Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

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10000/109/159

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

10000/109/159

GROSSETO SEMINARY
NOV. 1944 - NOV. 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

(29)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394,
Office of the Executive Commissioner

9 November 1945

Dear Mr. Tittmann,

I refer to your letter of October 12 to Captain Newbury on the subject of the claim of the Bishop of Grosseto for damages to the diocesan seminary.

Allied Force Headquarters has replied and suggests that the Bishop of Grosseto be advised to contact the local office of Commando Genio Militare concerning the claims for damage.

They have also communicated with Peninsular Base Section requesting that Headquarters to forward to Allied Commission copies of requisitions, inventories and any other information available on this subject.

Very truly yours,

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Harold H. Tittmann, Esq.
Assistant to the Honorable
Myron C. Taylor, Rome

3592

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

MJH/gjf

G-5: 151.

6 November 1945

NOV 8 1945

SUBJECT: Claim for Damages to Diocesan Seminary at Grossetto.

7 NOV 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your 402/26/EC of 15 October 1945, subject as above.

2. You are requested to advise the Bishop of Grossetto to contact the local office of the Commando Genio Militare concerning the claims for damages alleged to have been caused by American troops.

3. Inclosed is a copy of a letter which was this date dispatched to PBS directing that Headquarters to forward to you copies of requisitions, inventories and any other information available on this subject.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

M. J. HEYL
Capt, GSC

Incl: G-5 letter of even ref and date addressed to PBS.

Copy to: Headquarters, PBS.
Engr. (2)
G-4
JAG.

3591

0501

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

(27)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

MJH/jrs

G-5: 151.

6 November 1945

SUBJECT: Claim for Damages to Diocesan Seminary at Grossetto.

TO : Headquarters, Peninsular Base Section.

1. The Bishop of Grossetto has inquired (thru Allied Commission) about payment for damages to the Diocesan Seminary at Grossetto alleged to have been caused by American troops.

2. A reply has been made (copy attached) to the Allied Commission to the effect that the Bishop of Grossetto should contact the local office of the Commando Genio Militare relative to this subject.

3. In order to be certain that all information on this subject is made available to the Allied Commission, it is desired that copies of requisition, inventories and any other pertinent information in your files concerning this Seminary be forwarded to the Allied Commission.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

M. J. HEYL,
Capt, G.S.

Incl: G-5 letter of even ref and date addressed to Allied Commission.

Copy to: Allied Commission, APO 394.
Engr. (2).
G-4.
J.A.

See 26

5320

0502

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

KTH/mcm

Ref: 402/26/XC

15 October 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters

1. In note no. 83995/SA of 23 May and its annex the Secretariat of State of the Vatican forwarded to this Headquarters, through Mr. Myron C. Taylor, a statement of damages to the Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto.

2. Subsequent action was taken with the result that on August 1st this Headquarters, by letter no. 402/23/XC was able to advise Mr. Harold Tittmann, for transmission to the Vatican, that the Seminary was no longer occupied by the military and that the Bishop of Grosseto had been advised to take possession.

3. In a further 8 October memorandum no. 83995/SA, received through the good offices of Mr. Tittmann, the Bishop of Grosseto now requests a reply to that part of the 23 May note which deals on the damages suffered by the Seminary during its occupation, and specifically regarding claims for such damages. Copies of both referred notes and of the annexure attached to the earlier received, are enclosed.

4. May this office please be advised what reply may be made to Mr. Tittmann, for transmission to the Vatican.

For the Chief Commissioner:

See 2

Chief Staff Officer,
to Executive Commissioner

3 Encls:

1 - Vatican Note no. 83995/SA of 23 May
2 - Annex to above
3 - Vatican Note no. 83995/SA of 8 Oct

83999

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

2, via Boncompagni, Roma.

