

2480

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

ACC

10000/109/1642

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

10000/109/1642

AID TO CHURCHES
MAY 1943 - NOV. 1944

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

4 Nov 1944

MEMO

TO :CSO for VP

1. The attached reply at 16 of this file from AFHQ to our letter about aid to church organizations is one for which we can say "Alleluja".
2. It is true that the person who caused all this trouble seems to be getting off lightly but A.C. has established its position on the subject very firmly.
3. The real point which we have gained is that General Spofford has agreed to write to the War Department to get some long overdue favourable publicity for A.C.
4. As General Spofford suggests that we do something of the same kind locally, why shouldn't the P.R.O. consider a program for giving us more favourable publicity than we have had up to this point. Publicity about the church activities of A.C. is simply one possibility which is open to the P.R.O.
5. As you may have heard, AFHQ have requested MFAA to put on some radio program ^{about} their work.
6. Is it not a pity that A.C. instead of individuals has not used the radio to help itself.
7. If you approve, I think the answer from AFHQ together with this file should be sent to the C.O.S. to see, since R.O.M.G. were originally concerned with the correspondence.

WAS Dolland
WILLIAM A.S. DOLLARD
Major

2183

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

To C.O.S. (attention Col Shipp)

The letter from AFH & at (19) for your
information.

W.G. S. Dillard, Major
C.A. See for L.P.

CA See

16 noted & file returned.

6/11

✓
Sharden Capt
Office of Col.

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

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

R/1188

4 November 1944

SUBJECT: Allied Aid to Churches.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(For the attention of CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION).

Reference your letter 338/CA of 28 October.

1. Attached report by the Regional Welfare Officer indicates clearly that there has been no discrimination against Protestant Churches in this Region.

CET/jh
1 Incl.

C. E. Temperley
C. E. TEMPERLEY,
Colonel,
Regional Commissioner.



307

3759

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE DIV.
APO 394, U.S. ARMY

Ref : PHW/47/25

31 October 1944

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Southern Region

SUBJECT : Allied Aid to Churches.

Ref. Hq., A.O. Civil Affairs Section L. 338/OA d.28 Oct.4.

1. In response to paragraph one (1) of the above mentioned document the Regional Welfare Officer, Southern Region wishes to make the following statement.
2. The Health & Welfare Sub-Commission, Southern Region has always predicated its aid to Italian civilian entirely and strictly on the basis of need. The Regional Welfare Officer was especially anxious to create organizations for boys similar to our Boy Scouts. In fact he suggested the use of the name Boy Scouts but an effort had to be made not to have it on a religious basis alone. The evidence that it was not is the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Riccardo Santi of the Casa Materna per Bambini Orfani which is a Protestant organization was given every aid and encouragement and was given equal supplies and rations with every other organization which helped the Regional Welfare Officer set up Boy Scout Camps.
3. Another institution which we have listed and which has received equal treatment but is definitely Protestant is the Unione Cristiana delle Giovani at Bacoli, Naples Province. There may other protestant or non sectarian institutions on our lists which we do not know.
4. In the Regional Welfare Officer allocation of materials rations ect. no question of religious affiliation has ever been asked. The inspections and investigations were purely on basis of need.

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1. In response to paragraph one (1) of the above mentioned document the Regional Welfare Officer, Southern Region wishes to make the following statement.
2. The Health & Welfare Sub-Commission, Southern Region has always predicated its aid to Italian civilian entirely and strictly on the basis of need. The Regional Welfare Officer was especially anxious to create organizations for boys similar to our Boy Scouts. In fact he suggested the use of the name Boy Scouts but an effort had to be made not to have it on a religious basis alone. The evidence that it was not is the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Riccardo Santi of the Casa Materna per Bambini Orfani which is a Protestant organization was given every aid and encouragement and was given equal supplies and rations with every other organization which helped the Regional Welfare Officer set up Boy Scout Camps.
3. Another institution which we have listed and which has received equal treatment but is definitely Protestant is the Unione Cristiane delle Gioventu at Bacoli, Naples Province. There may other Protestant or non sectarian institutions on our lists which we do not know.
4. In the Regional Welfare Officer allocation of materials rations ect. no question of religious affiliation has ever been asked. The inspections and investigations were purely on the basis of need.
5. In a country which is predominately Roman Catholic the persons needing help will be almost entirely Catholic. Growing but under nourished children should be cared for by Christian Nations with no reference to their religion.

JMS/ao

John W. Durney
JOHN MCSTEWNEY
Major,
Regional Welfare Officer
Southern Region

3459

2187

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

CA Sect.
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

2207

(16)

G-5: 000.3-4

1 November 1944

SUBJECT: Allied Aid to Churches.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Your letter of 28 October 1944 (Ref 338/CA) on the above subject is at hand, together with its enclosure. It is believed that your directive should serve to terminate once and for all any misunderstanding which might lead as in this case, to unwarranted and unjustifiable characterizations.

