

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

ACC

10000/109/1645
(VOL. II)

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

10000/109/1645
(VOL. II)

MONUMENTS & FINE ARTS
JUNE-SEPT. 1944

0173

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

150

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.G. AND M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 340/150/CA

28 September 1944

SUBJECT: Re-draft of order on "Preservation of Property of
Historical or Educational Importance in Italy".

TO : Admin. Section for M.F.A. & A. Sub-Commission.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter dated 26 September 1944,
reference G-5: 619.3 from A.P.H.Q. ¹⁴⁹

2. Might the re-drafting of M. A.A.L. (AMM SECTION) of
30 March 1944 which the M.F.A. & A. Sub-Commission may consider
necessary be drawn up and sent to R.G. and M.G. Section for
transmission to G-5, A.P.H.Q. ³¹

Wm. A. S. BOLLARD, Major.

W.D.
JOHN E. PIERCE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive Commissioner.

*7 Oct 44
covering letter, enclosed
and a draft directive (prepared
by MFAA) sent to G-5, for
signature of V.P. C.A.S.
W.D.
Incl: 1.*

*5530
50d*

0174

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

THJ/as

G-5: 619.3

26 September 1944
28 SEP Recd

SUBJECT: Preservation of Property of Historical or Educational Importance in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to HQ AAI (Adm Echelon) Adm Instruction Number 10 of 30 March.

2. Now that the areas behind the operational zone have been placed directly under AFHQ it is necessary to examine the various Administrative Instructions issued in the past by AAI and to prepare new draft instructions where necessary.

3. In the case of the AAI Instruction referred to in paragraph 1 above, the emphasis, when it was drafted, was on the period of operation and the period immediately following. In present circumstances in territory behind the operational zone, the emphasis would seem to have shifted. It seems desirable therefore that a fresh order should be issued from this HQ for the use and information of troops within the non operational zone.

4. It is requested that you will consider urgently and submit to this HQ a draft of an order which you consider would be suitable in the altered circumstances. It is suggested that this draft should contain particulars of the booklets you can place at the disposal of troops.

5. Please let this Section have the draft as soon as possible.

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


T. B. JACKMAN 554
Lt. Colonel

ACC DIST
M+FA
CADY

see 150

10 1 7 5

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340 *

CAB-148

ACC



4768
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

AFHQ SIGNED SAGMED
F93617

29/08

NONE
NONE

9 SEP Recd

SEP 081157B

CITE FHGEG

REUR 2160 23 AUGUST.

INTEREST EXPRESSED BY LONDON AND WASHINGTON AS TO WHAT TRUTH
FOUND IN REPORT AS TO IMPORTANT ART DEPOSIT STATED BY GERMANS TO BE
AT CAJANO. REQUEST REPORT.

DIST

ACTION - MEFA SC (2)
INFO - A/CC
ADMIN SEC
CA BR
FILE (2)
FLOAT

W.D.

553

SEP 081345

10178

3407
147
WD

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 594
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

20003/3/AFAA

5 September 1944
8 SEP Rec.

Subject: War Damage to Monuments, PISA, URBINO.

To : G-5 Section, AFHQ.

1. From information received from AMB, 5 and 8 Armies, the following war-damage to monuments is notified:-

PISA.

- 2. a. Leaning Tower. A few shrapnel pock-marks.
- b. Cathedral. No significant damage.
- c. Baptistery. Slight superficial damage.
- d. Campo Santo. Completely unroofed; of major frescoes one group seriously damaged. Temporary covering already under way.
- e. Churches. Large proportion of churches entered in AOC List of Protected Monuments, seriously damaged. No details yet received.
- f. Palazzo Reale. Direct hit.
- g. Archives and University Library. In good order.

URBINO.

3. City unchanged. Monuments inspected and in good order, except 200 yards of the city wall. Italian Superintendent at post.

ART MONUMENTS, MARCHE.

- 4. a. CARPIGNA. Material completely evacuated to Vaticano 52
- b. SASSOVANO. Half of the material evacuated to Vaticano.

Encl. Army Chief Commission
226

following war-damage to monuments is notified:-

PISA.

2. a. Leaning Tower. A few sharpnel pock-marks.
- b. Cathedral. No significant damage.
- c. Baptistry. Slight superficial damage.
- d. Campo Santo. Completely unroofed; of major frescoes one group seriously damaged. Temporary covering already under way.
- e. Churches. Large proportion of churches entered in AOC List of Protected Monuments, seriously damaged. No details yet received.
- f. Palazzo Reale. Direct hit.
- g. Archives and University Library. In good order.

VERNO.

3. City undamaged. Monuments inspected and in good order, except 200 yards of the city wall. Italian Superintendent at post.

ANT DEPOSITS. MARCHE.

4. a. CAMPANIA. Material completely evacuated to Vatican 52
- b. SASSUCCOWANO. Half of the material evacuated to Vatican.

En Army Chief Camisani

R. R. G. G.

G. A. UNIFORM
Brigadier
V.P., Adm. Sec.

Copies to:

R.C. & M.G. Section

File 20084

File 20051

0178

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340
CONFIDENTIAL

146

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489084, ext. 442 & 664; 473480)

20900/MFAA

5 September 1944

5 SEP Recd

Subject: Attached Document.

To : R.C. & M.C. Section (with copy 27 of enclosure)
Archives, ACC, attn. Capt. Collins (with copy 28 of enclosure).

1. Passed for information and retention are numbered copies (as above) of letter AFHQ, AG 000.1/031 -O, subject: Protection of Historical Monuments and Works of Artistic Importance, dated 21 Aug 44.

2. Of five copies (Nos. 24-28) received by this HQ. and passed to MFAA the remaining three have been distributed as follows:

No. 24 - File 20900/MFAA

No. 25 } - Passed to Adm. Sec.; subsequently forwarded
No. 26 } to AG, 5 and 8 Armies.

Ernest T. DeWald
ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

W.D.

550
1/A

CONFIDENTIAL

10 1 7 9

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

RIF/rh
AP 343

145

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Chief of Staff

12 000.1/031 -0

21 August 1944

SUBJECT: Protection of Historical Monuments and Works of Artistic Importance.

TO : Commander-in-Chief, Allied Armies in Italy, Main.

1. Favorable results have been obtained through the issuance of instructions by Allied Armies in Italy and the Fifth Army relative to the importance of protecting historic places and artistic works in Italy. Reference is made to the "Instructions for the Occupation of Rome", issued by Headquarters 15 Army Group, 66/a (OPS) of 13 December 1943, and to the letter "Conduct of Fifth Army Troops in Rome", issued to Corps, Division and Separate Organization Commanders by Headquarters Fifth Army on 6 June 1944.

2. As the Allied Armies in Italy advance other historic places and works of artistic importance will come within their responsibility and protection. It is desired that instructions be issued drawing the attention of the forces to the significance of the historical monuments, works of art and other collections of cultural value in Italy, and enjoining the most exemplary conduct in that regard. Appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that such places and things are adequately safeguarded. It is also desired that in allocating accommodations to the forces care be taken not to imperil such monuments, works and collections.

