only practicable method of ensuring protection was to delegate responsibility to Italian officials, and the existence of the C.L.N.-I., which appointed commissaries to wind up the affairs of the offices concerned, facilitated this solution of the difficulty.

On the question of disposal, the Sub-Commission, while recognising that the archives should be transferred to the ministries in Rome as soon as possible, was determined to avoid the dispersion and loss that would inevitably have accompanied the transfer. It was also inevitable that the transfer should be a single, co-ordinated process, for which the Commissary of State Archives should assume general responsibility. Agreement in principle being

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archives offices, in its original and revised forms, to intelligence agencies, by whom it was presumably found equally useful.

The protection of deposits of archives, often situated in unsuitable buildings and sometimes in remote villages, presented a sufficiently difficult problem. Those which had been given a high priority for intelligence examination and exploitation were placed, at least in the initial phase of allied occupation, under military guard. Others, again, became the responsibility of A.M.G. Public Safety Officers or Civil Affairs Officers. For the great bulk of archives, however, the only practicable method of organising protection was to delegate responsibility to Italian officials, and the existence of the C.L.A.A.I., which appointed commissioners to wind up the affairs of the offices concerned, facilitated this evolution of the difficulty.

On the question of disposal, the Sub-Commission, while recognising that the archives should be transferred to the ministries in Rome as soon as possible, was determined to avoid the dispersion and loss that would inevitably have accompanied hasty and ad hoc transfer. Representations were therefore made to the Italian Government that the transfer should be a single, co-ordinated process, for which the Commissary of State Archives should assume general responsibility. Agreement in principle being reached on this point, plans were formulated for a representative of each ministry and office concerned to proceed to the North to see to the packing and crating of archives and to provide estimates of the tonnage involved and the railway consignments most convenient for loading. These representatives were to be accompanied by a delegate of the High Commissariat for Epuration, who was to examine those archives that it was necessary, for the purposes of epuration, to leave temporarily in the North. On the basis of the information received from these representatives, the Commissary of State Archives was to provide a list of priorities,

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which would in fact be a programme of transfer.

By early in August these arrangements were in an advanced state of preparation. When information was received from A.F.H.Q. that the U.S. State Department and British Foreign Office were setting up jointly a new intelligence agency to exploit Italian archives. At first it seemed likely that this would delay the transfer of records to Rome, since it was felt that the intelligence agency should have the opportunity of examining them in their deposits in the North. On the other hand, it was apparent that, of the very large total of archives, only a small proportion would interest the new agency, while further delay in transfer would gravely hinder the efficient functioning of the Italian Government, which by this time had urgent need of access to its records. A measure of compromise was therefore essential, and agreement on this was reached at a meeting held in the Allied Commission on 16th August, under the joint chairmanship of Colonel H.H.S. Hartley, Civil Affairs Section, and Lt. Col. Hoffman, A.F.H.Q., and attended by the U.S. and British Political Advisors to the Allied Commission, by officers of the intelligence agency, and by officers of the Benvenuti, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission. At this meeting it was agreed that, prior to removal of archives to Rome, the agency was to have an opportunity of making a preliminary examination of those series likely to be of interest, seizing what it regarded as strictly necessary; it was also provided, however, that this work should be carried out while the ministerial representatives were in the North, and should be so arranged as not to interfere with the transfer of archives not earmarked for intelligence use.

To carry out this modified plan, officers of the intelligence agency and representatives of the Italian ministries and High Commissioner of Spedition proceeded to Milan on 21 August, where they met the local Commissioner of the Italian Ministry, who had had control of the great bulk of the archives since the liberation. Administration and co-ordination of the work of these groups was the

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Government, which by this time had reached its records. A measure of compromise was therefore asserted, and agreement on this was reached at a meeting held in the Allied Commission on 10th August, under the joint chairmanship of Colonel M.H.S. Hartley, Civil Affairs Section, and Lt. Col. Hoffmann, A.F.H.Q., and attended by the U.S. and British Political Advisors to the Allied Commission, by officers of the intelligence agency, and by officers of the documents, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission. At this meeting it was agreed that, prior to removal of archives to Rome, the agency was to have an opportunity of making a preliminary examination of those series likely to be of interest, so that what it regarded as strictly necessary, it was also provided, however, that this work should be carried out while the ministerial representatives were in the North, and should be so arranged as not to interfere with the transfer of archives not earmarked for intelligence use.

To carry out this modified plan, officers of the intelligence agency and representatives of the Italian ministries and High Commissariat of Epuration proceeded to Milan on 21 August, where they met the local Commissioners of the Italian ministries, who had had control of the great bulk of the archives since the liberation. Administration and co-ordination of the work of these groups was the joint responsibility of the archives officers of the Sub-Commission, of the Commissary of State Archives, and of Conte P.M. Anagni di Gussola, Vice Commissary of the Archivio del Consiglio. In particular, Archives Officers had the somewhat delicate task of attempting to reconcile the needs of the new intelligence agency with those of the Italian ministries.

In the outcome, matters went very smoothly. During meetings held on 21st and 22nd August, it became apparent that the agency in fact contemplated examination of a comparatively small number of archives. This was

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easily carried out during the following week, and on chests that it was intended to seize there was placed a distinguishing mark. During that week also, the Italian officials proceeded to the various deposits of their archives to obtain details of tonnage of documents in each, to furnish the names of stations most convenient for loading, and to make all arrangements for packing. At final meetings held on 30th August, both parties reported on their activities during the previous week - the intelligence agency providing complete lists of archives selected for seizure, the ministerial representatives indicating the state of preparedness of material for which they were responsible.

These negotiations, and the action taken preliminary to the commencement of transfer, have been described in detail, because they were vital to the success of that large-scale operation. After the Milan meetings, which settled all questions of principle, the whole matter of transfer was narrowed down to a straightforward transportation problem. So far as archives earmarked by the Agency were concerned (and again, the comparatively small bulk of these, certainly less than 5% of the total, must be stressed), responsibility for the collection of these lay with the Agency. For the rest, transfer of the great bulk of archives was a joint responsibility of the Italian Government and of the Allied Commission - the former arranging loading and unloading, provision of road transport to and from loading and unloading points, and guarding; the latter securing a series of special trains. Perhaps the best idea of the physical bulk of the archives involved is given by the bold figures: during the months of September, October and November, eleven trains of thirty-five trucks each carried back to Rome the archives of the ministries and other government bodies. The transfer was made in good order and can be regarded as satisfactorily accomplished, with the minimum disturbance to archive service.

The transfer accomplished, or at least progress-

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The transfer accomplished, or at least progressing favourably, there remained one outstanding problem. It was true that the seizures made by the intelligence Agency represented only an infinitesimally small proportion of the total mass of archives; but in addition to documents taken by the Agency itself, there came within its control and were housed in its repository at 56 Via Vittorio Veneto, Rome, other important categories of Italian archives - the great part of the records of the Ministry of Popular Culture, which it inherited from P.M.B., and miscellaneous archives of the Segretario Particolare di Mussolini, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior

etc., which had been passed by various intelligence bodies to G 2 Documents Section A.F.H.Q. in accordance with the terms of A.F.H.Q. Intelligence Instruction No. 38. (G 2 Documents Section continued to hold only records of strictly military significance.) Thus, although even with these increments, the intelligence agency's holdings were comparatively small, they were of the very highest significance, and to some of them the Italian Government had urgent need of access.

In this connection the Sub-Commission pressed very strongly indeed for the rapid processing and release of archives held by the agency, and, where continued retention of a particular series was desirable, it was proposed that authorized representatives of the Italian government offices concerned should at least be allowed access for the purpose of consultation. To facilitate both processes - of handover and of consultation - at the request of the Allied Commission the Italian Government appointed an archivist to act as liaison officer to the intelligence agency.

(10) SURVEY OF ITALIAN ARCHIVES

The present account of what has been done by the Allies would not be complete without reference to the general survey of Italian Archives, which, though necessarily the responsibility of the appropriate Italian authorities, was initiated and sponsored by the archives section of the Sub-Commission. Quite apart from its immediate post-war use as providing a practical basis for reconstruction, this survey, when it is completed, will have a long-term significance for the purposes of scholarship. It is designed to include both civil and ecclesiastical archives within its scope.

(i) Civil Archives

From the outset, both Archives Advisors were

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(i) Civil Archives

From the outset, both Archives Advisors were convinced of the desirability of putting on record, while details were still fresh in the minds of the persons concerned, the losses and damage of the war ¹⁵¹⁵ period, and how these had come about. They found to hand an example of the kind of work that might be done on a larger scale in the compendio D'Archivio di Stato di Palermo negli anni di Guerra 1940-1943, con app. notizie sugli Archivi Provinciali, which the Superintendent of Archives for Sicily, Dr. Egidio Gentile, had printed early in 1944. Moreover, that information on a wider basis should be obtained was secured by the issue, on 3rd April 1944, of a letter from the Ministry of the Interior (then located at Salerno) to the Prefects of

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the Provinces of Italy and Sicily at that time in Allied hands (See Appendix, 10 (a)).

The initiation of the survey was a matter of fact in the future. In this connection, as in so many others, really substantial progress became possible when Rome was reached and the assistance of the Director of the Archivio del Regno became available. During August 1944 a circular letter to Prefects, Superintendents of Archives and Directors of Archivi di Stato and Sezioni was prepared by the Ministry of the Interior; this was also sent to accompany the earlier circular of 3rd April and, while in no sense limiting the scope of that earlier inquiry, requested that, in making returns, priority should be given to details regarding the Archivi di Stato and Sezioni. This modification was justified on two separate grounds - first, in the state archives like the incomparable richness of Italy's record patrimony; second, these archives possessed the staffs capable of supplying satisfactory data. To the area south of Rome issue of the circulars commenced immediately. To the north - in Tuscany, Umbria-Marche and, when they were liberated, Emilia, Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardia and Venezia - issue was piecemeal, through A.S.S. channels, and it was at the discretion of Archives Officers and A.S.S. Officers to effect delivery as soon as they felt local circumstances permitted it. (See Appendix, 10 (b)).

In this way, starting with reports from the Archivi di Stato and Sezioni, a regular flow of information on the conditions of Italian archives - statali, parastatali, and even private - came into the Ministry of the Interior. Meantime, the Ministry of Grace and Justice had been asked for similar details regarding the Archivi Notarili and had set about getting these with its circular letter of 16th August 1944 (See Appendix, 10 (c)). The whole mass of information was collected and arranged in the form of a card-index in the office of the Commissary of State Archives, where it was supplemented

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State and Sicily. This modification was justified on two separate grounds - first, in the state archives lies the incomparable richness of Italy's recent patrimony; second, these archives possessed the staffs capable of supplying satisfactory data. To the area south of Rome issue of the circulars commenced immediately. To the north - in Tuscany, Umbria-Marche and, when they were liberated, Emilia, Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardia and Venezia - issue was piecemeal, through A.M.O. channels, and it was at the discretion of Archive Officers and A.P.A.A. Officers to effect delivery as soon as they felt local circumstances permitted it. (See Appendix, 10 (b)).

In this way, starting with reports from the Archivisti di Stato and Sicily, a regular flow of information on the conditions of Italian archives - state, parastate, and even private - came into the Ministry of the Interior. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Grace and Justice had been asked for similar details regarding the Archivisti Notarili and had set about getting these with its circular letter of 16th August 1944 (See Appendix, 10 (c)). The whole mass of information was collected and arranged in the form of a card-index in the office of the Commissary of State Archives, where it was supplemented by the reports of Allied Archive Officers, who had, of course, carried out inspections of the more important repositories concerned. Although still incomplete for certain areas of Northern Italy, the survey is sufficiently far advanced to make apparent its very real value.

(ii) Ecclesiastical Archives

The proposal for a survey of Church archives also had its origin in the spring of 1944. So far as Sicily was concerned, Monsignor Pottino of the Cappella Reale,

while explaining that the Archbishop of Palermo could not personally initiate a request for information since his jurisdiction in the matter of archives did not extend beyond his own diocese, himself promised to write to the various dioceses of the island. More officially, it was also found possible to take up the question with Monsignor Carroll of the Vatican Secretariat of State, and in May the Government of the local Church authorities to a survey was simplified. (See Appendix, 17 (a), (b)).

The following month, when the Allies reached Rome, the Archivist's Office had conferences with Cardinal Marcotti, Librarian and Archivist to the Holy See. As a result of these, the Vatican tried two separate lines of approach. First, on 23rd June 1944 Cardinal Marcotti printed a letter, dated 23rd June 1944, primarily to parish priests returning to their churches in the war zones of lower Lazio and the Campagna, but also for use amongst priests leaving for other parts. This letter not only stressed the importance of recording archives, but also asked for information on damage suffered. Second, on 27th July the Secretary of State addressed a letter to the Bishops, requesting similar information; this was delivered by hand or by post, according to opportunity served.