2. It is entirely clear from our interview with the author of the letter sent to this Hq by the War Department that this man did not correspond with any journal or write to anyone with a view to publication of his opinions. It is believed that the facts in this case do not justify disciplinary action, other than has already been taken. The entire matter has been taken up with the Commanding Officer of the author of the letter.

3. In the event that we are apprised of any case in which there is resort to newspaper tactics by personnel in this Theater, every effort will be made to see that disciplinary proceedings are instituted. It is agreed that publicity respecting the positive side of your work in giving aid to church organizations would be helpful. We are writing to the War Department in the hope that some action can be taken by them to accomplish this purpose, and trust that you will do whatever is possible along similar lines locally.

Charles M. Spofford

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



305

3663

2188

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

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
CMF
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref : 338/CA

28 October 1944

SUBJECT : Allied Aid to Churches .

TO : A.F.B.Q. G-5

Reference your letter G-5:000.3-4 of 21 October 1944.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter Ref. 338/CA of 28 October 1944 sent by Headquarters A.C.C. to Regional Commissioners, SCAGs and Provincial Commissioners in accordance with the request (in paragraph 4) of your letter.

2. This Commission desires to protest against the conduct of the person with whom you are in touch (who appears to be a chaplain in IBS Q. in resorting, in breach of all regulations , to newspaper tactics to redress some fancied wrong and in failing to take this matter up with A.M.C. HQ. in Sicily. His action has caused much harm and it is requested that disciplinary action be taken against the Officer concerned and that he be ordered to make a full retraction with the same publicity as his original thoughtless action.

3. In justice to A.C.C. it would also be appreciated if the principles which guided us and the positive side of our work in giving aid to church organizations, as outlined in our previous answer, could be publicized.

FOR THE ACTING CHIEF COMMISSIONER

G. R. Lippman
G.H. UPJOHN Brigadier
V.P. C.A. Sec .
Dep. C. o. S.

304

332H

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14A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ONE
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref : 338/CA

28 October 1944

SUBJECT : Allied Aid to Churches .

TO :	SCAG 5th Army	RC TOSCANA Region
	SCAG 8th Army	RC EMILIA Region
	RC LIGURIA Region	RC LIGURIA Region
	RC SARDEGNA Region	RC PIEMONTE Region
	RC SOUTHERN Region	RC LOMBARDIA Region
	RC LATIO-UMBRIA Region	RC VENETIA Region
	RC ABRUZZI-MARCHE Region	

1. In a letter dated 16 September 1944 Ref. 3-5:000, 3-4 AFHQ informed this Headquarters that Protestant publications in the United States had published allegations that Allied Military Government Officials had refused to extend aid to any church organizations in Italy except those of the Roman Catholic faith.
2. This Headquarters replied to 3-5 AFHQ in a letter dated 24 September 1944 Ref. 3-5/15/CA that as far as this Headquarters know the allegations were without foundation. Our letter cited the kind of aid given to church organizations and gave statistics which showed a non-Catholic population in liberated Italy of a fraction of one per cent, and indicated the improbability of the existence of non-Catholic institutions that might have asked aid.
3. A letter from 3-5 AFHQ dated 21 October 1944 Ref. 3-5:000, 3-4 acknowledging our answer requests this Headquarters to bring to the attention of officers in the field our position in this matter.
4. It is requested therefore that SCAGs, SACs and PCs remind all Allied Officers that the policy of AMG/ACC has always been and remains that any aid given to church organizations is for their work in restoring normal activities and not on the basis of a particular religious affiliation.

BY COMMAND OF THE ACTING CHIEF COMMISSIONER

303

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

1. In a letter dated 15 September 1944 Ref. G-5:000.3-4 AFHQ informed this Headquarters that Protestant publications in the United States had published allegations that Allied Military Government Officials had refused to extend aid to any church organizations in Italy except those of the Roman Catholic faith.

2. This Headquarters replied to G-5 AFHQ in a letter dated 24 September 1944 Ref. 3.18/13/CA that as far as this Headquarters know the allegations were without foundation. Our letter cited the kind of aid given to church organizations and gave statistics which showed a non-Catholic population is liberated Italy of a fraction of one per cent, and indicated the improbability of the existence of non-Catholic institutions that might have asked aid.

3. A letter from G-5 AFHQ dated 21 October 1944 Ref. G-5:000.3-4 acknowledging our answer requests this Headquarters to bring to the attention of officers in the field our position in this matter.

4. It is requested therefore that SCAGs, ROs and PCAs remind all Allied Officers that the policy of AGO/AGC has always been and remains that any aid given to church organizations is for their work in restoring normal activities and not on the basis of a particular religious affiliation.

