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

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

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485

Villas - Palaces
JULY 1944 - MAR. 1945

VILLA CIBRONE

All papers pertaining to the above subject (handled by Major Pearson) were turned over to Headquarters Commandant, Hq AC, Rome, on 17 March 1945.

[Handwritten signature]

425

Ref: F/485

5 February 1945

SUBJECT: Property Alleged to have been Removed
from Royal Palace at Caserta by Allied Troops.

TO : Liaison Division, A.C.

FROM : Political Section, A.C.

1. There is attached hereto the dossier concerning an investigation of household effects alleged to have been removed from the Royal Palace at Caserta. The correspondence was initiated by Monsignor McGeough of the Vatican to Lt. Colonel Count de Salin, Political Section, R.A.A.C. Attention is invited to memorandum from the Commanding Officer of Headquarters Command, Allied Forces to the Administrative Officer, U. S. Political Adviser, dated 31 December 1944.
2. It appears useless for A.C. to pursue this matter further, and it is suggested that the original communication, with enclosures, be returned to Monsignor McGeough with the information contained in Paragraph 1 of the above letter.

WILLIAM W. BOHRT
Vice President, Political Section

14 - Encl: Dossier on above subject.

- 1 - Ltr fr Bates dtd 13.1.45.
- 2 - Ltr No. 634 fr HQ. Command Allied Force dtd 31.12.44.
- 3 - Ltr fr Bates dtd 12.12.44.
- 4 - Memo fr Vatican No. 82903/SA dtd 29.9.44.
- 5 - " " " " " " " " 10.10.44.
- 6 - Ltr fr Monsignor McGeough to RAAC dtd 14.10.44.
- 7 - Ltr fr Superintendent of the Monuments of Campania dtd 22 January 1944, No. 72.
- 8 - Ltr fr Il Principe di Piemonte dtd February 1944.
- 9 - Ltr fr Territorial Legion of the Royal Carabinieri in Naples dtd 11 August 1944, No. 94/5.
- 10 - Compiled List of Missing Property. (13 Pages).
- 11 - Ltr No. G-5: 366.2-1 dtd 31 Oct 44.
- 12 - Political Section Ltr No. 870 dtd 9 Oct 44.
- 13 - Memo No. 6/686/303 dtd 7 October 44.
- 14 - Ltr fr Mr. Office dtd 6 Nov 44.

939

7.82

Ref: P/435

19 January 1945

The Political Section of the Allied Commission presents its compliments to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, with reference to the Ministry's Aide-Memoire 6/21/7 of January 4th last, has the honor to inform them that inquiries have been made with the appropriate Allied Authorities regarding the allegation that Allied troops cut down and took away more than a hundred pine trees from the garden of the Villa Madama. These inquiries have shown that in the grounds of the Villa Madama are adjacent to the Foro Italico great quantities of trees of all varieties have been cut down and stolen during the winter and the thieves in all cases were Italian civilians who, in all cases it can be supposed, desired to use the trees for fuel. This state of affairs has been described by the Major-General of the Villa, Giuseppe Pinazzi. The latter has also stated that 9 or 10 trees were taken away in two lots by Allied Soldiers in the week preceding Christmas but he is unable to give any indication of the identity of these men. On the other hand, the Officer in charge of the U. S. Army Post Center in the Foro Italico has stated that the trees with which the Center was decorated for the Christmas Season were obtained from the green-house facilities of the Center.

485

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Rome, Italy

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AG 333

1st Ind.

WAW/ep

Rome Area Allied Command, C/S Office, APO 794, US Army, 15 January 1945

To: Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 394, US Army.
(Attention Political Section)

Forwarded herewith copies of report of investigation which should be self explanatory.

For the Commanding General:

William A. Wedemeyer
WILLIAM A. WEDEMEYER
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

2 Incl.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Political Section
APO 394

Ref: P/485

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Cutting by Allied Soldiers of
Trees in the Garden of the Villa
Madama.


TO : Commanding General
Rome Area Allied Command.

1. There has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Aide-Memoire No. 6/21/7 dated 4 January 1945, of which a copy is enclosed, together with a copy of the newspaper, "La Voce Repubblicana" of January 4th, which was submitted as an enclosure to the Ministry's Aide-Memoire.

2. In presenting this case the representative of the Ministry expressed considerable concern because of the unfavorable publicity which the incident has provoked.

3. It would be appreciated if suitable action were to be taken in this case, and Political Section kept informed thereof, in order that a reply may be made to the Ministry.

For the Chief Commissioner:


WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

1 Encl: Aide-Memoire No. 6/21/7
dtd 4 Jan 45, with attachment.

C O P Y

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

NO. 6/21/7

A I D E = M E M O I R E

It has been reported to this Ministry that Allied soldiers billeted at the "Foro Italico" (former Foro Mussolini) have cut down about a hundred pine-trees in the garden of the neighbouring Villa Madama which belongs to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The trees in question appear to be now in Foro Italico itself after having been used as Christmas trees by the troops concerned.

It is pointed out that the damages resulting from the above mentioned facts are of substantial value, the trees having been planted in 1932 at the cost of about 200.000 liras.

Rome, January 4th 1945

True Copy

Statement of Facts:

1149 (7/705)

12 January 1945

The major-domo of the Villa, one Giuseppe Bianchi, is direct-ly in charge of the estate. He stated when interviewed that he attributes the theft of only 9 or 10 trees to Americans and that he as informed a representative of the Ministry degli Affari Esteri, owner of the property. He also stated that the said nine or ten trees were taken in two lots in the week preceding Christmas. On the first occasion two soldiers and four Italian civilians cut and took away in an American Western Garrier three or four small pine trees. On the second occasion an American soldier and two civilians (Italians) cut and took away in a truck (American) six small pine trees. The major-domo could give out the most general location of the trees and in other cases could give the number of the vehicles involved.

