

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/161

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

10000/109/161

NOCERA INFERIORE, SEMINARY
AUG. - OCT. 1944

0551

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

19

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXERCISE COMMISSION
M liaison Division
Office of Chief of Staff
APO 394

Ref: 434/19/006

10 October 1944

Sir D'Arcy Osborne
British Legation to the Holy See
Vatican City

Dear Sir D'Arcy,

3

This refers to your letter dated 18 Aug 44 addressed to this Headquarters regarding the Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.

Information has been received by this office from AFHQ that it has been determined that the premises will be vacated, and that instructions have been issued in accordance with which the Seminary will be vacated by the unit now in occupancy by 15 October 44.

Sincerely yours,

Lt. Brown
Brigadier
Chief of Staff

EC/so

3021
P/A.

785017

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5 601-1

3 October 1944

8 OCT Recd

SUBJECT: Seminary at Nocera Inferiore

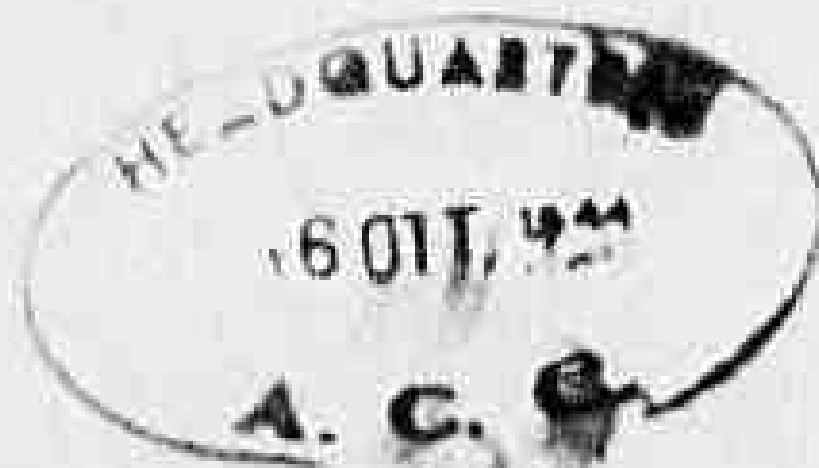
TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission,
APO 394.

1. On 17 August 1944 the British Legation to the Holy See addressed a letter to your Headquarters respecting the Diocesan Seminary of Nocera Inferiore, and inclosed a copy of a letter from the Secretariat of State of His Holiness which quoted from a letter written by the Bishop of Nocera del Pagani to the Papal Secretariat of State on 8 July 1944.

2. The correspondence was initiated by the Bishop of Nocera del Pagani with a view to causing the premises to be vacated.

3. It has been determined that the premises will be vacated, and instructions have been issued in accordance with which the subject Seminary will be vacated by the unit now in occupancy by 15 October 1944.

4. Will you kindly notify the British Legation to the Holy See of the action taken.



Charles M. Spofford
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD,
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

sec 19
3320

1-1000 11/18/10

TO: Executive Commissioner.

21 Sep 44

Seminary at NUCERA INTERIORE

1. At 15 is the report on this matter from Southern Region.
2. Opposite on cover is :
 - (a) The reply to AFHQ G-5's letter at 5.
 - (b) D.C. letter to Lt.Gen.Clark.

submitted for your signature.
(a) is required.

Signature on 3 copies of

E. Talbot
E. TALBOT,
Major.

I think our reply is misleading

The facts are that the Seminary has been occupied by British troops since Feb. 4 (not June 26) and whether the place was requisitioned or not does not appear relevant. (I don't see how the place was occupied unless it was requisitioned) It looks as if Town Dage are responsible for this
PTD

16
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & R.C. OFFICE
AND 304

REF : A30/16/31.

22 Sept 1944

SUBJECT : Summary at Moscow Conference.

TO : A.P.R.O. G-5.