BY COMMAND OF THE ACTING CHIEF COMMISSIONER

303

G. R. UPJOHN Brigadier
V.P. S.A. Sec.
Det. S. O. S.

WASD/ur

WES

12191

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

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

JHM/AMB/as

14a

G-5: 000.3-4

21 October 1944

SUBJECT: Allied Aid to Churches.

13. 24 OCT Recd

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

1. Under date of 15 September 1944 we advised you of the publication in the US of certain articles indicating that AMG officials were not permitted to aid any church organizations in Italy except those of the Roman Catholic faith, and further indicated that a letter from a Protestant chaplain in IBS may have been the origin of these allegations.

2. Your detailed reply of 24 September 1944 has been sent to the Theatre Chaplain with the request that he bring it to the attention of the writer of the letter in question.

3. The author of the letter, written in IBS last March has come to this Hq to discuss the matter in some detail. He states that between August and October of 1943 he approached AMG officials for aid to the Waldensian sect, which had made facilities available to the armed forces (including a place of worship) and was told that AMG had no authority to assist other than Catholic institutions. His recollection is that an American Captain and a British Lieutenant at Licata so stated to him, and the same view was expressed by a British Major with a French or Italian name at Ragusa or Vittorio.

4. This information is sent to you with a view to the avoidance of any similar misunderstanding in the future by clarifying in the minds of officers in the field the exact position in this matter.

5. The writer of the letter has offered to take necessary steps to undo any harm which may have been done by his letter.

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

Murray Mitchell
J. MURRAY MITCHELL
Lt. Colonel, G.S.C.

23 OCT 1944

A. C. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED OFFICIAL COMMISSION
R.O. AND H.Q. SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 338/13/HA

24 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Allied aid to Churches.

TO : G-5 Section, A.F.H.Q.

1. We refer to your letter of 15 September 1944, reference G-5:000.3-4.
2. The allegations which paragraph 1 of your letter states have been made by Protestant publications in the United States, are as far as this HQ. knows, without foundation.
3. It is difficult to know what exactly is meant by extending "aid" to Church organizations.
4. Whatever "aid" has been given, has been strictly in accordance with the plan of restoring civilian activities through properly constituted social agencies.
5. In general, "aid" offered may be described as follows:
 - (a) Some assistance has been given for the repair of churches listed as National Monuments.
 - (b) Food for distribution by Church Welfare Committees, which has made the AHC problem of feeding the civilian population less insurmountable than it would have been with insufficient personnel. AHC, Public Health and Welfare officers offer testimonials of the great help these Church Committees have offered in a serious problem.
 - (c) Wherever possible, Churches and Church property needed for welfare work have been offered protection from requisitioning.
 - (d) Arrangements have been effected for:
 - (i) issuing travel permits and car passes for running essential ecclesiastical and welfare work.
 - (ii) getting electrical power turned on in ecclesiastical buildings.
 - (iii) permissions to buy and transport food from other regions to orphanages.

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6. Aid has operated in both directions. AMG officers have repeatedly remarked how helpful the various priests and bishops as well as other church agencies have been, both unofficially and from the pulpit, in cooperating with Allied officials in restoring normal life in the areas which we have occupied.

7. In addition Catholic agencies have offered help to Italians and Refugees of all creeds. The work of Catholic agencies for the Jews constitutes an important chapter, the story of which probably can be fully told only at the conclusion of the war. However, the Chief Rabbi of Rome has spontaneously expressed thanks for this work without which large numbers of Jews would not have survived.

8. All requests which have been made to AMG by any organization have been treated alike and not on the basis of a particular religious affiliation.

9. Statistics on aid to Protestant churches are not available but one concrete example may be cited. The English Church in Naples was repaired and paid for by the General Paymaster, for eventual collection from the Italian Government. The approximate cost of the repairs was 160,000 lire, with an additional sum of 40,000 lire required for maintenance.

10. As religious statistics reveal, it is unlikely that there are many Protestant Church Organizations in the area under AMG, to make requests for aid.

11. The religious statistics given in the appendix to this letter show:

- (a) that the non-Catholic population of the whole of Italy is under 1%
- (b) that the Italian Protestant population is concentrated in the north in areas not yet liberated;
- (c) and that Protestants in AMG area (liberated Italy) are approximately 38,605, or about .0006%.

12. It would appear that the burden of proof that aid has been refused to Protestant Organizations rests upon those who have published such allegations, and that unsubstantiated charges should be treated as irresponsible.

signed H. S. Lusk
H. S. LUSK.
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

300

Incl: 3

2194

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & E.C. SECTION
APO 394

663

22nd September, 1944

SUBJECT: Aid to Churches.

TO : G - 5 A.P.H.C.