Letter from Headquarters Allied Commission -Political Section

Investigation disclosed that the grounds of the Villa Madama, Rome, are adjacent to the grounds of the Foro d'Italia, Rome; that trees in great quantity and of all variety have been cut and stolen from the grounds of both places throughout the winter; that the thieves are in nearly all instances Italian civilians who are, it is supposed, using the trees for fuel.

It was further disclosed that from the grounds of the Villa Madama alone more than 10000 trees have been taken approximately-100 of which came from the cultivated portion of the estate.

(Con't - reverse side)

Case closed.

/s/ William A. Johnson

/s/ Robert E. Swain

V403 9121

Statement of Facts:

(Con't)

2400 Via Roma St

The Major-domo of the Villa, one Giuseppe Finazzi, is directly in charge of the estate. He stated when interviewed that he attributes the theft of only 9 or 10 trees to Americans and that he so informed a representative of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri, owner of the property. He also stated that the said nine or ten trees were taken in two lots in the week preceding Christmas. On the first occasion two soldiers and four Italian civilians cut and took away in an American Weapon Carrier three or four small pine trees; on the second occasion an American sailor and two civilians (Italians) cut and took away in a 2 1/2 ton truck (American) six small pine trees. The Major-domo could give but the most general description of the men and in neither case could give the number of the vehicle involved.

Lieutenant Joseph F. Jawdy, Utilities Officer of the 5th Army Rest Center, located at the Foro d'Italia, Rome, when interviewed, stated as follows: that as Utilities Officer of the Rest Center it was his responsibility to furnish such Christmas trees as were required by the said Center; that over the Christmas holidays he did furnish ten such trees; that he secured the trees from the green house of the said Center; that there were no trees, other than the ones furnished by him, in the Center over the Christmas holidays. Statement of Lieutenant Jawdy is hereto attached.

It was further disclosed that from the grounds of the Villa Badoglio alone more than 10000 trees have been taken approximately 100 of which came from the cultivated portion of the estate.

(Con't - Page 2)

Case closed.

/s/ William A. Johnson

/s/ Robert E. Swain

Headquarters
U. S. ARMY REST CENTER
APO 794

12 January 1945

S T A T E M E N T

I hereby certify that I am Utilities Officer, U.S. Army Rest Center, located in the Foro d'Italia, Rome; that as such Utilities Officer it was my responsibility to furnish thr Christmas Trees used in the Rest Center for the Christmas Season; that I did furnish a total of ten such trees for the siad Center; that the said trees came from the green house facilities of the said Center.

To my personal knowledge were no other Christmas trees set up in this Center over the Christmas Holidays.

/s/ Joseph F. Jawdy
/t/ JOSEPH F. JAWDY
2nd Lt., MAC,
Utiliyies Officer.

A true copy

See

Ref: F/485

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Cutting by Allied Soldiers of
Trees in the Garden of the Villa
Mussolini.

TO : Commanding General
Rome Area Allied Command.

1. There has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Aide-Memoire No. 6/21/7 dated 4 January 1945, of which a copy is enclosed, together with a copy of the newspaper, "La Voce Repubblicana" of January 4th, which was submitted as an enclosure to the Ministry's Aide-Memoire.

2. In presenting this case the representative of the Ministry expressed considerable concern because of the unfavorable publicity which the incident has provoked.

3. It would be appreciated if suitable action were to be taken in this case, and Political Section kept informed thereof, in order that a reply may be made to the Ministry.

425

For the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

1 Encl: Aide-Memoire No. 6/21/7
dat 4 Jan 45, with attachment.

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Pol. Sec.

These troops are under RAAC
where there is a claims officer with power
to settle claims.

They will also doubtless take
disciplinary action.

It is suggested that you should
send the papers with a fairly strongly
worded request for suitable action to be
taken to that with a request to be kept informed
of any action taken and that you can return the 22.7.45

6 JAN. 1946

Civil Affairs Section.

May we have your view
regarding the attached, and a
suggestion as to how and
with whom this matter should
be dealt?

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
is somewhat exercised because
of the unfavorable publicity
the incident has provoked.

WRS.

Political Section

Jan. 6, 1944.

POLITICAL SECTION, A.C.

ROUTING SLIP

6 Jan 45
(date)

TO

CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CHIEF OF STAFFX CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
ECONOMIC SECTIONAIR SUB-COMMISSION
EXTRADITIONS SUB-COMMISSION
DISPLACED PERSONS AND
REPARATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION
INDIAN P. of I. SUB-COMMISSION
LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MIA)
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION
NAVY SUB-COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSIONLIAISON DIVISION
CHIEF SECURITY MISSIONAIR Approvals Section
" Safe and Retention/Return
" Approval and Return
" Consent and ReturnX See Mr. JOSEPH'S/ ~~for~~
~~Remarks~~

REMARKS:

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

A I D E - MEMOIRE

It has been reported to this Ministry that Allied soldiers billeted at the "Toro Italico" (former Foro Mussolini) have cut down about a hundred pine-trees in the garden of the neighbouring Villa Medama which belongs to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The trees in question appear to be now in Foro Italico itself after having been used as Christmas trees by the troops concerned.

It is pointed out that the damages resulting from the above mentioned facts are of substantial value, the trees having been planted in 1932 at the cost of about 200,000 liras.



Rome, January 4th 1945

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A I D E - M E M O I R E

It has been reported to this Ministry that Allied soldiers killed at the "Foro Italico" (former Foro Mussolini) have cut down about a hundred pine-trees in the garden of the neighbouring Villa Madama which belongs to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The trees in question appear to be now in Foro Italico itself after having been used as Christmas trees by the troops concerned.

It is pointed out that the damage resulting from the above mentioned facts are of substantial value, the trees having been planted in 1932 at the cost of about 200,000 liras.

Carb



Rome, January 4th 1945

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11/4/45

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Palazzo Venezia
Requisitioned

930

RADIO REPORT

*Pol Sec. file
2288*

TO :- HQ. AC. Political Section.
FROM :- HQ. AMG/AC. Abruzzi-Marche Region.
SUBJECT :- Pilfering from a Villa at Fabriano.
REF :- R5/514/14.
DATE :- 3 November 1944.

