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DE- REQUISITIONING

Oct 1944 - Jan 1945

Ref: 1/870

23rd January 1945

SUBJECT: Request for the de-requisition
of premises in Via Veneto, Rome.

TO : Real Estate Section, R.A.A.C.,
ARO 794, US Army.

Reference your letter PMS/3/21 of the 21st January 1945.

1. The address of the premises in question is:

Istituto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni,
Via Veneto,
ROMA.

It is regretted that this information was not given before but it was presumed that on receipt of our letter P/870 of the 15th January (which formed the enclosure of our letter to you 1/870 of the 20th January), Signor Basile would get into direct touch with you and at the same time supply all relevant information.

For the Chief Commissioner:

H.J.d'A. HOPKINSON,
Acting Vice-President,
Political Section.

3083

ROME AND ALLIED COMMAND
ITALIAN STATE SECTION
APO 794, US ARMY

JWP/wc

21 January 1945

RE/S/3/21

Subject: Request for the de-requisition of premises
in Via Veneto, Rome.

To : Headquarters Allied Commission
Political Section
(Attn: H.L. d'A. HOPKINS)

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter P/8/0 dated 20 January 1945.
2. The exact address of the premises to be derequisitioned is not given in either the copy of the letter referred to in the basic communication, nor in the basic communication itself.
3. Upon receipt of this information we shall be glad to look into the facts of this case.

John Watt Page, Jr.
JOHN WATT PAGE, Jr.
Captain Inf.
Administration Officer

file

Ref: P/370

20th January 1945

SUBJET: Request for the de-requisition
of premises in Via Veneto, Rome.TO : Real Estate, Rome Allied Area
Command.

From the enclosed copy of a letter addressed by the Political Section of the Allied Commission to Signor Basile, Secretary General of the Liberal-Socialist Party, you will see that in reply to his request for the de-requisition of certain premises in Via Veneto, Rome, we have referred him to you.

Yours for the Chief Commissioner:

H.L.D.C. HOPKINSON,
Acting Vice-President,
Political Section.

070

1 enclosure: copy of letter dated
13.1.45 from Pol. Sec.
to Signor Basile.

3086

Ref: 1/670

13th January 1945

Sir,

I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4913 of the 10th January and to inform you that he regrets his inability to intervene in this matter. It is suggested therefore that you should make application to the Boxe Militare from Command for the regularization of the prisoner in question.

Yours truly,

R. D. A. Morrison,
Acting Vice-President,
Political Section.

The Secretary General of the Liberal-Socialist Party
and of the Libera Accademia dell'Arte,
Galleria Regina Margherita, 7,
Rome.

Copy to RAAC

3085

translation

Liberal-Social party

n. 1915

Rome 10 January 1945

JAN 12 1945

SUBJECT: Request for the de-requisition of the premises of the Istituto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni in Via Veneto, seat of the Free Art Academy, list of other premises which might be requisitioned.

As your Excellency may know, this Labour Party, which hasn't yet got its own newspaper for they are all monopolized by the Government, has created working organs to bring relief to the Italian population, and has brought in various sectors a democratic and definitely anti-fascist renewal, this instead of saving usurious colonies. Among the many institutions promoted by this party is the LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE, only democratic art institution existing in Italy; it has nothing to do with politics. The good functioning of such an institution requires large and central premises in which manifestations of all the various branches of art may take place; the Istituto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni was willing to let us the premises of its ex-Dopolavoro in Via Veneto; the rent would have been of L. 600.000 a year. R.A.A.C. has issued an order of requisition to turn the place into a club. The lack of adequate premises in Rome makes it almost impossible for the LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE to function: the inauguration which is shortly to take place will have to be in a rented room. Besides, we think it would be more advisable to turn into clubs for the troops other premises which are equally central, and are used as night-clubs by the civilians, for the greatest benefit of spectators. All these places have a very central situation, and are near Via Tritone: Sala Pichetti (ground floor and first floor), via del Bufalo, Teatro Columbia in via Gregoriana, Teatro Miryanetta, behind the seat of the LANCIA d'America e C. The requisition was ordered by Captain Brown.

We hope that your Excellency will intervene and save the premises of Via Veneto de-requisition, thus making it possible for the only democratic institution of Italian art to function.

Thanking you, we remain,

THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE

LIBERAL SOCIAL PARTY

AND OF THE LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE

WS.
I have never heard
head of the Party + ?
done if the Club will be run
in a c.c. kind - under existing
place. Reply awaiting?

s. Basile

12 Jan 45

C. S. 308

Action for Sec

INFO: CHIEF COMM

C. S.

AC

In this so, and following
with your thanks 10/10/45

A. M.
After

D.P. M.
After

translation

Liberal-social party

a. pag.

Date 10 January 1945

LUDVICO: Request for the re-organisation of the premises of the Istituto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni in via Vereto, seat of the Free Art Academy. List of other premises which might be requisitioned.

As your Excellency may know, this labour army, which hasn't yet got its own members or for they are all monopolized by the Government, has created working organs to bring back to the Italian population, and has brought in various sectors a democratic and definitive anti-fascist renewal; this instead of making useless columns. Among the many institutions promoted by this party is the Istituto Nazionale delle Arti, only democratic art institution existing in Italy; it has nothing to do with politics. The good functioning of such an institution requires large and central premises in which manifestations of all the various branches of art may take place; the Istituto Nazionale delle Arti Association was willing to let at the premises of its headquarters in via Vereto; the rent would have been of L. 100,000 a year. R.M.A.C. was issued an order of requisition to turn the place into a club. The lack of adequate premises in Rome makes it almost impossible for the Istituto Nazionale delle Arti to function; the inauguration which is shortly to take place will have to be in a rented room. Besides, we think it would be more advisable to turn into clubs for the troops other premises which are equally central, and are used as night-clubs by the civilians, for the greatest benefit of ex-soldiers. All these places have a very central situation, and are near via Tritone: sala Ichetti (ground floor and first floor), via del Babuino, Gabarin Colombo in via Gregoriana, Gabarin Mirampietro, behind the seat of the radio America d'Italia. The requisition was ordered by our town.

We hope that your Excellency will intervene and give the premises of via Vereto de-requisition, thus making it possible for the only democratic institution of Italian art to function.

Thank you, M. Senator,

THE LIBERAL SOCIAL PARTY OF THE

LIBERAL SOCIAL PARTY

AND OF THE LIBERALE ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE

a. pagine

3083

S.O.

PARTITO LIBERO SOCIALE (UNIONE LABOURISTA)

COMITATO CENTRALE

Prot.n. 4013

Roma, 10 gennaio 1945
GALLERIA REGINA MARGHERITA, 7 Viminale
Telefono 42183

OGGETTO: richiesta di revoca
di requisizione dei locali
dell'Istituto Nazionale del-
le Assicurazioni in Via Ve-
neto destinati quale Sede
della Libera Accademia dell'
'Arte. Segnalazione di al-
tri locali da requisire.