October 12, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg:

Reference is made to your letter of August 1, 1945 (402/23/SC) informing this office that the diocesan seminary at Grosseto was no longer occupied by the military and that the Bishop had been advised to take possession, and to this office's letter of May 25, 1945 enclosing a copy of Vatican Note No. 83995/SA of May 23, 1945, transmitting a document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied Military Command giving an account of the damages purported to have been suffered by the seminary during the occupation. The information contained in your letter of August 1, 1945 was forwarded to the Secretariat of State of His Holiness by this office on August 2, 1945.

I now enclose a copy of a further Note, No. 83995/SA of October 8, 1945, from the Holy See, enquiring as to whether any reply was received from the Allied Military Command to its Note of May 23, 1945 regarding the claim of the Bishop of Grosseto for damages resultant from the occupation of the diocesan seminary by the American Armed Forces.

Your courtesy in letting me know the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Tittmann

Harold H. Tittmann
Assistant to the Honorable Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:
Copy of Note

Captain W. B. Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

American Mission
to the Holy See
Received
OCT 11 1945
Rome

24

October 8, 1945

83995/SA

NOTE VERBALE

The Secretariat of State of His Holiness presents its compliments to the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness and takes the liberty to inquire as to whether any reply was received from the Allied Military Command to its note of May 23, 1945, regarding the claim of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Paolo Galeazzi, Bishop of Grosseto, for damages resultant from the occupation of the diocesan seminary by the American Armed Forces.

In recommending this matter to the kind attention and consideration of the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness avails itself of the occasion to renew the expression of its most distinguished esteem.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

N O T E V E R B A L E

The Secretariat of State of His Holiness presents its compliments to the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness and takes the liberty to inquire as to whether any reply was received from the Allied Military Command to its note of May 23, 1945, regarding the claim of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Paolo Galeazzi, Bishop of Grosseto, for damages resultant from the occupation of the diocesan seminary by the American Armed Forces.

In recommending this matter to the kind attention and consideration of the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness avails itself of the occasion to renew the expression of its most distinguished esteem.

SEE F25

3557

The Hon. HAROLD H. TITTMANN
Assistant to the Personal Representative
of the President of the United States
to His Holiness,

(2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

0506

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

23

Ref: 402/23/RC

1 August 1945

1-22

Dear Mr. Tittman:

Reference is made to considerable correspondence between your office and the Liaison Division of this Headquarters regarding the Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto.

We have now been informed by our Liaison Officer in Toscana that the seminary is no longer occupied by the military and the Bishop has been advised to take possession.

From the foregoing it is presumed that the matter has now been satisfactorily concluded and can be considered closed.

Very truly yours,

A. G. ARNOLDY,

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Mr. H. Tittman
Office of the Personal Representative of
the President of the United States of America
to His Holiness the Pope
Via Bonacompagni #2
Rome

SEE F25

PA
18

0 5 0 7

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

44

HEADQUARTERS
LIVORNO PROVINCE ZONE
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

22

File: LIV. 11A/4785

26 JULY 1945.

Subject: DIOCESAN SEMINARY AT GROSSETO.

JUL 30 1945

To: HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED COMMISSION,
APO 394.
(ATTN: EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER.)

19

29 JUL 1945

21

1. WITH FURTHER REFERENCE TO YOUR 402/19/EC AND 402/20/EC AND OUR ENDORSEMENT REPLY 11A/4727.

2. THE BISHOP CLAIMS THAT THE SEMINARY VESCOVILE AT FRANCESCO FERRUCCI N. 11, GROSSETO, WAS OCCUPIED FROM MID - JUNE 1944 BY THREE SUCCESSIVE AMERICAN UNITS, BUT THAT HE HAD NEVER BEEN GIVEN ANY REQUISITION PAPERS.

3. THIS H.Q. HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY WRITTEN RECORD OF THIS PROPERTY IN ANY OF THE REQUISITIONING AGENCIES.