By command of General WILSON:

DISTRIBUTION

- 5 - Commander-in-Chief, AAI
- 5 - Civil Affairs Division, Washington, D.C.
(Major General, J. H. Hilldring)
- 5 - Director Civil Affairs, London, SHI
(Major General, C. W. Kirk)
- 5 - Supreme Hqs, Allied Expeditionary Forces
- 5 - Hqs. Allied Control Commission
- 2 - GOC
- 2 - GAC
- 1 - G-1
- 1 - G-1 (7)
- 1 - G-2
- 1 - G-3
- 3 - G-5
- 2 - Mr. Murphy, U.S. Political Advisor
- 2 - Mr. MacMillan, British Resident Minister
- 1 - CWO, Mediterranean
- 1 - COMNAVFOR
- 2 - HARP
- 5 - P/B
- 2 - CG, Seventh Army
- 2 - AG Records
- 1 - AG H & D
- 5 - PRO

J. A. H. GARRELL,
Lieutenant General,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS 549
21 AUG 1944
A. C. C.

CONFIDENTIAL
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

SECRET

HQ ACC FOR MFAA SUB COMMISSION

MAIN AIG U ARMY

393

SEPT 2/IFT



SECRET

ROUTINE

CITE: M 509

28/03

MONUMENTS UPTIME INTACT EXCEPT TWO HUNDRED YARDS CITY WALL. SUPERINTENDENT
ROTONDI ON JOB. ALL MATERIAL FROM CARPEGNA AND HALF FROM BASSOCCHIVARO AT
VATICAN

ACC DIST

ACTION : MON & FIN ARTS (2)

INFO : A/CC
CA ER
FILE (2)
FLOAT

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Capt. Macgregor.

PA check on names
and if in v. H. A. are not
letting 95 - we must

do so

ll 4/9

SECRET

SEPTEMBER 3/1955

0181

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

RESTRICTED

File 143
2347

URGENT VIII AND DEPT-STATE-SECRET

NY AGO

2347

2

RESTRICTED
SECURITY
CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH

SWISS REPRESENTATIVE ADVISORY BOARD BY GERMAN LEGATION AT BERN THAT
GERMAN AUTHORITIES HAVE ENTERED IN VILLA REALE DOGGI CALLED FIVE IN
MUCH MORE OF HIGH VALUABLE ARTISTIC COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES CONCERNING
TUSCAN RENAISSANCE PERIOD ED PARTIAL TO REVEAL VILL AGO REVEAL PARTIAL
AND FROM NY AGO TO PARTIAL STATED BY GERMAN GOVERNMENT THAT THERE ARE IN
NEIGHBOURHOOD VILLA REALE NO RPT NO GERMAN TROOPS AND VILLA REALE ITSELF
NOT USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES TO GERMAN GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO EXPRESS
BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS OF ITS DESIRE TO AVOID DISMANTLING OR
DESTRUCTION VILLA REALE IS GRATEFUL FOR INFO AND ASSESS OF CONTENTS OF
THIS MESSAGE

W.D.

547

SCULPTURE & FINE ARTS SECTION

L.T. MONTAGNI JR
1st Lt, and
ADJUTANT

7/11

0182

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142

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. AND M.C. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/309/105/CA

21 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Authorization for Mr. Arthur Greenleigh to visit Leghorn,
Ancona and Florence.

TO : Sir Clifford Heathcote-Smith, R.R. I.C.C.R. A.C.C.

309/152

1. As we informed you in our letter of 4 August 1944, Ref/309/152/CA, we forwarded your request for Mr. Greenleigh to the S.C.A.C.'s 5th and 8th Armies.
2. Although we have not received a written answer from the S.C.A.C. 8th Army we have been informed verbally that no permits for Ancona or Florence are now being issued. It is suggested that you might renew the request for these two cities in ten days time.
3. We attach a copy of a letter dated 17 August 1944, Ref/205/6 from A.M.C. 5th Army to this Section.
4. As you will see a permission may be secured for Ancona but not for Leghorn.
5. It is suggested that the best way to handle this problem would be for you to apply to the Adjutant General A.C.C. for travel orders for Mr. Greenleigh to go to Ancona.

309/180

W.A.S. DOLLARD
546

for HORTON E. FISKE,
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner.

11/A
Ref 140
6/12 20/8
E

10183

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

STDW/mb

20 AUG Recd

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 564; 478480)

20903/MPAA

19 August 1944

Subject: Addition to Lists of Protected Monuments - Italy,
Section 7.

To : SCAO, AMG, 5 Army)
SCAO, AMG, 8 Army) attn. MPAA Officers
RC, AMG, Region X)

1. The following addition should be made to Lists of Protected Monuments - Italy, Section 7, p. 68, under ROMENO, after "Parish Church":

Villa "La Quieta" (Vatican Property).

2. It is further notified that the present occupant and custodian of the villa is Professor Virginio Campana, friend of the Dominicans to whom the villa appears to belong.

ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

Copy to:

RCMG Section (ref. 340/139/CA
of 18 Aug 44)

545

0184

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340.

140

HEADQUARTERS
AMC FIFTH ARMY
APO 164 U.S. ARMY

19 AUG Recd
17 August 1944.
293/8

W-D

SUBJECT : Civilian Travel.

TO : H.Q. A.C.C., R.C. & M.G. Section.

1. Reference your 309/157/CA, dated 14th August 1944.
2. All passes into Livorno town are issued by G-4., Fifth Army. The town is still evacuated and closed to civilians, due to the existence of mines and booby traps. Consequently, it would be purposeless to visit Livorno, since there is no Jewish community.
3. The population of Livorno is largely scattered in the surrounding fractions and communes. Approval is therefore given for you to issue a pass to Ardenza, the fraction immediately to the South of Livorno, where the communal government is located.
4. As a matter of interest, it has been ascertained from the Monuments and Fine Arts Section that the famous synagogue has been bombed. A visit by a responsible person to inspect the building would be welcomed, when clearance is given.

For the Commanding General.

E.B. MAYNE,
Colonel, U.D.F.
Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

544

*Act. Coggan Passes & Permits file - Ref 309/180/CA
19/8/44 Above being held until answer from Army
& clearance has been received from AMC Fifth Army
W.D.*

0185

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. AND M.C. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/340/139/CA

18 August 1944

SUBJECT: Monuments and Pine Arts.

TO : Administrative Section
(for Pine Arts Sub-Commission.)

138

1. Attached is a copy of a letter dated 4 August 1944 Ref/340-4 from C - 5 AFM addressed to R.C. and M.C. Section.
2. This is forwarded to you for your information and for that of the Pine Arts Sub-Commission.

W.G.S. Doherty
Major
for NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive Commissioner.

see also 63 (Vol I) 543

REF: letter 340-4 from C - 5.

8/17

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3402
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS 384-4
G-5 Section
APO 512 BMR/lasc

G-5: 384-4

14 August 1944
17 AUG Recd

SUBJECT: Monuments & Fine Arts.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control
Commission, A.P.O. 394.
(Attn: R.C. & M.G. Section)

1. Reference your 340/63/CA
dated 11 May. The following further
particulars have been obtained re-
garding the Dominican Villa at Romeno.

2. The full address is "La
Quieta", Romeno, Trentino; and Romeno
is near Bolzano. The villa is at
present occupied by Professor Virginio
Campana, a friend of the Dominicans,
who acts as caretaker.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

B. Repton

B.M. REPTON,
Jnr. Cmdr.



all 137

10 1 8 7

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SECRET

340
ABR

2947

137

ROME AREA COMD FOR ACC ROME FOR MFAA

AND MAIN HIGHWAY FOR MFAA OFFICERS
W/45A

AUG 12/1939

HEADQUARTERS
17 AUG 1944
A. C. C.