In spite of these efforts, and of general inquiries put by Monsignor Carroll on his extensive tours, the information received remained very incomplete, and by the summer of 1945 it was apparent that the Church survey was in grave danger of falling far behind the parallel survey of civil records. The question was therefore raised in, on this occasion through the British Minister to the Holy See, and in the month the Vatican agreed to issue a new letter, accompanied by a simple questionnaire. The improvement in conditions generally, and especially in terms of communication, meant that the response to this latest request was very much more satisfactory than had previously been the case. Outline information along the lines indicated in the questionnaire has come in at a very satisfactory rate.

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of approach. First, on 23rd Jun 1944 Cardinal Norberti printed a letter, addressed primarily to parish priests returning to their churches in the war zones of lower Lazio and the Campagna, but also for use amongst priests leaving for other parts. This letter not only stressed the importance of recovering archives, but also asked for information on damage suffered. Second, on 27th July the Secretary of State addressed a letter to the Bishops, requesting similar information; this was followed in hand or by post, according to opportunity served.

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APPENDIX OF DOCUMENTS

1. Memorandum of Interior Letter Dated 28th April 1947

Mod. 05500

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELL'AMMINISTRAZIONE CIVILE

Ufficio Centrale degli Archivi del Regno

Prot. N. 8900.50

Roma, 28 aprile 1947 - XIX

CIRCOLARE

AI DIRETTORI DEI R. ARCHIVI DI STATO
E SEZIONI DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO

OGGETTO: - Predisposizione P.S.A. a protezione antincendi.

Si prega di compilare con la massima esattezza l'allegato questionario relativo all'oggetto, tenendo presente che i dati da indicare debbono essere quelli relativi al giorno 31 aprile p.v.

Con il questionario debitamente compilato, da restituire entro il 15 maggio p.v., dovrà essere trasmessa una breve relazione sugli atti prelevati all'archivio, nella quale dovranno essere indicati i seguenti elementi a seconda dei casi:

- a) - quantità - peso;
- b) - località designata per il ricovero con la distanza dall'archivio ed i mezzi di collegamento;
- c) - se il trasporto è stato eseguito totalmente o parzialmente;
- d) - la spesa presunta per il virtuale trasporto da effettuare.

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OCCORRENZA: - predisposizione P.E.A. e protezione antincendi.

Si prega di compilare con la massima esattezza l'allegato questionario relativo all'oggetto, tenendo presente che i dati da indicare debbono essere quelli relativi al giorno 31 aprile p.v.

Con il questionario debitamente compilato, da restituire entro il 12 maggio p.v., dovrà essere trasmessa una breve relazione sugli atti pregevoli di Archivio, nella quale dovranno essere indicati i seguenti elementi e secondo dei casi:

- a) - quantità e peso;
- b) - località designata per il ricovero con la distanza dall'Archivio ed i mezzi di collegamento;
- c) - se il trasporto è stato eseguito totalmente o parzialmente;
- d) - la spesa presunta per l'eventuale trasporto da effettuare ed i mezzi necessari;
- e) - parere circa la necessità del ricovero.

Alla relazione dovrà essere allegata l'elenco degli atti pregevoli stessi suddiviso nei quelli conservati in sede e quelli fuori sede.

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Archivio di Stato di
Servizio protezione P.N.A. e Protezione antincendi

<u>I. Movimento esenzioni somme</u>		
Somma accreditata dal Ministero		L. _____
" spese dell'Archivio	L. _____	
" versati ad altri Archivi		
" versati in Tesoreria		
TOTALE	L. _____	
<u>II. Spese effettuate nell'Archivio</u>		
protezione antincendio (equipaggiamento, squadre primo intervento - lanterne, recipienti per acqua, esting. ecc.)	L. _____	
protezione antincendi (esterni-in-pianti idrici e relativo materiale mobile - lavori murari attinenti ecc.)	L. _____	
imballaggio (acquisto e riparazione casse-e rot. spedite ecc.)	L. _____	
trasporti nelle località designate	L. _____	
compensi notturni e vari al personale (escluse le missioni)	L. _____	
varie (movimenti carta, etc.)	L. _____	
<u>III. Somme assegnate dalla Amministrazione Provinciale o direttamente spese dalle stesse L. da ripartire per:</u>		
protezione antincendio (come sopra)	L. _____	
protezione antincendi (come sopra)	L. _____	
imballaggio (come sopra)	L. _____	
trasporti nelle località designate	L. _____	

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II. Spese effettuate dal Provvisorio

protezione antincendio (equipaggiamento
acquire prima intervento) - lanterne-
recipienti per acqua e sabbia - ecc.)
L. _____

protezione antincendi (estintori-im-
pianti idrici e relativi materiale
mobile - lavori murari pertinenti ecc.)
L. _____

imballaggi (acquisti e riparazione
casse e loro spechi-ecc.)
L. _____

trasporti nelle località designate
L. _____

compensi notturni e vari al personale
(escluse le missioni)
L. _____

varie (movimenti carta, etc.)
L. _____

III. Somme assegnate dalle Amministrazioni Provinciali o
direttamente spese dalle stesse L. _____
da
ripartire per :

protezione antincendio (come sopra)
L. _____

protezione antincendi (come sopra)
L. _____

imballaggio (come sopra)
L. _____

trasporti nelle località designate
L. _____

compensi notturni e vari al personale
(escluse le missioni)
L. _____

varie (movimenti carta ecc.)
L. _____

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IV. Impianti esistenti per predisposizione p.a.s. e protezione antincendi
(relazione sulle bocche da incendio, avvisatori, cisterne, ecc.)

V. Servizio primo intervento e di vigilanza notturna -
Della squadra di primo intervento fanno parte n. _____
unità dipendenti dall'Archivio _____
La vigilanza notturna è assicurata mediante _____

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V. Servizio primo intervento e di vigilanza notturna -

Della squadra di primo intervento fanno parte n. _____

unità dipendenti dall'Archivio

La vigilanza notturna è assicurata mediante _____

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VI. Lavori ed impianti ancora da effettuarsi (indicare per
quanto anche la spesa approssimativa) sia per protezione
antiaerea che per protezione antincendi, intendendosi
quest'ultima a carattere permanente.

VII. Casse per imballaggi
N. casse di proprietà delle Manifatture Tabacchi
N. casse di proprietà dell'Amministrazione Provinciale
N. casse di proprietà dello Stato per una custodia
complessiva di e del valore attuale

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VII. Casse per invallanti

N. _____ casse di proprietà delle Manifatture Tabacchi
N. _____ casse di proprietà dell'Amministrazione Provinciale

N. _____ casse di proprietà dello Stato per una cubatura complessiva di mc. _____ e del valore attuale

di L. _____

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VIII. Materiali nobili in carico per predisposizione p.e.h.

[illegible]

A dark, rectangular object, possibly a book cover or folder, with the number '0648' printed in white in the upper center. The object is set against a light background.

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2. Memorandum of Professor Meyer 1st April 1944
(Translation)

Prof. Dr. Meyer
.....

Verona 3/IV/44

Refr: Protection and Photographing of Italian archives.

In August 1943 I was called by the Reichsarchivdirektorat for my opinion regarding the suggestion of the BIS at Verona referring to the destruction of Italian archives, especially those relating to German history. I agreed heartily with the idea and made proposals for its realization. The SI contacted also the Foreign Office in the meantime I reported to the Minister for Science, Education and Popular Culture. The programme was consequently entered in the sense that all Italian archives should be protected by transfer from the endangered war zone to North Italy. There was also a project to take the documents of special importance for German history to the Reich.

From several meetings in Berlin, and after I had been in Italy discussing the question at the BIS at Verona and at Rome with the leading Italian archivists, setting thus a clear idea of the problem, there resulted a great narrowing down of the large plans, to a measure commendable, on one hand, for its possibility of realization and, on the other, from the political and cultural-scientific point of view. In general there are two parallel, but connected, lines of action.

1. The salvage and protection of Italian archives, not only against destruction by war action, but also against misplacement by the Anglo-Americans in case of the occupation of other Italian regions. There are to be distinguished, the Italian State Archives, on one side, and the autonomous ones, that is the communal, ecclesiastical and, lastly, private archives, on the other. The important precious contents of the State archives are said to be already protected and must

the Foreign Office in the meantime I reported to the Minister for Science, Education and Popular Culture. The programme was consequently approved in the sense that all Italian archives should be protected by transfer from the endangered war zone to North Italy. There was also a project to make the documents of special importance for German history to the Reich.

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1. The salvage and protection of Italian archives, not only against destruction by war action, but also against misplacement by the Anglo-Americans in case of the occupation of other Italian regions. There are to be distinguished, the Italian State Archives, on one side, and the autonomous ones, that is the communal, ecclesiastical and, lastly, private archives, on the other. The important precious contents of the State archives are said to be already protected and put in safety against air raids and artillery bomb elements for the remainder it should be easy, on the basis of the experience of the Reich, to induce the Italian government in a friendly way to make up for former omissions of the Italian archive-administration. The protection against misplacement by the Anglo-Americans could be done by hiding the archives or by transferring them. It will be necessary to examine in each case if the hiding places are really safe. May be very large quantities or not be hidden, but only single documents or small amounts. The transferring of Italian State archives

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en bloc is absolutely impossible because of the immense quantity of archives and the extremely tense transport situation. Thus only a selection of important archives could be transferred. The systematic elimination of the archives in question would be exceedingly impossible at the present time, because a part of the archives is already packed and stored away and because this examination would require a very long time and could not be finished quickly even with a large staff of collaborators. It would therefore be advisable to restrict transport first of all to those documents which can easily be acquired and which are especially valuable in archive work.

Then concerning especially the State archives, the situation is similar with regard to the communal, ecclesiastical and private archives, only in these cases the amounts in general are not very large. The State-archive administration has only the right of inspection, not of command in regard to these latter archives. The proprietors of these archives cannot be forced to do anything. In these cases, the Germans, in agreement with the Italian authorities, could in a certain way assist in inducing the proprietors to put the archives in order. In principle, however, these actions should be accomplished by Italians with the help of the Germans, but not in collaboration with German agents. Removal to safety should be carried out within a limited space; first of all, the material should be moved into the great State archives, but also into other well adapted places, such as monasteries or other strong buildings. Thus large-scale transport could be avoided and the end could yet be gained.

The question of the transfer of single documents important for German history to Germany has to be examined particularly. The possibility that valuable archives perhaps might be taken by Anglo-Americans should by no means be a sufficient reason for removing them ourselves. It would not even last so much. Up to the present there are not many unknown archival sources of more ancient times; while for more recent times the documents are so numerous that the single pieces are important only as a part of the whole stock. The scientific value of single pieces is so greatly diminished, if they are taken out of the whole context, that those pieces would be so greatly

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The question of the transfer of single documents important for German history to Germany has to be examined particularly. The possibility that valuable archives perhaps might be taken by Anglo-Americans should by no means be a sufficient reason for removing them ourselves. It would not even lead to much. Up to the present there are not many unknown archival sources of more ancient times, while for more recent times the documents are so numerous that the single pieces are important only as a part of the whole stock. The scientific value of single pieces is so greatly diminished, if they are taken out of the whole material, that these pieces would be scarcely useful in Germany and so could always be blamed with robbery of archives. Thus it would be necessary to conceal the possession, and the documents would be withdrawn from use. This would be quite useless for German science. On the other hand, the relations between German and Italian sciences would become very tense for a very long time.

The members of the German Historical Institute at Rome, as experts in Italian history and in the present Italian situation, will be charged with the carrying out of the work on archives. The position of the Institute in Italy would be

for ever impossible, if the reproach could be levelled at it that it had taken part in the misplacement of the archives. I do not believe that a transfer to Germany would be commendable from a general point of view, because it certainly would result in furthering the political tension.

2. The second action which could be combined with the saving of archives concerns the taking of photographs of the documents among Italian archives which are important for German history. Good photographs would serve as well as originals. In general, however, photography should be restricted to single pieces, documents, manuscripts etc. The taking of photographs of large amounts of documents or of copy or registration books is not to be recommended in general because of the magnitude of the work involved. There is also the fact, that the big archives have always to be revisited. It is different with the small archives outside the great cities. There it may be advisable to photograph the more important pieces in order to spare in the future wearisome tours.

For the realization of the photographic project, however, there must be the necessary equipment (Leika apparatus) and expert photographers at our disposal. The Institute does not own such equipment. It is desirable at the German Forschungsgemeinschaft at Berlin to arrange that at present there are no cameras. It may, however, be possible that some cameras borrowed by the Akademie of the Forschungsgemeinschaft are not in use there. I have as yet not had the chance of making inquiries at the Museum. The Reichsführer SS has ordered that the costs of the whole work shall be paid by the German Forschungsgemeinschaft. I was personally informed that thus it should be possible to raise the money. The members of the German Historical Institute in Rome will receive their regular salaries, working at the places concerned. The work might be started in the regions near the front, Lätium, Umbria and the Marche. There is no the job already a member of the Roman Institute, Dr. Göttrich, Lang. When I stayed in Rome last time, I gave him special orders to look after these matters in agreement with the members of the Kunstschutz. As far as I am informed, the work is being carried out.