1. Reference your Memorandum and enclosures from Swiss Legation, dated 30 Sept. 44.
2. It has now been ascertained that the Villa in question was occupied at the material time by the HQ. 5 Corp.
3. The file has been forwarded to HQ. AMG Eighth Army for enquiries.
4. The result will be communicated to you immediately on receipt of same at this HQ.

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER:



S. Pickering
S. PICKERING,
Lt. Colonel,
R.P.S.O.

929

9163

November 6, 1944.

Dear Bill:

With reference to your letter of October 9 (no. 870) regarding the interest expressed by Mr. Kirk in obtaining some action on the subject of the removal from the Royal Palace at Caserta of furniture belonging to Signor Sinaglis, I have now been informed that the complete investigation on this subject will not be completed prior to 25 November.

Very truly yours,

C. Offie

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William W. Schott, Esquire,
Vice President, Political Section,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
APO 394, U.S. ARMY

928

ROBE ALLIED ARMY COMMAND
REAL ESTATE SECTION
APO 794, US Army

SSM/AL/ up
31 October 1944

REQ 812

SUBJECT: Villa Alvera in Via Appia Antica No. 203

TO : Francesco Cavalletti
Via di Villa Ruffo, 11

1. In reference to letter dated 28th October 1944, regards derequisition of the above villa, we wish to advise that it has been in occupation by military units at various times since early in June 44.

It was requisitioned on 8 June 44, derequisitioned on 7 Aug 44 and again requisitioned on 22 Oct 44.

2. It is presently occupied by a military formation and is urgently required as an operational necessity.

3. It is regretted that the property cannot be made available to you or to the Spanish Sisters.

Alver

ALMAN LOW
Brigadier
Deputy Commanding General

Copies to: Vatican Relations
RAAC.

Mr. William F. Schott
Political Section A.C.

927

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref #485

19 October 1944

SUBJECT: Accommodation at Villa, 203 Via Appia Antica.

TO : Lt. Colonel R. H. Cameron, Real Estate Section, Home
Allied Area Command, A.P.O. 794.

1. Reference your letter RE/17/11 dated October 1944, requesting information from the Spanish Embassy regarding a villa situated at No. 203 Via Appia Antica owned by Dr. Guido Alvera.

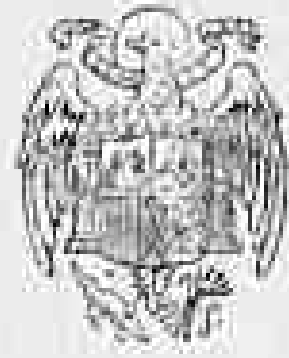
2. In reply to the Political Section's enquiry, a communication had been received from the Charge d'Affaires of the Spanish Embassy in Italy, a copy of which is enclosed.

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Political Section

Encl:

Ltr (sy) fr Span Emb;
16 Oct 44.

485



Embajada de España
EN
ITALIA

16 October 1944.

My dear colleague,

I have got now information in the matter of the villa
nº 203, Via Appia Antica owned by Dr. Guido Alvera.

It is not I, who am interested in this affair but
H.E. the Spanish Ambassador in the Vatican Mr. de las Bárcenas.

It seems that Ambassador de las Bárcenas had this villa
as a country ressort. Now it has been rented by a Spanish
Religious Institute, "Suore di Cristo Re", refugees (sfollate)
from Salerno.

Believe me, my dear Colleague, with thanks, sincerely
yours.

Eduardo Garcia Comin
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'Affairs.

Mr. William W. Schott
Vice-President, Political Section

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref #485

13 October 1944

My dear colleague,

The Real Estate Section of Rome Allied Area Command has communicated to me their desire to requisition for urgent military purposes a villa situated at No. 203 Via Appia Antica which it is understood is owned by a Dr. Guido Alvera (13, Via di Villa Ruffo, Rome).

The Real Estate Office is of the impression that although the villa is unoccupied and in charge of a caretaker, some indication has been made of your interest in this property and I should appreciate your views concerning it. Also should you have any interest in the matter, perhaps you would be so good as to waive your claim unless it is of great importance to you or to permit Rome Allied Area Command to offer as a quid pro quo equally suitable accommodations nearer to the center of the city which can be made available to you.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM H. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

H. E. Don Eduardo Garcia Comin
Minister Plenipotentiary
Charge d'Affaires
Embassy of Spain
Via della Botteghe Oscure, 32
Rome

ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND
REAL ESTATE SECTION
APO 794, US Army



RHC/af
11 October 1944

RE/17/11

Subject: Accommodation

To : Headquarters, Allied Commission, Political Section
APO 394, US Army

1. Reference conversation Lt Col Camrass - Mr Shott of 10 Oct 44, it is confirmed that it has become necessary to requisition, for an urgent Military purpose, a villa situated at No. 203 Via Appia Antica which it is understood is owned by a Dr Guido Alvera (13, Via di Villa Ruffo, Rome).
2. Certain notice boards are displayed at the entrance of the villa referred to above, that it is reserved for the Spanish Embassy. These boards are rough in character and do not appear to bear any official stamp or seal.
3. Investigations have shown that the villa is empty, with the exception of a caretaker, and that in fact it has never been occupied since departure of the Germans who used it for Military purposes.
4. It will be greatly appreciated if you would be good enough to approach the Spanish Embassy with a view to ascertaining what interest, if any, they have in this property. If they are in fact interested at all, it would be greatly appreciated if they could release their claim unless of a very important nature.
5. It may be stated that if it is required for diplomatic occupation, alternative and more suitable accommodation could be made available much nearer the centre of Rome.