SECRET
IMPORTANT
SITE: W/45A

11/13

13 AUG Recd

SUBCOMMISSION, CARMINE CHURCH ALMOST UNHURT SACRISTY SAFE BRANCACCI CHAPEL
BRICKED UP SANDBAGGED AND FRESCOES SAFE. S SPIRITO CHURCH AND SACRISTY UNHURT
BEST PICTURES REMAIN AND ARE SAFE SANSOVINO ALTAR SANDBAGGED AND SAFE. PALAZZI
PITTI VECCHIO GUARDONI SAFE CORBINI AND SPINI APPEAR SO. PALAZZO PARTE QUELPA
REPORTED DAMAGED BY GERMAN MINES. HOUSES ON PONTE VECCHIO BLOWN AT ENDS OTHERS
BLASTED. DAMAGED REPORTED FOR 300 YARDS NORTH OF PONTE VECCHIO. POGGI AND VINE
CONTACTED

ACC DIST

Act - MONY FINE ARTS (2)
Inf - A/ee
CAIR
ADM SEC
INFO DIV
FILE (2)
FLAT

10/18

14/8

542

SECRET

AUGUST 130809

10188

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

Col. Shipp.

Monuments & Fine Arts

Folios 130, 131, & 132.

For information. The
Executive Commission
might like to see the
130 newspaper write up
of the works saved.
at Montespertoli.

7/8. J. K. May

EC.

For info

EC
has seen

pa 8/8

8/8

10187

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

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED ARTISTS COMMISSION
NO 394

JBRP/ps

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 664; 478480)

20906/1/MPAA

7 August 1944

8 AUG Recd

Subject: Deposits of Works of Art in the FLORENCE area.

To : G-5, AFM.

1. The Policy of the Italian Fine Arts authorities in the early stages of the war was to disperse movable works of arts from cities to avoid risk of bomb-damage. Later, as the result of the Allied invasion and particularly after the threat to one such deposit at Cassino, the policy was reversed and at Rome and it is believed also at Venice, and perhaps elsewhere in N. Italy, these deposits were withdrawn to central deposits in the cities themselves. Unfortunately, by a regrettable error of judgement, this latter policy was not followed in the case of FLORENCE until too late, and as a result there exist some 26 deposits of works of art scattered in the environs of FLORENCE and containing, in sum, an irreplaceable treasury of the world masterpieces of painting, sculpture, and the other arts.

2. These deposits are divided into four main groups within a range of 5 miles of the city - around MONTESPERTOLI (Q 6455), around INCISA (Q 9456), around FORTI (R 2062), and to the north in the MUGELLO VALLEY (district of BORGIO S. ROMEO Q 9089). Reports from recent Florentine sources show that only a limited evacuation of these deposits has proved possible, although an attempt has been made in the case of those in the MUGELLO, which are clearly in the most vulnerable position.

3. On 4 Aug 44, the Director and Deputy Director of the MPAA Subcommission visited the MONTESPERTOLI group, at the time the only group in Allied hands. In the main deposit, in the country-house of Sir Osbert Sitwell at MONTESPERTOLI, were stored pictures mainly from the Uffizi Gallery, including such world famous masterpieces as the Botticelli Primavera, the Madonna of Giotto and Cimabue, and the Rucellai Madonna. The value of this deposit may be estimated at not less than 15 million pounds sterling. The pictures were not crated and the building had been occupied by German troops, who may have removed some of the smaller works. From the neighbouring deposit of MONTACCIANO an unspecified quantity of crates of books and MSS. were removed previous to the Allied occupation under circumstances which are not yet definitely known. The only war-damage in this group of deposits was a single picture as the result of a shell-hit at UFFIZI.

4. A report just received indicates that at INCISA the Medici Chapel Sculptures (by Michelangelo) were in fact returned to FLORENCE

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CITY. Other material was pulled up locally and appears to be intact.

5. The whereabouts of these deposits was already known to the AFSA Subcommission, who had circulated the information through the AFSA Officers with AMG 8 Army. Orders have been issued by 8 Army as to their safe-custody and guards posted on all deposits so far occupied. The Commander in Chief personally visited BOSTON and gave great practical assistance in its safeguarding, and in general the military Authorities have been extremely cooperative.

6. The immediate problems occasioned by these deposits have been met to the limits of the military situation by the measures adopted by the Army and by the generous allocation of AFSA personnel. The long-term problems can only be settled when the facts about the remaining groups are fully known. It may prove possible to amalgamate some of the smaller deposits into the larger to reduce the number to be guarded. There can however be no question of transporting under present conditions quantities of very large, uncrated pictures as at BOSTON. The checking of each deposit against the inventories which exist is being begun at once by personnel of the Italian Fine Arts Staff under AFSA direction, but will take a considerable time.

7. The initial deposit has received considerable press-publicity, but it has been thought advisable to issue no further statement, at any rate for the present, in order not to complicate a difficult situation by attracting a host of curious sight-seers.

Robert T. De Wald
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

about a duke

Copy to R.C. & G. Sec.

540

CONFIDENTIAL

10191

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 664; 478480)

20081/MFAA
5 Aug 44

Memo to A/Head, Adm Sec

Subject: Art Deposits, Tuscany.

1. The signal of which a copy is attached was received this office at 1030 hrs today.
2. The UNITED NATIONS NEWS release, No. 94, was also received today, from Information Division.
3. The UNION JACK story, 5 Aug 44, will no doubt have reached you already.
4. It appears that the repository chiefly in question is in the Castello di Montegufoni near MONTESPERTOLI (prov. Firenze), Q 2455, one of the official depositi whose location was notified to AMG, 8 Army and Region 8 on, 17 June 44 by this office.

For the Director:

C. R. Pinsent

C.R. PINSENT

Captain

HQ. Staff, MFAA 539 ACC.

RR-7/8

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222 Y

131

RESTRICTED

ROME AREA COMMAND FOR ACC FOR MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS SUB COMM

20/05

MAIN AMG EIGHTH ARMY

M 427

RESTRICTED

NONE

AUG 4/1220

CITE: NONE

IMPORTANT DEPOSIT OF PICTURES FROM UFFIZI PITTI AND ACCADEMIA
FOUND IN GOOD CONDITION EXCEPT FOR VERY MINOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY
TRANSPORTING AND BY GERMANS. INCLUDED ARE BOTTICELLI PRIMAVERA
GIOTTO AND CIMABUE MADONNAS FROM UFFIZI RUCELLAI MADONNA OF
DUCCIO. ONLY FEW PICTURE WERE PACKED IN CASES. THIS AND THREE
OTHER NEARBY DEPOSITS BEING CHECKED BY HARTT FULL TIME. ALL ARE
UNDER MILITARY GUARD OF EIGHTH ARMY. MAJOR DE WALD EXPECTED TODAY
WITH ITALIAN EXPERT AUTHORITIES FROM ROME TO TAKE CHARGE.

ACC DIST

ACTION MON & FINE ARTS

INFO A/CC
FILE (2)
FLOAT

538

RESTRICTED

AUG 5/0930

10 13 3

Memorandum for the
5/16/88
INFORMATION DIVISION
ACC

UNN 94

MORE ART TREASURES IN ITALY SAVED FROM THE NAZIS

WITH THE 8TH ARMY, ITALY, August 4 - (UNN) - Irreplaceable masterpieces of art have been saved from the Germans, a correspondent of the United Nations News Service reported today, after seeing how works of art had been carefully hidden to keep them away from the Nazis' clutches.