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According to information, which has been published also in the newspapers, the chief of the Kunstschutz is SS

Standardenr Dr. Langesdorff with an office in Florence. As far as I know, however, he is particularly concerned with the protection of art. In any case there should be an agreement with Dr. Langesdorff in order to establish a collaboration without friction. For the rest, the work will be done by members of the German Historical Institute in connection with the Army (Army Command Messelring in the zone near the front, otherwise the commanding German General in Italy), the Ambassador Mr. Hahn and the RAS. I am not informed how far, and in what way, the matter should be arranged with the Italian authorities; in any case, it might be necessary to point out to the Italian administration that what will be done first of all takes care of Italian interests, where the Italians themselves are capable of doing so, and that it is also important for us, Italian and German history being closely connected, and, in any case, the material in question being of European cultural importance.

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is also important for us, Italy and German history being
closely connected, and, in any case, the material in question
being of European cultural importance.

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3. Notes of German Meeting, held at Verona, 5th April 1944
(Translation)

Prof. Dr. Mayer

.....

Verona 9th April 44

Memorial

about a meeting 3rd of April 22-23 o'clock
in the office room of Sturmbannführer Dr. Darowski
at 148 in Verona.

Present: Mil. Verr. Att. Chef Dr. Langsdorff
Sturmbannführer Dr. Darowski
Sturmbannführer Werner Jakowski
Prof. Dr. Theod. Mayer
Prof. Dr. Fr. Bock
Dr. Weigl

The German Historical Institute in Rome is taking
over and carrying out through its members the safeguarding
of the sources of German history in Italian Archives and
Libraries and the salvage of Italian Archives. There are
thus two tasks:

1. To find out the sources of German history in
Italian archives in continuation of previous researches
and, by means of photographs, to secure these documents
for German research.

2. The salvage and protection of the endangered
Italian archives.

The two tasks can and will be accomplished together
by members of the German Historical Institute.

I. To find out and to secure the sources of German
history there is needed:

at least one expert photographer
at least one being equipment.

Present: Mil. Verw. Abt. Chef Dr. Langsdorff
Stabschef Dr. Barowski
Stabschef Thier Harkowski
Prof. Dr. Theol. Mayer
Prof. Dr. Dr. Beck
Dr. Heigl

The German Historical Institute in Rome is taking over and carrying out through its members the safeguarding of the sources of German history in Italian Archives and Libraries and the salvage of Italian Archives. There are thus two tasks:

1. To find out the sources of German history in Italian archives in continuation of previous researches and, by means of photographs, to secure these documents for German research.

2. The salvage and protection of the endangered Italian archives.

The two tasks can and will be accomplished together by members of the German Historical Institute.

- I. To find out and to secure the sources of German history there is needed:

- at least one expert photographer
- at least one Leica equipment.

The SD is responsible for contacting the "Ahnenerbe", which has borrowed several cameras from the German Forschungs-Gemeinschaft, with a view to its furnishing the necessary equipment for the work.

2. The salvage and protection of the endangered Italian archives will be accomplished by members of the German Historical Institute in connexion with the Kunst-Bibliothek- und Archivschule, directed by Dr. Langsdorff MVA Chief of the Military Administration.

In Florence therefore will be established an office in the German Institute of Art-History. In Rome until further notice will be established a section at the Military Command in connexion with the Roman office of the Kunst-Bibliothek und Archivschutz.

The consent of the Ot. Fzo. Saa General Fieldmarshal Kesselring is necessary for the carrying out of the archive work in the region near the front. The necessary apparatus and support for the carrying out of archive protection and for the safeguard of the sources of German history will be provided by the Kunst-Bibliothek und Archivschutz- MVA Chief Dr. Langsdorff.

The direction of this work is in the hands of Prof. Dr. Theod. Meyer. In his absence he is represented by Prof. Dr. Bock. He reports every month on the activities to the Chief of the Mil. Adm.

The expenses of this work are to be paid by the German Forschungsgemeinschaft, according to the decision of the Reichsminister SS. The necessary negotiations with the German Forschungsgemeinschaft and the assignment of necessary funds in Italian currency are undertaken by the SD. The members of the German Historical Institute receive their usual salaries. In case of special want necessary extra allowances shall be guaranteed to them. An amount of 1500 RM monthly is at disposal for general expenses, tours etc.

LA 5/4.

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4. Draft of German Order referring to the protection
of Archives. February 1945.

(Translation)

The documents and deeds of a state, a town, an ecclesiastical unit are collected in archives. They form the base of all regular administration.

The documents of the past are also carefully preserved; they contain the history of Western Europe.

Therefore all states are concerned with archives and do what they can to preserve them for future times.

In Italy, the important public and ecclesiastical archives have been taken to special deposits which are marked by protective signs of the German Army. The order published by the Chief General on these signs, which states that the occupation of these deposits is not allowed, is hereby brought to attention.

There is in Italy, also, an abundance of ancient family archives, which are preserved in castles and private houses. The destruction of these archives would be of irretrievable damage for the history of Western Europe.

Archives often appear insignificant, because they consist only of loose sheets or gatherings. Hence the danger of damage through ignorance.

In the present winter especially, we are induced to order that archives are never to be searched arbitrarily and never to be used for fuel or for any other purpose.

If there are doubts about the value of archives, the section Kunst-Bibliothek- und Archivschutz, at the Military Administration of the General in Chief, is to be informed.

5 (c) Circular issued by Dr. Hauner on 18 Oct 44
outlining Archives Policy in the Operations-
zone Adriatisches Küstenland.

(Transmutation)

The Chief Commissioner of the Atlantic Military Postal Zone
V/DS. Hu/CA

THE LISTS, 10.10.1944

TO: The German Ambassador for the Provinces of Trieste, Fiume, Istria, Ljubljana and Quarnero.

Subject: Professor Francher, Villach, the setting up
of archives.

The Controller and Chief Commissioner have charged the professor of the High School, Villaco, Walter Dresscher, to establish within the Institute for Carlistian Research an archive which shall contain all important records of events in the Adriatic Military Coastal Zone, both past and present.

Professor Bremer, in the course of his work to obtain a complete record of archival material that is, or has been, within the Military Zone and refer to the territory covered by the Military Zone; will ascertain which part of this material, because of its special importance, should be protected against burning or air raids, and he will ensure that the documents concerning the region since the formation of the Adriatic Military Coastal Zone are secured and receive proper treatment.

Professor Emerson in his above described task will apply to you with special wisdom and diligence.

• State Stn to Court
• Court Stn to Court
• Court Stn to Court

By order of:

 Clerk

(signed)

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Subject: Professor Fresacher, Villock, the setting up
of archives.

The Gauleiter and Chief Commissioner has charged the professor of the High School, Villock, Walter Fresacher, to establish within the Institute for German Research an archive which shall contain all important records of events in the Adriatic Military Coastal Zone, both past and present.

Professor Fresacher, in the course of his work to obtain a complete record of archival material that is, or has been, within the Military Zone and refers to the territory covered by the Military Zone; will ascertain which part of this material, because of its special importance, should be protected against partitioning or misdeeds, and he will ensure that the documents concerning the region since the formation of the Adriatic Military Coastal Zone are secured and receive proper treatment.

Professor Fresacher in his above described task will apply to you with special wishes and demands.

I ask you to give him every assistance in the performance of his duty.

Verified:

Gartler

(employee of the chancery)

(signed)

By order of:

Hauer

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5 (b) Letter from Dr. Pressacher to head of German
civil administration in GORIZIA detailing
the proposed work on archives.

(Translation)

KLAGENFURT, Oct 26th 1944

Subject: Archive Office

To : German Advisor for the province
of Gorizia at Gorizia.

The Hauptamtsleiter Dr. Heribert Hubert, head of the school and science department at Trieste, has already let you know in his letter of introduction 16/X/44 reference: V/dr.Hu/Go, that the Chief Commissioner has charged me with the task of establishing an archives office for the field of operation. I ask you therefore to support me.

In drawing up the plan of work the immediate need is evidently to get control of all the archives in the Military Zone, since they contain very important material not only relating to the Military Zone itself; but also for Deutschtum in the South and in Carinthia. It is already demonstrated that some archives are heavily damaged by the vicissitudes of the war and that they partly are insufficiently protected; and I ask you therefore to examine all archives in the Military Zone in order to establish their contents.

For this task your help is requested. First of all three things must be established: 1) Number, type and location of the archives in your province. 2) How are these archives housed (if in dry rooms, if protected against bombs etc.) and 3) what exactly do these archives contain; which part of the material is important for the Military Zone (probably more or less all of them); which part is important for Deutschtum in the Military Zone; and finally which part of the material refers to Carinthia and to the relations of Carinthia with the South. To clear this last point it is necessary that the directors of the archives deliver as soon

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In drawing up the plan of work the immediate need is evidently to get control of all the archives in the Military Zone, since they contain very important material not only relating to the Military Zone itself; but also for Deutschum in the South and in Carinthia. It is already demonstrated that some archives are heavily damaged by the vicissitudes of the war and that they partly are insufficiently protected; and I ask you therefore to examine all archives in the Military Zone in order to establish their contents.

For this task your help is requested. First of all three things must be established: 1) Number, type and location of the archives in your province. 2) How are these archives housed (if in dry rooms, if protected against bombs etc.) and 3) what exactly do these archives contain; which part of the material is important for the Military Zone (probably more or less all of them); which part is important for Deutschum in the Military Zone; and finally which part of the material refers to Carinthia, and to the relations of Carinthia with the South. To clear this last point it is necessary that the directors of the archives deliver as soon as possible detailed tables of contents. (Some of the archives probably have already printed tables of contents.)

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You are requested to issue orders to this effect in your province and to send the reports as received to the following address: Dr. W. Fresacher, Institute for Carinthian Research, Klagenfurt, Museumsstrasse.

Should the reports, specially the ones referring to the location of the material, show any immediate danger for the archives, I ask you to provide immediately for the protection of the material.

Dr. Fresacher

Added in MS:

Passed to the Scientific Advisor Prof.

F.X. Zimmermann with request for further instructions.

1/XI/1944

Passed to the Scientific Advisor Prof.
F.A. Zimmermann with request for further instructions.

1/XI/1944

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6 (a) Memorandum by Mr. Hilary Jenkinson on duties
of British Archives Officers.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

30 April 1944

DUTIES OF ARCHIVISTS

attached to M.F.A. and A. Sub-Commission

1) It will be the primary duty of the Archivists (Capt. Brooke and; if he returns, Capt. Ellis) to visit as many as possible of the Repositories noted in the List of Italian Archives prepared for the information of Commissioners and others, and report to the Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission.

In this connection, they will establish as close a contact as possible with Regional and Provincial Officers and take any steps that may be feasible in cases requiring immediate action for the safety of the Archives.

In making inspections they will use as much as possible the collaboration of the Italian Archives Authorities and especially for Southern Italy and Sicily, that of Conte Riccardo Filangieri di Candida and Dott. Egildo Gentile, the Superintendents.

In general their object will be by these and any other available means to obtain as complete a survey as possible of the present state of Italian Archives, so far as it results from the war; and to encourage and facilitate necessary work by the Italian officials.

Mr. Jenkinson has undertaken to continue to act as adviser and they will therefore keep him informed of progress; and he will maintain touch with Washington.

2) As the Army moves forward they will put in hand as speedily as possible work similar to the above in newly occupied areas.

Brooks and, if he returns, Caporinus, to visit as many as possible of the Repositories noted in the List of Italian Archives prepared for the information of Commissioners and others, and report to the Director of the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission.

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Mr. Jenkinson has undertaken to continue to act as adviser and they will therefore keep him informed of progress; and he will maintain touch with Washington.

2) As the Army moves forward they will put in hand as speedily as possible work similar to the above in newly occupied areas.

- 3) They will maintain liaison with C-2 Advanced Intelligence; and in this and any other possible ways keep themselves informed of the state of Modern Archives not included in the List above mentioned; and will do their best to secure for such Archives the maximum provision of safeguarding; reporting on this side of their work also, as above.
- 4) They will keep in touch with the Archives Department of A.C.C. and familiarise themselves with its work.
- 5) If any other archivist is sent over from Washington he will share in all the work; but it is probable that he will be an expert in Modern Archives and in that case he will naturally take over most of the work indicated under (3) above, and endeavour to expand it.
- 6) The Archivists will be responsible for seeing that any information on Archives in the Italian or other Theatres compiled in America or elsewhere, duly reaches the persons for whom it is intended.

/s/ H.J.

any information on archives in the Italian or other theatres
compiled in America or elsewhere, duly reaches the persons
for whom it is intended.

/s/ H.J.

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

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6 (b) Extract from First Report of Mr. Fred W. Shimmgen
on Work of the American Archivist:

As the result of our conferences, I concluded that the work of the American archivist could be as follows:

1. To collaborate with G-2 in protecting archives and records from the moment our troops occupy an area; to be available to give professional assistance to prevent unnecessary loss or destruction of records; to maintain first hand information on the fate of records important to the continued administration of a locality; and to encourage the use of microphotography as a means of supplying copies of important documents.