R. H. Camrass
R. H. CAMRASS
Lt. Col. AQMG
Real Estate Officer

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66105

ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND
REAL ESTATE SECTION
APO 794, US Army

RHC/af
11 October 1944

RE/17/11

Subject: Accommodation

To : Headquarters, Allied Commission, Political Section
APO 394, US Army

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5. It may be stated that if it is required for diplomatic occupation, alternative and more suitable accommodation could be made available much nearer the centre of Rome.

R. H. Camrass
R. H. CAMRASS
Lt. Col. AQMG
Real Estate Officer

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref #435

22 October 1944

The Political Section of the Allied Control Commission presents its compliments to the Polish Consulate General and with reference to its memorandum dated October 17 regarding a claim presumably against the American Army by Sophy and Jane de Grodzka, Polish citizens, it is to be stated that this case should be presented to the United States Army Claim Office at Naples whose address may be obtained through the office of the Peninsular Base Section.

For the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

Tadeusz Wierusz-Kowalski, Esquire
Consul General of Poland
Palazzo Soria, Corso Umberto, 103
Rome

Wierusz

CONSOLATO GENERALE
DELLA REPUBBLICA DI POLONIA
A ROMA *

W sprawie
In oggetto

PRYM. dnia / ☒ October 1944
ROMA. li ix
VIA XXV MARZO
T. 242. 40095 A
Corso Umberto 303

The Polish Consulate General would very appreciate if the necessary steps could be taken by the competent authority in view of the recovering of the looses of the above mentioned persons.

The Polish Consulate General was informed by the claimants that the original of their demand was presented to Major Wastner via del Chiostro N. 9 at Naples.

To the

Allied Control Commission
 Political Section

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

While I was away with A.M.G. Eighth Army, Bill Schott saw Smiljanic about the Yugoslav Villa Gemma in Naples and spoke to him as suggested in your letter 4/150/5 of the 31st August.

Smiljanic said that in fact the Yugoslavs were already out of the Villa and that he understood that it was now in the hands of the Brazilians.

John Wyndham, Esq.,
Office of the Resident Minister,
Central Mediterranean.

Bill Schott

4/85

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

While I was away with A.M.C. Eighth Army, Bill Schott saw
Smiljanic about the Yugoslav Villa Cases in Naples and spoke to
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Smiljanic said that in fact the Yugoslavs were already
out of the Villa and that he understood that it was now in the
hands of the Brazilians.

John Wyndham, Esq.,
Office of the Resident Minister,
Central Mediterranean.

Office of the Assistant Minister,
Central Mediterranean.

31st August, 1944.

1/153/2.

My Dear Harold,

Dr. Kerk's letter to you of 20th July about the Villa Genna, Naples.

In view of the shortage of accommodation of this kind in Naples, A.D.F.C. would be extremely grateful if Dr. Kerk would relinquish his claim to the villa.

Dr. Kerk wanted to retain the house for Yu Chaiy Consul's official and liaison officer and also as a rest camp for Yu Chaiy liaison. A.D.F.C. would of course provide alternative accommodation for the consul's official and the liaison officer. I understand that the idea of a rest camp for Yu Chaiy liaison in Naples would be approved by the Allied Air Commission.

As the British and American members of the Advisory Council gave up their houses in Naples when the Council moved to Rome (and this despite the fact that British and American officials were left behind to work in Naples), we ~~must~~ are entitled to ask that Dr. Kerk should make the Villa Genna available too.

Yours etc,

John.

John Graham.

?
Adv Mr. Schott to
tell Sir James.

H. A. Graham, Esq.

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

785016

Political
Office of the Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters
ALGERS.

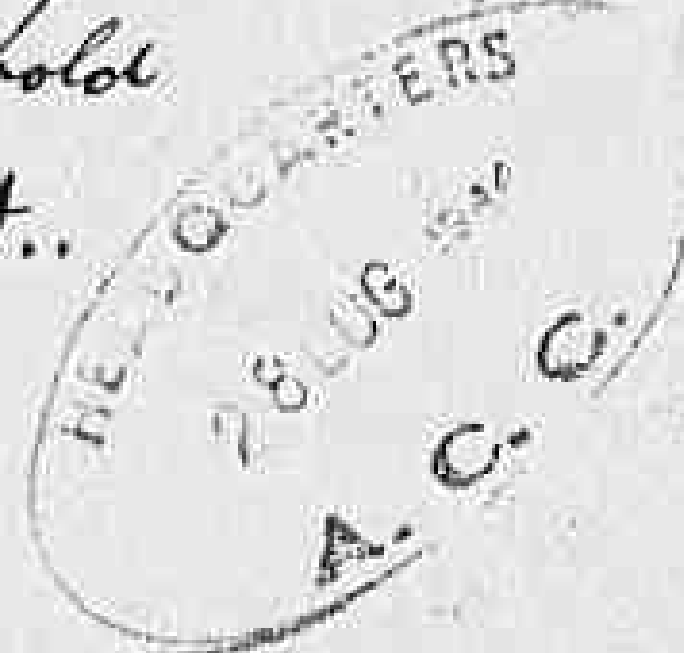
TO :

W. A. Caccia Esq.

With the compliments of

Sir A. Humboldt

.....27/7/44..



7124

Office of the British Resident Minister,
Mediterranean,
Osaka.

4/150/5

To: R.A.A.M.

From: Resident Minister's Office.

The Yugoslav Delegation on the Advisory Council for Italy are anxious to retain the use of the Villa Gama in Naples which they used to use when the Council had its seat in Naples. One of the reasons which they advance for wishing to do this is that they want to use the Villa as a rest camp for Yugoslav airmen in Italy. They say that airmen of all other nationalities in Italy have rest camps except the Yugoslavs.

2. We should be grateful for your comments on this statement and for your advice whether you consider it either desirable or necessary that the Yugoslav Delegation should be allowed to retain the Villa Gama for this particular purpose.

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27th July, 1944.

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Ministero degli Affari Esteri
Ufficio Collegamento

1432 22

AIDE-MEMOIRE

Following the Aide-memoire n° 4/1418/21
of July 2nd, we beg to inform the Allied Military
Government that the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
in Salerno, for what may concern them, find no
difficulty in meeting Villa Maraviglia to Ambassador
Krich.