I. APPENDIX A (Taken from the Enciclopedia Italiana Vol. XII.)

Departments & geographical divisions	Religion			
	Catholic	Hebrew	Evangelical	Others
Piemonte	23,1++	0,1	0,7	0,1
Liguria	99,0	0,1	0,6	0,3
Lombardia	99,6	0,1	0,2	0,1
Venezia Tridentina	99,6	0,2	0,7	0,1
V e n e t o	99,8	0,1	0,1	—
Venezia Giulia & Zara	98,6	0,7	0,3	0,4
Emilia	99,8	0,1	—	0,1
Northern Italy				
.....	99,5	0,1	0,3	0,1
.....	99,5	0,2	0,2	0,1
.....	99,9	0,1	—	—
.....	99,9	—	0,1	—
.....	99,1	0,5	0,3	0,1
Central Italy				
.....	99,5	0,2	0,2	0,1
Abruzzo & Molise	99,8	—	0,1	—

Continued

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Compartments & geographical divisions	Religion				Others*
	Catholic	Hebrew	Evangelical		
Cassania	99,9	---	0,2	---	---
Puglia	99,8	---	0,1	---	---
Basilicata	99,9	---	0,2	---	---
Calabria	99,9	---	0,1	---	---
Meridional Italy	99,9	---	0,1	---	---
Sicilia	99,9	---	0,1	---	---
Sardegna	100,0	---	---	---	---
Italian Islands	99,9	---	0,1	---	---
Empire	99,6	0,1	0,2	---	0,1

* Comprising: Greek-Orthodox, Islamisation, others belonging to other religions, even those who have declared to be "without religion" or who have not made any declaration whatsoever.

** Figures in proportion to 100 inhabitants.

Continued

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- 3

Non Catholic						
Countries	Catholics	Muslims	Evangelists	Other religions	Without religion	Religions not declared
B a r i	990,1*	0,2	0,8	0,9	1,2	---
Bologna	933,5	5,4	1,7	0,2	0,8	---
Brescia	977,0	0,6	1,5	0,1	---	---
Cagliari	986,5	0,1	1,0	---	0,4	---
Catania	977,5	0,1	1,6	0,5	0,2	0,1
Ferrara	974,6	6,0	0,6	---	0,8	2,4
Frosino	574,4	8,2	12,9	0,8	1,3	---
Genova	986,0	3,0	6,1	0,9	1,6	2,4
La Spezia	992,0	1,2	5,1	0,1	1,6	---
Livorno	977,3	13,4	4,1	0,5	4,7	---
Massima	977,1	---	2,5	0,1	0,3	---
Milano	983,6	6,8	6,4	0,8	2,3	0,1
Napoli	994,9	0,9	3,2	0,7	0,3	---
Padova	993,6	4,5	0,8	0,5	0,6	---
Palermo	997,3	0,1	2,0	0,4	0,2	---
Reggio Calabria ..	988,3	---	1,4	0,1	0,2	0,3
Roma	980,7	10,8	5,9	1,1	1,2	---
Taranto	993,3	0,1	0,3	0,1	0,2	---
Trapani	986,5	6,2	5,8	0,4	1,1	---
Trieste	962,9	18,9	8,0	5,8	4,4	---
Venezia	984,5	7,2	6,4	0,8	1,0	0,1
Verona	975,9	2,3	1,3	0,1	0,4	---

* Figures in proportion to 1000 inhabitants.

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APPENDIX B (taken from the Anuario Estadístico)

URUGUAYAN POPULATION DIVIDED ACCORDING TO RELIGION

296

DELIMITATIONS	Catholic		Evangelic		Jewish		Greek Schismatic		Others		Atheist		Under Reli. No.
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Kingdom	41,014,096	99.1	83,618	2.0	47,025	1.2	6801	0.2	1475	...	17283	0.4	5573
Total of Provincial Towns	10,439,407	98.8	40,394	3.8	43,034	4.1	5927	0.6	1226	0.1	12235	1.2	4825
Total of Towns with over 100,000 inhabitants.	7,000,295	98.5	34,289	4.8	37,936	5.3	4,647	0.7	1055	0.1	8856	1.2	4343

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APPENDIX B (taken from the Annuario Statistica Italiana 1936 Fourth Series Vol III).

EXTENT POPULATION DIVIDED ACCORDING TO RELIGION

2962

Catholic		Jewish		Greek Schismatic		Others		Atheist		Unknown Religion		TOTAL	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
618	2.0	47,825	1.2	6001	0.2	1475	...	17283	0.4	5573	0.1	41,176,671	1000.0
394	3.8	43,034	4.1	5927	0.6	1226	0.1	12235	1.2	4825	0.4	10,547,098	1000.0
489	4.3	37,936	5.3	4,517	0.7	1053	0.1	8096	1.2	4340	0.6	7,171,646	1000.0

APPENDIX C.