1. I refer to G-5 : 601 - 1 of 29 August 44, and
to my A30/5/31 of 2 Sept 1944.

2. I have now received a report from Southern Region
and enclose a copy for your information and await your further
instructions in the matter.

3018

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For A/Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: British Legation to the Holy See
(with copy of report from Southern Region)
R.C. Southern Region.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SALERNO, PROVINCE

Subject: Accommodation - NOCERA INF. (Salerno)

To : H.Q., Southern Region
Executive Officer

ACC/87

20 SEP Recd

Reference: - Your 1st Ind., R/2023, dated 10 Sept. 44.
Telephone Conversation Executive Officer, Salerno.
Zone Commissioner 1155 Hrs. 15 Sept. 44.

1. The first Unit to occupy the Seminary at the a/m location was 5 Corps Signals on 4 Feb. 44, then one or two other units, and finally the present unit, 699 Artizan Works Coy R.E. on 26 June 1944.

2. This unit occupies about two-thirds of the premises as well as the court-yard and gardens. The premises are used as Coy H.Q., Quarters and Messes for all ranks, except Officers who live out and mess separately. Lecture Room, Guard Room, Canteen, Recreation Room, etc. are included and a small workshop, showers and ablutions are located in the garden. The strength is just over 50 all ranks plus six Italian soldiers who are attached to the unit. This Coy has a number of detachments out on duty who come in to Coy HQ. from time to time. The Coy is stationed there for an indefinite period of time.

The unit is very well turned out, well disciplined and the premises and ground are a credit to its personnel. The relations between the soldiers and the civilians and clergy are and have been most satisfactory. The units have done a certain amount of repairs, have cleaned the place out very well indeed, and removed all the Volcanic Ash from the Seminary and the surroundings. The children of the village are given a hot shower every Saturday and afterwards receive hot soup, to an average of 80 per week. The officer commanding the present Unit has always endeavoured to respect the wishes of the Bishop and of the Priest in charge living at the Seminary.

3. 24} Town Major stated that these premises have NOT

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

2 SEP 1944

Reference:- Your 1st Ind. HQ 2003, dated 10 Sept. 44.
Telephone Conversation Executive Officer, Salerno.
Done Commissioner 2155 Rm. 15 Sept. 44.

1. The 1st unit to occupy the Seminary at the above location was 5 Corps signals on 4 Feb. 44, then one or two other units, and finally the present unit, 699 Artillery Coy R.E. on 26 June 1944.

2. This unit occupies about two-thirds of the premises as well as the court-yard and gardens. The premises are used as Coy H.Q., Quarters and messes for all ranks, except Officers who live out and mess separately. Lecture Room, Guard Room, Canteen, Recreation Room, etc. are included and a small workshop, showers and ablutions are located in the garden. The strength is just over 50 all ranks plus six Italian soldiers who are attached to the unit. This Coy has a number of detachments out on duty who come in to Coy HQ, from time to time. The Coy is stationed there for an indefinite period of time.

The unit is very well turned out, well disciplined and the premises and ground are a credit to its personnel. The relations between the soldiers and the civilians and clergy are and have been most satisfactory. The units have done a certain amount of repairs, have cleaned the place out very well indeed, and removed all the Volcanic Ash from the Seminary and the surroundings. The children of the village are given a hot shower every Saturday and afterwards receive hot soup, to an average of 80 per week. The officer commanding the present Unit has always endeavoured to respect the wishes of the Bishop and of the Priest in charge living at the Seminary.

3. 243 Town Major stated that these premises have NOT been requisitioned, and that the troops occupied the Seminary with the consent of, or at least have been tolerated by, the Bishop of Nocera Inferiore who is the head of the Seminary and the person responsible for its administration. The Town Major stated that there were other accommodations available in the vicinity but were far from being as satisfactory.

4. The Town Major, HQ, 24 Sub-Area, CAG AMG CAVA DEI TIRRENTI, AMG/AGC SALERNO, have never received a complaint from

14
this Bishop to the effect that the Seminary is occupied against his wishes. In view of this his present attitude is difficult to understand.