Ammiraglio Ellery W. Stone
Commissario Capo della
Commissione Alleata
Piazza Venezia 11
R O M A

Sig. Ammiraglio, come forse è noto alla S.V.Q. questo Partito Labu-
rista - ancora privo di propria stampa perché monopolizzata dai
Partiti al Governo - anziché fare delle inutili polemiche ha
creato organismi di lavoro per alleviare i disagi della popola-
zione italiana ed ha portato, nei più svariati settori, un rinnova-
mento democratico, nettamente antifascista. Tra le molte istitu-
zioni promosse da questo Partito è la LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'AR-
TE, unica istituzione democratica dell'arte esistente in Italia,
assolutamente apolitica. Elemento basilare per il funzionamento
di tale istituzione è il disporre di vestiti locali, centrali, in
cui svolgere manifestazioni di tutti i rami dell'arte e pertanto
l'Istituzione Nazionale delle Assicurazioni si era dichiarato
pronto a cederci in affitto i propri locali dell'ex Dopolavoro
in Via Veneto, contro pagamento di un canone annuo di £ 600.000.
Se nonchè è intervenuto l'ordine di requisizione della Zone Ro-
ma Area Comando, per adibirlo a locale di trattamento. La greve
penuria di locali idonei in Roma comporta la quasi impossibilità
di funzionamento della LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE, tanto è vero
che nella prossima manifestazione inaugurale, come da ultimo invi-
to, è stata costretta a farsi ospitare in una Sala. D'altra parte
si pensa che quelli locali di trattamento per le truppe potreb-
bero essere assai più indicati, altri locali, altrettanto centrali
in cui abusivamente bellano i civili, impinguando le tasche di ta-
luni speculatori, tutti centralissimi nella zona di Via del Tri-
ton (nonché la sede Ditchetti (locali terroristi e superiori) in via

Roma, 10 gennaio 1943
Prot.n. 4913
GALLERIA RECINA MARGHERITA, 7 Viminale
Telefono 42-183

OGGETTO: richiesta di revoca
di requisizione dei locali
dell'Istituto Nazionale del-
le Assicurazioni in Via Ve-
neto destinati quale Sede
della Libera Accademia dell'
Arte. Seznaiazione di el-
tri locali da requisire.

Admiraglio Ellery W. Stone
Commissario Capo della
Commissione Alleata
Piazza Venezia 11
R.O.M.A.

Sig. Admiraglio, come forse è noto alla S.V. questo Partito Tabu-
riato - ancora privo di propria stampa perchè monopolizzata dai
Partiti al Governo - anzichè fare delle inutili polemiche ha
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cui svolgere manifestazioni di tutti i rami dell'arte e pertanto
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di funzionamento della LIBERA ACCADEMIA DELL'ARTE, tanto è vero
che nelle prossime manifestazioni inaugurelle, come da unito invi-
to, è stata costretta a farsi ospitare in una Sala. D'altra parte
si pensa che quali locali di trattamento per le truppe potreb-
bero essere assai più indicati, altri locali, altrettanto centrali
in cui abusivamente ballano i civili, impinguando le tasche di ta-
luni speculatori, tutti centralissime nella zona di Via del Tri-
tone, ve li la Sals Pichetti (locali terreni e superiori) in via
del Bufalo, i locali Tabarin Columbia in Via Gregoriana e il Tabar-
rin Nirvanetta, dietro la Sede della Banca d'America e il Tabar-

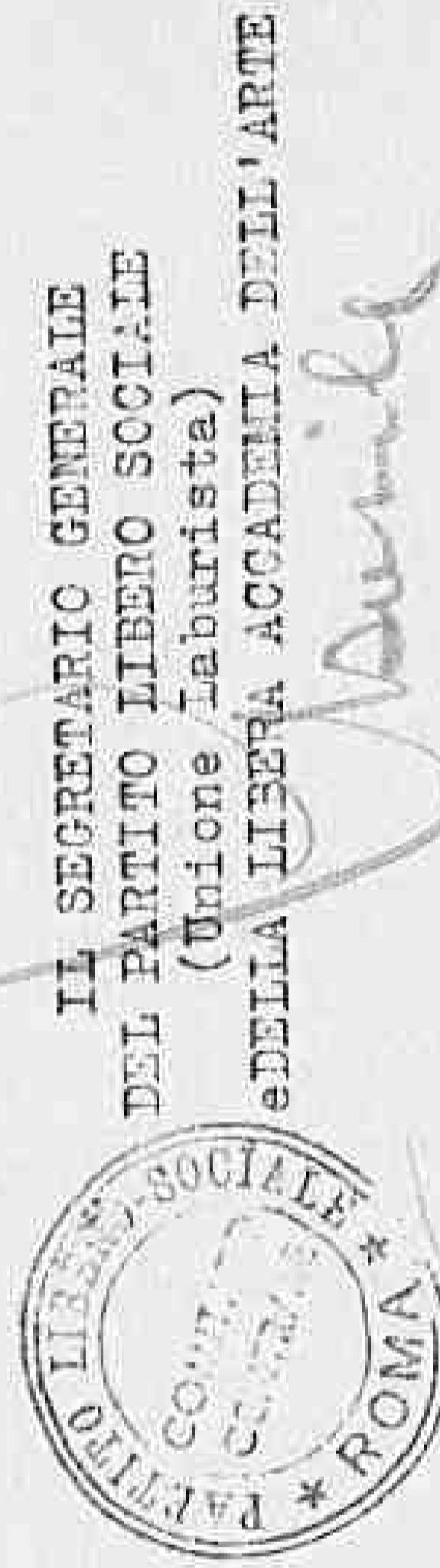
Chi ha ordinato la requisizione è il Capitano Brown.

PARTITO LIBERO-SOCIALE (UNIONE LABURISTA)

COMITATO CENTRALE

Roma,
GALLERIA REGINA MARGHERITA, 7 (Viminale)
Telefono 42-183

Si volge viva preghiera alla S.V., Sig. Ammiraglio, perché con il suo autorevole intervento, voglia rendere possibile all'unica istituzione democratica dell'arte italiana di poter funzionare nei locali di Via Veneto, facendo revocare l'ordine di requisizione.
Coi più vivi ringraziamenti e distinti ossequi.



AH

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

30/1/45 A

17 January 1945

SUBJECT: Requisitioning and Derquisitioning Authority.

TO : See Distribution.

1. Authority previously delegated to the Allied Commission to requisition and derquisition civilian motor vehicles has been rescinded by:

- a. Paragraph II, Allied Force Headquarters, Administrative Memorandum 59, dated 19 December 1944, subject: "Requisitioning and Derquisitioning of Civilian Motor Transport."
- b. WFOUSA Letter, AC 451/704 D-C, dated 17 December 1944, subject: "Requisitioning, Derquisitioning, or Rental of Civilian Motor Vehicles by United States Military Forces."

2. Effective this date, requisitioning and derquisitioning of civilian motor vehicles will cease in Headquarters and in all Regions of Allied Commission.

3. It is also necessary at this time to decrease the number of requisitioned vehicles on our strength, and a careful examination of the G-4 (A) files indicates that there are many unserviceable vehicles in Headquarters and in Regions.

4. The Headquarters Commandant, AC Headquarters, and Regional Commissioners of Regions listed below are directed to scrap, in accordance with paragraph 7, Establishment Memorandum Number 21, dated 3 September 1944, the number of requisitioned motor vehicles shown below and forward scrap certificates to G-4 (A), this Headquarters, by not later than 1 February 1945:

<u>Section or Region</u>	<u>No. of Vehicles to Be Scrapped</u>
a. Headquarters Commandant, AC Headquarters	50
b. Sicilia Region	25
c. Southern Region	25
d. Lazio-Umbria Region	25
e. Abruzzi-Marche Region	3083

1755
Ltr, H. AC, Establishment Section, dtd 16 January 1945, file Ch/m/A,
sub: Requisitioning and Demobilization Authority.

Your utmost and immediate attention is directed to completing
the above-mentioned scrapping of vehicles within the time specified
since completion of same must be reported to Higher Headquarters by
1 February 1945.

By command of Rear Admiral STOKE:

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

C. H. Park

C. H. PARK
Colonel, Infantry
Executive Officer (US)

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HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

2 December 1944

My dear Mr. Minister:

I refer to my letter number 370 of November 13 and preceding correspondence on the subject of the apartment belonging to General Serrano's assistant, Vic. Regus in Naples.

The attached letter of November 20 from the Spanish Consulate in Rome, which deals with the same subject, has been received by the Political Section from Headquarters, Southern Region, American Commission. That Headquarters has taken no action on the letter in view of the fact that a decision already had been reached on the matter and communicated to you in my letter of November 13.