PERCENTAGE POPULATION in the various
Counties

(Those belonging to the Baptist, Episcopalian Methodist, Roman, Pentecostal, the Brethren, the Seventh Day Adventists, Anglican, American Episcopalian, Presbyterian, German, Swiss (Calvinist), Etc., and the various Evangelical churches are included.)

Tierrasanta	21.547
Liguria	8.724
Lombardia	10.524
Venezia Tridentina	4.725
Veneto	2.785
Venezia Giulian and Zara	3.479
Emilia	1.686
Toscana	6.825
Marche	224
Umbria	313
Lazio	7.404
Abruzzi e Molise	1.5.6
Campania	4.275
Puglia	1.927
Lucania	784
Calabria	785
Sicilia	1.527
Sardegna	210
Italia Settentrionale	52.949
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Veneto	2.765
Venezia Giulia and Zara	3.479
Emilia	1.086
Emilia Romagna	6.645
Marche	224
Umbria	513
Lazio	7.444
Abruzzo e Molise	1.556
Campania	4.275
Puglia	1.957
Liguria	724
Calabria	703
Sicilia	4.947
Sardegna	218
Italia Settentrionale	52.949
Italia Centrale	16.099
Italia Meridionale	7.741
Italia Insulare	4.765
Italia Liberata	23.605
Italia non liberata	52.949

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23.II.1944.

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

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CIA B 12
2031

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 000.3-4

15 September 1944

19 SEP Recd

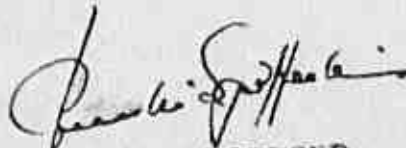
SUBJECT: Allied Aid to Churches.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission,
APO 394

1. It has been brought to our attention by the War Department that recently one or two Protestant publications in the U.S. have stated that Allied Military Government officials are not permitted to extend aid to any church organizations in Italy except those of the Roman Catholic faith.

2. It appears probable that information stemming from a Protestant chaplain in IBS may have been the origin of these allegations.

3. It is requested that this Headquarters be advised of the facts in order to reply to the War Department. It is suggested that the character of any aid furnished to Catholic organizations be indicated and also approximate percentage and number of Protestants in the area subject to the ACC.



CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

see 13

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/338/11/CA

28 April 1944

SUBJECT: English Church in Naples

TO : Director of Civil Affairs
The War Office
Hotel Victoria
Northumberland Avenue
London, W.C. 2

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter 124/Italy/17 (CA 2) of 26 February 1944.

2. The repairs of damage done to the English church in Naples have already been completed and the church is in regular use by British and American troops and the few British civilians who remain in Naples. The Senior Chaplain, Mr. W. A. Cross, is entirely satisfied with the present state of the building as also is the Bishop of Gibraltar, who visited the church about three weeks ago.

3. The cost of repairs is as follows:

Roofs	17,100 lire
Internal	12,320 lire
Outbuildings	<u>11,430</u> lire
	40,850 lire

The work was done by an Italian contractor supervised by 10 C.R.E. The bill was approved by Chief Engineer, 3 District, on 24 March and sent to the Command Paymaster for payment.

4. A further sum of 117,700 lire was also spent on internal cleaning, painting and general maintenance work only partially connected with war damage. This bill was approved by Chief Engineer, 3 District, on 15 April and sent to Command Paymaster for payment. It appears that during the time the bomb damage remained unrepaired, the rain got into the structure and the general cleaning and maintenance bill of 117,700 lire was, in consequence, a good deal higher than it would otherwise have been. It is estimated that a total sum of 40,000 lire would represent the additional maintenance cost due to damage by rain entering the building. 293

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10A

5. It is therefore recommended that a total of 80,850 lire be recovered from the Italian Government. Your instructions are awaited.

L. S. [Signature]
Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy to:

Pub. Works & Util. Subcom.
Finance Subcom.

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10
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: _____

SUBJECT: _____

FILE NO. _____

TO: _____

104

Capt. Talbot
RC & MG.

Details attached

2 reports.

G. E. Rhodes

25/4/44.

H. G. 291
Dr. Jui.
P. W. & U. S. C.

2205

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

9
Jim Sec.

Pl. See whole file. I have seen CR Files
Who says that from Finance angle
there is no problem. I imagine it's
a question of materials. The file is
passed to be in action.

End of file

12/4

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Further to my note of yesterday .

Addl. information since received.

1. The repairs cost lire 40,850 viz.

roofs	17,100	
internal	12,320	
outbuildings	11,430	40,850

Done by Contractor Tarantino: supervision 10 CRE.
 Bill approved by Chief Engineer 3 Dist. on 24 March and
 sent to Command Paymaster for payment.