4. THE SEMINARY IS NOT NOW OCCUPIED BY THE MILITARY AND THE BISHOP HAS BEEN ADVISED TO TAKE POSSESSION.

HAROLD V. REILLY,
MAJOR A.G.D.,
A.G. LIAISON OFFICER TO TUSCANA.

see 23

3585

(DeKenney)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

COPY.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ex. Comm.

Ref: 402/19/DC

402/Rec

3 July 1945

JUL 26 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : AMG Commissioner, Livorno Comune

1. In November 1944 the Honorable Myron C. Taylor sent to this office a letter and a Vatican note asking that the Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto be derequisitioned.

2. In December 1944, upon receiving a reply from the Provincial Commissioner that the Seminary was occupied by combat troops of first priority, we communicated this fact to Mr. Taylor.

3. In a letter dated 25 May, Mr. Taylor enclosed a copy of another Vatican note and a document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied authorities describing in detail the circumstances of the Diocesan Seminary when it was occupied on successive occasions by two different branches of the American armed forces. This document contained an account of damage purported to have been suffered by the Seminary during the occupation.

4. On 30 May we wrote to the AMG Toscana Region asking them to investigate this matter and inform this office whether the Seminary could be derequisitioned, if not already done so. We are in a receipt of a letter from AMG Toscana Region, dated 19 June, to the effect that the Region had been inactivated and all officers are leaving for other assigements.

5. It would therefore be appreciated if you could undertake to make an investigation along the lines indicated in paragraph 4 and inform this office whether the Diocesan Seminary can be derequisitioned so that an appropriate reply can be made to Mr. Taylor's office.

/s/ A.B. ARNOLDY, Capt.
FOR
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

1ST IND.

Ref: Liv. HA/4727

H.Q., LIVORNO ZONE A.M.G., 23 JULY 1945.

TO: HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED COMMISSION, A.P.O. 394,
(ATTN: EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER.)

JUL 26 1945

19 refer

1. THE A/M PROPERTY IS NOT NOW OCCUPIED BY TROOPS.

2. THE REAL ESTATE OFFICER, MTOUSA, MR. CRISWELL, LOCATED AT PISA HAS PROMISED TO DEREQUISITION THIS PROPERTY UPON PROPER IDENTIFICATION OF SAME AS TO COMPLETE ADDRESS AND REQUISITION NO.

3. THE FACTS REQUIRED WILL BE OBTAINED AND FURNISHED TO MR. CRISWELL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HAROLD V. REILLY,
MAJOR A.U.S.,
A.M.G. LIAISON OFFICER TO TUSCANA.

(Capt Arnoldy)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Ext 451 ABA/el

Ref: 402/20/EO 20 July 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : AMG Commissioner, Livorno ~~Commune~~

1. Reference is made to our letter 402/19/EO of 3 July 1945 regarding the above subject.

2. It would be appreciated if you would inform this office what progress is being made along the lines indicated in paragraph 4 of our letter.

A. B. [illegible]

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

See 22

Noted

See 21

3503

1A 21/7

0510

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

19

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 402/19/RC 3 July 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : AMG Commissioner, Livorno Commune

1. In November 1944 the Honorable Myron C. Taylor sent to this office a letter and a Vatican note asking that the Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto be derequisitioned.

2. In December 1944, upon receiving a reply from the Provincial Commissioner that the Seminary was occupied by combat troops of first priority, we communicated this fact to Mr. Taylor

3 In a letter dated 25 May Mr. Taylor enclosed a copy of another Vatican note and a document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied authorities describing in detail the circumstances of the Diocesan Seminary when it was occupied on successive occasions by two different branches of the American armed forces. This document contained an account of damage purported to have been suffered by the Seminary during the occupation.

4. On 30 May we wrote to the AMG Toscana Region asking them to investigate this matter and inform this office whether the Seminary could be derequisitioned, if not already done so. We are in receipt of a letter from AMG Toscana Region, dated 19 June, to the effect that the Region has been inactivated and all officers are leaving for other assignments.