Rome, July 5th, 1944.

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0 3 9 6

Ufficio Collegamento

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22

ALDE-MILLOIRE

MAC
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Following the Alde-Memoire n° 4/1115/21
of July 2nd, we beg to inform the Allied Military
Government that the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
in Salerno, for what may concern them, find no
difficulty in sending Villa Maraviglia to Ambassador
Kahn.

Rome, July 5th, 1944.

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Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Ufficio Collegamento.

h/

1418

26

AIDE-MEMOIRE

A Secretary of the Yugoslav Mission came to this Office on June 22nd and expressed the desire of Ambassador KREK to rent Villa Maraviglia, former Croatian Legation in Rome. We explained to him that Villa Maraviglia is the property of the Italian Government and entrusted to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and that in the past it had been only temporarily lent to the Croatian Government for use of the Legation in Rome.

We assured, however, the Yugoslav Secretary that the request of Ambassador KREK would be forwarded to the Ministry in Salerno for its consideration, which was done on June 24th.

At the same time, we advised the said Secretary to get in any case in touch with the Allied Authorities.

It appears that, in the meantime, members of the American Armed Forces proceeded to the requisition of the Villa on behalf of the Real Estate Section of the Rome Area Command, without informing this office.

On the 29th instant the Real Estate Bureau sent us one of its representatives to warn us of the requisition which had not been notified before, because the said Bureau did not know that the Villa belonged

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to the Italian Government.

This morning Mr. Plamenac, Secretary of the Yugoslav Mission came to this office asserting that the Villa Maraviglia had been promised by us for Ambassador WREX. We explained that no such undertaking had been given but that the request of the Yugoslav Mission had simply been forwarded to Salerno.

At the request of Mr. Plamenac we are bringing the above to the attention of the Political Section of the Allied Military Government.

Rome, July 2nd 1944.

ask Miss Hoffman to
 require about
 Lt. Col. Hays Norman
 at 100th General Hospital

copy of let about Mr. Corso

Place for

Upper Septimide

VP's meeting

Robert Cross

Walter - Baker

AND FIFTH ARMY CITY ADMIN SECTION FOR PERER

ACC MAIN

6099

5/12/68

RESTRICTED

URGENT

POLITICAL

UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND DEVELOPMENT REGARDING VILLA TAVERNA AS I
UNDERSTAND FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH GENERAL JOHNSON AND RUM
FROM TO AND FIFTH ARMY CITY ADMIN SECTION FOR PERER FROM ACC MAIN
FROM SACFARLONE PAREN AND WITH FIERE CMA VILLA TAVERNA CMA PALAZZO
MANOWRITA BAPCONTAGNI EMBASSY VILLAS AND MY WORKS WERE RECEIVED
FOR THE PD PLEASE DO URGENT ALONG FOREGOING LINES PARA ABOVE MESSAGE
FROM KIRK

485

L. F. MONTANI JR

912

Immediate for Reher
in Rome (Grand Hotel)

Unable to understand
development regarding
Tello Taverna as I
understood from conversations
with General Johnson + House
and with Fisher, Tello Taverna,
Palazzo Margherita Barconfagui
Embassy Villa and my
house I was reserved for
us. Please do utmost
along foregoing lines.

Kirk

299

Hunting

AMG FIFTH ARMY CITY ADMIN SECTION FOR REBER

ACC MAIN

5967

6/9/19 a.m.

SECRET

ROUTINE

POLITICAL

STATE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS PROMPT REPORT PRESENT STATUS VILLA
TAVERNA AND PALAZZO REGINA MARGHERITA WHICH DEPARTMENT UNDER-
 STANDS MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL REQUISITION FOR EXCLUSIVE USE
 OF AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR QUARTERS AND OFFICES PD PARK
TO AMG FIFTH ARMY CITY ADMIN SECTION FOR REBER FROM ACC MAIN
FROM MACCARLANE PARK PLEASE REPLY HERE EARLIEST AND INDICATE
 ALSO STATUS AND CONDITION VILLA BLANC VIA MONTANA TWO ONE SIX
 DASH TWO ONE EIGHT WHICH AIRX UNDERSTANDS WILL BE HELD FOR HIM

485

L. T. MONTANT JR

911

0403

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADV. DRY COUNCIL FOR ITALY✓
9/6/44-1CTOP PRIORITY

Naples, June 8, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Samuel Reber
Political Section
Allied Control Commission

A paraphrase of U. S. State Department telegram No. 159, dated June 7, 1944, is transmitted herewith and it would be appreciated if this message could be forwarded immediately to Mr. Reber together with a request for early reply to this office and the information that Mr. Kirk would appreciate receiving a report regarding the condition of his residence Villa Blanc, 216-218 Via Nomentana which, it is understood, is being reserved for him.

For the U. S. Representative:


John L. Goshie

Enclosure as stated.

810

0404

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADV DRY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

PARAPHRASE OF
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUNE 7, 11 p.m., 1944

159

SECRET

The U. S. Department of State requests a telegraphic reply on the present status of Villa Taverna and Palazzo Regina Margherita, in Rome, which buildings the Department understands the U. S. Military authorities will requisition for the exclusive use of United States diplomatic and consular residence quarters and offices.

Signed: Stettinius Acting

909

U. S. SECRET
Equals British MOST SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

3697

Pal Section

14 February 1944

Headquarters, ACC.

Subject: Villa Taverna, Rome.

1. The Villa Taverna at Rome, formerly occupied by the American Ambassador, is again to be made available to the principal American political representative for his residence. Ambassador Robert D. Murphy will therefore be permitted to use the villa together with such United States representatives as conditions may indicate feasible.

2. Cable to this effect has been despatched from this Headquarters to Hq., ACMF, repeated for information to Fifth Army (see Freedom 51219 of 13 February).

Henry Parkman, Jr.