5. When interviewed the Bishop stated that the troops had walked in without his permission, that the Seminary was requisitioned, that a great deal of damage has been caused to the building by the troops (which is not evident) and that finally he must have the troops out now to make room for the Seminarists. His complaint being that he has been imposed upon. It would be nearer the truth to say that he has tolerated the troops up to this time and that now he desires to open the Seminary for the scholastic year and would the troops leave to permit this important and necessary work. This the Bishop admitted to be the case after sometime and in the presence of the Bishop of CAVA DEI TIRRENI and the interpreter. The impression gathered at the interview with the good Bishop is that most probably he has been asked to produce his curriculum and finds it expedient to blame the occupation of the Seminary by the troops as an excuse for any possible delinquency. This unwarranted and sudden change of attitude is not justified under the circumstances.

6. One-third of the Seminary is occupied by a few priests and one caretaker with wife. There are two rooms which are not safe to occupy as the floors are weak due to concussion. The re-opening of the Seminary for the Scholastic year would mean that some 20 students and ten to twelve priests and nuns would occupy this large building. If the troops have to clear out, the Bishop has agreed that this will not have to take place before 1st Oct. 44. Actually he did not seem pressed for time.

7. Any recommendation desired on the part of this Zone Commissioner would be obvious under the circumstances.

(s) P. H. BARRÉ Major
Zone Commissioner
Salerno

R/2036

1st Inl.

AMW/jjf

HQ. SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, 18 September 1944.

TO: E.C. & M.C. Section, HQ. Allied Control Commission, APO 3943017
(For Attention of Deputy Executive Commissioner)

be tolerated the troops up to this time and that now he desires to open the Seminary for the scholastic year and would the troops leave to permit this important and necessary work. This the Bishop admitted to be the case after sometime and in the presence of the Bishop of CAVA DEI TIRRENI and the interpreter.

The impression gathered at the interview with the good Bishop is that most probably he has been asked to produce his curriculum and finds it expedient to blame the occupation of the Seminary by the troops as an excuse for any possible delinquency. This unwarranted and sudden change of attitude is not justified under the circumstances.

6. One-third of the Seminary is occupied by a few priests and one caretaker with wife. There are two rooms which are not safe to occupy as the floors are weak due to concussion. The re-opening of the Seminary for the Scholastic year would mean that some 20 students and ten to twelve priests and nuns would occupy this large building. If the troops have to clear out, the Bishop has agreed that this will not have to take place before 1st Oct. 44. Actually he did not seem pressed for time.

7. Any recommendation desired on the part of this Zone Commissioner would be obvious under the circumstances.

16th Sept. 1944

R/2036

1st Ind.

(s) P. H. BARRE Major
Zone Commissioner
Salerno

AHW/jjf

HQ. SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, 18 September 1944.

TO: R.C. & M.G. Section, HQ. Allied Control Commission, APO 39433015
(For Attention of Deputy Executive Commissioner)

1. Reference your 430/9/CA, dated 8 Sept. 1944, and telephonic conversation between Lt. Col. White and Major Talbot at 11:30 hours, 15 September 1944.

For the Regional Commissioner:

ALEX H. WHITE

Lt. Col.

Executive Officer

TO: Executive Comm: ioner.

13
16 Sep 44.

Mocera Inferiore Seminary.

1. This subject appears to have gone in devious channels. The first request from Sir D'Arcy Osborne was received at this HQ on 18 Aug and a letter was immediately written to Region III asking for the necessary information (folio 4).
2. On the 1st Sept a letter was received from G-5 asking for the same information, which was replied to on the 2nd Sept (folio 5 and 6).
3. A reply was received from Region III to the original enquiry from us stating that the Seminary had been occupied at the beginning of January by a unit of 94 Sub Area with the verbal consent of the Bishop, who had never since then complained. This was passed on to Sir D'Arcy Osborne with a copy to G-5 on 8th Sept (folio 10) and Southern Region were asked for further information at the same time. (folio 9).
4. Col. White was telephoned yesterday asking that further information be expedited and Col. Lewin-Harris was informed of this by phone at the same time.
5. As soon as the information is received it will be promulgated to all concerned, and the question of the release duly considered.