Some of the works saved included "The Madonna" by Giotto, 14th century; the "Madonna" by Cimabue, 13th century; "The Battle Scene" by Paolo Uccello, 14th Century; Botticelli's "Primavera" and his "Adorazione Dei Magi"; "Santa Anna" by Masaccio; two paintings by the Lippis, father and son - the "Coronation of the Virgin" by Filippo Lippi, the father, and the "Descent from the Cross" by Filippino Lippi, the son; "Portrait of a Knight" by Rubens; "The Madonna" by Andrea Del Sarto; and "The Madonna with a Group of Saints" by Fra Bartolomeo.

The list of rescued art pieces was confirmed by Professor Cesare Fasole, curator of the Library of Fine Arts in Florence, who said that most of the pieces came from the Uffizi Gallery and the Accademia Gallery.

However, not all of the paintings came through unscathed and some of them were stolen by the Nazis. One of the places where the paintings were hidden was in charge of a priest who was forced to flee when the Germans suspected him of having sympathized with the Italian Partisans.

Professor Fasole said: "Luckily the paintings left there were not the most important. When I arrived, there was nobody in the pla-

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century; the "Madonna" by Cimabue, 13th century; "The Battle Scene" by Paolo Uccello, 14th Century; Botticelli's "Primavera" and his "Adorazione Dei Magi"; "Santa Anna" by Masaccio; two paintings by the Lippis, father and son - the "Coronation of the Virgin" by Filippo Lippi, the father, and the "Descent from the Cross" by Filippino Lippi, the son; "Portrait of a Knight" by Reubens; "The Madonna" by Andrea Del Sarto; and "The Madonna with a Group of Saints" by Fra Bartolomeo.

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However, not all of the paintings came through unscathed and some of them were stolen by the Nazis. One of the places where the paintings were hidden was in charge of a priest who was forced to flee when the Germans suspected him of having sympathized with the Italian Partisans.

Professor Pasole said: "Luckily the paintings left there were not the most important. When I arrived, there was nobody in the place and the Germans were wandering about at will among the collection. The most precious pictures there were "The Crucifixion" by Perugino, 14th century, and "The Master" by Raphael. These are safe and undamaged. However, it is certain that some of the paintings have been stolen or damaged, but as far as I can tell, only the smaller pictures suffered."

Professor Pasole praised Allied officials for the care and solicitude they have shown for the works of art. At present the master-pieces which escaped the Nazis' hands are under the guard of Allied soldiers.

(more)

10 1 9 5

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

JUN 94 PAGE TWO

Prince Andrea Corsini, whose family possesses a fine collection of china, tapestries, furniture and paintings, showed where the Germans had damaged six paintings leaning against a wall by plunging a bayonet through them. Old prints in his villa were ruined by bayonet holes. The Germans also broke all of the mirrors in the Prince's villa.

129

336

128
UNION JACK - 5 AUG - 1944

"PRIMAVERA," HE CRIED
from Bill Taylor

The fantastic story of how some of the art treasures of Florence were found lying in the middle of a room surrounded by all the flotsam of war was told me by Captain Mayar, the observer officer with an Indian Division of Eighth Army.

He had gone forward on the plain in front of Florence and was accompanied by Major Eric Linklater, who is writing a history of the Eighth Army in Italy, and Vaughan Thomas of the BBC. They entered an imposing looking castle on a hillside and Linklater and Thomas started rummaging among some canvases lying in the hall. They took one painting out and said that it was a Giotto. Mayar said that it was a copy, and they passed into another room still arguing.

Papers and broken glass were lying on the floor, and in the middle of the mess were some mattresses where refugees had been sleeping. Large canvases were leaning against the wall and the Italians crowded round as the little party started to inspect them.

"Heavens," said Linklater, "this one is a Giotto." Mader turned another large canvas round, and got another surprise. "Botticelli," he cried. "Primavera," shouted Linklater, and thus they casually discovered some of the world's greatest art treasures.

Suddenly an Italian joined them. He was a professor from one of the Florence art galleries whence the paintings had been brought for safe keeping. The Germans had been in the castle but he had vigorously waved his authority at them and they contented themselves with taking only souvenirs.

The castle, which belongs to Sir George Sitwell, father of Edith, Osbert and Sacheverell, was packed with interesting things. When the discovery was made the front line was only 2,500 yards distant and four figures loomed largely in the near distance.

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

21st July 1944

207/4/MFAA

3 AUG Recd

SUBJECT : Concern among Italians that Allies
will take home their Art Treasures at the
Peace Table.

TO : Chief of Staff, A.M.G. Fifth Army.

1. Several Italians of standing, and seemingly intelligent ones, among them Superintendent of Monuments for the Province of Siena, Signor Niccoli, and Signor Borgna, Vice Sindaco of Volterra, have asked MFAA Officer whether it was true that, around the Peace Table representatives of the Allies will take the finest treasures of Italy home with them as war prizes. There is a lurking suspicion among them that MFAA Officers are really listing the biggest prizes for this purpose. The Germans and Fascist Republicans have told them so in newspapers and on the radio.
2. MFAA Officer has already made reference to this notion in reports. Would it not be desirable to make a blanket denial of any such intent and on our part in the Italian newspapers and over the radio, with the widest possible diffusion thereof.
3. Listed pictures in deposits are not being found in some cases; in others the MFAA Officers have been informed of German appropriation of objects of art. False accusations of appropriation on the part of the Allies is possible.
4. It seems advisable to undersigned that all this nonsense be settled once and for all by an authoritative statement from the highest level.

DEANE KELLER,
Captain, A.U.S.,
MFAA Officer,
A.M.G. 5th Army.

Copy to;
Director Sub-Commission,
Adv. HQ ACC.

/ndp

10198

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

340
/

176

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 334
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489084, ext. 442 & 664; 473480)

20960/3/IV/AFAC

31 July 1944
1 AUG Recd

Subject: List of Protected Monuments.

To : AMG Rear 8 Army, attn. Lt. Col. Edwin J. Mercer.
125

1. Ref. your OA/132 of 27 July 44, subject as above.
2. The shipment of 400 additional copies of Section 4 was made in the belief that operational demands might soon exhaust the 600 copies sent you on 3 and 27 June. Such a shortage had already occurred with 3 Army.
3. Subsequent to our recent shipment Major Newton (OA/132, 24 July 44) recorded a request for your Hq. of 750 of each Section of the Lists. On this reckoning you would be 250 in excess of your requirements. If these are not wanted, they may be returned to this Subcommission.

ERNEST T. DE WARD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

Copies to:
Exec Comm.
Adm Sec.

10198

1/1A 533

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

SUBJECT :- Lists of Protected
Monuments

AG Rear Eighth Army

OA/132

27 Jul 44

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S BRANCH,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Copy to : ADM SECTION, ACC

1. Ref your 20900/3/AFMA of 23 Jul 44, receipt is acknowledged of 400 copies of Section 4.

2. It would be appreciated if this HQ could be informed the reason for sending these additional booklets.

Edwin J. Mercer

EDWIN J. MERCER, Lt.-Col., Ord,
For Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AG EIGHTH ARMY



(24) /
15

10200

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

340 L

Civil Affairs 7178
124

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 484 U.S. ARMY

29 III Recd

22 July 1944

207/1

SUBJECT: Italian Artistic Treasures.

