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ACCOMODATION FOR EPURATION TRIALS
OCT., NOV. 1944

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

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FILE CLOSED 1 November 1944

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EWS/dfe

(2A)

AC/4082/9/L.

1 November 1944

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I have recently received from Professor Rivera a communication that the Corsini Palace, because of its value as a monument, is not suitable for the holding of public trials.

That is a matter which in general terms is domestic to your government and on which I do not claim to express any opinion. I am informed that you have had the matter under consideration and have given a ruling. I am unaware whether or not this is correct, but if so Professor Rivera appears to be unaware of your decision. Will you please inform me.

Your very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner. ⁶

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc: 1CoS, CA Section
CoS Section
Italian Liaison Office
'A' Files

HE 8 QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

A/C/4052/9/1

30 October 1944

Dear Professor Rivera:

I am instructed to acknowledge receipt of your communication on the unsuitability of the Casini Palace for the holding of trials, and to say that the venue of such trials is a matter within the competence of the Italian Government to whom your remarks should be addressed.

J. A. Quayle.

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R.A.
Staff Officer to A/CC

A/CC does not
wish to write to Prof.
Rivera until the President's
reply is received.
J. A. Quayle.
2.4.44.

Prof. Vincenzo Rivera
Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei
Rome

Sorry - This is not
in accord with my
instructions, which

was to find out from B
what he had decided. I
promised Rivera to look
into it - not to brush
him off.

ms

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

785016

4082
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

(1A)

Handwritten notes and date stamp:
23 OCT. 1944
[Illegible handwritten text]

From: Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Use of Palazzo Corsini for
Examination Trials.
TO: Deputy Chief of Staff,
Civil Affairs Section.

FILE NO. 998/cos.
21st Oct. 1944

Attached correspondence is sent to you for action.

Copy to : Major Quayle.

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

(1B)

From: A/Chief Commissioner

SUBJECT: Use of Palazzo Corsini for
Operation Trials

FILE No. A/CC 386.8-1

20 October 1944

TO: Chief of Staff

Please take this up with Brigadier Upjohn and Colonel
Boletti. Professor Rivera is sending me a pro memoria in which he
will suggest some alternative locations.

W
ELERY W. STONE
Commodore

Acting Chief Commissioner

(2/30)

cc: A File & Pro memoria has arrived & is herewith attached.

2 Incls: { 1- Memo from Prof. Rivera
2- Pro Memoria, A/CC, 19 Oct 44

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(LC)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner
APO 394

LWS/dfe

19 October 1944

PRO MEMORIA

The Commissario of the Royal Academy, Professor Rivera, called on me today to express his concern over the use of the Palazzo Corsini for epuration trials such as those of Caruso and Azzolini, just concluded, saying that the Palazzo Corsini houses rare and costly books and documents, the safe-keeping of which is jeopardized by the use to which it is presently being put. He stated that he had protested to the Italian Government and was told that the Allies insist on its use for such trials. I told him that the decision to use the Palazzo Corsini was a joint one and that so far as I know the Italian Government had not requested us to move the trials to another building, but that I would be glad to request Brigadier Upjohn to take up the matter with Count Sforza, the Minister of Justice, Colonel Poletti and others concerned.

W
KILBY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR

Acting Chief Commissioner

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cc: C of S
'A' File

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ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE
DEI LINCEI

n. D 109

Rome, 20 October 1944

Memorandum for Commodore Stone

The Corsini Palace is the seat, not only of the offices of the Lincei National Academy, but also of a large library, of a famous Art Gallery, of an important collection of prints and of a typography.

The Library has about 200,000 volumes, 3,000 manuscripts and 5,000 incunables; the Gallery and the Prints collection contain treasures of art of great value; in the rooms of the Academy there are period furniture and fittings, paintings by old masters, and a rare collection of art objects, viz Eastern antiquities, porcelain, bronzes, antique clocks, of great value.

On the ground floor are the Typography and warehouse containing all the Academy's publications.

All the palaces' structures are in wood and those of the roof especially are in a poor condition because of their antiquity. The smallest incident might have serious consequences.

In view of the above, the use that is being made of the Corsini Palace as a seat for the High Court Trial, represents a serious danger for an artistic patrimony which must be defended and protected by those who are responsible for it.

Leaving aside these considerations, the activity of the Academy is considerably hampered by the trials which take place in its building; the library and the prints collection have to remain closed, the works of the typography are being paralysed.

Also from the safety point of view, difficulties happen to arise as the police must issue as many as 150 to and from the palace during the trials, to the officials of the Academy, of the library, gallery etc, in addition to those issued to the public.

It is the police that insists on making use of the Corsini Palace, claiming that in order to maintain public order, they need a seat which can be used as a seat for the High Court Trial, and a second reason for seizing the Palace, which

All the palaces' structures are in wood and those of the roof especially are in a poor condition because of their antiquity. The smallest incident might have serious consequences.

In view of the above, the use that is being made of the Corsini Palace as a seat for the High Court Tribunal represents a serious danger for an artistic patrimony which must be defended and protected by those who are responsible for it.

Leaving aside these considerations, the activity of the Academy is considerably hampered by the trials which take place in its building; the library and the prints collection have to remain closed, the works of the typography are being paralysed.

Also from the safety point of view, difficulties happen to arise as the police must issue as many as 150 to 200 orders from the palace during the trials, to the officials of the Academy, of the Library, Gallery etc, in addition to those issued to the public.

It is the Police that insists on making use of the Corsini Palace, claiming that in order to maintain public order, they need a seat which can be easily isolated. But this is not a good reason for seizing the palace, which except for its being near to the Regina Coeli Jail, is the least suitable in the whole of Rome to be turned into a penal court.

In the neighbourhood of Regina Coeli, there are at least four other buildings which would be suitable for the police's requirements, and which it would be more advisable to use for the trials: a) Castel S. Angelo, b) Casa Madre del Patilato, c) Palazzo degli Esami, in Viale del Re, in front of the Ministry of Public Instruction, d) the Military Tribunal at Piazza Cairoli; no objections about the transfer of prisoners will be justified, because they could very well be transported during curfew hours, as was done for Palazzo Corsini.

In view of the serious damages already suffered by the Academy during the previous trials, through the carelessness of the police forces, the Academy refuses to put its precious furnished rooms at disposal of the High Court.

IL COMISSARIO
(Prof. Vincenzo Rivera)

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