I regret that as of the present date there has been no filtration in the facts that previously have been communicated to you.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President

R. P. Don Amador Garcia Comin
Charge d' Affaires
Ambass. of Spain
Via delle Botteghe Oscure, 34
R. o. M.

3073

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394, U.S. Army

CDM/f1

R/4286

28 November 1944

SUBJECT: Derequisition of Apartment of Mrs. Mercedes Begue'.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(Attention: Political Section). *[Signature]*

1. The attached letter from the Spanish Consulate in Rome is forwarded to you since the subject has already been handled and report made to you in our letter R/4201, above subject, dated 11 November 1944.

2. It is suggested that the Spanish Consulate be informed through the Spanish Charge d'Affaires that the request for de-requisition for Mrs. Begue's apartment had already been made and refused.

For the Regional Commissioner:

Joseph Hellotti
JOSEPH HELLOTTI,
1st Lieut., M.I.,
Asst. Adjutant.

1 Incl.

Letter from Spanish Consulate
dated 20/11/1944.

3078

EACO

The Spanish Consulate
File No. 81.

To: Regional Commissioner
of the Province of Naples

20 Nov. 1944.

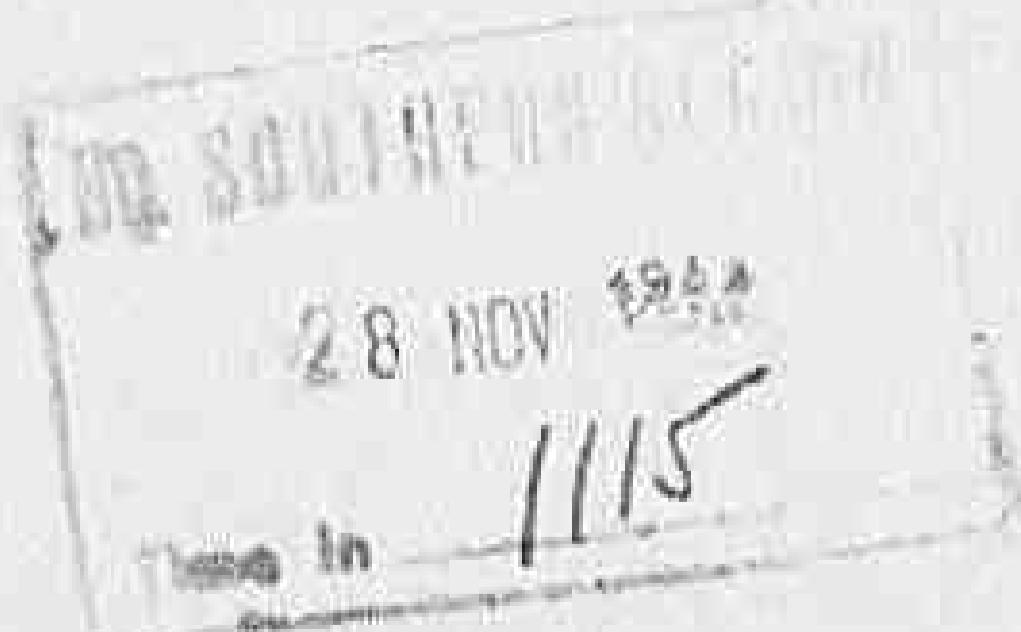
The Spanish Consulate in Rome, begs me to communicate to Y.E.
as follows:

The Spanish Citizen, Mrs. Mercedes Rennella married Beguè,
who had evacuated to Rome, is obliged to leave her dwelling in
this City because the proprietor has returned and has need of the
house. Mrs. Beguè did live in Naples, before evacuating, in an
apartment of her own property in Via Partenope No. 1, but she cannot
return there because the apartment is occupied by American Officers.
As it regards a citizen of a Neutral Country, and also because she
has no other habitation, this Honourable Commissaryship is begged,
if possible, to derequisition and return said apartment to Mrs.
Mercedes Rennella Beguè.

With respectful regards,

The Spanish Consulate.

Administrator: Conrado Telarico.



3077

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 870

15 November 1944

H. E. Don Edmundo Careta Cosini
Charge d'Affaires
Embassy of Spain
Via Delle Botteghe Oscure, 32
Rome

My dear Mr. Minister:

Reference is made to your letter dated 31 October 1944 regarding the return of a furnished apartment, 1 Via Partenope, Naples, belonging to Senora Mercedes Benelli, Ved. Zogu.

In reply to an inquiry concerning the possibility of sequestering the above-mentioned apartment, the following information has been received from the appropriate Allied military authorities:-

"There are four officers, all of the 8th Port Transportation Corps, who are living in this apartment, and it is, therefore, impossible to sequester the apartment in favor of the woman."

I regret this negative reply to your request and trust that in the near future circumstances will have altered themselves so that Senora Benelli may be permitted to regain her apartment.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section 3076

1750
HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394, U.S. Army

CBM/PL

R/4201

11 November 1944

SUBJECT: Derequisition of Apartment of Mrs. Mercedes Begue.

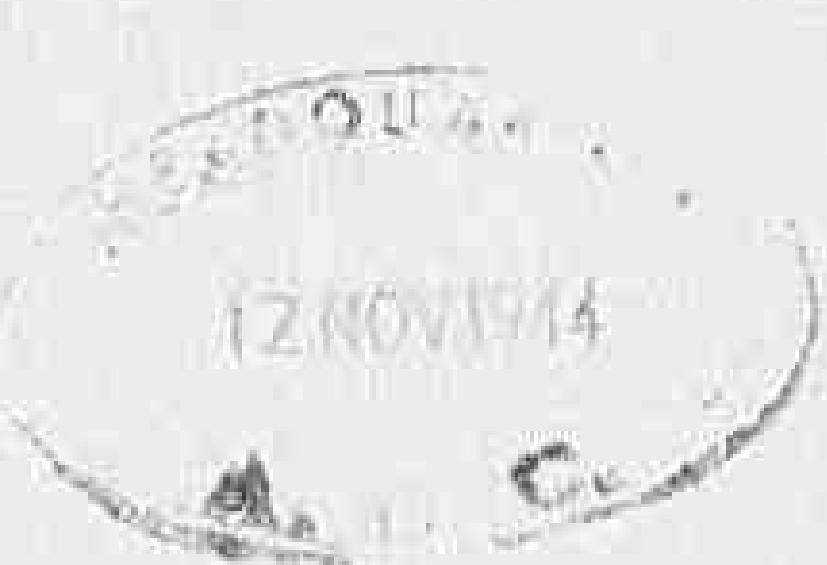
TO: Headquarters AC, (Attention: Political Section). ✓

1. Reference your 870, above subject, dated 3 November.

2. In response to our inquiry concerning the possibility of derequisitioning the above-mentioned apartment, the following information has been received:

"There are four Officers, all of the 8th Port Transportation Corps, who are living in this apartment, and it is therefore impossible to derequisition the apartment in favor of the women."

For the Regional Commissioner:



Joseph Bellotti
JOSEPH BELLOTTI,
1st Lieut., M.I.,
Asst. Adjutant.

3075

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
120 394

Ref: 670

3 November 1944

SUBJECT: Requisition of Apartment of Mrs. Mercedes Bogue

MEMORANDUM TO: Regional Commissioner,
Southern Region

1. Reference is made to your letter No. R/M/56 dated August 26, 1944, regarding the requisitioned apartment of Mrs. Mercedes Bogue at Via Partenope No. 1.

2. There has now been received a communication from the Spanish Charge d'Affaires in Rome stating that Mrs. Bogue, who is of Spanish nationality, is in urgent need to return to her house, since her family must relinquish the leased apartment in time on account of the return of the owners who were refugees in Florence.

3. Will you kindly inform the Political Section AF when the apartment at Via Partenope No. 1 can be made ready, so that we may inform the Spanish Embassy.