2. A further sum, lire 117,700 also since spent, on internal
 cleaning, painting, and general maintenance work un-
 connected with war damage. Contractor Domus,
 supervision 10 CRE; bill approved by CE 3 Dist. on
 19 April 44 and sent to Command Paymaster to be
 paid.
3. Authority for both above was given in letter B7Area HQ,
 Q/502/10/1 of 4 April 44.
4. Official description of present condition of building,
 i.e. by Senior Chaplain Mr. W. A. Cross is "Excellent".
 He states, further, that it is well-used by Brit. and Am.
 troops, and by the few Brit. civilians who remain in
 Naples. Mr. Cross emphasises, again, the satisfaction
 expressed recently by the Bishop of Gibraltar, who has
 seen the work since it was completed.
5. The letter 26 Oct. 43 from the Foreign Office states
 (on the authority of Mr. Winston Churchill) that the
 cost should be met by the Italian Govt. This would
 apply to the first bill, in my opinion, and not to the
 second, save as to perhaps ONE-THIRD approx. (equal
 to a round figure of lire 40,000.) From my enquiries,
 I gather that rain got into the structure during the
 months when the bomb damage remained unrepaired, and the
 lire 117,700 bill was, in consequence, a good deal
 higher than it would otherwise have been.
6. I suggest a total (of lire) against the Italian Govt.
 150,850

G. E. Rhodes
 Lt Col RE. 290
 25.4.44

12207

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I have seen this Church today, situated between the Via de Mille and the Riviera de Chiaia. It was built in 1862. I made an inspection of the structure both internally and externally. It gives the impression of being in first-class condition in every way, walls, roofs, doors, windows, pillars..... even extending to the smaller building at the back, used as a library and meeting room. I also saw the caretaker's cottage, on the right of the church.

I have since seen the Rev. Mr. Cross, Chaplain 57 Area, following a visit to his office at that Hdqrs. He was not in, but has since called to see me.

He states.....

- (a) Building now in good condition, and that the Bishop of Gibraltar, who was in Naples 3 weeks ago, expressed his full satisfaction.
- (b) Repairs were done under the supervision of the C.R.E. 10th, Naples, by an Italian contractor.
- (c) He is finding out how much was paid and from what fund or source, with a view to a debit being passed to the Italian Govt. (as is indicated in the attached correspondence from the Foreign Office).

He will let me know..... { exact nature of repairs
date finished
contractor
cost. etc.

- (d) the air-raid of 4 weeks ago caused further (very minor) damage to windows, and I noted in one place a few small holes in the slated roof. These are being attended to now, by the same C.R.E. agency.
- (e) the area is still subject to air-raids. I considered blast-wall protection, or other means of preventing the windows being again damaged. The windows are so high, and the walls would have to be built up from ground level externally, that the cost would be very heavy indeed. Cheaper to repair the windows themselves, should they be "blown out" again.

Another alternative would be steel sheets closely fitted, externally. There is a shortage of these, they would be costly if found, and they should be devoted to more immediate war-purposes.

- (f) As to protection, therefore, for the future, I recommend that the building should "take its chance".

G. E. Rhodes

Lt. Col. RE.

24.4.44.

I will forward
A copy received
in 2-3 days.

2208

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Tel. No.---

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to:
The Under-Secretary of State
The War Office
(as opposite),
and the following number quoted.

19 APR 1944



338
C.A. BR. 6
THE WAR OFFICE,
H 31 Victoria,
Northumberland Avenue,
LONDON, W.C.2.

124/Italy/17(C.A.2)

Your References

26 February, 1944

S-1696

SECRET.

1-5
Sir,

I am directed to forward for your information the attached documents relating to the repair of damage done to the English Church in Naples.

I am to request that you will arrange for the necessary repairs to be put in hand under the supervision of Allied Military Government, provided that it is not to the detriment of urgent military repair work, and that the cost is approximately as at present estimated, that is, Lire 13,558.48 for replacing the broken panes and repairing the damaged windows and Lire 20,000 for the mobile iron frame necessary for repairing the upper windows. The cost of the repairs should, in the first instance, be borne by Allied Military Government and will eventually be recovered from the Italian Government.

I am further to state that this matter has been agreed with the War and State Departments at Washington, and that it is not considered appropriate to refer such a detailed subject to the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,



John King

DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AFFAIRS.

The Deputy President,
Main H.Q.,
Allied Control Commission.

see 11

2209

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

DM

Ex. 16/14

COPY **S**

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.S.I.

14th January, 1944.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to refer to War Office letter (124/Italy/17(C.A.2.a)) of the 31st ultimo on the subject of the repair of damage caused to the English Church at Naples by the explosion of a bomb.