5. It would therefore be appreciated if you could undertake to make an investigation along the lines indicated in paragraph 4 and inform this office whether the Diocesan Seminary can be derequisitioned so that an appropriate reply can be made to Mr. Taylor's office.

see 22

A. E. ARNOLDY.
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

see 20

0582

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

402 8 Ex. Comm.

(18)

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

RVIII/96/1/314 19 Jun. 1945.

JUN 24 1945

SUBJECT : Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto.

TO : Executive Commissioner, HQ. AC. (16)

1. Since receipt of your letter 402/16/SC, same subject, dated 6 June 1945, I have had no officer available to send to Grosseto Province on this special mission. Toscana Region was inactivated at 0001 hours this date. All officers are leaving as promptly as possible for other assignments.

2. Recommend you handle this either thru AC. HQ or LIVORNO Commune which now passes to the jurisdiction of AC. HQ.

23 JUN 1945

ROBT. G. KIRKWOOD,
Colonel, FA, US Army
Regional Commissioner.

RGK/tkk.

see 19

1550

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

17

15 June 1945

Ref: 402/17/EC

14

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : Regional Commissioner, Tuscana Region, Allied Commission

1. Reference is made to our letters 402/14/EC of 30 May 45 and 402/16/EC of 6 June 45 regarding the above subject.

2. It will be appreciated if a reply can be had to both these letters.

16

A. K. ARNOLDY.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Ac 18

BU 22/6 Noted

3579

PA 17/6

0513

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ABA/bmm

Ref: 402/16/33 6 June 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : Regional Commissioner
Tuscany Region
APO 394

1. Reference is made to our letter 402/14/33 of 30 May requesting that you make an investigation of this matter and inform this office whether this Seminary can be derequisitioned, if not already done so.

2. Your reply of 2nd June 1945, reference no. RVIII/96/280, to the effect that AMG personnel had been withdrawn from Grosseto Province and that no officer is available in Tuscany Region to carry out the necessary investigation, has been received.

3. The manner in which this investigation is to be carried out rests with you. In any case, a reply is expected which should answer the question raised, i.e. can the Seminary be derequisitioned, if not already done so?

A. B. ARNOLDY.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Ref 8

17

3578
BU 15/6
Noted

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

402 Ex Commune, (15) 24

HEADQUARTERS
TOSC NA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

File Ref. RVIII/96/1 280 Date 2 Jun 45.

SUBJECT Diocesan Seminary at GROSSETO.

TO H.Q., A.C. (14) 6 JUN 1945

1. Reference your 402/14/EC, dated 30 May 45, and attachments, which are returned herewith.

2. All Allied A.M.G. personnel have been withdrawn from GROSSETO Province and it is regretted that there is no officer available in TOSCANA Region to carry out the necessary investigation.

For the Regional Commissioner:

B.J. OPULENTE,
1st Lieut.F.A.
Adjutant.

GM/VM.

see 16

3377

(Capt Wheelock)

0513

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

14

ABA/mmf

Ref: 402/44/30 30 May 1945

SUBJECT: Diocesan Seminary at Grosseto

TO : AMG Toscana Region

1. Reference is made to considerable correspondence held between this office and the Provincial Commissioner of Grosseto Province regarding the above subject.

2. This matter originated in November when the Honorable Myron C. Taylor sent to this office a letter and a Vatican Note asking that this Seminary be dereguisitioned. In December 1944, upon receiving a reply from the Provincial Commissioner that the Seminary was occupied by combat troops of first priority, we communicated this fact to Mr. Taylor.

3. We have received a Letter dated 25 May from Mr. Taylor enclosing a copy of another Vatican Note and a document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied Authorities describing in detail the circumstances of the requisitioning of the Diocesan Seminary on successive occasions by two different branches of American Armed Forces, and this document contains an account of the damages purported to have been suffered by the Seminary during the occupation.