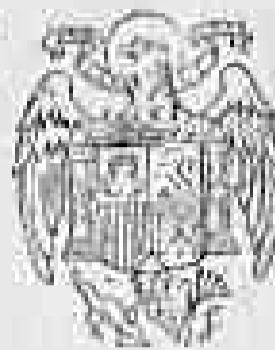
By Command of Commodore Stone:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

6/68

3074

WS



Embajada de España
EN
ITALIA

Rome, October the 31st 1944.

Dear Mr. Schott,

The Spanish Consulate in Rome has addressed (2-8-44) to the Political Section of the Allied Commission a request referring the return of a furnished apartment, 1 Via Partenope, Naples, belonging to Señora Mercedes Renella, Ved. Begue, of Spanish nationality who is in urgent need to go back to her house.

This family has on lease here in Rome another furnished apartment which has to be left on account of the return of the owners who were refugees in Florence.

Anything that will be done to help this family to return into its house will be very appreciated.

With thanks in advance, believe me, dear Colleague and friend, faithfully yours

Eduardo García Comín

Eduardo García Comín
Minister Plenipotentiary
Charge d'Affairs.

3073

Mr. William W. Schott
Vice-President, Political Section
Allied Commission
Rome

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 594

Ref #370

51 August 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Consulato of Spain, Via Delle Botteghe Oscure, 32, Rome.

SUBJECT : Requisition of Apartment of Mrs. Mercedes Begue.

1. This is in reply to your memorandum of August 2.

2. The following information has been received from the Regional Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission at Naples:

"Lt. Luddy stated that the items mentioned in the basic communication had been removed from the apartment in question and taken to three or four other apartments in Via Partenope No. 5 because those apartments had scarcely anything in them.

"He promised that after the apartments are no longer needed for officers of the 8th Port Command, all the items would be restored to the owner's apartment."

WILLIAM W. SCHOFF
Vice-President, Political Section

3072

Political Sect.

~~fpp~~

W.S. R. will
prepare reply when
26 August 1944. Your want
to do.

R/LH66

SUBJECT: Civilian Inquiry.

TO : Political Section, HQ. A.C.C.
(Attn Mr. William W. Schott)

1. Reference your memo date 19 August 1944.
2. The following information has been obtained:

" Lt. Luddy stated that the items mentioned in the basic communication had been removed from the apartment in question and taken to three or four other apartments in Via Partenope No.5 because these apartments had scarcely anything in them.

He promises that after the apartments are no longer needed for officers of the 8th Port Command, all the items would be restored to the owner's apartment."

For the Regional Commissioner:

Neil C. Baker
NEIL C. BAKER,
1st Lt., Q.M.C.,
Adjutant.

NCB/gf



3071

Headquarters Allied Control Commission

August 19, 1944.

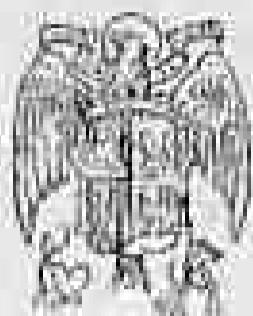
MEMORANDUM TO: Regional Commissioner, RCGI N III

There is enclosed a memorandum from the Spanish Embassy concerning Mr. Hernandez Bejar who has an apartment in Naples which was taken over by military authorities and is stated to be held at present by some American officers of the VI Port.

Will you kindly investigate the matter and inform this office of your findings so that they may be communicated to the Embassy?

William W. Schott
Political Section
Allied Control Commission

3070



CONSULADO DE ESPAÑA
ROMA

Clementine

All'On.le Commissione Alleata di Controllo

Num. 17 - R/5.

R O M A

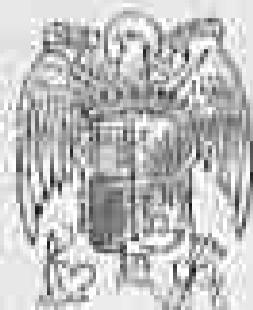
Il Consolato di Spagna a Roma ha l'onore di rivolgersi a codesta On.le Commissione al fine di esporle quanto segue:

1° - La suddita spagnola Signora MERCEDES RENNELLA VEDOVA BEGUÉ, domiciliata a Napoli, Via Partenope n.1 e residente momentaneamente in Roma, dovette abbandonare, causa i continui bombardamenti di cui era oggetto la città, la sua residenza di Napoli, la cui abitazione, secondo quanto ha dichiarato l'interessata, fu occupata in un primo tempo da Ufficiali Inglesi, più tardi (fine di gennaio 1944) dall'VIII Port. U.S. e attualmente da Ufficiali Americani del VI Port.

2° - La Signora Begué asserisce di essere stata informata che dal suo appartamento sono scomparsi, per l'uso e per le ragioni a lei ignote, tutti i soprammobili antichi e moderni di grande valore, del guardaroba completo maschile e femminile, di tutta la biancheria di casa, di alcuni materassi e degli utensili da cucina, restando solo i mobili e completamente vuoti.

3° - Che in vista di quanto precede e trattandosi di suddita di un paese neutrale, desidererebbe che il menzionato appartamento fosse rimesso a sua disposizione, e in qualsiasi ~~caso~~ caso essere risarcita per l'occupazione del medesimo ed eventualmente risarcita anche dei danni subiti dell'arredamento della casa.

180



CONSULADO DE ESPAÑA
ROMA

4° - Con il fine di darsi esattamento quanto dello stato di tutti i suoi beni mobili contenuti nel suddetto appartamento e per sincerarsi sulla veracità delle informazioni ricevute in proposito, desidererebbe la Signora Begué ottenere da codesta On.le Commissione l'autorizzazione per potersi recare a Napoli e visitare la sua casa.

Questo Consolato di Spagna in accoglimento del desiderio della menzionata suddita spagnola, ha l'onore di pregare l'On.le Commissione Alleata di Controllo a Roma di voler prendere in benevole considerazione le richieste della Signora Begué che sembrano giustificate.

Roma 2 Agosto 1944.



3065

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 870

12 November 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome

1. Reference is made to the Ministry's Memorandum No. 6/730/518 dated 12 October 1944.

2. The question of the de-requisitioning of the apartment of Mr. Di Stefano again was brought to the attention of the Real Estate Office, R.A.M.C., who in turn referred Political Section to S.C.I. Unit 7, A.P.C.U. An officer of this Unit, Captain R.O. Bellin, now has stated that the premises at 25 Via Archimedes were duly requisitioned upon the Allied entry into Rome because they were used for living and operational purposes by a bona fide notorious German personage known as Baroness Elisabeth Rosenberg who was at that time, and still is, a component of the German armed forces. It is pointed out that the apartment was occupied by the Baroness prior to the Italian Anabasis, hence the statement of Mr. Di Stefano that there was a question of compulsion is found to be incorrect.

3. As the apartment now is being used for living and operational purposes by the above-mentioned Unit, its transfer from this location at the present time is not considered desirable.

4. The Real Estate Office has stated, however, that the apartment will be de-requisitioned as soon as its present purposes are served. ✓ 87

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

3067

W.S.

S.C.I. Unit Z
AFHQ

4 November 1944

To: Mr. William Schott, Political Section, Allied Control Commission
From: Captain Robinson C. Bellin
Subject: Apartment at No. 25 Via Archimede

Supplementing our telephone conversation today, I present herewith a statement of the position of this unit with reference to the premises duly requisitioned at No. 25 Via Archimede.

The premises referred to, consisting of one apartment owned by one De Stefani, were used prior to Allied entry into the city of Rome for living and operational purposes by a bone fide and notorious German personage known as Baroness Elisabetta Hodenberg who was at that time and still is a component of the German Armed Forces. Her occupancy of the apartment was commenced prior to the Italian armistice, hence there can be no question of compulsion as was incorrectly stated by Mr. De Stefani. In accordance with the Allied policy of requisitioning quarters formerly employed by members of the German Armed Forces, the apartment in which Hodenberg had been living was duly processed by the proper requisitioning authorities and placed at the disposal of this unit.