2. To bring assistance to important archives and records endangered by exposure or pillage through the ACO, such as obtaining guards for buildings, transporting records from unsafe quarters, aiding in getting materials to board up broken windows and assisting Italian archivists to secure the necessary personnel.

3. To make a survey of important local and national archives in the areas occupied by our forces; to learn what records have been damaged or the location of the evacuated records. This can be done in one of two ways: (a) actual visits to records repositories; and (b) securing cooperation of officials of the Italian Government, Church heads and educators to supply information.

4. To organize an information file so that any person or organization depending upon manuscripts, books or police records of civil administrators, registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths, claims to real estate, wills, etc., may locate the records if they still exist. This information will be exceedingly important later to those responsible for the administration of UNRRA. Other classes of records of historical interest should also be included.

5. It should be emphasized that beyond giving advice and first aid assistance on the care of damaged Italian records (see paragraph 2 above) no suggestions or recommendations should be made that...

of important documents.

2. To bring assistance to important archives and records endangered by exposure or pillage through the ACC, such as obtaining guards for buildings, transporting records from unsafe quarters, aiding in getting materials to board up broken windows and assisting Italian archivists to secure the necessary personnel.

3. To make a survey of important local and national archives in the areas occupied by our forces; to learn what records have been damaged or the location of the evacuated records. This can be done in one of two ways: (a) actual visits to records repositories; and (b) securing cooperation of officials of the Italian Government, Church heads and educators to supply information.

4. To organize an information file so that any person or organization depending upon manuscripts, books or police records of civil administrators, registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths, deeds to real estate, wills, etc., may locate the records if they still exist. This information will be exceedingly important later to those responsible for the administration of UNRRA. Other classes of records of historical interest should also be included.

5. It should be emphasized that beyond giving advice and first aid assistance on the care of damaged Italian records (see para. 2 above) no suggestions or recommendations should be made that would commit the United Nations to responsibility for the preservation or rehabilitation of Italian records not essential to the war effort.

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7. Allied Instructions Relating to Archives

- (a) A.L.H.Q. Administrative Instruction No. 10, dated 30th March 1944, para 11.
- "In the case of written papers and books it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war. Casual destruction or dispersal of such collections, whenever found, will not be permitted."
- (b) A.L.H.Q. Administrative Memorandum No. 54, dated 6th December 1944, para 2.
- "In the case of organized collections, written papers (archives) and of books it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war. Careless handling or dispersal can moreover be as harmful as destruction. In the event of the occupation of buildings, or parts of buildings, containing such collections, the commander of the occupying troops will be responsible for seeing that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent damage or dispersal."
- (c) A.L.H.Q. Administrative Memorandum No. 20, dated 3rd April 1944, para 10.
- "In the case of organized collections and written papers (archives), and of books, it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the war effort. Careless handling or dispersal can be as harmful as destruction. In the event of the occupation of buildings, or parts of buildings, containing such collections, the commander of the occupying troops will be responsible that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent damage or dispersal."

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Administrative Memorandum No. 34, dated 6th December 1944, para 9.

"In the case of organized collections, written papers (archives) and of books it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war. Careless handling or destruction can moreover be as harmful as destruction. In the event of the occupation of buildings, or parts of buildings, containing such collections, the commander of the occupying troops will be responsible for seeing that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent damage or dispersal".

(c) A.F.M.2. Administrative Memorandum No. 30, dated 3rd April 1944, para 10.

"In the case of organized collections and written papers (archives), and of books, it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the war effort. Careless handling or disarrangement can be as harmful as destruction. In the event of the occupation of buildings, or parts of buildings, containing such collections, the commander of the occupying troops will be responsible that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent damage or dispersal.

8. A.F.M. 1. Letter on Preservation of Archives

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

22 February 1945

SUBJECT: Preservation of Archives.

TO : Headquarters, 15 Army Group.

1. A large variety of documents connected with business of all kinds covering public, private, secular and ecclesiastical matters are to be found in all towns. The value of these archives, regardless of their date, is most strongly stressed. They will be of considerable importance to the Intelligence Service, to the various agencies concerned with the reconstruction of civil life, and in research and organization.

2. The importance of these archives is derived not only from the fact that they contain valuable information, but also they are a continuous series of related documents. They may become practically useless by the loss of a few documents as by the destruction or disposal of the whole. Furthermore, their value as evidence depends largely on their continuous preservation in authorized custody.

3. In order to insure that archives are not destroyed or damaged all buildings in which they are housed will, except where military operations necessitate their use, be put out of bounds to all troops. Should it be operationally necessary to occupy parts of such buildings, the necessary steps will be taken, in consultation with the responsible custodians, to ensure that there is no access to the archives except for officers duly authorized by Army Commanders in the field.

4. Important archives are normally kept in official buildings, but in order that none may be overlooked the local

archives, regardless of their date, is most strongly stressed. They will be of considerable importance to the Intelligence Service, to the various agencies concerned with the reconstruction of civil life, and in research and organization.

2. The importance of these archives is derived not only from the fact that they contain valuable information, but also they are a continuous series of related documents. They may become practically useless by the loss of a few documents as by the destruction or disposal of the whole. Furthermore, their value as evidence depends largely on their continuous preservation in authorized custody.

3. In order to insure that archives are not destroyed or damaged all buildings in which they are housed will, except where military operations necessitate their use, be put out of bounds to all troops. Should it be operationally necessary to occupy parts of such buildings, the necessary steps will be taken, in consultation with the responsible custodians, to ensure that there is no access to the archives except for officers duly authorized by Army Commanders in the field.

4. Important archives are normally kept in official buildings, but in order that none may be overlooked the local authorities in all towns will be consulted as to their whereabouts.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

/s/ C. W. CHALMERS
Colonel, ADC
Adjutant General

2. Account of the Destruction of the Naples
Archives by the German Paratroopers, Super-
intendent of Archives, Naples.

RELAZIONE SULLA DISTRUZIONE DEL DEPOSITO DEI DOCUMENTI
DI NAPOLEONE PRIMO SOTTO IL NOME DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO DI
NAPOLI OPERATA DAI Tedeschi IL 30 SETTEMBRE 1943.

Per disposizione del Ministero dell'Interno, allo scopo
di sottrarli dai pericoli delle incursioni aeree, disposti e
curati in rapporto dei più preziosi documenti storici dell'
Archivio di Stato di Napoli nella Villa Montesano presso
San Pietro Balile, - circa 10 chilometri da Napoli. Nella
sale di quella villa erano vennero così depositati
oltre 30.000 volumi e circa 30.000 pergamene, in massima
parte racchiuse in 866 casse.

Quando l'esercito alleato era già vicino, nel pomeriggio
del 29 settembre, si presentò nella Villa Montesano una squadra
di tre soldati tedeschi in cerca di vitelli.

Già da qualche settimana le compagnie del terzetto di Napoli
erano infestate di quest. squadre, di tre soldati ciascuna,
beno armate di pistola, mitragliatrici, alcune di esse rapina-
vano nelle case private, altri e altri, altro prendevano in mano
e rapina, altri rapivano gli uomini validi, altri d. vastavano
le case rubando da li oggetti di pregio. I quest. negli altri
giorni si sapevano, per altro, composte di questatori;
alcune avevano gli edifici pubblici e le migliori case pri-
vate, altre incendiavano stabilimenti industriali, molini,
depositi di merci, stazioni ferroviarie, officine ecc.

I soldati della squadra giunta a villa Montesano non a-
vendo trovato presso i contadini i vitelli di cui avevano
l'esigenza, si introdussero violentemente nel pianterreno del-
la villa, ove vidono la gran mole di casse contenente i docu-
menti. Avendo chiesto che cosa quelle casse contenessero, il

curai il trasporto dei più preziosi documenti storici dell'Archivio di Stato di Napoli alla Villa Montesano presso San Paolo Bel Sito, a circa 30 chilometri da Napoli. Nella sala di quella villa costruirono vennero così depositati oltre 10.000 volumi e circa 30.000 pergamene, in massima parte racchiuse in 848 casse.

Quando l'esercito alleato era già vicino, nel pomeriggio del 29 settembre, si presentò alla Villa Montesano una squadra di tre soldati tedeschi in cerca di vitelli.

Già da qualche settimana la campagna del territorio Nolese erano infestate di queste squadre, da tre soldati ciascuna, bene armate di pistole mitragliatrici: alcune di esse profittavano nella casa privata della signora, altre prendevano mucche e maiali, altre rapivano gli uomini validi, altre devastavano le case rubando gli oggetti di pregio. E questa negli ultimi giorni si era moltiplicata, comprese di gusciatori, alcune minevano gli edifici pubblici e le migliori case private, altre incendiavano stabilimenti industriali, colini, depositi di merci, stazioni ferroviarie, officine ecc.

I soldati della squadra giunta a Villa Montesano non avendo trovato presso i contadini i vitelli di cui avevano l'esigenza, si introdussero violentemente nel pianterreno della villa, ove videro la gran sala di casse contenute i documenti. Avendo chiesto che cosa quelle casse contenessero il personale dell'Archivio rispondeva nella villa li informò della esistenza in quel deposito dei documenti storici dell'Archivio di Stato di Napoli. Ciò saputo partirono senza far parola.

L'indomani mattina, 30 settembre, si presentarono alla Villa Montesano un ufficiale ed un altro militare, i quali, dopo di aver chiesto una valigia al direttore del deposito, Com.

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Antonia Caporici, veller visitare le sale dov'erano i documenti. Pocer aprire una delle casse e ne estrinseco i volumi. L'istess direttore il infera della impertenza di quei documenti, f'venda lor tutte le delucidazioni atte a dimostrare il carattere purament cultural di qu i depositi. Dep di aver camminar p'ni cos l'ufficiale disse: "ste bene", e ripartì.

Trovandosi in nella una villa in Livardi, poco lungi da quel luogo, venni subito informato dell'accaduto dall'onore dell'Archivio, Tenente Colonnello Giuseppe Basil, in-ch'elli risiedeva a villa Montesano. Me tessendo a via co-nosceres che nessun att ostile era stato compiuto fino a quel momento dei tedeschi contra gli istituti di cultura, non ebbi alcuna preoccupazi n. Né mi veva preoccupata l'usc-cisione di un esultato tedesco avvenuta pochi giorni evanti nel centro di San Paolo Balsito, perché quantunque minaccia-t la distruzione con le mine degli edifici pubblici e di alcune case del paese, nulla essi avevano attuato di quella minaccia.

Il mattino del 30 fui informato della padrona della vil-la, signora Contadori Sedemaria, che nel tardi pomeriggio del giorno avanti un'altra squadra di soldati tedeschi si era pre-sentata a villa Montesano. L'arr en rata nelle cantine sotto-stretti alle case tiravano viai qu'ora tempo. Ciò aveva generato il sospetto che essi avessero minato la villa.

Quantunque il cralle della villa non rappresentava un serio pericolo per la scrittura, rinchiuso in solido casse e serrato in quattro ordini sovrapposti, tuttavia giudicai opportuno di gettare il locale occupand germanici di fronte alle proprie responsabilità, e gli indirizzai una lettera nella quale incontrava commercialmente il contenuto di quel deposito, le sue apparenze. All'Archivio di Stato di Napoli, il direttore sollecitò l'atto storico della scrittura. Vi annun-roi la sura di atti che interessavano altre le storie dei vari paesi d'Europa anch quella della Germania, aggiungendo che vari studiosi tedeschi vi avevano studiato e terminando con invitare il mondo stess a chiedere conto della esistenza di quel deposito di documenti all'Istituto st rico germanico risiedente in Bonn.

t la distruzione con le mine degli edifici pubblici e alcune case del paese, nulla essi avevano attuato di quella minaccia.

Il mattino del 30 fui informato dalle prime della villa, signora Contini Santurris, che nel terzo piano di alcune avresti un'altra squadra di soldati tedeschi si era presentata a villa Montasar e che era stata nelle cantine sotto-stati alla casa trattando viai qualche tempo. Ciò aveva generato il sospetto che essi avessero minato la villa.

Quintana il crollo della villa non rappresentava un serio pericolo per la scrittura, rinchiuse in solido cassetto e passate in quattro ordini sovrapposti, tuttavia giudicai opportuno di mettere il locale e i suoi documenti di fronte alle proprie responsabilità, e gli indirizzai una lettera nella quale chiedevo che essi rinviassero il contenuto di quel deposito, la sua appartenenza all'Archivio di Stato di Napoli, il carattere esclusivo delle materie della scrittura e vi enumerai la serie di atti che intendevano oltre lo sterbo dei vari paesi d'Europa e anche quelli della Germania, aggiungendo che vari studiosi tedeschi vi avevano studiato e terminando con invitare il Comando stesso a chiedere conto della entità di quel deposito di documenti all'Istituto storico germanico risiedente in Roma.