4. We enclose copies of the above referred correspondence and would appreciate your making an investigation of this matter informing this office whether the Seminary can be dereguisitioned, if not already done so, and advise this office, at the same time, what reply may be made to Mr. Taylor.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

3 Encls:
1. Ltr fr Mr. Taylor dtd 25 May 45
2. Vatican Note No. 83995/44 of 23 May 45
3. Document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE
E, via Bonsompagni, Rome.

May 25, 1945.

Dear Captain Arnoldy:

Referring to correspondence between this office and the Liaison Division in November 1944 and to a communication dated December 7, 1944, Ref: 402/8/COS, from Lt. Colonel Enoch Brown, concerning the Seminary at Grosseto, I now enclose a copy of Note No. 83995/SA dated May 23, 1945 which I have received from the Holy See, transmitting a document addressed by the Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied Military Command, describing in detail the circumstances of the requisitioning of the diocesan seminary at Grosseto on successive occasions by two different branches of the American Armed Forces and an account of the damages purported to have been suffered by the seminary during the occupation.

Your courtesy in taking this matter up with the appropriate Allied authorities and letting me know the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:
Copy of Note.
Enclosure to Note.

Captain A. B. Arnoldy,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

American Legation
to the Holy See
Received
MAY 24 1946
12

FROM THE VATICAN, May 23, 1946.

N°. 83995/SA.

The Secretariat of State of His Holiness presents its compliments to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness and, with reference to His Excellency's Note Verbale N° 294 of December 8th, 1945, concerning the diocesan seminary at Grosseto, takes the liberty to transmit the enclosed document addressed by His Excellency the Most Reverend Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied Military Command.

The document in question is a detailed description of the circumstances attending the requisitioning of the diocesan seminary at Grosseto on successive occasions by two different branches of the American Armed Forces and an account of the damages suffered by the seminary up to the present time during the period of its occupation.

In recommending this matter to the kind attention and consideration of the Personal Representative of the President of the United States of His Holiness, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness avails itself of the occasion to renew the expression of its most distinguished esteem.

December 8th, 1945, concerning the diocesan seminary at Grosseto, takes the liberty to transmit the enclosed document addressed by His Excellency the Most Reverend Bishop of Grosseto to the Allied Military Command.

The document in question is a detailed description of the circumstances attending the requisitioning of the diocesan seminary at Grosseto on successive occasions by two different branches of the American Armed Forces and an account of the damages suffered by the seminary up to the present time during the period of its occupation.

In recommending this matter to the kind attention and consideration of the Personal Representative of the President of the United States of His Holiness, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness avails itself of the occasion to renew the expression of its most distinguished esteem.

3874
SEE F25

His Excellency
Mr. Myron C. Taylor
Personal Representative of the President
of the United States of America
to His Holiness

ROME.

Enclosure 1.

(2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

(11)

Episcopal Seminary
Grosseto.

Grosseto, March 25, 1945

Hon. Allied Command.

MEMORANDUM : Occupation and actual state of the Episcopal Seminary of Grosseto Seminary.

The city of Grosseto was liberated by Allied Troops June 16 1944. On the same and subsequent days troops occupied the city and surroundings. One of the first places to be requisitioned was the large new Episcopal Seminary termed by the Allies :" A real American Seminary".

Now, detaching the presence of the [illegible] groups of soldiers entered the building both by the main entrance and by the garden gates searching the entire building. Doors were broken , door locks and handles broken and the furniture destroyed of which some was removed from the building.

It should be remembered that the building was in excellent condition and the furniture new and complete to accomodate 80 students, directing personnel and Sisters employed in domestic work.

In addition all the furniture of the destroyed Church St ANNA was stored in the cellars together with what had been salvaged from the rubble, doors, windows wardrobes etc. Those places were also forced open and everything was upset and some taken away.