At the present time, the apartment is being used for the billeting, the messing, and the operations of a considerable portion of this unit. Because of the situation of the war in Italy as well as the nature and extent of the work of this unit and the present status of our operations, a transfer to the location mentioned should be considered ill-advised.

Even if statements were made by Mr. De Stefani in good faith, he should realize that during wartime dislocation even of innocent persons is inevitable, as many soldiers who have been overseas can testify. It is evident, however, that he has neglected to mention some of the details which served as the basis for requisitioning this apartment and which must be considered important.

Robinson C. Bellin
ROBINSON C. BELLIN
Captain, Air Corps.

3066

Faded
HandHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
AMC 394

Ref 870

30 October 1944

RECORDED TO: Lt. Colonel R. H. Carson, Real Estate Officer,
from Allied Area Command.

SUBJECT : Requisitioning of Apartment of Mr. Mario Di Stefano.

1. Reference is made to your memorandum AMC 163 of August 15, 1944, on the above subject.

2. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs again has requested that this apartment be requisitioned and a copy of the Ministry's memorandum in the record, No. 8/730/319 dated October 12, 1944, is attached for your information.

3. An early reply to this memorandum would be appreciated.

For the Chief Commissioner:

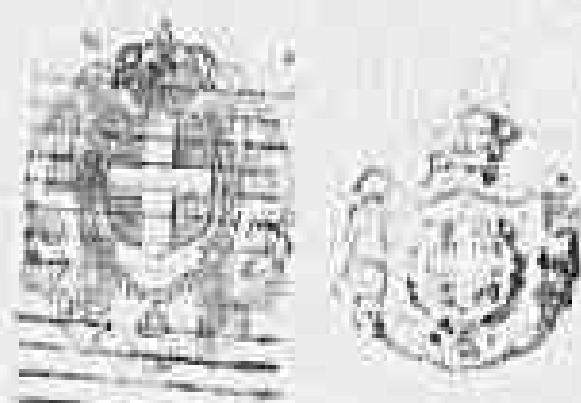
✓
870FRANK E. SCINTI
Vice-President, Political Section

Enclosure:

by me 8/730/319,
25 Oct 44, USA.

3065





W.S. pp

6/430/318

Ministère degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

This Ministry would be very grateful if the Political Section would be so good as to reply to Memorandum of August 12th, N.6/231/110 concerning the derequisition of the apartment owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano, situated at Via Archimede 25, Rome.

Signor Di Stefano, incidentally is at present working with this Ministry as Chief of Office that deals with American and Far Eastern Affairs.

A favourable solution of the matter is all the more urgent as Counselor Di Stefano and his wife, having not been able to find another dwelling, due to the congested situation of Rome are lodged at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Villa Lante, 18, which, however has to be considered a purely temporary solution.

Rome, October 12th, 1944. 306.



MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION.

On June 5th, 1944, the office for Strategic Service of the 5th Army requisitioned the furnished apartment at 35, Via Archimede, Rome, personally owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano.

The reason given for the requisition in question was that the apartment appeared to be inhabited by a certain Baroness Von Hodeberg, a German subject, who was sought by the above Office for being a German agent. Actually she was an Italian citizen by marriage, having married a certain Signor Tabò and such was her surname. Furthermore the apartment was let through an Agency, when Counselor Di Stefano was transferred abroad. Signora Tabò left the apartment in March 1943 and the owners never knew her personally.

Counselor Di Stefano learnt of the requisition of the apartment only on June 7th ult. When he went to take possession of his dwelling which had been entrusted to Signor and Signora Tagliavia, refugees from Sicily since November 1943, when Signor and Signora Di Stefano thought it wise to leave it in order to escape possible German or fascist reprisals.

Notwithstanding the steps taken by Counselor Di Stefano with the C.S.I., an American N.C.O. took possession of the apartment on June 7th ult. The requisition was confirmed on the 13th of the same month by the Real Estate Office. Up to date and despite all explanations furnished, the apartment is still occupied, in succession by several officers and also by American N.C.O.

Counselor Di Stefano and his wife have no other dwelling in Rome, but have fortunately found hospitality at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Villa Lante, 13, Via San Francesco di Sales. However this is a purely temporary solution which cannot last.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be grateful if, in accordance with the understanding reached on the matter, will kindly proceed to the derequisition of the apartment, informing the Ministry in due course.

In pointing out once again that Counselor Di Stefano has no other dwelling in Rome, it may be added that the said official is at present working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rome, August 12th, 1944.

3063

On June 5th, 1944, the Office for Strategic Service of the 5th Army requisitioned the furnished apartment at 25, Via Archimede, Rome, personally owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano.

The reason given for the requisition in question was that the apartment appeared to be inhabited by a certain Baroness Von Hodenberg, a German subject, who was sought by the above Office for being a German agent. Actually she was an Italian citizen by marriage, having married a certain Signor Tebò and such was her surname. Furthermore the apartment was let through an Agency, when Counselor Di Stefano was transferred abroad. Signore Tebò left the apartment in March 1943 and the owners never knew her personally.

Counselor Di Stefano learnt of the requisition of the apartment only on June 7th ult. when he went to take possession of his dwelling which had been entrusted to Signor and Signora Tagliavia, refugees from Sicily since November 1943, when Signor and Signora Di Stefano thought it wise to leave it in order to escape possible German or fascist reprisals.

Notwithstanding the steps taken by Counselor Di Stefano with the O.S.S., an American N.C.O. took possession of the apartment on June 7th ult. The requisition was confirmed on the 13th of the same month by the Real Estate Office. Up to date and despite all explanations furnished, the apartment is still occupied, in succession by several officers and also by American N.C.O.s.

Counselor Di Stefano and his wife have no other dwelling in Rome, but have fortunately found hospitality at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Villa Lante, 18, Via San Francesco di Sales. However this is a purely temporary solution which cannot last.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be grateful if, in accordance with the understanding reached on the matter, will kindly proceed to the derequisition of the apartment, informing the Ministry in due course.

In pointing out once again that Counselor Di Stefano has no other dwelling in Rome, it may be added that the said official is at present working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rome, August 12th, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION.

On June 5th, 1944, the Office for Strategic Service of the 5th Army requisitioned the furnished apartment at 25, Via Archimede, Rome, personally owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano.

The reason given for the requisition in question was that the apartment appeared to be inhabited by a certain Baroness Von Hodelberg, a German subject, who was sought by the above office for being a German agent. Actually she was an Italian citizen by marriage, having married a certain Signor Tanò and such was her surname. Furthermore the apartment was let through an Agency, when Counselor Di Stefano was transferred abroad. Signora Tanò left the apartment in March 1943 and the owners never knew her personally.

Counselor Di Stefano learnt of the requisition of the apartment only on June 7th ult. when he went to take possession of his dwelling which had been entrusted to Signor and Signora Tagliavia, refugees from Sicily since November 1943, when Signor and Signora Di Stefano thought it wise to leave it in order to escape possible German or fascist reprisals.

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be grateful if, in accordance with the understanding reached on the matter, will kindly proceed to the deraquisition of the apartment, Inf 3362 the Ministry in due course.

In pointing out once again that Counselor Di Stefano has no other dwelling in Rome, it may be added that the said official is at present working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rome, August 12th, 1944.

flat belongs to Mario Di Stefano, who started for Poland in Febr. 1942. Then the flat was hired by German Baroness. Stefano was recalled from Poland and stayed with his wife at his mother's until Nov. 1943. Then he was looked for by the Germans and went to hide in a convent with his wife.