H. Parkman, Jr.,
Lieutenant Colonel, G.S.C.,
Deputy Acting Chief, Military Government Section.

583.1

121

986

908

U. S. SECRET
Equals British MOST SECRET

0405

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

14 February 1944

Headquarters, AGC.

Subject: Villa Taverna, Rome.

1. The Villa Taverna at Rome, formerly occupied by the American Ambassador, is again to be made available to the principal American political representative for his residence. Ambassador Robert D. Murphy will therefore be permitted to use the villa together with such United States representatives as conditions may indicate feasible.
2. Cable to this effect has been despatched from this Headquarters to Hq., ACIF, repeated for information to Fifth Army (see Freedom 51219 of 13 February).

H. Parkman, Jr.,
Lieutenant Colonel, G.I.C.,
Deputy Acting Chief, Military Government Section.

0.407

copy for Ruben

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO512

12 February 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Acting Chief Civil Administrator

SUBJECT : Reservation of Villa Taverna in Rome for
American Political Representative

In reply to your letter of February 7, 1944, quoting a telegram of 2 February 1944 from the United States Secretary of State, you are advised that Headquarters Allied Central Mediterranean Force is being directed to issue the necessary instructions to carry out the wishes of the Secretary of State with regard to occupancy of the Villa Taverna in Rome.

J.A.H. GAMMELL
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff

copy for Reber

February 7, 1944

TO: Chief of Staff, AFHQ.
SUBJECT: Reservation of Villa Taverna in Rome for
American Political Representative.

Your attention is invited to the following paraphrase of a telegram dated February 2, 1944, which I have received from the Secretary of State:

"The Department desires, when Rome is occupied, that the Villa Taverna, which was occupied by the American Ambassador at the time Italy declared war upon the United States, be made available to the principal American Political representative for his residence. This should be done under a lease which is considered to be still running. Our principal political representative - who presently would be Ambassador Robert D. Murphy - should determine what other United States representatives would be permitted to use the Villa as their residence depending upon the condition prevailing at the time. (This telegram is for Reber and L'Heureux). You are instructed to take up this matter immediately with the military authorities in an endeavor to work out appropriate arrangements to put this plan into effect."

Signed Hull.

H.J.L'Heureux
Acting Chief Administrator

HJL:jec

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIC
INCOMING MESSAGE

8286

MAY

KERRX

MSG Center No : 23/01
 Classification : CONFIDENTIAL
 Precedence : ROUTINE
 From : FREEDOM FROM MURPHY SIGNED GINC
 To : ACC MAIN FOR MACFARLANE FOR REBER

Date Time Rec'd : 010635
 Date Time Sent : 301901
 Reference NR : F39765
 Cite : FHCIV

ACTION COPY

PLEASE TELL KIRK THAT THE FIRST REACTION TO HIS QUESTION
 REGARDING VILLA IS NEGATIVE. WILL TRY AGAIN.

ACC DISTN

Action..Pol Sec
 Info....D C C
 File
 Float



903

CONFIDENTIAL

0410

COPY

FBI

AMC

WPAOS SECID STATE
3055

SECRET
ROUTING

AMC SEC

[Sept] 09

ART DEPOSIT AT BOLOGNA A CALIANO IS SUBJECT YOUR FOX HIDE THREE SIX ONE SEVEN
REARS GIVE THREE PD COMMENTS KNOWN IN JAIL TO MONTAGNE AND FIVE ARTS SUB
COMMISSION BUREAU REPORT REARMS MAIN ESTABLISHMENTS AD UT IT PD PART TO
ART. FROM IT SEC SEC STATE PART CZECHS REMOVED FIVE RIGHT CASES OF SCULPTURE
FROM THERE ABOUT TWO THREE AND TWO SIX PD CLAIM TO HAVE TAKEN THEM TO BOLOGNA
FOR GAVIN PD SEC COMMISSION POSSESSES GERMAN STATEMENT OF REMOVAL PD WRITTEN
REPORT FOLLOWS PD OFFICER AT PRESENT MAKING FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS ON SPOT PD

485
William Blake

WWS

Copy of Telegram Received
from the Department of State.

Swiss Legation Memorandum of August 21st transmits an urgent German communication concerning Villa Reale at POGGIO A CAJANO similar to Bern's 5428, nineteenth to Department repeated to you. This communication, however, states, "Except for its interior the Villa Reale is not of any specific artistic value", and adds with regard to the statement that the Villa is not being used for military purposes that, "this fact will not change for the future".

Copy to AFHQ
Aug. 25
WWS.

ALL'D CONTROL COMM ION OUTGOING MESSAGE

TO: AFHQ FOR ACTION US POLITICAL ADVISOR REPEAT TO BRITISH RESIDENT
MINISTER AND GEORGE FIVE SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: _____
 FROM: ACC HQ CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED
 REFERENCE No: 2160 PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: AUG 23 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: POLITICAL

GERMAN LEGATION AT BERNE HAS INFORMED THE SWISS GOVERNMENT THAT GERMAN
 AUTHORITIES ITALY HAVE STORED IN VILLA REALE POPPI A CAJANO FIVE KILO-
 METERS NORTHWEST OF SIGNA VALUABLE ARTISTIC COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES
 CONCERNING TUSCAN RENAISSANCE WORKS PD PAREN TO AFHQ ACTION U S POLITICAL
 ADVISOR REPEAT TO BRITISH RESIDENT MINISTER AND GEORGE FIVE FOR INFO FROM
 ACC HQ FROM STONE PAREN VILLA REALE ITSELF ALSO OF GREAT ARTISTIC VALUE
 PARA GERMAN GOVERNMENT STATES THERE ARE NO GERMAN TROOPS IN NEIGHBORHOOD
 VILLA REALE AND VILLA ITSELF NOT USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES PARA GERMAN
 GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO INFORM BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS OF ITS
 DESIRES TO AVOID BOMBARDMENT OR DESTRUCTION VILLA REALE

58/5

Distribution:

Authenticated by _____
 Originator's signature _____

900

C O P Y

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: LEGATION BERN

Date: August 19, 1944

No.: 25

Code: CLEAR

Received: August 21, 1944

Following sent Department.

