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PROF. MIRIGLIA

MAR. - AUG. 1944

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

Monuments & Fine Arts
J-5634
22

FILE:RC/014.12

18 April 1944

SUBJECT: Promotion, Professor Miraglia 21

TO : Executive Commissioner R.C. & M.G. Section A.C.C.
for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives

Your Mess: Gen of 11APR refers:

1. Your attention is drawn to the following extract from the Decree constituting the office of High Civil Commissioner SICILY, para 2:

" In any case the respective administrations shall retain the power, according to the regulations in effect, to provide for appointments, discharges, promotions and transfers of State personnel and personnel of organizations of a public nature".

2. The attention of the High Commissioner is not therefore required, and you will require to press the appointment through the Ministry concerned.

3. A copy will however be sent to High Commissioner for information.

A. N. Hancock
A.N. HANCOCK
Lt. Colonel,
Regional Commissioner



142
2141

21

ALLIED SUB-COMMISSION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
HEADQUARTERS A.C.C.
A.P.O. 394.

Subject:-Promotions, Professor Miraglia

Ref:-Mess.Gen.

To:-The Director
Allied Sub-Commission
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
H.Q. A.C.C.
A.P.O. 394.

11th April 1944.

With reference to my letter of the 12th March 1944, I attach in duplicate a recommendation from the Control Commissioner of the Province of Messina for Professor Miraglia to be appointed Director of the Museo Nazionale. The original of the letter written by the Public Works Officer of Messina forwarded on the 5th April is also enclosed.

It is requested that these recommendations be sent to the Italian Ministry of Education for their attention.

F.H.J. Maxse
F.H.J. Maxse
Captain
Allied Control Commission
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

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20601

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

~~SECRET~~

PROVINCE OF MESSINA

Ref: 931

Ref:

sures:

Messina 16 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Museo Nazionale, Messina.

To : Control Commissioner, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives, A.C.C.
Sicily Region Headquarters.

1. The Provincial Commissioner, Messina, is most pleased to recommend to the Ministry of Education of the Italian Government the appointment of Professor Miraglia as Director of the Museo Nazionale, Messina. Since the occupation of the Province of Messina by the Allies, Professor Miraglia has rendered service beyond the scope of any employment with which we invested him. He is an individual who has for his occupation untiring zeal. Had it not been for his untiring efforts many extremely valuable objects of art would have been lost to the Province. Our records show that Professor Miraglia was rather badly treated by the fascists. Throughout the long years of fascism his love for the work in which he had been previously engaged, remained constant until we placed him into his present responsible position.

2. If as suggested by the Control Commissioner, Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives, of Sicily, Professor Miraglia may be returned to his former post as Director of the Museo Nazionale, Messina, it is the opinion of the Provincial Commissioner, Messina, that a great service would be rendered to the community.

C. NORMAN RAMSEY

Major, Finance

PC - Messina

File

CONFIDENTIAL

20004/1

10410

Italian War Prisoners Threatening Strike

A Reuter's report says that Italian war prisoners in southern England, now engaged in agricultural work, have threatened to strike unless they are transferred to regions not reached by the German flying bombs.

High Japanese Statesman Dies in Japan

The President of the Privy Seal died this morning at the age of eighty-four. He was the highest Japanese authority, second only to the Prime Minister. Shortly before his death, the Mikado had an illuminated parchment delivered to him announcing him the award of a title of nobility.

VATICAN RADIO IN ITALIAN - 50.26 METERS - 2130 - August 7

First Centenary of the Apostolate of Prayer

(The first part of the transmission was not received)

... "From what we have said till now," went on to say the Holy Father, "it is easy to see, my dearest sons, how useful this is to increase the Catholic Action and the other associations which collaborate with the Church's Apostolate. It is certain, in fact, that without divine help brought about by continual and fervent prayer, men work in vain. Moreover, we must also point out that this pious union of yours increases and develops that interior life which keeps us united to God, which is the supernatural principle of every true and efficient apostolate. Furthermore, by reminding the members of the union each month of the principal needs of the Church, and exhorting them to prayer, the association inspires the souls of the members with the love of apostolate, and prepares them for this particular form of holy activity. Exhorting them to offer the daily toil and suffering to God, it transforms their whole life into a continual act of reparation. In this respect, we believe that the pamphlet published in over forty languages, under the title of "Messenger of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ," is worthy of our approval and of that of the Church."

Dear friends, we now interrupt our reading of the Apostolic letter written by His Holiness Pius XII on the occasion of the first centenary of the Apostolate of Prayer. Tomorrow, night, we shall continue the list of the results achieved by the Apostolate of Prayer amongst its members.

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The letter ends expressing the joy of the Holy Father for the a reading of the Apostolate of Prayer. Or all this, we shall inform you tomorrow night. Meanwhile, we thank you for your courteous attention and we remind you that this religious news bulletin is broadcast each evening at 2130 hours, on the short-wave length of 50.26 meters. Good night to you all.