To prevent the flat from German requisitioning James T. of Palermo (Cons. of Belgium) took it and said he would see to the restitution of same at the Allies' arrival. Such an agreement with Stefano. So on June 4th Stefano went back to his house and then requisitioning by Allies took place.

file

3061

605-Di Stefano

Sam -

Jan 16

"Here is some more
dope" in the apartment
acquisitioned by us and
regarding which we spoke
yesterday (Dr. Stephan
and Pauli)

AMBASSADE DE POLOGNE
PRÈS LE SAINT-SIÈGE

Vatican, le 10 juin 1944.

En transmettant l'aide-mémoire ci-joint à la Légation des Etats-Unis près le Saint-Siège l'Ambassade de Pologne certifie par la présente que M. Di Stefano, ancien secrétaire d'Ambassade d'Italie à Varsovie, a fait beaucoup pour aider, fin 1939 et commencement 1940, différents Polonais à quitter la Pologne occupée par les Allemands et rejoindre l'étranger.

Prescribing the mode of taking a
Requisition, one applicable under
particular circumstances

- Requisition Notice - June 1944
- Notice is herewith given that
this premises are requisitioned
by the Office of Strategic Services,
Allied Armies in Italy - Ops Off
U. S. Army - subject to the
approval by the Real Estate
Office - City Administration
Section

Major Andrew A. Berding
Office of Strategic Services

G.S.
D.C.
W.M.

305B

La M. D. Francesco dei Marchesi Sassi
all'atto del suo matrimonio co R. consigliere di difesa Mario di Stefano fu
senatore Giuseppe ebbe in dote un app.
mobilamento in Roma situ in via Archi
mede 25 dove gli sposi andarono subito
ad abitare - Ne febbraio 1942 avendo
l'impero partire per l'estero per eseguire
le mani fessurite dal Repro Minister
delli Affari Pubblici la Signora di Stefano
mezzicò l'appartamento cesarano di via V.
Nel di affittare e' opportamento.

L'appartamento cesarano presento come
inquilino certa baronessa Hohenberg
nominata Roba raccomandata dai
consolati generali di Fermania di
Sopratutto Roma. Tale persona era che
tutto conosciuta al Lff. di Stefano
ma l'affitto si dovette concludere per
i seguenti motivi:

- 1) l'impero della partenza da Roma
- 2) il desiderio espresso confidatamente
dal suo servizio competente del comando
supremo Italiano che l'opponente
fosse affidato alla richiedente
anche eseguire l'avantuale attività
- 3) la necessità in cui è consigliere di
Stefano si trovava di evitare che un
rifiuto, sostanzialmente impraticabile,
risultasse; i sospetti reietti
contro di lui negli ambienti Tedeschi
di Roma, per l'altro via filo - Protaggi de
lei avrebbe quasi incitato a effari
d'Italia a Versilia durante i plenari
e dell'occupazione Tedesca - Per questo

1780
1980

attivita' egli era stato richiamato dalla Polonia brusconer - in sole 48 ore, in seguito ad intervento diretto di Ribbentrop - 4 Uff. di Stefano non effettuò alcun contatto con il Hoherberg Tranne per la formalità della consegna dell'appartamento - Nel marzo 1943 la Hoherberg lasciò la casa, e perdonando l'assenza da Roma dei Uff. di Stefano, l'agenzia cesariana offrì l'appartamento al Dottor Prinz, ing addetto culturale all'Ambasciata di Germania, il quale vi rimase fino al 8 settembre '43. In tale stesso giorno l'appartamento fu ripreso dal proprietario che frattanto tornò a Roma - 4 Uff. di Stefano si trovarono alle vacanze di Natale del corrispondente - al 77 anni - Vissesi pressoché clandestino momento nella loro casa fino al nov. '43 quando si rese indispensabile far perdere ogni loro traccia a faccetti. 1) come curidotto i.e. come rifugio, a Stefano aveva fustigato molti di Tenera rappresentanza Tedesca - 2) egli non intendeva iscriversi al P.N.T. Repubblicano e con vari pretesti cercava di fuggire di trasferirsi nel Nord Italia - I due confidanti di Vittorio anche rassonierarono in un convento per rifuggire possibile rappresentanza naz - fascista, e quindi sostituare l'appartamento a requisiti. Gli omi Tedeschi esse venne affidato a Sij. James Jeffries a folla da Palermo dove ricevuta la carica di

II

corsole on. dei Belfi - Questi vi venne ad
chitare il 14 nov. 43 alla Noglia, nota Pia-
cipessa di Colmarino; il fratello Paolo
Tagliavini, morto d'una cittadina brit-
annica, poche d'una cittadina brit-
annica, poche d'una cittadina brit-
annica, internato in un campo di concentra-
mento presso Parma. e tra i prigionieri vi
erano - Il Duca Dusmet de la Meurthe della
corte di S. A. R. il Principe di Piemonte. R.
Abito solitamente per breve periodo
di tg. Tagliavini presso c'impagno di resti.
Tutte l'appartamento dopo l'arrivo a
Roma delle truppe alleate
Il tg. di Stefano V. sara' messo alla
macchia in continuo pericolo - fin
che i berati dovranno subire ogni fascista
presentarsi e fuggire per stabilire con
l'uff. Tagliavini la consegna dell'appar-
tamento che e' l'unica loca di Tagliavini a
Roma, appreso con stupore che le loro
case era stata requisita dall' Office of
Strategic Services, Allied Services in Italy
con ordine Opo 777. U. S. Army e forma
de maggiore Andrew A. Borodine e che
l'uff. Tagliavini erano stati uccisi dall'an-
tirre americana a sgomberare l'appar-
tamento per le ore 16 dello stesso giorno
il luglio 1944. L'intervento del con-
sigliere di Stefanone di Stefano presso
l'Office of Strategic Services (Roma,
via Sicilia angolo V. a Toscana) fu infut-
tuoso. Il maggiore Borodine gli comen-
ziò che l'appartamento era stato requi-
sito "perche' occupato da un agente dell'
esercito Tedesco." Le forze gli era-
no Stefano avendo preferito di evadere
alcuni giorni, piuttosto la questione

veniva trattata d' l'ambasciata d'
America con Autorità Militare, con
perent, e napp' ore risposta che l'Am-
basciata presso la quale egli era
ferito, avrebbe potuto parlare co-
lei della cosa, ma che la decisione
era irrevocabilmente presa. Egli colto
dico di che cosa colla domanda fatta
dal rapp' ore le è consigliere era stato
iscritto al P.F. al che naturalmente
egli d'eda risposta affermativa: è
notorio che tutti i funzionari Italiani
dovessero essere iscritti obbligato-
riamente. Sembra che il rapp. Berding
chitese personalmente l'appartamento
de quel il suddetto Office ha preso
possesso il 1° giugno 1944.

Quest'ordine di acquisto prima pone in
grave indirizzo: rapp. di Stefano, i
quali pur rendendosi pienamente
conto della necessità di alloggi
age ufficiali Americani, dopo tanti
mesi di continua ansia per la loro
incolumità personale, di trovarsi
egli senza casa e senza possibilità di trovare
di trovare una comacente sistema
di casa. Grazie alla comprensione
del Signor dei Santi Curia di Villa
dante (V. a S. Francesco di Sales 18)
essi hanno un tetto per me per
intimità ragioni queste etica
gli'ha non più prolungarsi a
lungo.

Political Section

536

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

DD - proposed

FILE: REQ 168

August 15, 1944

WS

Subject: 25 Via Archimede
To : ACC HQ Political Section
APO 394

1. Reference your Memorandum dated 14th of August enclosing Memo N° 6/231/110 dated 12th August from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. The apartment at N° 25 Via Archimede was, as stated, regularly requisitioned for the office of Strategic Services US Army and has remained under requisition until the present time having been assigned on several occasions.

3. It appears that Counselor Di Stefano has not been a personal occupant of these premises for a considerable length of time.

4. In view of this and of the fact that the need for its retention for Military purposes is still outstanding, it is not possible to release premises at the present moment.