Uno dei custodi dell'Archivio che riceveva la mia lettera, presso la stessa villa Montasar circa alle 9,15, s'incontrò con una squadra di tre militari tedeschi in motocicletta, sempre armati di pistola mitragliatrici, che si dirigevano verso la villa. Costoro, appena giunti annunziarono che di lì a

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15 minuti avrebbero incendiato l'intero deposito dei documenti. Allora al giuramento, che comandava la squadra, che aveva fatto parte della squadra ora ricostituita il giorno avanti, fu consegnata la lettera. Il perché costui non intendeva l'italiano e non era gli fu tradotta interamente in francese dal direttore Capogrossi e della signora Contieri, che ora si trovava. Il tedesco ascoltò le parole, strappò brutalmente la lettera e gli lenchi dei documenti e gettandoli in aria esclamò: "Comanda e nascono tutti, prima bruciare".

Intanto il direttore cercò di ottenere una dilazione per convertire le lettere al Comandante; i tre militari iniziarono immediatamente l'opera di distruzione, ponendo nei quattro angoli e nel centro di ciascuna sala carta paglia e polvere mirino e appiccandosi il fuoco, in modo che in pochi minuti tutta la villa divenne un immenso rogo.

Assicuratisi che l'incendio non poteva essere più spento, si allontanarono, ma ritornarono un'ora più tardi per assicurarsi che l'opera di distruzione fosse compiuta.

Dopo il loro primo allontanamento i custodi e i contadini tentarono di salvare quel che si poteva, ma era tanta la violenza del fuoco che soltanto undici casse di documenti, cartelli e 97 buste dell'archivio Farnesiano fu possibile trarre in salvo.

Dalla indagine fatta dopo si risulta che il Comandante tedesco che stava a Nola qualche giorno avanti si era già trasferito a Casale e che varie squadre di predatori e di devastatori venivano da ogni parte. Motivi per quali non escludo che l'ordine di distruzione l'archivio sia venuto da Nola. Nulla di preciso si è riuscito di sapere circa i nomi dei maggiori responsabili del disastro. D'altronde ho appreso che qualche cartella di affari e Nola riceve la firma Kellermann. Altri non parlano di un capitano Sommerfeld.

L'entità del disastro è enorme. In quel deposito io avevo riunito tutte le più preziose serie di documenti provenienti dai vari archivi del Mezzogiorno d'Italia. E la loro distruzione ha creato un vuoto immenso nella storia stori-

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quando nei quattro angoli e nel centro di ciascuna stanza paglia e polvere cirica e appiccandovi il fuoco, in modo che in pochi minuti tutta la villa divenne un immenso rogo.

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Dopo il loro primo allontanamento i contadini tentarono di salvare quel che si poteva; ma era tanta la violenza del fuoco che soltanto undici casse di preziosi manoscritti e 67 buste dell'archivio Farnesiano fu possibile trarre in salvo.

Dalle indagini fatte dopo il risultato che il Comandante tedesco che stava a Nola qualche giorno avanti si era già trasferito a Capua e che varie squadre di predatori e di questatori venivano da Bonn. Mettendo poi quelli non escluso che l'ordine di distruggere l'archivio era venuto da Napoli. Nulla di preciso si è riuscito di sapere circa i nomi dei magistrati responsabili del disastro. D'Alcuni ho appreso che qualcuno cartella affida a Nola riceveva la firma Kellermann. Altri hanno parlato di un capitano Sommerfeld.

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della Sommaria, del Consiglio Collaterale, della Reale Camera
di Santa Chiara, della Segreteria del Viceré, della Cappella-
nia Maggiore, della Giunta di Sicilia, dei Ministri Barbo-
nici della Presidenza e degli Affari Esteri, dell'Ordine di
Malta, della Commissione Fudale, della Tesoreria Antica,
del Tribunale Conservatore della nobiltà, e dei antichi notai
è andata distrutta.

10 (a) Circular letter of Ministry of Interior,
3rd April 1944 .

C O P I A

Salerno, 11 3 aprile 1944

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
UFFICIO CENTRALE
ARCHIVI DI STATO

A S.E. IL PREFETTO DI

e p.c.

A TUTTI I DIRETTORI DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO
E LA SEZIONE DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO
AI SOPRINTENDENTI ARCHIVISTICI DI
NAPOLI - PALERMO - CAGLIARI

Prot. No. 2/100 A.S.

OGGETTO: Danni subiti dagli archivi degli Enti
pubblici e dei privati.

Al senar delle Lettere 22 dic. 1939 n. 2002 sul " Nuovo
ordinamento degli Archivi del Regno" che attribuisce al
Ministero dell'Interno la conservazione e la vigilanza di
tutto il patrimonio archivistico nazionale, si prege l'E.V.
di disporre nell'ambito della provincia con cortese solle-
citudine opportune indagini sugli archivi degli uffici sta-
tali e perastatali, degli enti ausiliari dello Stato, delle
istituzioni pubbliche di assistenza e beneficenza, degli
istituti di credito di diritto pubblico, delle discolte
associazioni sindacali e, per quanto possibile, anche sugli
archivi privati di notevole importanza storica, facendo co-
noscere a questo Ministero:

- 1°) se gli archivi degli enti suddetti abbiano subito danni
o mancanze durante i decorati avvenimenti bellici;
- 2°) l'entità dei danni, indicando i titoli delle serie o
categorie dei documenti distratti ed il numero approssi-
mativo dei fasci, buste, registri, ecc., con una relazio-
ne sull'importanza storica o amministrativa o statisti-
ca dei medesimi.

Prot. No. 2/100 A.S.

Oggetto: Danni subiti dagli archivi degli Enti pubblici e dei privati.

Al sensi delle Legge 22 dic. 1939 n. 2002 sul "Nuovo ordinamento degli Archivi del Regno" che attribuisce al Ministero dell'Interno la conservazione e la vigilanza di tutto il patrimonio archivistico nazionale, si prega l'E.M. di disporre nell'ambito della provincia con cortese sollecitudine opportune indagini sugli archivi degli uffici statali e perstatali, degli enti ausiliari dello Stato, delle istituzioni pubbliche di assistenza e beneficenza, degli istituti di credito di diritto pubblico, delle discolte associazioni sindacali e, per quanto possibile, anche sugli archivi privati di notevole importanza storica, facendo conoscere a questo Ministero:

- 1°) se gli archivi degli enti suddetti subivano subito danni e manomissioni durante i decorosi avvenimenti bellici;
- 2°) l'entità dei danni, indicando i titoli delle serie o categorie dei documenti distrutti ed il numero approssimativo dei fasci, buste, registri, ecc., con una relazione sull'importanza storica o amministrativa o statistica dei medesimi;
- 3°) i provvedimenti adottati sia per scongiurare i danni come per limitare quelli già subiti;

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40) tutte quelle altre notizie che verranno e illustrare i casi particolari.

Le notizie debbono intendersi fino alla data del 31 marzo c.a.

Le notizie riguardanti il materiale documentario conservato negli Archivi di Stato e nelle Sezioni di Archivio di Stato saranno inviate direttamente a questo Ministero dai rispettivi Direttori e Capì Ufficio.

Ciò premesso, si prega l'E.V. di dare la massima diffusione alla presente circolare valendosi per la raccolta delle notizie richieste anche dell'opera del Direttore dell'Archivio di Stato, locale se esiste e, in specie per quanto riguarda gli archivi privati, dell'opera del Soprintendente circoscrizionale.

IL MINISTRO
/s/ REALE

o

10 (b) Circular Letter of Ministry of Interior,
11th Aug 1944.

Roma, 31 agosto 1944

MINISTERO dell'INTERNO
Direz. Generale Amm./ne Civile

Uff. Centrale Archivi di Stato

A S.E. IL PREFETTO di

AI DIRETTORI DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO
E DI SEZIONE DI ARCHIVIO DI STATO

AI SORINTENDENTI ARCHIVISTICI

Prot. No 6912.159/61800

OGGETTO Patrimonio storico archivistico.

Fin fino del 3 aprile u.s. questo Ministero si rivolge con la qui unita circolare ai prefetti delle provincie fin'allora liberate, nonché, a tutti i direttori di Archivio di Stato e di Sezione di Archivio di Stato e ai Soprintendenti Archivistici di Napoli e Palermo perchè fossero disposte, nell'ambito di ciascuna provincia, "opportune indagini sugli Archivi degli Uffici Statali e parastatali, degli enti statali dello Stato, delle istituzioni pubbliche di assistenza e beneficenza, degli istituti di credito e di diritto pubblico, delle discolte associazioni sindacali e, per quanto possibile, anche sugli Archivi privati di notevole importanza storica".

L'inchiesta, che mirava a dare a stabilire la condizione del patrimonio storico italiano, che è patrimonio della civiltà del mondo, subito dopo la prova della guerra, viene ora ripresa da Roma per tutte le provincie italiane e nord di Roma.

Profrittando dell'esperienza intento acquisita, si crede opportuno precisare che, per rimando identico al campo già

OGGETTO Patrimonio storico archivistico.

Già fino dal 3 aprile u.s. questo Ministero si rivolse con la qui unita circolare ai prefetti delle provincie fin'allora liberate, nonché, a tutti i direttori di archivio di Stato e di Sezione di archivio di Stato e ai Soprintendenti archivistici di Napoli e Palermo perchè fossero disposti, nell'ambito di ciascuna provincia, "opportune indagini sugli archivi degli Uffici Statuali e parastatali, degli enti ausiliari dello Stato, delle istituzioni pubbliche di assistenza e beneficenza, degli istituti di credito e di diritto pubblico, dell' discolte associazioni sindacali e, per quanto possibile, anche sugli archivi privati di notevole importanza storica".

L'inchiesta, che mirava a mira a stabilire la condizione del patrimonio storico italiano, che è patrimonio della civiltà del mondo, subito dopo le prove della guerra, viene ora ripresa da Roma per tutte le provincie italiane e nord di Roma.

Profittando dell'esperienza intento acquisita, si crede opportuno precisare che, pur rimasendo identico il campo già indicato nella circolare predetta, l'inchiesta dovrà di preferenza riferirsi, in un primo momento, agli archivi di Stato e Sezioni di archivio di Stato, in modo da poterne dare il risultato, per questa prima parte, sicuramente entro l'anno corrente.

Le risposte dovranno contenere dati assolutamente precisi su almeno sui tre punti seguenti:

a) "isure di protezione" adottate per l'incolumità degli archivi, sia con lavori eseguiti in sede che con trasferimenti fuori sede: indicando in questo secondo caso, oltre il luogo e la data, la qualità della serie trasferita e il numero delle unità di ciascuna di essa.

b) Effetti diretti o indiretti degli avvenimenti bellici sulla consistenza e condizione degli archivi: precisando anche qui, in caso di danni subiti, la qualità delle serie menomate o perdute, il numero delle unità per ciascuna di esse, e indicando, con assoluta esattezza, la causa delle singole perdite (bombardamento, combattimento, distruzione, sistemazione o essiccazione da parte di truppe; o sacche di spersione o saccheggio da parte della popolazione civile, e abbandono o insufficiente attenzione da parte delle autorità).

c) Stato presente: provvedimenti attuati o in corso di attuazione per il ritorno allo stato normale (ritorno in sede, riordinamenti, revisioni etc.) Eventuali proposte.

Naturalmente, oltre i dati tassativi riferibili ai tre punti indicati, sarà gradito, soprattutto per gli archivi più importanti dove più gravi siano state le perdite (franco con riverenza i nomi degli archivi di Milano e di Napoli) ogni altro particolare anche in apparenza esteriore: affini di consegnare ai posteri - come solo noi, che ne siamo stati testimoni, possiamo - un quadro altrettanto sicuro che completo dei disastri subiti, e proporzionato a l'entità dei medesimi.

La presente inchiesta intende portare un contributo a quell'inventario generale della Nazione, sollecitato dalle più diverse parti in questo momento, che costituirà il punto di partenza per la ricostruzione del Paese.

Questo Ministero fa quindi assegnamento, su tutti coloro cui la presente è diretta, per una piena, volentosa collaborazione.

Si gradirà intanto un cenno d'assicurazione.

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spersione o smembraggio da parte della popolazione civile, e subivano o insufficiente attenzione da parte delle autorità).

c) Stato presente: provvedimenti attuati o in corso di attuazione per il ritorno allo stato normale (ritorno in sede, riordinamenti, revisioni etc.) Eventuali proposte.

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Questo Ministero fa quindi assegnamento, su tutti coloro cui la presente è diretta, per una piena, volenterosa collaborazione.

Si gradirà intanto un cenno d'assicurazione.

IL MINISTRO

/s/ Bonomi

10 (c) Circular letter of Ministry of Grace
and Justice, 16th August 1944.

Rome, 16 agosto 1944

MINISTERO DI GRACIA E GIUSTIZIA

Direz. Gen. degli Affari Civili
e del Notariato

ai Procuratori del Regno
presso i Tribunali

Prot. N. 13936/237

OGGETTO: - Circolare

A questo Ministero interessa conoscere, con la massima possibile sollecitudine, l'attuale situazione degli Archivi notarili dipendenti da codesta Procura del Regno sia per quanto concerne il personale sia per quanto concerne il materiale archivistico, il mobilio, i locali ecc.