That evening two large notices were exposed, one at the main entrance and one at the back entrance, which read: " Requisitioned for American Military Hospital. An attempt was made by every means possible to explain that the building was a Seminary and consequently could not be requisitioned. All attempts were futile.

of Grosseto Seminary.

The city of Grosseto was liberated by Allied Troops June 16 1944. On the same and subsequent days troops occupied the city and surroundings. One of the first places to be requisitioned was the large new Episcopal Seminary termed by the Allies :" A real American Seminary".

Notwithstanding the presence of the pr representatives, groups of soldiers entered the building both by the main entrance and by the garden gates regarding the entire building. Doors were broken , door locks and filing-files broken and the furniture destroyed of which some was removed from the building.

It should be remembered that the building was in excellent condition and the furniture new and complete to accomodate 80 students, directing personnel and Sisters employed in domestic work.

In addition all the furniture of the destroyed Church of ANNA was stored in the cellars together with what had been salvaged from the rubble, doors, windows wardrobes etc. Those places were also forced open and everything was upset and some taken away.

That evening two large notices were exposed, one at the main entrance and one at the back entrance, which read: " Requisitioned for American Military Hospital. An attempt was made by every means possible to explain that the building was a Seminary and consequently could not be requisitioned. All attempts were futile.

The Bishop having heard that in the Seminary, there was an American Medical Colonel inspecting the building to transform it into a hospital asked for an interview with him and the Director of the Italian Red Cross Hospital, but was refused.

Having been informed by officers that the Seminary had to be evacuated the Bishop asked and pleaded that a very small section be re-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

-served for the Officers and Personnel. The Bishop even pleaded that at least a room be reserved for himself near the Church, promising not to interfere in any way with the life of the hospital; this too was refused. Finally by order of the Allied Government and men in their service all the furniture of the Seminary, i.e. school-rooms, wardrobes, Kitchen, Refectory, Foodstuffs, offices, Library containing over 3000 volumes were stored away in disorder in the cellars of the Seminary and in other underground canteens. The Personnel of the Seminary and the Bishop himself whose Palace had been in part destroyed and the rest rendered uninhabitable, were compelled to retire to the cellars where the Bishop lived for 4 months under a stairway, there receiving persons of every class.

After a large American Hospital had been established at Grosseto our building was reserved entirely for the Sanitary Corp composed of over 300 persons of whom 223 were doctors and nurses who took up their abode ~~their abode~~ there in the first days of July.

Furthermore it should be noted that while the furniture was being removed to the cellars they either retained for their own use a large portion of our furniture, or cast aside, asthey deemed fit, without making any list as requested.

Besides on the morning of July 9 large quantities of ~~of~~ material arrived from Rome, and instead of depositing same at the main entrance, they entered ~~bethe~~ by the back knocking down columns and gates which had already been damaged by bombing. After a protest had been made that such damage could have been avoided, the reply was :" The Americans pay all."

The Sanitary Corp remained until the beginning of September; during the period ofoccupation however, there was no possibility of an agreement being reached between the Director of the Seminary and the Medical Command, whom we never had the honour of knowing.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ectory, Foodstuffs, Offices, Library containing over 3000 volumes were stored away in disorder in the cellars of the Seminary and in other underground centeens. The Personnel of the Seminary and the Bishop himself whose Palace had been in part destroyed and the rest rendered uninhabitable, were compelled to retire to the cellars where the Bishop lived for 4 months under a stairway, there receiving persons of every class.

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The Sanitary Corp remained until the beginning of September; during the period ofoccupation however, there was no possibility of an agreement being reached between the Director of the Seminary and the Medical Command, whom we never had the honour of knowing.

o.....

While the Sanitary Corp was preparing to evacuate the Seminary, the courtyards of the Seminary were already occupied with material belonging to a group of American aviators wholost no time in establishing themselves in the entire building, making use of our furniture always , since that used by the Sanitary Corp had been taken away by them. This group took possion of the building

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

9

until the first days of September. The Director of the Seminary once more did not have the pleasure of meeting hte Commander; meanwhileall the camps were occupied. The building was entered not only by the main entrance, but also by the doors and windows, and not only by the the troops, but by thieves of every kind and badlwing women, so much so that even in daylight some were found having intercourse, and reported to the Allied Government.