On the other hand, if the position alters in the near future, every endeavour will be made to de-requisition the apartment in accordance with your request.

R. H. Camrass
R. H. CAMRASS
Lt Col AQMIG
Real Estate Officer
3055

ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND
REAL ESTATE SECTION
APO 734, US Army

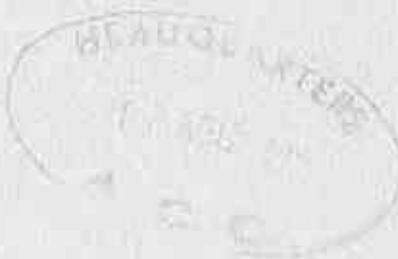
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4. In view of this and of the fact that the need for its retention for Military purposes is still outstanding, it is not possible to release premises at the present moment. On the other hand, if the position alters in the near future, every endeavour will be made to de-requisition the apartment in accordance with your request.

R. H. Gammie
R. H. GAMMIE
Lt Col AQMG
Real Estate Officer



File.

Headquarters Allied Control Commission
A-O 394

August 14, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Lt. Colonel R. H. Comrass,
Real Estate Officer,
Rome Allied Area Command.

There is enclosed for appropriate action a copy of a Memorandum from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs relating to the requisitioning of an apartment owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano who presently is attached to, and serving in, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and who desires himself to occupy the premises.

This case appears to be a worthy one and an early and favorable consideration of it would be appreciated.

William W. Schott
Political Section

✓ 822

Memorandum No. 6/231/110 enclosed

3053

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION.

On June 5th, 1944, the Office for Strategic Service of the 5th Army requisitioned the furnished apartment at 25, Via Archimede, Rome, personally owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano.

The reason given for the requisition in question was that the apartment appeared to be inhabited by a certain Baroness Von Hodeberg, a German subject, who was sought by the above Office for being a German agent. Actually she was an Italian citizen by marriage, having married a certain signor Tabò and such was her surname. Furthermore the apartment was let through an Agency, when Counselor Di Stefano was transferred abroad. Signora Tabò left the apartment in March 1943 and the owners never knew her personally.

Counselor Di Stefano learnt of the requisition of the apartment only on June 7th ult. when he wanted to take possession of his dwelling which had been entrusted to Signor and Signora Tagliafavia, refugees from Sicily since November 1943, when Signor and signora Di Stefano thought it wise to leave it in order to escape possible German or fascist reprisals.

Notwithstanding the steps taken by Counselor Di Stefano with the O.S.S., an American N.C.O. took possession of the apartment on June 7th ult. The requisition was confirmed on the 13th of the same month by the Zeal Estate Office. Up to date and despite all explanations furnished, the apartment is still occupied, in succession by several officers and also by American N.C.O.

Counselor Di Stefano and his wife have no other dwelling in Rome, but have fortunately found hospitality at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Villa Lante, 18, Via San Francesco di Sales. However this is a purely temporary solution which cannot last.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be grateful if, in accordance with the understanding reached on the matter, will kindly proceed to the derequisition of the apartment, informing the ministry in due course.

On June 5th, 1944, the Office for Strategic Service of the 5th Army requisitioned the furnished apartment at 25, Via Archimede, Rome, personally owned by the wife of Counselor of Legation Mario Di Stefano.

The reason given for the requisition in question was that the apartment appeared to be inhabited by a certain Baroness Von Hodeberg, a German subject, who was sought by the above Office for being a German agent. Actually she was an Italian citizen by marriage, having married a certain signor Tabò and such was her surname. Furthermore the apartment was let through an Agency, when Counselor Di Stefano was transferred abroad. Signora Tabò left the apartment in March 1943 and the owners never knew her personally.

Counselor Di Stefano learnt of the requisition of the apartment only on June 7th ult. when he wanted to take possession of his dwelling which had been entrusted to Signor and Signora Tagliavia, refugees from Sicily since November 1943, when Signor and signora Di Stefano thought it wise to leave it in order to escape possible German or fascist reprisals. ⁸⁷⁰

Notwithstanding the steps taken by Counselor Di Stefano with the O.S.S., an American N.C.O. took possession of the apartment on June 7th ult. The requisition was confirmed on the 13th of the same month by the Real Estate Office. Up to date and despite all explanations furnished, the apartment is still occupied, in succession by several officers and also by American N.C.O.

Counselor Di Stefano and his wife have no other dwelling in Rome, but have fortunately found hospitality at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Villa Lante, 16, Via San Francesco di Sales. However this is a purely temporary solution which cannot last.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be grateful if, in accordance with the understanding reached on the matter, will kindly proceed to the derequisition of the apartment, informing the Ministry in due course. ³⁰⁵²

In pointing out once again that Counselor Di Stefano has no other dwelling in Rome, it may be added that the said Official is at present working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ^{V.}

ROLE, AUGUST 12TH, 1944.



HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref. 370

26 October 1944

SUBJECT: De-requisition of Teatro Simeone (RRC 49)

TO : Brigadier Alban Low, Deputy Commanding General, RAAC.

1. Reference your letter AG-800 dated 12 October 1944.
2. The American Ambassador again has expressed the desire that this case be reviewed and, pointing out that it is the only privately owned theater in Rome and that the arguments in favor of its de-requisition are sufficiently strong to warrant favorable action. It would be appreciated if it could be found convenient to de-requisition this theater at the earliest moment or that a positive decision regarding its release on November 10 be made and ACC so notified.

By order of the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOFF
Vice-President, Political Section

3051

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 294

Ref 1870

25 October 1944

SUBJECT: De-requisition of Teatro Minas (RMO 40)

TO : Brigadier Alan Low, Deputy Commanding General, RANC.

1. Reference your letter AG-800 dated 12 October 1944.
2. The American Ambassador again has expressed the desire that this case be reviewed and, pointing out that it is the only privately owned theater in Rome and that the arguments in favor of its de-requisition are sufficiently strong to warrant favorable action. It would be appreciated if it could be found convenient to de-requisition this theater at the earliest moment or that a positive decision regarding its release on November 10 be made and AGC so notified.

By order of the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM J. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

3050

→ Hand
Submitted by
John P. Schell
and the
2nd April
1960

Hand
2/10

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief of Staff

ROUTING SLIP

Date.....

FROM

TO

..... Lt.Col. Shipp
..... Major Talbot
..... Major Stearns
..... Capt. Oden
..... Capt. Mordon
..... J/Cdr Mason
..... J/Cdr Hopkins-Radulovic

Linison Division:

..... Lt.Col. Brown
..... Capt. The Earl of Ranfurly
..... Chief Clerk

Folio(s) referred:

Necessary Action
Information
Prepare Draft
Comment & Recommendation
Speak to me
Note and return

COS

21st October, 1944

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

I have received your letter of October 19th. I will do what I can to get the Eliseo Theatre de-requisitioned before November 10th and will let you know if I have any success.

ELIASY W. STONE
Commodore, USN
Acting Chief Commissioner

The Honorable Alexander Kirk
U. S. Representative to the
Advisory Council for Italy
Via Vittorio Veneto, 119
R O M E.

3049

CC-COS ✓
"A" files

COPY

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Dear Commodore:

I understand that the Alisse Theater is the only privately owned theater in Rome and in view of the arguments set forth in the enclosed correspondence would it not be possible to release the theater before Nov. 10th.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ A. Kirk

Oct 19

3048

COPYROME ALLIED AREA COMINT
APO 794, US ARMY

AG-500

RSM/AL/af
12 October 1944

Subject: De-requisition of Teatro Eliseo (REQ 49)

To : Mr William W. Schott
Vice President Political Section, Allied
Commission
Corporations Building, Via Vittorio Veneto

1. Reference your letter no. 870 dated 1 Oct. 44.
2. We have gone into the matter of de-requisitioning the Teatro Eliseo and in view of the recent bombing it will not be possible to release it before 10 November 1944.
3. On or about 1st November 1944 further consideration will be given and a firm answer given as to disposition of the theater after 10th November 1944.