URGENT. 5428, nineteenth. American interests Italy.

Swiss Foreign Office official telephoned seven this evening that German Legation, Bern, communicated following late this afternoon to Swiss Government.

German authorities Italy have stored in Villa REALE POFFI A CAJANO five kilometers northwest of SIGNA valuable artistic collections and archives concerning Tuscan Renaissance works. VILLA REALE itself also of great artistic value.

German Government states there are no repeat no German troops in neighborhood VILLA REALE and Villa itself not repeat not used for military purposes.

German Government desires inform American and British Governments its desires avoid bombardment or destruction VILLA REALE.

Swiss informing British Legation Bern.

Repeated to AMDEL, Rome.

HARRISON

rag

dp

899

Political Section - A.C.C.

September 14.

MEMORANDUM TO: Civil Affairs Section

The Political Section has been asked to obtain information as to the condition of Villa Razzolini, Via di San Leonardo 7, Florence in the name of Evelyn L. Everett Spelman. The lawyer's name is Piero Roselli, address unknown, in Florence.

It would be appreciated if information could be obtained in this case and the Political Section informed so that it may transmit it to the interested person.

The owner is concerned about unpaid taxes on the property and would like to know how much is owing, and of how and when it must be paid, and to whom.

485
Jill Ruggie

858

Reg...

M. Spelman
can be accepted

TIMOTHY THER SPELMAN
Five Chimneys
Dublin, N. H.

July 23d 1944

Dear Alexander Kirke,

When it is feasible to do so, will you please be so kind as to find out what is the condition of our Villa Razzolini, Via di San Leonardo 7, in Florence? I know that at present writing Florence is, to all intents and purposes, a German city, but that unhappy state is not going to continue indefinitely and, when the time comes that property owned by Americans can be redeemed by them, we want very much to salvage this property of ours. Unpaid taxes on it through the period of the war will, naturally, have to be paid along with other expenses of the redemption and we are desirous of doing this as soon as it can be done. I hope that it is not too much to ask of you to have us on your busy, probably overworked, mind to the extent of advising us of the condition of the Villa and of the amount that must be paid, of how and when it must be paid, and to whom. I don't know how these things are done and I am sure that you will be one of the first to know the answers. In my lawyer in Florence, Piero Roselli, is still alive, he has the papers relating to the property which stands in my wife's name, Leolyn L. E(verett) Spelman.

I wrote you a letter a little while ago enclosing a check, which was returned to us. I don't suppose that you could have used it anyway. If you will kindly advise us of what is required, we shall see that you receive it.

Cordial greetings and many thanks.

Sincerely,

Timothy Spelman

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

Phone 42065

Ref/19/153/CA

NEF/ard
24 July 1944

His Excellency Sir E. Arce Osborne
British Minister to the Holy See

Dear Mr. Minister:

The Rome Allied Area Command has addressed itself to the Commission with reference to the use, as a dispensary, of the premises of the Irish College holiday villa of Formia by Italian medical personnel for the treatment of civilian sick and wounded. This building has not been requisitioned by any allied military commander. However, the hospital in Formia was destroyed by shellfire and so much other damage has been done to the town that there would be little choice in the selection of shelter for the civilian sick and wounded from the few buildings that remain standing.

In the circumstances, it would appear proper on humanitarian grounds to continue the use of the villa until such time as the rehabilitation of the town may make other accommodations available.

I would be grateful if you could assure me that this action meets with the approval of His Excellency, the Minister of Rome to the Holy See.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Copy to:

RAAC (Ref. your letter of 29 June 44)
Region IV AMG
Political Sect. ACC

856

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Col Fiske

May we be consulted
from political division before
any decision

APC 12/6

AIDE - MEMOIRE

In December 1943, the German Command put pressure on the Italian Authorities, for the purpose of obtaining possession of Villa Madama, which is owned by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The request was not fulfilled on account of the fact that the villa was occupied by a girls' boarding school which, following war operations, had been forced to evacuate its residence at Castelgandolfo.

As the Allied Command has now invited the school with its 150 students to leave the villa, and to place it at their disposal, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs taking into account the great difficulties of finding, under the present conditions, an appropriate lodging for the school, would greatly appreciate if the requisition of Villa Madama could be avoided.

Rome, June 10th 1944

853

SECRET

POL SEC SP

Irish property 2992 HC

ACTION ACC ADV HQ INFO ACC MAIN AAI AFHQ ADV CP HQ USAF

31/06

AFHQ, MEMPHIS SAC/NO
PX 68729

JULY 5/1949

SECRET
PRIORITY
CITE PENDING

QUESTION IN YOUR ADV 22A IS WHETHER IRISH OWNED RELIGIOUS HOMES MAY BE REQUISITIONED.
OUR F 11945 OF 5 MAY WAS IN PART AS FOLLOWS: A QUESTION OF OCCUPATION OR REQUISITIONING
VATICAN OR OTHER RELIGIOUS PROPERTY WITHIN ITALY WILL ALWAYS BE SUBMITTED TO AFHQ IN
ORDERS THAT IT MAY BE FURTHER REFERRED TO COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF, HAVE IN CASE OF
OVERRIDING OPERATIONAL NECESSITY WHEN REPORT WILL IMMEDIATELY BE SUBMITTED TO AFHQ
WHICH IS DIRECTED TO REPORT TO CJS. PARA CASE OF VILLA IFFRIDA APPEARS FROM YOUR
CABLE TO BE "RELIGIOUS PROPERTY" AS USED ABOVE.

ACC MAIN DIST

INFO ACTION CA RR (2)
INFO DEP CC
POL SEC
FILM
FLOAT (2)



894

SECRET

JULY 6/0154

0419

Subject: Requisitioning

Capt. J.M. Pearson
Political Section
RHQ ACC

51 Town Major
Tel: 128
Ref: 34/54

Copy to: Prefettura of Salerno

Ref your letter 485 of 20 May 44.