La S.V. Ill.ma, pertanto, dovrà inviare una dettagliata relazione sull'argomento e formulare, ed in tempo, la opportuna proposta ai fini di una pronta riorganizzazione e normalizzazione dei servizi di detti archivi qualora gli eventi bell'ora abbiano sull'andamento degli stessi influito negativamente.

Nella formulazione di tali proposte la S.V. Ill.ma non mancherà di tenere nel debito conto, con il carattere eccezionalissimo delle presenti gravi contingenze, le attuali condizioni del bilancio, largamente deficitario, dell'amministrazione autonoma degli Archivi notarili. Cade qualsiasi progetto di ricostruzione, di restauro o anche di semplice riordinamento dovrà non soltanto riferirsi alla esecuzione esclusiva di opere di natura essenziale ed indifferibile per

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OCCORRENZA: - Circolare

A questo Ministero interessa conoscere, con la massima possibile sollecitudine, l'attuale situazione degli archivi notarili dipendenti da questa Procura del Regno sia per quanto concerne il personale sia per quanto concerne il materiale archivistico, il mobilio, i locali ecc.

La S.V. Ill.ma, pertanto, dovrà inviare una dettagliata relazione sull'argomento e formulare, ed in tempo, le opportune proposte ai fini di una pronta riorganizzazione e normalizzazione dei servizi di detti archivi qualora gli eventi bell'ora abbiano sull'andamento degli stessi influito negativamente.

Nella formulazione di tali proposte la S.V. Ill.ma non mancherà di tenere nel debito conto, con il carattere eccezionalissimo delle presenti gravi contingenze, le attuali condizioni del bilancio, largamente deficitario, dell'Amministrazione autonoma degli archivi notarili. Onde qualsiasi progetto di ricostruzione, di restauro o anche di semplice riordinamento dovrà non soltanto riferirsi alla esecuzione esclusiva di opere di natura essenziale ed inderogabile per la funzionalità dell'archivio ma dovrà, in ogni caso, essere informato e criteri delle più strette economie.

Si gradirà subito un cenno di ricevuta della presente.

P. IL MINISTRO

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11 (a) Letter from Allied Archives Advisors to
Monsignor Carroll, proposing survey of
Church Archives

Naples, 15th April, 1944

Address: ...P.O. 376

300 General Hospital

at. Reverend Monsignor Walter E. Carroll

Dear Monsignor Carroll:

In accordance with your suggestion we are submitting our request that the Church authorities in Italy, from time to time, as the freeing of successive regions of the country from the active operations of war makes it possible, make a survey of the condition of Ecclesiastical Archives; and that the results of this survey be made available to the archivists attached to the Subcommittee on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives of the Allied Central Commission.

We wish to emphasize as archivists that this request is made only in the interest of the Italian people and world scholarship and with no ulterior object: in particular, a first object of the survey is to learn of the effect of the war on important Church Records so that where possible those in danger of loss or destruction as a result of the war may receive such protection and care as the A.C.C. can render. As you know, besides the recognized historical importance of the Church records of them, such as the registers of Baptism, Marriages, and Burials, may be of greatest importance to native Italians returning to their homeland who will need to establish their identity to resume the pursuits of normal life.

Enclosed is a form containing the questions to which we would like answers. The survey is intended, as you see, to apply first to Archiepiscopal, Episcopal, Chapter, Collegiate and other outstanding Archive repositories (from which

In accordance with your suggestion we are making a request that the Church authorities in Italy, from time to time, as the finding of successive remains of the country from the active operations of war makes it possible, make a survey of the condition of Ecclesiastical Archives, and that the results of this survey be made available to the archivists attached to the Subcommission on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives of the Allied Control Commission.

We wish to emphasize as archivists that this request is made only in the interest of the Italian people and world scholarship and with no ulterior object; in particular, the first object of the survey is to learn of the effect of the war on important Church Records so that where possible those in danger of loss or destruction as a result of the war may receive such protection and care as the A.C.G. can render. As you know, besides the recognized historical importance of the Church records some of them, such as the registers of Baptism, Marriages, and Burials, may be of greatest importance to native Italians returning to their homeland who will need to establish their identity to resume the pursuits of normal life.

Enclosed is a form containing the questions to which we would like answers. The survey is intended, as you see, to apply first to Archdiocesan, Episcopal, Chapter, Collegiate and other outstanding Archive Repositories (from which a direct reply could be asked), and second to Parishes, whose replies would have presumably to be obtained and forwarded by higher authority.

Would you be willing to see that the machinery is set in motion with the Church organizations to circulate this questionnaire and have it filled out and returned to the Subcommission on Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives?

H. J.
Secretary of the Public Record Office, London

Director, P.D. Roosevelt Library



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DIOCESE
 Cathedral, Church, College, etc
 CIVIL PROVINCE and COUNTY
 Street Address
 Nature of Archives (Archdiocesan, Episcopal, Chapter, etc;
 or Parish)

 War Damage, if any, to Building (Enemy Action, Bombing or
 Shelling)

 War Damage to Archives (As above or by depredation)

Remarks and Recommendations

11 (b) Walter S. Carroll's Reply

Majr. Walter S. Carroll
300th General Hospital,
A.P.O. 378 - U.S. Army.

May 5, 1944

Capt. T.H. Brooke,
R.S. Allied Control Commission,
M.E.A. and A. Sub-Commission,
Provincia Building,
Naples.

Dear Sir,

In reply to a communication addressed to me, April 15, 1944, by Mr. Hilary Jenkinson and Mr. Fred W. Shilman regarding ecclesiastical archives in liberated Italy. I am happy to inform you that I have discussed the matter with local Ecclesiastical authorities and have reached an agreement with them.

Some years ago the Vatican circulated a questionnaire to all the dioceses and parishes on the condition of the archives. It has been decided that it would be well, on this occasion, to prepare a similar questionnaire this time (incorporating in it those items which will be of special interest to your commission) and distribute it through the various dioceses. It is felt that if handled in this way, the matter will not be regarded as unusual or arouse any alarm on the part of the recipients. When these questionnaires are returned we should have a good general picture of the condition of the church archives and will gladly pass this information on to your Commission. Naturally, it will take some weeks to complete this survey.

On the technical side

Dear Sir,

In reply to a communication addressed to me, April 15, 1944, by Mr. Hilary Jackson and Mr. Fred W. Shipman regarding ecclesiastical archives in liberated Italy. I am happy to inform you that I have discussed the matter with local ecclesiastical authorities and have reached an agreement with them.

Some years ago the Vatican circulated a questionnaire to all the dioceses and parishes on the condition of the archives. It has been decided that it would be well, on this occasion, to prepare a similar questionnaire this time (incorporating in it those items which will be of special interest to your commission) and distribute it through the various dioceses. It is felt that if handled in this way, the matter will not be regarded as unusual or arouse any alarm on the part of the recipients. When these questionnaires are returned we should have a good general picture of the condition of the church archives and will gladly pass this information on to your Commission. Naturally, it will take some weeks to complete this survey.

On the technical side, we may encounter some difficulties. I should like to ask if your Commission could assist us in the printing (or mimeographing) of these forms and in the distribution of the packages to the various dioceses. Under present circumstances we should encounter great difficulty in working out these details and would therefore be grateful if you could assist us in this regard.

Assuring you of my heartfelt cooperation and interest in your work. I am,

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ WALTER S. CARROLL

11 (c) Letter and Questionnaire issued by the
Vatican, September 1945.

EL CARDINALE BIBLIOTECARIO

3 ARCHIVISTA DI S. S. C.

Dal Vaticano, 10 agosto 1945.

Eminenza Reverendissima,

La Commissione Alleata Anglo-Americana, che deve preparare la relazione sopra i danni subiti dagli archivi civili ed ecclesiastici d'Italia e cause della guerra, ha testé presentato d'urgenza, mediante la legazione Britannica, che la Santa Sede voglia cadere a tutti gli Econi Ordinari una risposta, per quanto è possibile precisa, alle domande, formulate della stessa Commissione, che sono allegare alla presente, ritenendo non convenevole di chiederle direttamente.

Poiché alla Santità di Nostro Signore Pio PP. XII è piaciuto di inviare alla preghiera della Commissione, prima di tutto in considerazione della necessità che siano ben fissate al presente, finché la memoria è viva e fresca, e vengano tramandate fedelmente alla posterità, la vastità e la gravità delle perdite subite dalle Chiese d'Italia, come negli altri beni, così in quello importantissimo degli Archivi e delle Biblioteche, ed in considerazione altresì del riguardoso procedere della Commissione Alleata verso la Santa Sede e verso gli Econi Ordinari.

Il sottoscritto Cardinale Archivista e Bibliotecario della S. S. C., designato all'uopo, il quale per sé avrebbe rimandato a giorni meno tardi un simile richiesta, a complemento e correzione, d.l. presentando i gli archivi e biblioteche ecclesiastiche d'Italia, indotto per volontà del N. S. Padre nel novembre 1942, non poteva che esecutare subito, per questo era in lui, l'iniziativa, ulteriormente, inopportuna, della Commissione, spedendo immediatamente i formulari con la raccomandazione della maggiore sollecitudine a recapitare a rimandarla.

1498

ecclesiastici d'Italia e cause della guerra. Ha testé pregato d'urgenza, mediante la Legazione Britannica, che la Santa Sede voglia chiedere a tutti i Locali Ordinari una risposta, per quanto è possibile precisa, alle domande formulate dalla stessa Commissione, che sono illustrate alla presente, ritenendo non convenevole di chiederla direttamente.

Poiché l'ill. Sinfino di Nostro Signore, Pio PP. XII è piaciuto di annuire alla preghiera della Commissione, prima di tutto in considerazione della necessità che siano ben fissate al presente, finché la memoria è viva e fresca, i vantaggi tramandati fedelmente alla posterità, la vastità e la gravità delle perdite subite dalla Chiesa d'Italia, con quegli altri beni, così in quelle importantissime degli Archivi e della Biblioteca, ed in considerazione altrusi del riguardoso procedere della Commissione. Affrettata verso la Santa Sede e verso gli Locali Ordinari.

Il sottoscritto Cardinal. Archivista e Bibliotecario della S. S. C., designato all'opera, al quale per se avrebbe rimandato a giorni sono tanti un simile richiesta, a complemento e correzione del censimento e gli archivi e biblioteche ecclesiastiche d'Italia, andato per volontà del M. S. Padre nel novembre 1942, non poteva che rassegnare subito, per quanto era in lui, l'innanzitutto, ulteriormente improponibile, della Commissione, spedendo immediatamente i formulari con la raccomandazione della maggiore sollecitudine a riempirli e rimandarli per mezzo stesso entro il novembre ai più tardi. Se ne laviano tre copie, una di conservare nell'Archivio Diocesano e due di rimandare all'Archivio Segreto Vaticano, il quale alla Commissione affretta la consegna una e servirà l'altra per la schedatura del Consolato, non volendosi assolutamente turbare più oltre per questo gli Eec. i Ordinari.

È superfluo aggiungere che la Commissione Ailesta Anglo-Americana e gli Stati alleati per i quali Essa agisce, quantomeno al Santo Padre dell'efficienza aiuto così prontamente e liberamente prestato in vista della perfezione dell'attiva opera, che è l'alta, l'esattezza, l'irrefutabile, in proporzione del contributo, lo servono ai singoli Ordinari e non tralasciano la sua lode collettivamente all'Episcopato Italiano, dal quale solo possono le informazioni, l'incendio qui l'Episcopato sia ritrovato in prima linea, come vedendo ve l'hanno trovato, non ostante le sue serietà e difficoltà, in ogni attività benefica!

Con sentimento della v. venerazione più profonda
La bacio utilissimamente lo sai e mi professo

Umberto d'Alto survivor v. no

Biblioteca e Archivio di S. R. C.

785016

DIOCESI DI

NOTIZIA DEI DANNI CAUSATI DA LA GUERRA

GLI ARCHIVI ECCLESIASTICI

ARCHIVIO VESCOVILE: è stato danno giusto?

Entità dei danni: (1)

.....

Causa dei danni: (2)

ARCHIVIO CAPIROLABE: è stato danno giusto?

Entità dei danni: (1)

.....

Causa dei danni: (2)

ARCHIVI PARROCCHIALI e ALTRI ARCHIVI: sono stati danneggiati?.....

(3)

.....

.....

.....

(Data).....

FIRMA:

1497

- (1) Distrutto, poco o molto danno giusto; se possibile indicare la qualità del materiale danno giusto.
- (2) Azioni di guerra, bombardamento aereo, mine, saccheggi, incendi, pioggia, abbandono ecc.
- (3) Se si hanno notizie precise, si dia l'elenco nominativo degli Archivi danneggiati; altrimenti si dia almeno il

Entità dei danni: (1)

.....

Causa dei danni: (2)

ARCHIVI PARROCCHIALI o ALTRI ARCHIVI: sono stati danneggiati?.....

(3)

.....

.....

.....

(Data).....

Firma:

1497

(1) Distutto, poco o molto danneggiato; se possibile indicare la qualità del materiale danneggiato.

(2) Azioni di guerra, bombardamento aereo, mine, saccheggio, incendio, pioggia, abbandono ecc.