TO : HQ ACC, Political Section.

The attached memorandum from MPAA officer attached to this Headquarters is forwarded for your consideration. The opinions expressed therein have the official agreement and support of this Headquarters.

For the Commanding General:

E B u

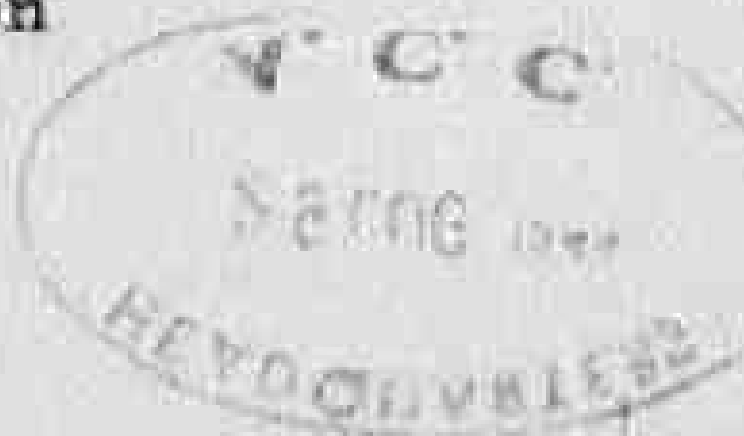
E.B. MAYNE,
Colonel, UDF,
Chief of Staff,
AMG 5th Army.

Copy to: RC & MGS
MPAA Sub-Commission
FWB, ACC
Public Relations Section
AMG 8th Army

/mfa

Major Reacher

Col Fike is taking up on his visit to 5 Army. Pl see Pl. See and suggest nothing is done till his return



File 29/7

Bu. 4/8

Isolate Pl. See they will do nothing until his return from Col Fike

Pl 347 will be discussed at meeting with AM. 6/18.

10 2 0 1

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

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 164 U.S. ARMY

21st July 1944

207/1/MFAA

SUBJECT: Concern among Italians that Allies will take home
their Art Treasures at the Peace Table.

TO : Chief of Staff, A.M.G. Fifth Army.

1. Several Italians of standing, and seemingly intelligent ones, among them Superintendent of Monuments for the Province of Siena, Signor Niccoli, and Signor Borgna, Vice-Sindaco of Volterra, have asked MFAA Officer whether it was true that, around the Peace Table representatives of the Allies will take the finest treasures of Italy home with them as war prizes. There is a lurking suspicion among them that MFAA Officers are really listing the biggest prizes for this purpose. The Germans and Fascist Republicans have told them so in newspapers and on the radio.
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3. Listed pictures in deposits are not being found in some cases; in others the MFAA Officers have been informed of German appropriation of objects of art. False accusations of appropriation on the part of the Allies is possible.
4. It seems advisable to undersigned that all this nonsense be settled once and for all by an authoritative statement from the highest level.

DEANE KELLER,
Captain, A.U.S.,
MFAA Officer,
A.M.G. 5th Army.

Copy to:

Director MFAA Sub-Commission,
Adv. HQ ACU

/ndp

532

10202

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

D EC

Ref 121

122

Monte Cassin Abbey

Brig Dunlop has written saying that the situation at CASSINO is now satisfactory, guards are posted (Italians) notice boards are in position and no further incidents are occurring.

2. MFA are satisfied that the situation is now under control.

3. Ex Comm will perhaps wish to see.

26/7 - 6000 - 2

U 26/7

1/1

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

2 JUL Re

JMD/is

22 July 1944

TO : HQ ACC, Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts
and Archives

SUBJECT : Montecassino.

FILE No.: R4/091.4 (I)

1. With reference to your 20044/I/MFAA of the 13th of July, Regional Commissioner, Region IV, and other officers, in company with the Prefect and other officials of Frosinone Province, visited the Abbey of Montecassino, on Tuesday July 18. At the Abbey we also met by chance Lt. Col. Lawson of the HQ Graves Registration Committee at Naples, and his local representative, Capt. Foster, who has an office at Venebro. At the Abbey we were again fortunate enough to meet the Abbot Bishop of Calva. He had been paying a short visit to the Abbey, and he with Don Agostino, the senior resident monk, showed the party over the Abbey.

2. The question of protection for the Abbey had been discussed earlier in the morning with Brigadier Moseley, commanding 55 Area. Brigadier Moseley explained that a guard of 24 Italian Infantry had been placed at the Abbey. In fact, in the course of our visit, we found that the Guard was alert, and in complete command of the approach. We were also assured by the Abbot Bishop that there had been no recent cases of souvenir hunting or irreverent behaviour. In fact, the entire surrounding countryside is at present bare of troops. It therefore appeared to us that the existing notices were adequate, and we did not proceed with the proposal for additional large notices.

Regional Commissioner

1. With reference to your 20044/I/MFAA of the 13th of July, Regional Commissioner, Region IV, and other officers, in company with the Prefect and other officials of Frosinone Province, visited the Abbey of Montecassino, on Tuesday July 13. At the Abbey we also met by chance Lt. Col. Lawson of the HQ Graves Registration Committee at Naples, and his local representative, Capt. Foster, who has an office at Venafrò. At the Abbey we were again fortunate enough to meet the Abbot Bishop of Calva. He had been paying a short visit to the Abbey, and he with Don Agostino, the senior resident monk, showed the party over the Abbey.

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[Signature]
Regional Commissioner

Copy to:-

✓ HQ AGO (RC & MG Section)
Rome Region
MFAA (Rev. 14)

23 JUL 1944
A. C. C.

[Handwritten notes:]
Yes - there are cataphors that all direct can be them is being down - Spoke. May be longer
A. C. C.

10205

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

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

120

Ref/20900/5.

20 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Monuments of RAVENNA.

TO : C-5, A.P.H.Q.

1. You have in the past given sympathetic attention to the difficult claims of the artistic and historical heritage of Italy. The general issue in relation to military needs has been clearly defined, but I would be glad of an opportunity to put before you one particular pressing problem.
2. The city of RAVENNA has a very special claim to consideration. During the dark ages which followed the fall of ancient Rome it was an island of Byzantine civilization in the west. The contemporary art of Constantinople itself and of the other great cities of the Byzantine world has largely perished. Nothing survives comparable to the assembled wealth of S. Apollinare Nuovo, S. Apollinare in Classe, S. Vitale, the Mausolea of Galla Placidia and of Theodoric, and of the Baptistries which severally and collectively rank among the finest monuments of antiquity. They are in a real sense, unique and irreplaceable.
3. Thanks however to accidents of taste and circumstances (and in particular to the artistic predilections of nineteenth-century travellers), RAVENNA is not a household word as a treasury of art that is, for example, ROME, FLORENCE, SIENA, or VENICE. The latter can legitimately be allowed to fend for themselves in the confidence that every responsible officer and man will be aware that they represent something of value to the world at large. RAVENNA, though equally important, is less familiar. Moreover at the moment it would appear to be in a position of great vulnerability and liable to be the subject of quick tactical decisions.
4. It is of course accepted that, if military necessity so dictates, the monuments of RAVENNA must suffer. I should however be glad if commanders in all three Services and at every level of command could be made aware of their character and value.