When the Allied Aviators were about to leave and another group had been already established there another and more disastrous misfortune befell our Institute.

November 2 the waters of the river Ombrone broke through the dikes in 4 different points and flooded the entire city.

The Seminary was coverd with water to a height of 3-40m. The water was not only dirty but filthy, and submerged everything in the cellars, i.e; the entire patrimony of the Seminary.

The damage caused, which can be verified, amounted to over 5 million lire.

In those sad days we had the pleasure of meeting and negotiating with Mr Col. G.O. WYMOND, Jr. who with his men and workers tried to alleviate our disastrous situation in every way possible.

In addition to the great damage caused to our Seminary it should be added that of the Bishop who was compelled to live for 4 months under a stairway. All his personal belongings even his Breviary was destroyed. Besides all the belongings of the personnel and the Sisters were likewise destroyed.

The building is still occupied by a Group of Aviators; however a partial agreement has been reached with the same Col., in such a way that the Seminary could accomodate the first group of 30 students.

So much for the facts, in the hope that the Allied Government will examine the sad fate of our Seminary and repay the damages, ordering that the necessary work be

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of every kind and bedlaying women, so much so that even in daylight some were found having intercourse, and reported to the Allied Government.

When the Allied Aviators were about to leave and another group had been already established there another and more disastrous misfortune befell our institute.

November 2 the waters of the river Ombrone broke through the dikes in 4 different points and flooded the entire city.

The Seminary was coverd with water to a height of 3-40m. The water was not only dirty but filthy, and submerged everything in the cellars, i.e: the entire patrimony of the Seminary.

The damage caused, which can be verified, amounted to over 5 million lire.

In those sad days we had the pleasure of meeting and negotiating with Mr Col. G.O. WYMOND, Jr. who with his men and workers tried to alleviate our disastrous situation in every way possible.

In addition to the great damage caused to our Seminary, should be added that of the Bishop who was compelled to live for 4 months under a stairway. All his personal belongings, even his Breviary was destroyed. Besides all the belongings of the personnel and the Sisters were likewise destroyed.

The building is still occupied by a Group of Aviators; however a partial agreement has been reached with the same Col., in such a way that the Seminary could accomodate the first group of 30 students.

So much for the facts., in the hope that the Allied Government, will examine the sad fate of our Seminary and repay the damages, ordering that the necessary work be undertaken, indispensable for the regular functioning of the Seminary; together with water, lighting system etc., and thereby rectifying the harm and defects caused by the war and the occupation of the Allied Troops.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Italian Division
Office of Chief of Staff

Tel: No. 47331

Ref: 402/8/003

7 December 1944

The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
2, Via Monte Zebio
Rome

Dear Mr Ambassador,

This is in answer to your letter dated 1 Nov. 44 in regard to the seminary at Grosseto. This matter was referred to the Provincial Commissioner of Grosseto Province, who investigated, through proper authorities, the possibility of derequisitioning the seminary. At the present time there are combat troops of first priority occupying the seminary and equally suitable accomodations are not available elsewhere in Grosseto. I am sorry but it is therefore impossible to grant at the present the Bishop of Grosseto's request.

Sincerely Yours,

See 6

DUGH NOON
Lt Col AGD

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402/53

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

SVIII/56/1/88. 30 Nov 44.

SUBJECT : GROSSETO Secretary. 8 DEC 1944

TO : H.Q., AG (Attention Madison Division, Office of Chief of Staff).

1. Reference your 402/1/AG dated 16 Nov 44.

2. The attached copy of a report 30/36/12 dated 28 Nov 44, from F.C., GROSSETO is forwarded.

For the Regional Commissioner:

D. Z. Findlay Sub
A.T.S.

J. HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Major, U.S.A.,
Adjutant.

GS/am.