Ministero
dell'Istruzione, Pubblica
Istruzione e Università

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLE ARTI

Divisione I
Prot. N. 1527 Roma

8 AGO. 1944

Commissione Alleata di Controllo
Sezione Belle Arti
(Magg. De Wald)

Roma

OGGETTO: Miraglia Ettore

Questo Ministero è a conoscenza che il Sig. Ettore Miraglia, ex primo disegnatore nel ruolo del personale dei monumenti, musei, gallerie e scavi di antichità, è stato nominato "Consigliere dell'A.C.C. per i monumenti, le belle arti e le biblioteche della provincia di Messina".

A proposito di tale nomina credo opportuno comunicare a codesta On. Commissione taluni dati di fatto, quali risultano dagli atti di questo Ministero.

Il Miraglia, benché non ne avesse il titolo, tenne dal 1929 al 1939, per assoluta deficienza di personale, l'incarico della Direzione del R. Museo Nazionale di Messina. Con decorrenza dal 1° aprile 1939, egli fu collocato a riposo non già per motivi politici, bensì regolarmente per avanzata età e per aver superato i venti anni di servizio.

Nel 1941, in seguito ad una inchiesta disposta da questo Ministero presso il Museo di Messina, la quale ebbe ad accertare un grave ammanco di oggetti per un considerevole valore, il Miraglia insieme al salariato con funzioni di economo Longo Eugenio fu deferito all'autorità giudiziaria, che ordinò l'arresto preventivo di entrambi.

Vero è che, nella istruttoria penale, il Miraglia fu proscioltosi, mentre il Longo veniva trattenuto in arresto; ma, nonostante

361

Divisione I
1529
Prot. N. 2
Dix

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Vero è che, nella istruttoria penale, il Miraglia fu proscioltato, mentre il Longo veniva trattenuto in arresto; ma, nonostante l'assoluzione, rimane non di meno ancor ferma la responsabilità del Miraglia sotto l'aspetto amministrativo, essendosi in causa la sua carica vigi-

RECEIVED
SUPERVISOR

13 AGO 1944

FILE No

Il pign. Delle per ogni fatto in sede amministrativa, indenne nella propria
Divisione I
1529
Prot. N. 2
Dix

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lanza da lui esercitata sull'andamento dell'ufficio e sull'attività dei propri dipendenti: per la qual cosa è in corso il relativo giudizio dinanzi alla Corte dei Conti, che, a causa delle presenti eccezionali circostanze di guerra, non è stato ancora possibile definire.

Inoltre, non sembra neppure che il Miraglia si raccomandasse per una speciale capacità tecnica nel settore affidatogli, come dimostra l'attività da lui svolta recentemente per il Duomo di Messina, gravemente colpita il 13 giugno 1943 da bombe dirompenti ed incendiarie. Egli, infatti, avrebbe già speso, a quanto riferisce il Direttore del Museo di Messina, la cospicua somma di 700.000 (settecentomila) lire per il ricupero di alcuni frammenti marmorei e di alcune casse di tessere di mosaici, mentre tale somma si sarebbe potuta spendere più proficuamente per la copertura del sacro edificio, allo scopo di preservare da ulteriori deterioramenti per piogge ed altri agenti atmosferici quei muri perimetrali e quei pochi avanzi di sculture marmoree già calcificate.

Per tali considerazioni sono di avviso che codesto Ufficio, nella sua apprezzata attività per la restaurazione dei molti danni causati dalla guerra al patrimonio artistico e monumentale della Sicilia, potrebbe avvalersi con ben maggiore utilità e competenza degli uffici e funzionari locali dipendenti da questo Ministero.

IL MINISTRO



ALLIED SUB-COMMISSION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
HEADQUARTERS A.C.C.
A.P.O. 394.

Subject:-Promotions, Professor Miraglia

Ref:-Messina. Gen.

To:-The Director

Allied Sub-Commission

Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

H.Q. A.C.C., A.P.O. 394

5th April 1944

Following my letter of the 12th March 1944 I attach herewith a copy of a further recommendation from the Public Works Officer of Messina for Professor Miraglia to be nominated Director of the Museo Nazionale, Messina.

May this correspondence be sent to the Italian Ministry of Education.

F.H.J. Maxse

F.H.J. Maxse

Captain

Allied Sub-Commission

Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

20601

1944

1946

Report fromALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
(I.N.O.)Civil Censorship Section
on letter, details
as follows:

Subject: Accusation of Theft and Whereabouts of Art Treasures
Stolen from Messina Museum; Information of Possible
Value in Pending Suit. (In Italian)

From : ~~Civil Censorship Section; Writer~~, LOMBARDO, Paolo,
Villaggio Annunziata Messina, Sicilia.

To : Direttore Del M. Museo Nazionale, Viale Principe
Amedeo, Messina.

Date : 20 March 1944

Writer accuses that an employee of addressee Museum director, OMERO DI AQUILONE, Domenico is selling antiques, sacred vestments and objects d'art. He has heard that such objects (particularly sacred vestments, silverware, coins and medals) are missing from the museum and that penal proceedings are pending thereupon against MIRAGLIA, Ettore, ex-director and LONGO, Eugenio, ex-secretary of the Museum. He believes the above Omerotto have been Longo's accomplice in thefts from the Museum and to have been associated with Longo, during the momentary incarceration of this latter, in continuous thefts of household goods during Allied bombings of Messina-thefts for which Omero has again been imprisoned, such stolen property having been found in his home.

Examiner: Italian Censor

Ex. Date: 22 March 1944