G.W.I. SHIPP,
Lieut. Col.

PA/
Dear Gen. Drake

— Friday 9 Oct

3813

AM/6/13

NOCERA (12)
SEMINARY

At La Shipp.

I have just spoken on
the telephone to Mr White
Exec Officer Southern Region.
I told him we were
being moved from a
high level as to

① Who was in the
Seminary

② What they are using
it for

③ How long they plan to
use it

He promised to take appropriate
Steps to enable him to make
a detailed report.

S. 15/9 1145 hrs.

Ex Comm

(11)

With reference to your
enquiry. AAI. State that they
are using the Civil Hospital
at Noera as a military hospital.
They have no knowledge of
any Seminary.

CAB

W/S

14/9

Find out on phone
from S Reg all about
the SEMINARY

3911

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
I.O. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Phone:
184034

Ref/A30/10/CA.

8 Sept. 1944.

SUBJECT: Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.

TO : The British Legation to the Holy See,
Vatican City.

1. I refer to your memorandum dated 17th August 1944 enclosing a translation of a note from the Secretariat of State at the Vatican concerning the requisitioning of the Diocesan Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.
2. The enclosed copy of a letter from 94 Sub Area to the Provincial Commissioner, Salerno Province, is forwarded for such action as you may consider necessary.
3. A full report is being requested of the Regional Commissioner Southern Region as to the use now being made of the Seminary and the probable duration of such use and when received the report will be communicated to you.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: AFHQ, G-5 - Ref your G-5: 601-1
of 29 Aug 44 (with copy
94 Sub Area letter 206/A
of 31 Aug 44)

20/9/40

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED RETROL COMMISSION
R.C. M.C. Section
APO 394

Phone:
484

Ref/130/9/CA.

8 Sept. 1944.

SUBJECT: Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.

TO : R.C. Southern Region.

1. I have received your R/2020 of 6 Sept enclosing a copy of a letter from 94 Sub Area regarding the occupation of the Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.
2. What is now required is that you give this HQ detailed information as to the use now being made of the Seminary and the probable duration of such use.

81
NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: AFHQ, G-5 - Ref your G-5: 601.1
of 29 Aug 44.

3609

785017

4301

8

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394, U. S. ARMY

R/2020

6 Sept. 1944

Hand

SUBJECT: Seminary at NOCERA INFERIORE

TO : HQ, A.C.C.
R.C. & M.C. Section

Reference your 430/4/CA, dated 19 August 1944.

1. I forward attached for your information and further instructions a copy of a letter from DAA & QMG addressed to PC SALERNO regarding the occupation of the a/m Seminary.

For the Regional Commissioner:

Alex. H. White

ALEX H. WHITE
Lt. Col.
Executive Officer

Incls.

As above

AMW/33f



54046

3608

Subject: Accommodation - NOCERA.

94 Sub-Area
Phone 234
286/Q

31 August 44

PC SALERNO PROVINCE

"Q" 3 District (With copies of correspondence)

Reference your ACC/S/7 dated 25 Aug 44.

1. The Seminary at NOCERA INFERIORE was occupied at the beginning of January 44 with the verbal consent of the Bishop, who has never at any time since then complained or given any indication either to the Town Major or to this HQ that he objected to the occupation or desired the return of the premises. The Town Major has interviewed the Bishop on more than one occasion with regard to minor repairs to the premises and has always found him most cooperative with regard thereto. The Bishop has, in fact, at his own suggestion accommodated officers of occupying units in his own place.

2. Certain RE work has had to be carried out on the premises in connection with their occupation, but so far as can be ascertained only one case of more than very slight damage has occurred and this was repaired.