2. Mr. Eden primarily had in mind that the Italian authorities should, if possible, be induced, by whatever degree of pressure was thought appropriate, to carry out such urgent work as can be required of them under their own war damage regulations. If this is not possible I am to request that the matter be brought before the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington, for favourable consideration, with a request that the repairs may be executed under the supervision of, and the cost advanced by, Allied Military Governments for eventual recovery from the Italian Government. For this purpose a detailed statement is enclosed as requested in your letter. No reference is made in the statement to the proposal that the windows of the Church should be protected by sandbags or exterior brick walls, since it is assumed that the need for such protection is no longer urgent.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) Roberts

The Under-Secretary of State,
War Office.

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DAMAGE TO CHRIST CHURCH 1 55

This Church, which is under the supervision of the Bishop of Gibraltar, is owned by the British Community of Naples and serves the local Anglican and American Episcopal communities.

According to information received through the Swiss Legation in Rome, damage was caused to the Church by the explosion of a bomb in the early part of 1943. On instructions from the Legation the damage was investigated by Avvocato Rosalbino Santoro of Via Caracciolo 17, Naples, a lawyer who was well-known to the former British and United States Consulates, and who made the following report on the 16th May 1943:

"The premises proper were not damaged.

"The church is lighted by two rows of biforate windows, twelve of which open at a height of about two metres from the ground, and ten at about 10 metres from the ground, as well as by a large window, consisting of five sections, which forms the background of the central nave.

"Of the twelve lower biforate windows, ten consist of double stained glass windows, ornamented with images of saints of exquisite craftsmanship, and considerable artistic value: these are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

"The ten upper biforate windows are formed by small rhomboids of light stained glass, joined by lead mullions and are protected on the outside by ordinary glass panes.

"The large glass window of the central nave consists of five separate glass elements, topped by rose windows, artistically ornamented and of considerable value. They are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

"As a result of the concussion, caused by the explosion, the following observations are made:

- "a) the large stained glass windows were not broken, but nearly all the lead mullions were distorted and bent outwards;
- "b) various of the biforate upper windows and the two lower windows with plain glass panes, were broken; as well as a few panes of the sacristy.
- "c) Two oval windows, a few panes of small rhomboids pertaining to the building adjacent to the Church and used as a library, were broken, as well as a glass in the custodian's quarters and the latch of the central door of the Church.

Should the enclosed you will find an estimate of the cost of

"at about 10 metres from the ground, as well as by a large window, consisting of five sections, which forms the background of the central nave.

"Of the twelve lower biforate windows, ten consist of double stained glass windows, ornamented with images of saints of exquisite craftsmanship, and considerable artistic value: these are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

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"The large glass window of the central nave consists of five separate glass elements, topped by rose windows, artistically ornamented and of considerable value. They are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

"As a result of the concussion, caused by the explosion, the following observations are made:

- "a) the large stained glass windows were not broken, but nearly all the lead mullions were distorted and bent outwards;
- "b) various of the biforate upper windows and the two lower windows with plain glass panes, were broken; as well as a few of the sacristy.
- "c) Two oval windows, a few panes of small rhomboids pertaining to the building adjacent to the Church and used as a library, were broken, as well as a glass in the custodian's quarters and the latch of the central door of the Church.

"Herewith enclosed you will find an estimate of the cost of replacing the broken panes and repairing the damaged windows. The estimate, furnished by the firm G. Mastroianni, amounts to Lire 13,558.48 and is to be considered in force until May 31st, 1943.

"However, in the estimate of repairs, the principal expense is not included: that is the cost for scaffolding necessary for the repair of the upper windows, which as stated, are situated about 10 metres from the ground. For an estimate of the cost of scaffolding, I had written at the suggestion of the custodian of the Church to a certain Mario Tarantino, who, before the war and upon request of the Pastor of the Church, had taken care of the maintenance of the church roof. But Mr. Tarantino did not trouble to answer my letters, so that I approached other experts in the matter, who pointed out that it was not advisable to put up a scaffolding in wood: in the first place because of the actual high cost of the material and secondly because the safety of the workmen would not be guaranteed. They were all of the opinion that it would be preferable to use a mobile iron frame, which could be assembled in the Church and that would fully guarantee the safety of

/the workmen.

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"the workmen. Such frame, however, costs lire 20,000."

It is desired to recommend that necessary repairs to this Church should be carried out as soon as possible and the cost advanced by Allied Military Governments for eventual recovery from the Italian Government. The case merits special consideration on the following grounds. The Church has a unique character as being possibly the most important public institution in the ownership of allied nationals in the parts of Italy now under Allied control, while the fact that it has for many years provided for the spiritual needs of British and United States nationals, and the likelihood that it is at the present time rendering services to members of the Allied Forces appear to give it a strong claim on the good offices of the Allied Military Government. The quality of the building as a monument of artistic value is indicated by Avv. Santoro's report, and it has an historic interest in that it stands on ground which was presented to the British community by Garibaldi.