(3) Se si hanno notizie precise, si dà l'elenco nominativo degli Archivi danneggiati; altrimenti si dà almeno il numero approssimativo degli archivi stessi.

0702

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

250

Ref : 2/32/CA

10 Jan 46

SUBJECT : Final Report Monuments and Pine Arts Sub-Commission

TO : Office of the Executive Commissioner

There are forwarded to you two copies of the Final Report on the activities of Monuments and Pine Arts Sub-Commission, along with copies of letter from Monuments and Pine Arts Sub-Commission 20345/MFAA dated 9 Jan 46.

JK

J.S. REAKES, Major
for VP CA Section

1496

20345

2/33/1A
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

NTN/to

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext 442 & 254; 478480)

- 9 GEN 1946

9 Jan 46

20345/MFAA

SUBJECT: Final Report, MFAA S/C.

TO : VP CA Section.

1. Submitted herewith is the complete Final Report of this Subcommission, consisting of the following fifteen separate sections:

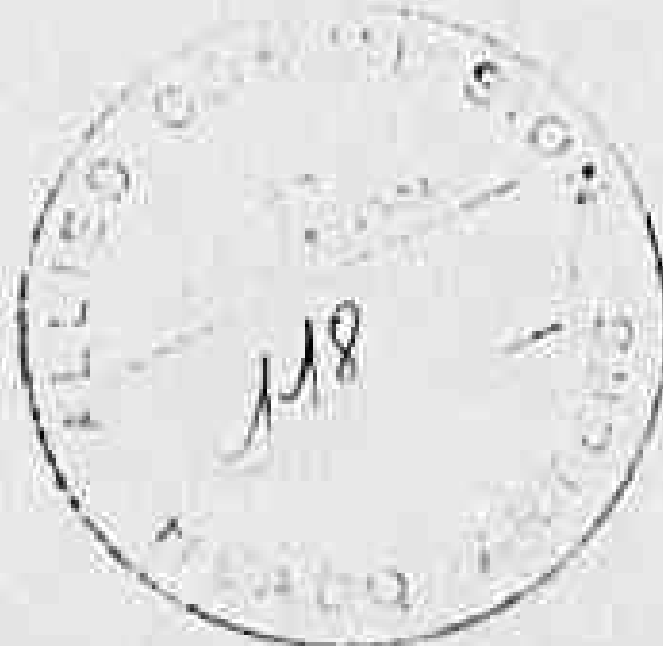
- Nº 0. General (20345/0/MFAA, 1 Jan 46).
- Nº 1. Sicily (20345/1/MFAA, 20 Nov 45).
- Nº 2. Apulia, Calabria, Lucania (20345/2/MFAA, 1 Sep 45).
- Nº 3. Campania (20345/3/MFAA, 25 Nov 45).
- Nº 4. Lazio (20345/4/MFAA, 5 Dec 45).
- Nº 5. Abruzzi-Molise (20345/5/MFAA, 1 Aug 45).
- Nº 6. Umbria (20345/6/MFAA, 25 Oct 45).
- Nº 7. Tuscany (20345/7/MFAA, 7 Sep 45).
- Nº 8. Le Marche (20345/8/MFAA, 10 Nov 45).
- Nº 9. Emilia (20345/9/MFAA, 5 Aug 45).
- Nº 10. Liguria (20345/10/MFAA, 15 Nov 45).
- Nº 11. Piemonte (20345/11/MFAA, 5 Nov 45).
- Nº 12. Lombardia (20345/12/MFAA, 30 Sep 45).
- Nº 13. Veneto & Venezia Tridentina (20345/13/MFAA, 20 Dec 45).
- Nº 14. Sardinia & Venezia Giulia (20345/14/MFAA, 31 Dec 45).

2. May one of the additional sets please be transmitted to the Chief Commissioner and one to the Executive Commissioner.

1495

Norman T. Newton

NORMAN T. NEWTON
Major, Air Corps
Director



2/33/CA

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

23A

30 NOV 1945

Ref: 625/249/SC

29 November 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports

TO : Distribution Below

1. It is realized that owing to a general shortage of officers and clerical staff it is difficult to carry out normal routine duties as promptly as could be wished. With respect to monthly reports however it is essential that delay should be avoided.

2. Monthly reports from all regions and Sub-Commissions should be received in the Executive Commissioner's Office by the 15th of the month. For the past two months they have very rarely appeared until the 20th, and some reports are not received until as late as the 27th of the month. This hinders the production of the Allied Commission monthly report, which although it is solely a record of progress achieved during the past month, must reach AFHQ, the Combined Chiefs of Staff and the respective War Departments as soon as possible.

3. Will you please ensure prompt arrival of monthly reports.

Trinity Lt. Colonel

Distribution:

Civil Affairs Section—
Economic Section
Navy Subcommission
Land Forces Subcommission (RMIA)
Air Forces Subcommission
Communications Subcommission
W.M.D. Subcommission
Public Relations Branch
Lombardia Region
Piemonte Region
Venetia Region
Liguria Region

for Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

1494

AMC XIII Corps
AMC Naples Command
AMC Livorno Zone
ACIC Bari
ACIC Sicily
ACIC Bologna
ACIC Ancona Command



0705

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

22A

2 NOV 45

✓
2/3. B/CA

SUBJECT : Monthly Report

TO : Chief Clerk, all CA S/Co.

Commencing with October Report, 46 copies (instead of 42) of full length Monthly Report will be submitted to this Section.

G.A. LINDSEY
G.A. LINDSEY S/Sgt.
Chief Staff CA Sec.

1493

2867

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

REAL ARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

File ✓
2/38/CA ✓

15 Nov 44

1492

SUBJECT ; Monthly reports - CA Sec.

TO : COS

Reference your 497/14 CA of 8 Aug 44.

Herewith (i) Summary of CA Sections' Reports for the month of October and (ii) 40 copies each of the u/m Sub-Commissions Reports.

Local Govt S/C
Legal S/C
Education S/C
Public Health S/C

Public Safety S/C
Patriots Branch
MFA & A
D & R

Ext : 608

P.R. CHIPS Del,
for VP CA Section

1492

1492

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394.

Regional Control and Military Government Section.
+++++

2/3. B/AS.
Ref: 497/72/CA.

7. July. 1944.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Administrative Section.

Attached hereto are additional copies of the Monthly Report as requested in your letter 2/11.1/AS dated 6. July. 44. Two copies will be furnished in future.

LM/JG.

E. Fiske
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel, Deputy
Executive Commissioner.

1491

(2348)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/RND No. 785016

Administrative Section,
Rear Headquarters,
Allied Control Commission,
APO 394.

2/33/AS.

5 July 44.

Dear

Just a line to remind you that your monthly report
will be required by the 8th July or as soon as possible thereafter.

Major E. De Wald,
Director MFAA Sub-Commission,
HQ ACC APO 394.

1:90

8348

0700

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

785016

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

5a

2/52/43

11 Apr 44

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports - March.

TO : RCMG Sec.

1 Herewith monthly reports for March, in quadruplicate, of the undermentioned Sub Commissions:

Education
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Public Health
Property Control

Interior
Legal
Public Safety

2 The fourth copy is forwarded for reference in the Information Office as requested in your 2152/INFO dated 14 Mar 44.

3 In addition to the March Monthly Report from Legal Sub Comm an Appendix "B" is forwarded in triplicate as an Appendix to that Sub Commission's February Report, reference 800/4043/1 dated 11 Mar 44. Will you please forward this Appendix for attachment to the relevant reports.

A. R. CREPS,
Lt. Colonel,
for VP Adm Sec.

1489

(2348)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

22 Mar 44

2/3B/AS

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports

TO : RC & MG Sec.

- 1 Reference this office letter of even number dated 11 Mar 44. para. 2.
- 2 Herewith please receive four copies of the supplementary report by the Director of Property Control Sub Commission for the month of February.

S.H. WHITE, Major,
for VP Adm Sec.

Ha
=

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5/21

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

NEAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

2/3/44

15 MAR 44

Ja

Subject: Monthly Reports.

To : Heads of all Sub Comms, Admin Sec.

1. Commencing with the March report due in this office 10th April 44, five copies of the monthly report will be submitted instead of four as hitherto.

[Signature]
S.H. WHITE Major
S O II Admin Sec

1487

2349

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES CONTROL COMMISSION
E.C. & M.C. SECTION

2153/INFO
14 March 1944

SUBJECT: Reports, Distribution of

TO : Vice President Admin. Section
Vice President Economic Section
Heads of Subcommission

Reference 2153/INFO dated 9 March 44.

1. It has now been decided by Executive Commissioner that ONE copy of every report be made available for reference in the Information Office.
2. Please ensure that distribution is made accordingly.

[Signature]
NORMAN B. FISKE

for
Colonel, Cavalry
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Distribution:

Displaced Persons
Italian Refugees, Branch
Security Branch
Navy
Land Forces
Air
Telecommunications and Posts
War Material Disposal

*Letter to the Sub-Commission "Unit" in furtherance of the work
regarding the distribution of reports to the various branches of the*

1486

2348

0713

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

1a

2/3B/AS

11 Mar 44.

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports.

TO : RC & MG Sec.

1 Herewith monthly reports in triplicate of the undermentioned Sub Commissions;

Education Interior
Monuments P.A & A. Legal
Public Health. Public Safety
Property Control.

2 A supplementary report from the Director of Property Control will follow as soon as possible after all information is received.

R.R.C.
R.R. CRIPPS,
Lt. Colonel,
for VP Adm Section.

1485

10714

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
JED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phone:
478202

Ref/197/14/Ch.

8 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

18 AUG. 1944

TO: Economic Section.
Administrative Section.
Political Section.
P.R.O.
Army Sub-Commission.
Navy Sub-Commission.
Air Sub-Commission.
Communications Sub-Commission.
War Material Disposal Sub-Comm.

1. The acting Chief Commissioner directs that in future the monthly report will appear in two forms:
 - (a) the normal condensed report having a wide internal and external distribution;
 - (b) reports in detail by Sub-Commissions as Appendices to (a) for distribution only to AFHQ (35 copies) who in turn distribute to London and Washington.
2. The detailed reports (para.1 (b) above) must be presented in a uniform manner. The lay out of the A.C.C. Monthly Report has met with approval and this therefore is suggested as an example to follow. 35 copies will be mimeographed by the Sub-Commissions and sent to R.C. & M.G. Section for coordination and distribution.
3. An aspect of the present report (para.1 (a) above) is that it has been the practice of the Economic Section to send detailed reports of their Sub-Commissions to R.C. & M.G. Section for condensation into suitable length. It is felt that this is unsatisfactory to Sub-Commissions and it is therefore suggested that commencing with the month of July they condense their reports into about 500 words before submitting to R.C. & M.G. Section. These will then be incorporated into one report and mimeographed by R.C. & M.G. Section.
4. It is requested that reports, both full length and abridged, are submitted to R.C. & M.G. Section by 15th of each month.

1484
Executive Commissioner
M.S. LUSH,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

2348

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff.

Tel: 735

Ref : 825/117/COS.

6 November 1944.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
Navy S/C
Army S/C
Air Forces S/C
Communications S/C (info only)
War Materials Disposal & POW S/C
Public Relations Branch (info only).

1. A request has been received from G-5 Section, AFHQ, that in future 35 copies of the full length report prepared by Sub-Commissions should be sent to them instead of 30 as previously. Will you kindly, therefore, send to this office by the 15th of the following month 40 copies of your October and succeeding reports.
2. Following a study of these reports before their despatch to AFHQ the Chief of Staff has made the following comments :
 - a. As regards their length, he was glad to see that September reports are, taken as a whole, shorter than those for the previous months but, where-ever possible, he wishes Sub-Commissions to aim at a further shortening of their reports.
 - b. The majority of Sub-Commissions whose reports are longer than, say, 10 pages include a table of contents. This is most useful and one should always appear at the beginning of a report of any length.
 - c. In some cases changes in staff have been made the subject of the first paragraph of a report. The Chief of Staff considers that these would more suitably be placed at the end of a report.

W. Stupp
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

DR Cripps

1483

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner
+++++

2 NOV 1945

2 November 45.

Ref: 325/239/EC

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports.

TO : Distribution below.

1. It is requested that in future the Public Relations Branch be furnished with four additional copies of all A.C. Sub-Commission monthly reports this bringing the number of their copies up to six.
2. Forty-five copies of each report will therefore be necessary.

For the Chief
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Civil Affairs Section.
Economic Section.
Navy Sub-Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MFA)
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Communications Sub-Commission
War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission

Copy to: Public Relations Branch

1482

5/58

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 825456/EG.

10th March 1945.

SUBJECT: AC Monthly Report.

10 MAR 1945

To : Distribution Below.