/s/ ALAN LOW
Brigadier
Deputy Commanding General

3047

COPYTRANSLATION

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO PER LE SANZIONI CONTRO IL FASCISMO

Palazzo Vidimale, Roma.

Rome, October 3, 1944.

Dear friend:

I have so much esteem for my friend Vincenzo Torrace the intimate collaborator of my dear colleague Senator Albertini, and such happy memories of old Crane, with whom I worked in the Near East, that I take the liberty of warmly and urgently recommending to your consideration the matter raised in the enclosed letter.

Torrace is so conscientious and honest that I am sure he does not exaggerate when he speaks of "Italian speculators who are exploiting the good faith of the Allies". Such things happen everywhere - but they must be avoided when possible.

I thank you with all my heart for taking an interest in this matter.

Affectionately yours,

(signed) Sforza.

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TRANSLATIONCOPY

Rome, October 2, 1944

Dear Count,

For the first time in many years I am obliged to turn to you for a personal matter. After I left journalism when it became fascist, the administration of the Aliseo theatre gave me a job by which I could live. Since the arrival of the Allies, although there are communal and state theatres in Rome, the Aliseo theatre has been requisitioned for American military entertainment. A few days ago, however, and I believe it was through the courteous interest taken in the matter by Ambassador Kirk, we were officially notified that by October 31 the theatre would be de-requisitioned. So the theatre managers, in order to continue operations, made haste to draw up a contract for shows to begin November 1. Suddenly, however, we were again notified yesterday, that the theatre will continue to be operated by the Allies until December 31, for the presentation of ballets with Italian artists of the Opera theatre. In addition it was stated that these shows are not only for the entertainment of the allied troops but open to the Italian public, so that the scope of the requisition is not only that of offering entertainment to Allied soldiers, which is just, but also of procuring profits to whosoever is directing the shows.

It is evident that behind the Allies there are some Italian speculators who are exploiting the former's good faith. Also, the Aliseo Theatre, which was building for the purpose of producing plays, is so poorly adapted for ballets that yesterday the artistic director openly declared to the Allied officers, in our presence, that in view of the small stage and musicians' pit of the theatre, it would be necessary to give up the most important part of the program.

I would like to ask you a favour: could not you, with our influence, ask Ambassador Kirk, who is always so courteous and understanding, to avoid, by his authoritative intervention, that this supplementary damage and injustice be suffered not only by me but by my American partner John Crane? Is it admissible that our interests be damaged to the benefit, probably, of Italian speculators who are working behind Opera ballet?

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- 2 -

I should be very sorry if this matter, already known in Anglo-American press circles, should become gossip in foreign newspapers.

If the Allied Command still requires theatres, it might well call upon the managers of other Roman theatres, some of which are more adapted to their use than the Eliseo, to take the same sacrifice as has the administration of the Eliseo, who have not even been reimbursed for the rental on the theatre.

Please forgive me for troubling you, and accept my appreciation for what you may be able to do in the matter.

With kindest regards,

Yours,

(signed) Vincenzo Torriacca

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1798
ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND

APO 794, US Army

AG-600

RSM/AL/af

12 October 1944

Subject: De-requisition of Teatro Eliseo (REQ 494).

To ; Mr William W. Schott
Vice President Political Section, Allied Commission
Corporations Building, Via Vittorio Veneto

1. Reference your letter No. 870 dated 1 Oct 44.
2. We have gone into the matter of de-requisitioning the Teatro Eliseo and in view of the recent bookings it will not be possible to release it before 10 November 1944.
3. On or about 1st November 1944 further consideration will be given and a firm answer given as to disposition of the theater after 10th November 1944.

Alban
ALBAN LOW
Brigadier
Deputy Commanding General

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On the 10th Nov 1944
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Ref #870

1 October 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Lt. Colonel R. H. Camras
Real Estate Officer
Rome Allied Area Command

SUBJECT: Deregquisition of the Teatro Eliseo .

1. There is attached hereto copy of a memorandum prepared by the Managing Directors of the Teatro Eliseo which was brought to the attention of the American Representative on the Advisory Council for Italy by Count Sforza, Italian Minister-without-Portfolio, who asserted that the managers of this theater consistently had been anti-Fascist and that an American citizen is involved in the ownership of the theater.
2. It would be appreciated were you to investigate this case and to afford the Political Section, A.C.C., a report thereon for reply to the American Representative on the Advisory Council.

WILLIAM V. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

Encl:
cc memo "Teatro Eliseo"

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C O P Y

Il Teatro Eliseo è stato requisito al primo di luglio dal Comando Americano per il periodo di sei settimane, che finiva il 15 agosto. Ma a tutt'oggi non solo il Teatro non è stato deraquisito, ma, da vaghi accenni, è lascito pensare che non lo sarà per molto tempo ancora.

Si fa notare quanto segue :

1. = Dei Teatri di prosa romani - Argentina, Quirino, Eliseo - l'Eliseo è il solo di proprietà privata, appartenendo l'Argentina al Comune di Roma ed il Quirino ad un Ente Parastatale: l'E.P.E.

Essendo stato l'Argentina requisito dal Comando Britannico, il Quirino poteva servire per gli spettacoli del Comando Americano. O, quanto meno, sarebbe stato giusto per lo meno che l'occupazione americana fosse distribuita in parti eguali fra Quirino ed Eliseo. Ma non si comprende davvero perché un Teatro parastatale debba essere escluso dal pagare il suo tributo alle truppe occupanti, mentre un Teatro privato debba pagarne per se e per gli altri.

Non ci sono ragioni tecniche a difesa di tale ingiustizia, perché il Quirino ha lo stesso numero di posti dell'Eliseo ed ha una attrezzatura teatrale superiore (palcoscenico più grande, bagaglia di luci più ricco e più moderno, ecc.)

2. = Il Teatro Eliseo è stato costruito con capitali della famiglia Albertini fra le più note per il suo antifascismo e per le persecuzioni subite ed è gestito dal Dott. Vincenzo Torreca, che dove lasciare il giornalismo per antifascismo e fu nel 1926 espropriato, sempre per antifascismo, della casa che egli possedeva nella cooperativa dei giornalisti.

Questi dettagli non sono ricordati per legittimare una posizione di privilegio del Teatro Eliseo, ma per giustificare l'aspirazione ad avere, presso le amate occupanti, almeno la stessa considerazione degli altri teatri.

3. = Non un centesimo è stato versato finora al gestore del Teatro, il quale è tuttavia obbligato a pagare la pensione al proprietario. Sono danni che ascendono a cifre assai rilevanti. È possibile che le amate occupanti impongano ad un privato cittadino un particolare tributo, così pesante, solo perché egli ha la disgrazia di possedere un'attività che alle dette amate risorse confiscare a tempo indeterminato?

4. = È necessario per lo meno fissare una data per la restituzione del Teatro, affinché siano disdetti i contratti di recite che non potranno essere espletati, e si stabilisca la programmazione per il giorno in cui il Teatro sarà lasciato libero. Senza di che, finita la requisizione, il Teatro dovrà continuare a rimanere chiuso. È certo le amate delle Nazioni Unite non vorranno alla requisizione aggiungere i danni di una paralisi a requisizione finita.

Conclusione - Se l'Armata Americana ha bisogno ancora di un teatro di prosa a Roma, sarebbe giusto, dopo avere occupato per due mesi il Teatro Eliseo, che occupasse a turno, per periodi trimestrali, gli altri Teatri di Roma.

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Mrs. Schott:

You asked for the reference underlined the other day. This was never received by this Section, and an investigation throughout the building shows that there is no trace of its having been received by A.C.C.

Shall we go across the street to the Press and Information Bldg. and ask for a copy?

D.M.D.

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