COPY

No. K.S. 1. 11.

FOREIGN OFFICE
S.W.1.

26th October, 1943.

IMMEDIATE

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Winston Churchill to transmit to the Secretary of State for War a copy of a note from the Federal Political Department of the Swiss Government to His Majesty's Legation at Bern dated 8th June last, with its enclosure, relative to the question of repairing air raid damage to the Anglican Church (Christ Church) at Naples.

2. This Church which is owned by the British Community of Naples is a building of considerable architectural and historic interest, standing on ground which was presented to the Community by Garibaldi. Its affairs were managed by a committee of British residents of which His Majesty's Consul General was ex-officio chairman. The income of the Church was derived (apart from offertories etc.) from interest on Italian securities, as detailed in the enclosed note, and from sterling securities of the approximate value of £2,500 held by the National Bank of Scotland, 37 Nicholas Lane, E.C.4.

3. The Federal Political Department suggest using the Italian funds of the Church to meet the cost of necessary repairs. Apart from the doubt whether the use of these funds for the purpose mentioned could be authorised without the permission of the committee, whose members are scattered, Mr. Churchill does not consider that the cost of putting the Church in an adequate state of repair should be met by the use of the Church funds, the more so as he understands from the War Damage Commission that in the converse case of Italian owned property in the United Kingdom suffering air raid damage, such damage would be dealt with in the same way as any other property, without reference to the nationality of the owner.

The Under Secretary of State,
War Office,
(C.A.2)
Hotel Victoria.

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2214

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4. In these circumstances I am to request that such steps as are possible may be taken to secure the execution of the work at the expense of the Italian authorities with the minimum of delay and if possible under British supervision.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) ... Roberts.

2215

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017COPY **3**

B.24.CBr.(18)11-6 Christ Church di Napoli. JO/D4

Le Département Politique fédéral, Division des Intérêts étrangers, a l'honneur de faire tenir sous ce pli à la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique copie de la traduction d'un rapport effectué par le mandataire de la Légation de Suisse à Rome à Naples au sujet des dégâts causés par l'explosion d'une bombe à la "Christ Church" à Naples.

Ainsi que la Légation de Sa Majesté pourra le constater, les dégâts sont estimés à Lit. 13.553,48 auxquelles s'ajouterait une somme de Lit. 200.000.- qui servirait à effectuer les travaux de protection de l'église en question. A ce propos, le Département observe que la "Christ Church" possède les papiers-valeur suivants déposés à titre de fonds bloqués auprès de la Banque de Naples:

Prestito Redimibile 3 1/2 %	Lire 58.500.--
Prestito Nazionale 5 %	" 700.--
Prestito Esterno della Germania 7 %	" 8.500.--

Si la Légation de Sa Majesté jugeait opportun de faire procéder aux travaux de réfection nécessaires, la Légation de Suisse à Rome entreprendrait des démarches auprès du Gouvernement italien afin d'obtenir l'autorisation d'utiliser les fonds déposés en Italie au nom de la "Christ Church".

Le Département saurait gré à la Légation de Sa Majesté de vouloir bien lui faire savoir quelles sont les instructions qu'il devra donner à la Légation de Suisse à Rome en cette affaire.

Berne, le 6 juin 1943.

Annexe: 1 traduction de rapport.

A la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique

B e r n e

TRANSLATION

COPY

Avv. Rosalbino Santoro,
Via Caracciolo 17,
Napoli.

Napoli 16 maggio, 1945.

To the Swiss Legation in Italy,
Via Montebello 121,
Rome.

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of the 3rd April, assisted by experts I have conducted an investigation with a view of ascertaining the extent of the damage caused by the recent explosion to the Christ Church at Naples.

The premises proper were not damaged.

The church is lighted by two rows of biforate windows, twelve of which open at a height of about two metres from the ground, and ten at about 10 metres from the ground, as well as by a large window, consisting of five sections, which forms the background of the central nave.

Of the twelve lower biforate windows, ten consist of double stained glass windows, ornamented with images of saints of exquisite craftsmanship and considerable artistic value: these are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

The ten upper biforate windows are formed by small rhomboids of light stained glass, joined by lead mullions and are protected on the outside by ordinary glass panes.

The large glass windows of the central nave consists of five separate glass elements, topped by rose windows, artistically ornamented and of considerable value. They are protected on the outside by plain glass panes and metallic grates.

As a result of the concussion, caused by the explosion, the following observations are made:

- a) the large stained glass windows were not broken, but nearly all the lead mullions were distorted and bent outwards;
- b) various of the biforate upper windows and the two lower windows with plain glass panes, were broken; as well as a few panes of the sacristy.
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/In the

2218