3. In view of the foregoing, considerable surprise is expressed at the terms of the Bishop's letter.

4. Correspondence is returned herewith.

TOS 0940

.....E

CEH/EP

DAA & QAC (C.W. HURLEY)
Major

3807

PC SALERNO Province

"Q" } District (With copies of correspondence)

Reference your ACC/S/7 dated 25 Aug 44.

1. The Seminary at NOCERA INFERIORE was occupied at the beginning of January 44 with the verbal consent of the Bishop, who has never at any time since then complained or given any indication either to the Town Major or to this HQ that he objected to the occupation or desired the return of the premises. The Town Major has interviewed the Bishop on more than one occasion with regard to minor repairs to the premises and has always found him most cooperative with regard thereto. The Bishop has, in fact, at his own suggestion accommodated officers of occupying units in his own place.

2. Certain RE work has had to be carried out on the premises in connection with their occupation, but so far as can be ascertained only one case of more than very slight damage has occurred and this was repaired.

3. In view of the foregoing, considerable surprise is expressed at the terms of the Bishop's letter.

4. Correspondence is returned herewith.

TOS 0940

.....B
CTH/EP

Major
DAA & QMG (C.W. HURLEY)

3907

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & H.C. Section
APO 394

Phone:
484034

Ref/A30/6/CA.

2 September 1944.

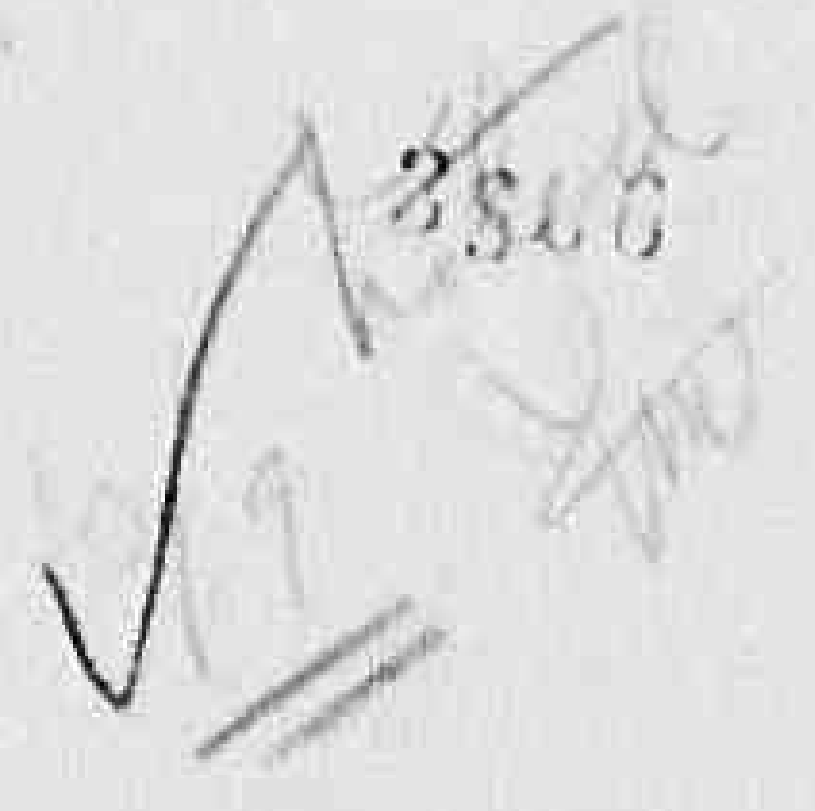
SUBJECT: Seminary at MICHIA INFERIOR.

TO : AMHQ, C-5 Section.

Reference your C-5: 601-1 of 29 August 1944 asking for detailed information about the use being made of the above Seminary and probable duration of such use requested by the C.A.O., I wrote to R.C. Region III on 19 August 1944 for a report on the matter and will forward this to you as soon as it is received.


Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For A/Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: R.C. Southern Region (with copy of C-5: 601.1 of
29 Aug 44)
British Legation to the Holy See.



ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CEMH/AMB/as

G-5: 601-1

3

29 August 1944

SUBJECT: Seminary at Nocera Inferiore.

1 SEP Recd

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

1. On 17 August 1944 the British Legation to the Holy See addressed a letter to your Headquarters respecting the Diocesan Seminary of Nocera Inferiore, and enclosed a copy of a letter from the Secretariat of State of His Holiness which quoted from a letter written by the Bishop of Nocera del Pagani to the Papal Secretariat of State, on 8 July 1944.

2. The Bishop of Nocera del Pagani initiated the correspondence with a view to causing the British troops in the requisitioned seminary to leave as soon as possible and in order to cause repairs to be made to the seminary by the Allied Command.

3. A copy of the correspondence referred to above was sent by the Office of the Resident Minister to the Chief Administrative Officer at this Headquarters, who has referred the matter to this Section.

4. It is requested that detailed information may be furnished this Headquarters respecting the use now being made of the Seminary, and the probable duration of such use so that the Chief Administrative Officer may be informed of the situation as early as practicable.

C. E. Harris

C. E. L. LEWIN HARRIS
Colonel

Deputy Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5



3634

See 6516

Handwritten notes and signatures at bottom of page

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 39A

Phor
L.B.

Ref/130/1/CA.

19 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Seminary at NOCERA INFERIORE.

TO : R.C. Region III.

1. I enclose a translation of a note from the Secretariat of State at the Vatican concerning the requisitioning of the Diocesan Seminary at NOCERA INFERIORE, which seems to have been carried out without the agreement of the local Bishop.

2. I shall be obliged if you will make a report to this HQ on this matter.

HURMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: British Legation to the Holy See.

HEADQUARTERS

17 AUG 1966

A. C. C.

Figure 1

10. 4

B. G. Johnson

[illegible]

Translation.

Secretary of State
of the Republic.

Co. 312/14.

The Ministry of the Most Reverend Monsignor Repente de
Angels, Bishop of Pavia del Pavia, in a letter dated and
10th July, has communicated the following to the Secretary of
State:-

"On the 2nd January British troops occupied without any
warning the premises of the Episcopal Seminary at Pavia
Inferiore. For this reason it was not possible to reach the
Seminary in order to receive the students who were still with
their families, owing to the fact that it had been necessary to
carry out restoration of the fabric which had been damaged by
proceeding bombardments.

Considerable damage was done to the premises of the Seminary
and restoration work carried out without any later completion.

In my report I did not fail to state the pending circumstances
but in vain.

The loss to the Republic will be severe if the Seminary

cannot be re-opened in the coming autumn.

331

14th July, was communicated the following to the Secretary of State:-

Subject:-

"On the 2nd January British troops were sent to the aid of the Government of the Republic of China in the form of a military mission. For this reason it was not possible to release the military in order to receive the assistance of the British troops. Their families, owing to the fact that it was not necessary to return at once, were left in the hands of the Chinese authorities for further consideration."

Consequently, the Government of China to the Government of the Republic of China were advised that without my being consulted.

On my part I did not fail to give the necessary recommendations.

and in vain.

The loss to the Government will be grave if the military mission is re-organized in the coming autumn. In every effort of mine, as seen in vain, I have the Secretary of State to intervene in whatever form it may consider effective in order that the British troops may leave the Republic of China as soon as possible and that the considerable damage done by the Chinese may be repaired by the British Government.

The Secretary of State of His Majesty is bringing the above to the knowledge of His Britannic Majesty, in connection to the fact that, as the Government of the latter will realize the

3001

original situation of this matter and will necessarily
intervene with the Allied Command in order that the needs
of the defense of Europe and the Pacific may be taken into due
consideration.

The Secretary of State of the United States by
the opportunity to express to the British Majesty's
Legation the views of the United States and distinguished
consideration.

0 5 7 5