Encl: 1 Copy of Report 30/36/12.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Liaison Division
Office of Chief of Staff

Tel: No. 479001

Ref: 402/4/003

16 November 1944

SUBJECT: Orvieto Seminary

TO : The Honorable Myron C. Taylor
2 Via Vascovagni
Rome

2

Dear Mr Ambassador,

I refer to your letter of 14 November and the Vatican Note 4595/SA of 3 November on the above mentioned subject.

The matter has been referred to the Regional Commissioner, Tuscany Region, and I will let you know as soon as a reply is received.

Sincerely yours,

LORD RAMSDEN
Captain

BU ref 3 21/11 Nov 44 3505

RA 17/11

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3

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Liaison Division
Office of Chief of Staff

Tel: No. 478001

Ref: 402/3/008

16 November 1944

SUBJECT: Grosseto Seminary

TO : Regional Commissioner
Tuscana Region

1

1. I enclose a copy of a note from Secretariat of State at the Vatican, concerning the regulationing of the Seminary at Grosseto.

2. It is requested that you make a report to this HQ on this matter.

Confirmed
for Brigadier
Chief of Staff

see 7

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402

Revise 15 Nov. (2)

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE
2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

November 14, 1944.

15 NOV Recd

(1)

Dear Colonel Brown:

I enclose a copy of Vatican Note No. 8395/SA dated November 3, 1944 concerning the seminary at Grosseto, which the Bishop of that town would like to have returned to him by the requisitioning authorities.

In view of the facts and circumstances related in the attached Note, I shall appreciate your courtesy in causing this matter to be investigated and letting me know what may be done with a view to granting the request of the Bishop.

Sincerely yours,

Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:
Copy of Note.

3503

Lt. Col. Enoch Brown,
Liaison Division,
Allied Commission Headquarters,
Rome.

(1)

November 3, 1944.

NOV 13 1944

8395/SA.

The Secretariat of State presents its compliments to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness and desires to recommend to his kind attention and consideration the request of His Excellency the Most Reverend Paolo Galeazzi, Bishop of Grosseto, for the return of his seminary building which has now been withdrawn from his use for two years. Bishop Galeazzi states that his seminary was occupied first by the Italian Red Cross, then by an American Sanitary Corps and since the 15th of September by a group of American Aviation Officers. He submits that the premises were occupied without any notice having been given him and without his being informed of the identity of the responsible requisitioning authority. He also relates that in recent months the building, built by himself at great sacrifice, and its contents have been damaged certain furnishings being removed. On one occasion, it is said by the Bishop, whose own home was destroyed in an air bombardment, he asked for the restoration of a

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Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness and desires to recommend to his kind attention and consideration the request of His Excellency the Most Reverend Paolo Galeazzi, Bishop of Grosseto, for the return of his seminary building which has now been withdrawn from his use for two years. Bishop Galeazzi states that his seminary was occupied first by the Italian Red Cross, then by an American Sanitary Corps and since the 15th of September by a group of American Aviation Officers. He submits that the premises were occupied without any notice having been given him and without his being informed of the identity of the responsible requisitioning authority. He also relates that in recent months the building, built by himself at great sacrifice, and its contents have been damaged certain furnishings being removed. On one occasion, it is said by the Bishop, whose own home was destroyed in an air bombardment, he asked for the restoration of a part of his seminary to serve as his own home but his request was refused.

In view of the supreme importance of his providing for the

His Excellency
Mr. Myron C. Taylor
Personal Representative of the
President of the United States
to His Holiness

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training of priests for his Diocese and with the advent of a new school year, the Bishop would therefore urgently request the release of the seminary to the use of his students and of himself.

In recommending this petition to the attention of the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness the Secretariat of State of His Holiness gladly avails itself of the occasion to renew the expression of its most distinguished esteem.

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