MS 522
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For Acting Chief
Commissioner.

1/17

0200

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

340A
10/11/44 Recd

119

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
ETDW/bmp

20900/3/MFAA

18 July 1944

Subject: Lists of Protected Monuments.

To : Major Reakes RC & MG Section

1. ~~In compliance with your request of~~ 18 July 1944
~~ref.~~ 18 July 1944 Forwarded herewith are 1 copies of
Lists of Protected Monuments, Italy: Section 6

2. The other lists of regional sections requested by
you are presently in the process of being printed and will
be forwarded upon completion, per your request.

Ernest T. De Wald
ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.
(F.B.F.)

ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

MSL/MB

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

Ref: 20900²/MFAA

14th July 1944

SUBJECT: Lists of Protected Monuments

TO : HQ. AAI.

1. The Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommittee of ACC are finding an increasing number of units who are ignorant of the existence of the Lists of Protected Monuments - Italy and of the terms of AAI Admin. Instr. No. 10 of 30 Mar 44 republished therein.

2. Would you please consider the republication of some form of reminder in Routine Orders.

W. J. P. D. G.
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.
For Chief Commissioner.

527

0208

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

ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

ETDW/rss 117

Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives.

20044/1/MFAA

13 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Montecassino.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Region 4.

1. On Wednesday, 5 July, Col. Newton of the War Department, who is visiting this theatre, inspected MONTECASSINO at my request in the company of the Bishop-Abbot of Cava and of his secretary, who is now resident at the Abbey. Col. Newton reports the following facts.
2. Soldiers, principally New Zealanders, were at that date still visiting the Abbey and carrying away minor souvenirs.
3. On 3 July, the marble statue of St. Peter from the tomb of Pietro de Medici by Sangallo was damaged by New Zealanders, who broke the head off. Finding however it was too heavy to remove they left it lying in the rubble.
4. Three other 18th century marble statues have had their faces chipped off in an effort to obtain souvenirs.
5. It will be seen that the action described in para. 3 took place on 3 July, a week after the issue of 55 Area Orders on the subject (see accompanying file).
6. I append draft for a suggested notice to be erected at the existing entrance to the ruins.

Copy to:

Hq. 55 Area
RC & MC Sect.

*See 102-103
107-108-109
but slip to see
all under 526*

Ernest T. De Wald
ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

526

*Col Fiske has been done all we
can in time matter. Let MP's
find the man asking. I will
speak if you wish. 14/7*

*Pa
15/7*

0209

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

340
7 JUL 1944

CAB *Ngbo*

116

HEADQUARTERS
(Adv.)
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

5 July 1944

Memo:

To : Regional Commissioner, Region IV, A.C.C.

I am enclosing a memorandum from Marchese Giorgio Guglielmi di Vuloi in which he asks that his collection of antique arms in his place at Castello di Montalto di Castro be permitted to remain. I should appreciate anything you are able to do in this matter.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Encl. 1

W.E. 7/7

11A 525

0210

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

C A BR
2826

240 CONFIDENTIAL

4 JUL 1944 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING MESS IE

TO: AFHQ ADV CP FOR AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL RPTD ACC MAIN
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: N99/3
FROM: AFHQ SGD SACMED CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
REFERENCE No: FX67748 PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUL031638 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/FHCAO FHGEG

SUBJECT IS YOUR BX13246 OF 2 JULY CONFIRMED BY ACC 7012 OF 2 JULY.

PARA 1. APPROVED. PARA 2 APPROVED. SUGGESTED ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH COASTAL AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS
-4 JUL 1944
A.C.C.

ACC MAIN DIST

Info - C A BR (2)
DECC
Monr Fine Arts
FILE
FOOT (2)

524

0211

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

REFERENCE NO: 100-100110 PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUL031638 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/FHCAO FHCEG

SUBJECT IS YOUR BX13246 OF 2 JULY CONFIRMED BY ACC 7012 OF 2 JULY.
PARA 1. APPROVED. PARA 2 APPROVED. SUGGESTED ARRANGEMENTS HAVE
BEEN MADE WITH COASTAL AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS
24 JUL 1944
A.C.C.

ACC MAIN DIST

Info - C A Br (2) -
Dep EC
Mon & Fine Arts
File
Float (2)

524

DATE and Time of RECEIPT JUL032349

Distribution:

CONFIDENTIAL

0212

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

AMHQ rptd AMHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL

114

7012

ACC MAIN

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

JULY021600

Civil Affairs Br.

106

REFERENCE YOUR MSG XRAY SIX SIX FIVE SEVEN FIVE OF THREE ZERO JUNE PD
PARENT TO AMHQ REPEATED AMHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL FROM ACC MAIN PARENT PD AMHQ
ACCOMMODATION CONTROL BAKER THAT ONE THREE TWO FOUR SIX OF TWO JULY IS JOINT
RECOMMENDATION OF ABLE CHARLIE CHARLIE AND AMHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL

pls 3/1

523

OK

Copy to. Mon & F.A. S/C.

Major Diffield Lute

113

Attached :—

① Copy of signal
despatched by AFHQ accommodation
Control

② ~~Copy~~ Draft for signal of
confirmation which they
request we dispatch

112

See

114

Could you please dispatch
with confirming copy to
MPAA

Edward L. Lute
MPAA

10 2 1 4

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

DEAF

112
7012
2 July 1944.

TO: AFHQ (Repeated AFHQ Accommodation Control)
FROM: ACC. Main

Reference your FX66575 of 30 June. AFHQ Accommodation Control's
EXL5246 of 2 July is joint recommendation of ACC and AFHQ Accommodation
Control.

522

SECRET

2 JUL 1944

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

2723

INCOMING MESSAGE

TO: FREEDOM INFO ACC

FROM: FAIRBANKS

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: N ONE

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

REFERENCE No: ~~XXXX~~ FX66575

PRECEDENCE:

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JULY 02/ OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

FROM AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL. REFERENCE FX 66575 DATED 30 JUNE 44.

1. BULK OF MATERIALS AND FURNITURE AT PRESENT STORED IN CASERTA PALACE CAN BE MOVED AND STORED IN STABLES AT SOUTHERN END OF ACCOMMODATION ALLOTTED TO CAMP COMMANDANT (BRITISH) WHO IS PREPARED TO GIVE UP THIS SPACE. THIS WILL AVOID LIKELIHOOD OF DAMAGE THROUGH LONG JOURNEY IN TRUCKS TO NAPLES. ACC AGREE PROVIDED ACCOMMODATION IS MADE SECURE AND WEATHERPROOF. ENGINEERS CAN CARRY OUT NECESSARY WORK FORTHWITH. REQUEST YOU EARLY APPROVAL.

2. PROBLEM OF FINDING STORAGE SPACE FOR LARGE NUMBER OF SMALL FRAGILE TERRACOTTA FIGURES REMAINS. ACC STATE, AND WE AGREE, THAT IF FIGURES ARE MOVED UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS GREAT DAMAGE WILL BE DONE. COASTAL AIR FORCE AT PRESENT UNWILLING TO PROVIDE SUCH SPACE. AS NO OTHER IMMEDIATE SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND REQUEST ORDERS BE ISSUED THAT COASTAL AIR FORCE PROVIDE 200 SQ FEET OF SPACE IN ONE OF THE ROOMS WHERE FURNITURE IS AT PRESENT STORED. THIS AREA WILL THEN BE BLOCKED OFF AND MADE SECURE.