1. Regional Commissioners, Heads of Sections and Sub-Commissioners will make it their personal responsibility to see that a higher standard in writing the abridged report, for inclusion in the AC Monthly Report, is achieved.
2. At present abridged reports are in nearly every case too long and there is a lack of appreciation of the relative value of items reported.
3. The difficulties of condensing into a few lines a report on their varied activities throughout the month is appreciated; that there are many points of view on the relative importance or value of material is realised and it is obvious that it is neither desirable nor possible for all to write in the same style. It should be remembered, however, that the AC Monthly Report is not for the consumption solely of HQ AC staff but is to give a concise general picture of the work and achievements of the AC over a period of one month, to AMHQ, LONDON and WASHINGTON. The readers of the whole report are not specialists on the work of each individual Sub-Commission or Region and will not be interested in domestic details. A study of the AC Monthly Report for the last two months will give an idea of the kind of material which is required and should be made. Individual reports are condensed into one half to three-quarters of a page of foolscap and with careful wording and the elimination of padding and redundant phrases, a considerable amount of interesting facts can be reported. Unauthorised abbreviations should not be used, phrasing and punctuation should be checked and long sentences avoided. Facts and not theories should be recorded and achievements rather than hopes for the future set down.

For the Chief Commissioner.

1481

M. S. L.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner

2. At present abridged reports are in nearly every case too long and there is a lack of appreciation of the relative value of items reported.

3. The difficulties of condensing into a few lines a report on their varied activities throughout the month is appreciated; that there are many points of view on the relative importance or value of material is realized and it is obvious that it is neither desirable nor possible for all to write in the same style. It should be remembered, however, that the AC Monthly Report is not for the consumption solely of HQ AC Staff but is to give a concise general picture of the work and achievements of the AC over a period of one month, to AMQ, LONDON and WASHINGTON. The readers of the whole report are not specialists on the work of each individual Sub-Commission or Region and will not be interested in domestic details. A study of the AC Monthly Report for the last two months will give an idea of the kind of material which is required and should be made. Individual reports are condensed into one half to three-quarters of a page of foolscap and with careful wording and the elimination of padding and redundant phrases, a considerable amount of interesting facts can be reported. Unauthorised abbreviations should not be used, phrasing and punctuation should be checked and long sentences avoided. Facts and not theories should be recorded and achievements rather than hopes for the future set down.

1481

For the Chief Commissioner.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Civil Affairs Section	(10)	AMC Fifth Army	(1)
Economic Section	(15)	AMC Eighth Army	(1)
Office of the Political Advisors	(1)	Sicilian Region	(1)
Navy Sub-Commission	(1)	Sardegna Region	(1)
Land Forces Sub-Commission	(1)	Southern Region	(1)
Air Forces Sub-Commission	(1)	Lazio Umbria Region	(1)
Communications Sub-Commission	(1)	Abruzzi Marche Region	(1)
War Material Disposal S/C	(1)	Toscana Region	(1)
Public Relations Branch	(1)	Emilia Region	(1)
		Liguria Region	(1)
		Piemonte Region	(1)
		Lombardia Region	(1)
		Venezia Region	(1)

See Cripps report

Seen by Col Cripps 14/3.

234

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff.

Ref/325/128/008.

SUBJECT : Abridged Monthly Report.

TO : Distribution below.

4 Jan 45

1. An abridged version of all Regions' and Sub Commissions' Monthly Reports is sent to LONDON and WASHINGTON every month. Information for this has been obtained up till now from Part I of the Regional Reports and an abridged version of Sub-Commissions' full Monthly Report. But the compilation of this abridged report has become extremely difficult due to the manner in which Regions and Sub-Commissions present these portions of their report.

2. In future Regions will submit Part I and Sub-Commissions their abridged version set out in paragraphs exactly as they appear finally in the complete report. (See Monthly Abridged Report for October forwarded under 325/008)

3. Regions.

- a) Regions will as suggested in letter No. 497/79/CA of 2 September, divide their Monthly Reports into Parts I and II.
- b) Part II will be the normal full length Monthly Report, exactly as previously submitted.
- c) Part I, however, which has not been satisfactory, will comprise from ten to twenty (at the very outside) paragraphs on both outstanding facts of the month and the general position regarding supply, Public Safety, Transportation, Reconstruction, etc. It will not be a summary of Part II but a concise, independent report. Statistics will be included where precise information increases the value of the statement and there will be no vague or redundant comment.

4. Sub-Commissions.

- a) Similarly, the full length report of the Sub-Commissions does not need alteration.
- b) The abridged version, however, fails to achieve the purpose for which it was intended.

1480

It will comprise a well-balanced ten to twenty paragraphs containing

2. In future Regions will submit Part I and Sub-Commissions their abridged version set out in paragraphs exactly as they appear finally in the complete report. (See Monthly Abridged Report for October forwarded under 825/308)

3. Regions.

- a) Regions will as suggested in letter No. 497/78/CA of 2 September, divide their Monthly Reports into Parts I and II.
- b) Part II will be the normal full length Monthly Report, exactly as previously submitted.
- c) Part I, however, which has not been satisfactory, will comprise from ten to twenty (at the very outside) paragraphs on both outstanding facts of the month and the general position regarding supply, Public Safety, Transportation, Reconstruction, etc. It will not be a summary of Part II but a concise, independent report. Statistics will be included where precise information increases the value of the statement and there will be no vague or redundant comment.

4. Sub-Commissions.

- a) Similarly, the full length report of the Sub-Commissions does not need alteration.
- b) The abridged version, however, fails to achieve the purpose for which it was intended.

1480

It will comprise a well-balanced ten to twenty paragraphs containing the outstanding events of the month, written as a concise individual report and not as a summary of the detailed Monthly Report. It can therefore be compiled from facts collected throughout the month without reference to the detailed Monthly Report.

5. All Parts I and abridged versions will be submitted not later than the 15th of every month.

DISTRIBUTION

See over.

MS/L
Editor,
Chief of Staff.

2869

10721

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

28A

Ref : 2/3.B/CA

26 Feb 46

SUBJECT : Sub-Commissions' Final Reports

TO : All CA Sub-Commissions

Reference is made to Para 1 (f) of the Minutes of the VP's Meeting (No 135) held on 5 Feb 46.

- 1 Sub-Commissions will put in hand the preparation of these final reports now. These reports are required for record purposes and submission to higher authority and possibly for releases to the press.
- 2 The reports should be as brief as possible and details should be avoided. Reports should, if possible, be limited to 5 single-spaced pages. Their main object is to give an outline of the work done from the inception of the Sub-Commission to date, which should cover:-
 - a) The problem with which the Sub-Commission was faced at its inception.
 - b) The changing nature of the problems and how difficulties were overcome or solved.
 - c) How the Italian Government co-operated and their main problems on assuming full responsibility.
 - d) Any main lessons learnt as regards organisation or the actual operations of the Sub-Commission.
- 3 Final reports should be submitted to this office at as early a date as possible.

McAn Bequadin
A. CARR, Brig.
VP CA Section
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

2/3. B/CA

7 Feb 45

19a

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioners Branch.

Due to incorrect punctuation in para 32 (Education Sub-Commission) of January monthly report the facts stated in that paragraph are likely to be interpreted wrongly by the reader. While the full Report by Education Sub-Commission clarified the position it is desirable to make a correction. Para 32 should read as follows:-

32. SICILY reports disorders in all universities due to the call-up of students for the Army. At CATANIA a riot, begun by students, resulted in the burning of buildings. At PALERMO a more harmless student riot broke up inaugural ceremonies. At NAPLES deans appointed by Allied Commission were confirmed by vote of faculty and the irregular election of the Director of Oriental Institutes was invalidated by the Education Sub-Commission and Minister of Public Instruction. The University of ROME has an enrolment of 35,000 students, 25,000 of whom attend classes and the University of PERUGIA is functioning regularly in restricted quarters but is in financial straits. SIENA University has had its main administration buildings de-requisitioned and its current enrolment is the largest for years. 5,778 students have been enrolled in the University of FLORENCE. The PISA University medical buildings have been de-requisitioned and are being rapidly repaired. 4,539 students have been enrolled.

[Signature]
R. R. CHIFFO Col.
CSO CA Section

Copy to : Education S/C

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 39
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 2/35/CA.

1 Feb 15.

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports.

TO: C.A. 2 (b),
The War Office,
Hotel Victoria,
Northumberland Avenue,
LONDON, W.C.2.

Reference your CA 2/DG/U/1 dated 25 Jan 15.

- 1 As far as can be ascertained from this Headquarters the Shipping Sub-Commission Reports are sent from here to A.F.H.Q. who in their turn send them all direct to the War Office and none direct to the Admiralty. The Navy Sub-Commission Reports are sent to F.O.T.A.L.I. who in turn send them on to C. in C. Mediterranean. No reports are sent from this Sub-Commission straight to the Admiralty.

G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.,
VP CA Section,
D.C.O.S. AC.

CA/sg

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016



CA. 2/DO/U/1
Your reference

C.A. 2(b),
The War Office,
Hotel Victoria,
Northumberland
Avenue,
LONDON. W.C.2.

25th January, 1945

Dear Brigadier,

We would be glad to know if the Monthly Navy and Shipping Sub-Commission Reports reach the Admiralty direct. If they do not we will forward one of our copies to them.

Yours sincerely,

V.R. Stanes.

Brigadier G.R. Upjohn, K.C.,
Deputy Chief of Staff and
Vice President
Civil Affairs Section,
Main H.Q.,
A.C. for Italy,
A.P.O. 394.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref 2/31/CA

24 Jan 45

SUBJECT : AC Reports

TO : COS

Heads of one or two Sub-Commissions (notably Displaced Persons and ~~WPA/DA~~) have complained of the time that their reports take to get to London.

At least part of the delay is in this HQ as is shown by the following figures.

Copy of consolidated report for Oct was received in my office on 27 Dec
Consolidated report for Nov had not been signed by the CO on 20 Jan.

These delays seriously affect the value of these reports and all regions seem to be getting them in to this HQ fairly promptly by the 15th of the month following. I am sure we can do something to speed it up here.

G.R. URJOHN Brig
VP CA Section
DCOS

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

2/38/CA

8 Nov 44

SUBJECT : Monthly report.

TO : All sub-Comens.

- 1 A request has been received from 5-G Section, AFHQ, that in future 35 copies of the full length report prepared by sub-Comens should be sent to them instead of 30 as previously. Please therefore, send to this office by the 14th of the following month 42 copies of your October and succeeding reports.
- 2 Following a study of these reports before their despatch to AFHQ, the Chief of Staff has made the following comments :
 - a) As regards their length, he was glad to see that September reports are, taken as a whole, shorter than those for the previous months but, wherever possible, he wishes sub-Comens to aim at a further shortening of their reports.
 - b) The majority of sub-Comens whose reports are longer than, say, 10 pages include a table of contents. This is most useful and one should always appear at the beginning of a report of any length.
 - c) In some cases changes in staff have been made the subject of the first paragraph of a report. The Chief of Staff considers that these would more suitably be placed at the end of a report.

Ex t: 358

R. H. Lipp
R. H. LIPP Col,
CSO CA Section

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Ext: 469

HW/1e

2/33/AS

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports.

TO : All Admin sub-Comms.

The following instructions supercede all previous instructions. Two monthly reports will be prepared in future:

- a a summary - paragraphed under not more than four or five suitable headings the text of which, exclusive of headings will not normally exceed 30 lines (Public Health & Public Safety 50). Of this summary one copy only will be submitted which will reach Admin Sec on the 10th of each month.
- b A full report, of which 37 copies will be supplied, which will reach Admin Sec not later than the 14th of each month.

ADMIN SEC
19 Aug 44

S.H. White
S.H. WHITE, Lt Col
for A/Rd Admin Sec.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

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2/EL/AS

18 Aug 44

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : RUM Section.

Reference your 497/12CA dated 8 Aug 44.

- 1 A copy of the above mentioned letter has not been received in this office. It is therefore regretted that the instructions contained therein have not entirely been complied with as regards the reports of Sub Comms already submitted, but they will be so for the reports of the current month.
- 2 The CSO Admin Sec saw a copy of the a/m letter yesterday evening in another office, and accordingly has instructed Sub Comms to prepare the 35 copies of their reports called for, these will of necessity be late in rendition owing to the large amount of typing involved.
- 3 It will be appreciated if an investigation into the non-receipt of the document referred to above could be made as such occurrences only result in unnecessary delay and extra work for typing staff, which is already largely Italian and slow in execution.

122T 608
RRC/gal

G.R. Upjohn
G.R. UPJOHN Col.
A/HL. Admin Sec.

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John

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

2/3B/AS

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports.

TO : All Admin Sub-Comens.

Sub-Commissions will prepare in addition to their full monthly report, a short summary paragraphed under suitable headings of the Sub-Comens principal functions, of the points which they consider should be included or emphasized in the Vice President's Report.

It is suggested that the number of lines of text (exclusive of headings) should normally ~~should~~ not exceed about 20 with the exception of Public Health and Public Safety who should not exceed 50. This figure is not to be taken as a strict limitation, if special events demand greater space it will be accorded.

All Sub-Comens (except Public Safety and Public Health from whom summaries have been received) will submit summaries for July as soon as possible.

Ext: 469
SHW/wb

S.H. White
S.H. WHITE, Lt Col
for A/Head Admin Section.

1.1.2 (2349)

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