I have received a letter from the Prefect concerning the requisitioning of the Torre Paradiso, and I find that this has already been requisitioned by me. I cannot agree to the exchange of this property with the Villa Sgrosso until I have seen the Villa Sgrosso. However, I shall be glad if the Foreign Office will continue to use it meanwhile.

22 May 44.

MB
Major,
51 Town Major

893

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Reference #495

20 May 1944

SUBJECT: Requisition of Torre Paradiso


TO : Town Major, Salerno

1. With further reference to my letter 488 of 29 April regarding an application from the Italian Foreign Office for the requisitioning of Villa Sgrocco at Bayella and your kind reply of the following day I have been asked by the Italian Foreign Office to ask you for another favour.

2. Owing to the number of their officials returning from overseas they find there is not enough room in the Villa Sgrocco and they would like to return the requisition form which I enclose.

3. In place of this Villa they would like to substitute the Torre Paradiso in San Giovanni a Mare at Minori owned by Signor Raffaele Nausi about which I understand the Prefect of Salerno is writing to you.

4. I hope you will be able to arrange this substitution for them.


J. M. PEARSON
Captain
Political Section

852

Subject: The Villa Sgrosso, Ravello.

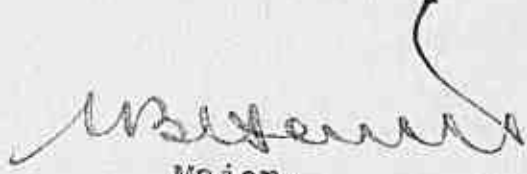
To: Capt. J.M. Pearson,
Political Section,
A.C.C.

51 Town Major.
Ref: 34/36
26th April 1944.

Reference your 485 of the 25th April '44.

1. We have had no application from the Prefettura or the Italian Foreign Office for the Villa Sgrosso at Ravello.
2. When an application for requisitioning is received from the Prefettura, a reply is sent within 48 hours, which time is necessary in order to ensure the exact locality has been given.

Field.


Major,
Town Major.
(S.B. Hewitt.)

891

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Reference #485

25 April 1944

SUBJECT: The Villa Sgrosso, Ravello

TO : Town Major, Salerno

1. When an application by the Italian Foreign Office is received from the Prefettura, I should be greatly obliged if you would approve it as quickly as possible.

2. The Villa Sgrosso is required to house various repatriated Italian officials who at present have nowhere else to go.

With thanks,

J. H. Pearson
J. H. PEARSON
Captain
Political Section

485

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

Phone: 431

Ref/153/61/CA.

17 August 1944

SUBJECT: Villa Maria, LIVORNO

TO: SCAG Fifth Army
R.O. Region VIII.

1. I enclose copy of a short note dealing with the status of some Papal property in LIVORNO.
2. As with all other Vatican property throughout Italy, this property will be accorded the treatment of property of a neutral State in foreign territory.
3. Except in the case of urgent military necessity no Vatican property will be requisitioned or converted to military use without reference to this HQ.

Norman E. Fisher
NORMAN E. FISHER
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: A/Chief Commissioner.
Political Section.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner

EWE/hd

A/CC 386.8-2

17 August 1944

To: RC & MC Section.
(For Civil Affairs Branch)

1. Reference is made to attached

a. Copy of letter 61838 of 5 August 44 from Magr. Carroll with inclosure dated 31 July 44 relative to the status of papal property in Livorno.

b. Copy A/CC 386.8-2 of 17 August - acknowledgment of ref la.

2. Please take necessary action, notifying those who should be apprised of the facts.

HELENY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: Political Section

Hq ACC - Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date-Time 17 Aug 1100
Via msg.
Initials SKR.

888

COPYCC

SEGRETERIA DI STATO

DI SUA SANTITA'

Dal Vaticano, 11 5 August 1944

81838

Captain Stone
Allied Control Commission
Rome, Italy

Dear Captain Stone:

I am enclosing a short note dealing with the status of some papal property in Livorno and I should appreciate it very much if you would forward it to the Allied Control Commission authorities in Livorno.

With an expression of thanks and with every good wish,

I am

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Walter S. Carroll.

Mggr. Walter S. Carroll.

enclosure 1.

COPYCOPY

887

COPY

COPY

EREGISTERIA DI STATO
DI SUA SANTITA'

Dal Vaticano, Li 31 July 1944

61838

Villa Maria situated at Via Montemuro 14. in Livorno, Italy is the property of the Holy See. This Villa, which was occupied by the Germans in October of 1943, formerly served as a summer home for the students of the Pontifical Nepomuceno College at Rome. In precise terms it is a property held in the name of His Holiness for the Catholic Bishops of Czechoslovakia.

BAC/ha

A/OC 386.8-2

17 August 1944

My dear Monsignor Carroll:

Your letter 61638 of 5 August concerning the status of Villa Maria in Livorno reached me on 13 August. I have passed this to the proper section of the Allied Control Commission for their information and for forwarding to such other offices as may be appropriate.

Yours very truly,

WALTER W. STONE
Captain, USMC
Acting Chief Commissioner

Monsignor Walter B. Carroll
Segreteria di Stato di Sua Santita'
Vatican City

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING

MESSAGE /sk

SVC/RELAY NO.

CLASS: NOT GIVEN

PREC : ROUTINE

FROM : FLAMBO

TO : PBS INFO AFHQ FATIMA SALEFNO

M/C NO : 7/18

REF NO: Q 17200

FILED : 170925A FEB

REC'D : 181151A FEB

Reference AFHQ FHDSC 50180 of 11 February. Villas Reginetta and Matara 61
Via Manzoni occupied by senior officers of this HQ and unlikely to be vacated
at present. Request you suggest alternative for advisory council.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - D.S.G. - Info
- 1 - Political Section - Info

0 4 2 9