3. THIS IS AGREED BY ACC AND IS OUR JOINT RECOMMENDATION.

F.E.B. GIRLING, COLONEL
CHAIRMAN AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL

HEADQUARTERS

-2 JUL 1944

10 2 1 8

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

FROM: FAIRBANKS
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
REFERENCE No: ~~XXXX~~ FX66575 PRECEDENCE:
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JULY 02/ OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

FROM AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL. REFERENCE FX 66575 DATED 30 JUNE 44.

1. BULK OF AMTERIALS AND FURNITURE AT PRESENT STORED IN CASERTA PALACE CAN BE MOVED AND STORED IN STABLES AT SOUTHERN END OF ACCOMODATION ALLOTTED TO CAMP COMMANDANT (BRITISH) WHO IS PREPARED TO GIVE UP THIS SPACE. THIS WILL AVOID LIKELIHOOD OF DAMAGE THROUGH LONG JOURNEY IN TRUCKS TO NAPLES. ACC AGREE PROVIDED ACCOMMODATION IS MADE SECURE AND WEATHERPROOF. ENGINEERS CAN CARRY OUT NECESSARY WORK FORTHWITH. REQUEST YOU EARLY APPROVAL.
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3. THIS IS AGREED BY ACC AND IS OUR JOINT RECOMMENDATION.

HEADQUARTERS
-2 JUL 1944
A. C. C.

F.E.B.GIRLING, COLONEL
CHAIRMAN AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL

ACC MAIN DISTN

Info..C A Br...2
Dep C C
M & F A Sc
File
Float...2

DATE and Time of RECEIPT JULY 02/

Distribution:

SECRET

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
on for Moments Fine Arts and Archives

JEMP/EMP

20044/1/15FAA

30 June 1944.

Subject: Montecassino Abbey.

To : V.P., Administrative Section, AOC.

1. The attached copies of letter and Order issued by 55 Area are forwarded for information.
2. They have been discussed with Lt. Col. Shipp in so far as they affect immediate action.

Copy to: R.O. & M.G. Section.

FREDERICK T. DE WAARD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

10 2 1 8

109

COPY

SUBJECT:- Protected Monuments

HQ 55 Area

554/57/A

27 Jun 44

- 1 Cdn Corps
- 2 NZ Div
- 7 Arm Div
- 24 Army Tkt Bde

Copy to: Main HQ, ACC, CEF
e3 District

1. Reference the attached Area order.
2. ACC have reported definite cases of theft of holy relics from the Vatican property at CASSINO, by irresponsible soldiers.
3. It will be appreciated if you will be good enough to take such action as you consider effective to prevent such vandalism.

/s/ R.A.D. Mosley

Brigadier,
Area Commander.

DWG/GPG

239. PROTECTED MONUMENTS

1. It is again emphasised that the MONASTERY at CASSINO is a sacred and historical property owned by the VATICAN.

519

It is OUT OF BOUNDS.

Already articles of no intrinsic worth but of much religious importance have been looted from the Monastery by troops; such thefts from holy property discredit every soldier concerned therein.

2. Notice boards show that the Monastery is out of bounds. A military guard is now posted there and GMP patrols include it in their rounds.

2. ACC have reported definite cases of theft of holy relics from the Vatican property at CASSINO, by irresponsible soldiers.

3. It will be appreciated if you will be good enough to take such action as you consider effective to prevent such vandalism.

/s/ R.A.D. Haseley

Brigadier,
Area Commander.

DMG/CPC

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It is OUT OF BOUNDS.

Already articles of no intrinsic worth but of much religious importance have been looted from the Monastery by troops; such thefts from holy property discredit every soldier concerned therein.

2. Notice boards show that the Monastery is out of bounds.
A military guard is now posted there and GMP patrols include it in their rounds.

3. Should any bona fide parties specially desire to visit the Monastery application will be made to HQ 55 Area for a permit. If a permit is granted, each party will always be in charge of an officer and, if possible, be accompanied by a Chaplain.

Applications will specify the numbers, by ranks, in the party, the name of the officer to be in charge of it, and proposed date of visit.

(4 57)

108

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

JMBP/dnp

20014/1/MEAA

30 June 1944

Subject: Montecassino Abbey.

To : Major Gayle, P.A. to Chief Commissioner, ACC.

Ref. your A/OC 000.4 of 28 June 44.

1. Action has already been taken on this matter as follows:
 - a. Visits of inspection on 25 and 26 June 44 by Capt. A.S. Penoyer of this Subcommission, who reported evidence of considerable trespass and looting.
 - b. Visit to HQ 55 Area on 27 June 44 by Major J.B. Ward Perkins, Deputy Director.
2. As the result of these visits 55 Area have issued the attached order and are undertaking to post suitable notices and to order GMP patrols twice weekly.
3. Further action is in the hands of R.C. & M.G. Section (Lt. Col. Shipp), who hold a copy of Capt. Penoyer's report.

ERNEST T. DE WILD
Major, Spec. Hon.
Director.

Copy to:
R.C. & M.G. Section

518

10221

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

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

107

Ref/340/107/CA.

1 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Army of NORTH CAMBODIA.

TO : Officer Commanding, 55 Area, CEF.

104

1. The attached letter was drafted before your letter was received giving an outline of the very excellent arrangements which you had made. Thank you very much indeed for your most helpful and prompt attention to this matter.
2. I am not cancelling the original letter in view of the report which S.I.R. require.

h u

CWB/RAC.

M. B. LEE,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: G.O.C. 3 District, CEF.

MA

SECRET 340-*1* 1 JUL 1944 *C.A.BR*
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE 2575

TO: AFHQ ADV COMD POST FOR AFHQ ACCOMMODATION CONTROL RPTD ACC MAIN

FROM: AFHQ SGD SACRED
REFERENCE No: FX66575
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUN301824B OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/PHGEJ
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 47/01
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY

INSTRUCTION OUR FX55573 OF 28 JUNE REURAD B 13177 OF 29 JUNE AND
6895 OF 29 JUNE FROM ACC RPTD YOU PAREN REMAINS FIRM. NO JOINT
RECOMMENDATION YET RECEIVED

HEADQUARTERS

1 JUL 1944

ACC MAIN DIST

ACTION/ CA BR 2

INFO/ DCC

MON & FINE ARTS

FILE

FLOAT 2

17

516

ACTION COPY

FROM: AFHQ SGD SACHED
REFERENCE No: FX66575
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUN301824B OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/FHGEJ

INSTRUCTION OUR FX65573 OF 28 JUNE REURAD B 13177 OF 29 JUNE AND 6895 OF 29 JUNE FROM ACC REFD YOU PAREN REMAINS FIRM. NO JOINT RECOMMENDATION YET RECEIVED

HEADQUARTERS
1 JUL 1944
A.C.

ACC MAIN DIST
ACTION/ CA BR 2
INFO/ DCC
MON & FINE ARTS
FILE
FLOAT 2

17
516

ACTION COPY

DATE and Time of RECEIPT JUL3010216B

Distribution: SECRET

0224

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

343 JUL 1944 C. A. B. 3540/103
B.
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

040.-6/AS

30 June 44.

SUBJECT : Montecassino Abbey.

TO : Executive Commissioner, HQ ACC.

- 1 May the attached letter please be forwarded to O.C. 55 Area CMF., sufficient copies are attached for G.O.C. 3 District CMF and for your file.
- 2 It will be appreciated if this matter can be treated as urgent.
- See Folio 107*
- Spec. attached to Cover*

H. R. Chipps
H. R. CHIPPS, Colonel, 515
CSO Adm Section.

0 2 2 5

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

20044/1/MEAA

30 June 44

SUBJECT : Abbey of MONTE CASSINO

TO : Officer Commanding, 55 Area CMT.

- 1 This letter is to confirm arrangements made verbally between Lt Col GRAY, AA & QMG, and Major BREWSTER, APM of your HQ, and Major WARD PERKINS of the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission.
- 2 In view of the continued and heavy infraction of OUT-OF-BOUNDS orders at MONTE CASSINO town and Abbey (confirmed by Officers of your staff) and of the reports of looting by Allied Personnel which appear to represent a serious breach of discipline and one likely to have the most unfortunate repercussions, I understand that your HQ is prepared to take the following action:
 - a To publish in Area orders an order placing the Abbey strictly out-of-bounds, and to request 3 District to take similar action.
 - b To revise and add to the OUT-OF-BOUNDS/OFF-LIMITS notices on the main road and approaches to the Abbey.
 - c To send a CMT patrol at least twice weekly (including Sunday - Visitor's Day) to take names of all persons found.
- 3 I attach a report by Captain A.S. PENNOXIE of ACC on conditions at the Abbey. Major BREWSTER requested this for forwarding to M.I.B.

102-103

514

M.S. LUSH
Brigadier
Executive Commissioner
Allied Control Commission.

Copy to: G.O.C. 3 District, C.M.F.

COPY

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives.

20044/1/MFAA

27 June 44

Subject: Montecassino - Looting; Protective Measures.

TO : Director, MFAA Subcommission, ACC.

1 The present report is based on visits to MONTECASSINO made by the undersigned on 25 (1600 to 1900 hrs) and 26 June 44 (1700 to 2000 hrs) on the second occasion accompanied by S/Sgt Peebles.

2 Existing Controls Limiting Access to Abbey.

- a A conspicuous notice at Bridge 70 over the RAPIDO does not expressly forbid approach to Abbey.
- b The same is true of less conspicuous notice at road-bend in town.
- c A firmer warning, possibly mentioning the Abbey, was observed on an earlier occasion. Its location, however, (at a point well beyond the town to the N.), seriously reduces its effect on foot traffic, most of which approaches the Abbey from quite another quarter.
- d A small group of Carabinieri control civilian traffic at Bridge 70. No civilians carrying what resembled Abbey-loot had been observed but British officers had been seen carrying carved wooden heads believed to be from the Choir-stalls of the Abbey Church.

3 Italian Personnel in Charge at Top. Since 20 June 44 Italian personnel has been stationed in or near the Abbey, as follows:

a. R.P. Don Eugenio De Palma, secretary of the Abbot of Cava, Since 20 June 44.

b. Tenente Giovanni Molteni, 10th Engineer Regiment. (S. Maria Capua V.) and 16 enlisted members of the Regiment. Engaged in creating habitable quarters for the monks who will soon return and in serving as guards. Present since 20 June 44. A sergeant of the Engineer ~~143~~ six point. S. PIETRO IN FINE (G 9716), 14 June 44.

c. 21 Carabinieri headed by a Maresciallo. Gruppo di Caserta. Arrived 26 June 44.

4 Accomplishments of Italian Custodians.

a. Creation of inaccessible hiding places for valuables found in the wreckage.

b. OUT OF BOUNDS sign placed 23 or 24 June 44 over entrance to Engineer billet, near ~~the~~ ~~entrance~~ ~~to~~

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4 Accomplishments of Italian Custodians.

a. Creation of inaccessible hiding places for valuables found in the wreckage.

b. OUT OF BOUNDS sign placed 23 or 24 June 44 over entrance to Engineer billet, near NW corner of Abbey.

c. Barbed wire barricade blocking off ruins of choir and access to two crypt-chapels (intact)

d. Diary of events kept; also inventory of objects placed in store.

e. Repeated, if often ineffective, warning against looting.

5 Visiting Troops. None observed during three hours at top. Seven (5-1-1) encountered on road up were reasonably clearly in possession of no loot. All were New Zealanders, stationed (with possible exception of one) at ARCE (G 6532), on Highway 6, about 15 miles beyond CASSINO. The group of 5 stated they belonged to 7 Field Eng. Coy and had company permission to visit ruins. The other two were in Signals (Inf Sigs). All denied having seen in orders anything preventing such visits.

- 2 -

LOOTING BY ALLIED TROOPS

6 Evidence of Italians relates repeated acts of pillage, day by day and many times a day, sometimes by officers, and in spike of requestes to desist. Personnel in question mainly New Zealanders. Questions asked by troops on arrival indicate that they come with souvenir-hunting as a conscious purpose. Troops have been known to bring-and-saws, picks, hatchets.

7 One instance stands out on 23 June a party of N.Z.s, in a room at the NE angle of the chiostro laterale destro, once used by the Abbot, had discovered and were making off with a group of articles which, it seems, represented a deposit from towns nearby CASSINO - a cache hitherto unsuspected by the custodians. Partly ecclesiastical in character and obviously of high value, they were at once asked to restore them. No success was had until one of the group, a sergeant, spoke to the men in a firm manner and secured the return of at least a greater part of the loot - apparently all the religious objects.

8 The following objects were recovered;

- a. Small ivory crucifix
- b. Two large white vases
- c. Crystal bottle
- d. Silver processional cross (Parish of Cerro al Volturno)
- e. Large bronze cross
- f. Large ivory crucifix

512

Of these items a - c were again stolen, but the two large white vases were subsequently found abandoned on the ground outside the Abbey.

9 Other objects reported looted by Allied Military Personnel include;

- a. Large portions of the choir carving - only one intact testina is said to remain, this actually lifted but abandoned in a temporary hiding place.
- b. Pieces of inlaid marble, chiefly from choir area; large pieces sometimes smashed to produce pocket-size souvenirs.
- c. Tesserae from Beuron mosaics; considerable area near N archway leading to NE crypt chapel.
- d. Candelieri di bronzo (Beuronese) removed from deposito.
- e. A gilded bronze dove emblem (Beuronese).
- f. Vestments etc.
- g. Varied silver and glass objects.

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- e. A gilded bronze dove emblem (Beuronese).
- f. Vestments etc.
- g. Varied silver and glass objects.
- h. Portions of ivory inlaid table.
- i. Stuffed birds etc. from Natural History Museum.

10 Needs. Besides technical Monuments & Fine Arts advice, an effective posting of sings, and an amelioration of a critical shortage of food at the Abbey, Padre De Palma and Tenente Molteni ask for one or two British or American MRS to support the Carabinieri.

11. Civilian and German Looting. Like that effected by civilians prior to 20 June, the looting carried out by the Germans both before and after the bombing of the Abbey is indeterminate in kind and quantity. To such, rather than to Allied pilfering, may be due the loss of 15 "Capodimonte" paintings on porcelain, whose frames, along with 7 or 8 complete with paintings, still remain and are in store.

(Sgd) Albert S Pennoyer,
Captain CE
HQ Staff AFSA S.C.

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