

ACC 10000/145/39 20034/7 NAPLES - AQUARIUM

Feb. - June 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

JBWP/vr

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

20034/3/MEWA

10 June 1944

Subject: Naples Aquarium, Chemical Laboratory.

To : G-4, HQ AAI, CEF.

1. The Marine Zoological Research Station at Naples is among the half-dozen most important stations of its kind in the world. Its status and importance are sufficiently indicated by the fact that the Royal Society of London recently offered a money grant specifically to carry out its programme of research. A special exception has been made to current financial policy to enable this grant to be accepted.

2. In addition to the normal research-staff, the laboratories are providing facilities for a large part of the research-staff and teaching-staff of Naples University. The laboratories of the University itself were completely wrecked by souvenir-hunters during the early stages of the occupation of Naples, and large parts of the University Buildings have been requisitioned. The requisition of this laboratory would therefore undoubtedly impose a heavy additional handicap on the already overstrained resources of the Italian Educational authorities.

3. I should add that (as explained verbally) this reply to your query cannot be regarded as official, although I am confident that it represents the views of the Educational Sub-Commission of ACC. Any official correspondence should be routed to the Regional Commissioner, Region 3, to whom I will pass a copy of this letter.

J. B. Ward Perkins
J. B. WARD PERKINS
Major, R. A.
Deputy Director. 3331

1st Endorsement

To Regional Commissioner, Region 3, for MFA & A Officer

This letter arises out of a personal visit by Lt. Col. Gaw of G-4, AAI. I explained that although this Subcommission has been interested in the Aquarium I was in no position to give an official reply. He requested me however to put our views in writing, and I am forwarding a copy for your information and record.

J. B. Ward Perkins Major.

Added on copy to
R. C. Reg. 3.

COPY

Subject: Accommodation - W.D. Analyst's Laboratory.

HQ AAI
C.M.F.

2038/4/02.

7 June 44.

G/L

1. It is now essential to find suitable accommodation for the Laboratories of the W.D. Analysts. As you are aware these Analysts are engaged on examining the products of local manufacturers before large contracts are placed with them by the W.D. This work is of course growing and becoming more important as many factories are now reopening.
2. Suitable accommodation has been found consisting of the Chemical Laboratory in the Acquarium Neapolitana, Riviera di Chiaia. This is opposite the old Flauto Hq. May arrangements please be made for this accommodation to be made available.

/s/ ?????

for Brigadier,
D. Q.M.C.

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50 also
33-33
15,15A etc.
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

REB/Map

20034/1/MFAA

Ref. 26/22/CA of 5 Apr 44.

19 April 1944.

Subject: Naples Marine Zoological Institute and Aquarium.

To : Vice President, Admin. Sect., for R.C. & M.C. Sect.

1. The Aquarium and Zoological Station of Naples is one of the most important institutions for marine research in existence. In the past it has ~~been~~ largely been supported by grants from Academies, Universities, and Learned Societies of the entire world. The Italian state and the city of Naples contributed to its operation expenses, but its extensive and ~~valuable~~ valuable research programme was made possible only by the above-mentioned grants.

2. At present the Institute is functioning with difficulty on funds, the equivalent of those formerly granted by the state and commune, which have been made available by Region III. It is not possible, for military reasons, to open the Aquarium to civilians, although arrangements have been made for visits by troops.

3. In January 1944 the Royal Society of London called the offer, without solicitation on the part of the Aquarium, of a grant of one thousand pounds to aid the current research programme. The source of the offer should be a sufficient guarantee both of the value of the work and of its international character and reputation.

4. The sum of £1000 should be sufficient and the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommission is strongly of the opinion that the offer should be accepted.

Don
MORSE T. DE WILD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director

3329

Copy to:
Regional Commissioner, Reg. 3, for
the attention of Regional MFAA
Officer.

* cont w/39-34 35
HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
A.P.O 394, U. S. ARMY

18 April 1944

FA-51

SUBJECT: Proposed Grant to Aquarium of Naples by Royal Society of London.

TO : Regional Commissioner, HQ, Region 3, ACC.

1. The Aquarium and Zoological Station of Naples is one of the most important institutions of its kind in the world. In the past, it has largely been supported by grants from Academies, Universities and learned Societies of the entire world. The Italian State and the City of Naples contributed to its operation expenses but its extensive research program was made possible by the above mentioned grants. During the war years, this assistance has ceased entirely and the Aquarium has been operating only with difficulty.

2. At present; the park in which the Aquarium is situated houses an important military installation and the building cannot be made available to the visiting public. This office, however, made arrangements in November 1943 whereby Allied troops can visit the Aquarium for a fee of twenty Lire. Certain funds, equivalent to those formerly granted by the state and commune, were made available through the FO, HQ Region 3.

3. In January 1944, the Royal Society of London cabled the offer, without solicitation on the part of the Aquarium, of a grant of one thousand pounds if needed for a research program. This office arranged through the FO, HQ Region 3 for the auditing of this grant and forwarded to the Royal Society, a copy of the 1944 Research Program of the Aquarium.

4. As far as is known, this grant has not yet been received by the Aquarium. It is understood that the Sub-Commission for M, FA & A, ACC, is interested in attempting to expedite the situation. The Aquarium is the only biological institution in Naples that is physically able to function at present. It is being used by several professors of the University of Naples and their students. Their important research program cannot be carried out except with the type of financial assistance as that proposed by the Royal Society.

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5. Unless there is some reason to the contrary, it is recommended most strongly that every effort be made to have the grant of the Royal Society placed at the disposal of the Aquarium.

Paul Gardner
Major, AUS
Regional Fine Arts Officer

3327

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Letter of RQMP Section, received by dictation over phone from Major Persell
16 Apr 44.

Subject: Naples Aquarium.

To : VP, AS for MFAPA S/C. *2965*

1. A reply to our 26/22/CA of 5 Apr is requested.
2. In particular this HQ. ~~will~~ will be grateful for information as to who originated the idea of a grant of money, whether a grant is necessary, and, if so, whether MFA S/C considers £1000 to be sufficient.

Signed by Col. Finke.

3326

HEADQUARTERS, *Monuments Fine Arts*
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, *2003*
APO 394
Regional Control and Military Government Section. *29615*

Ref: 26/22/CA.

SUBJECT: Naples Aquarium.

TO : Vice President, Adm. Sec.
(For Monuments & Fine Arts Sub-Com).

29615 A
5th April 1944.

Copy of a letter from the Finance Sub-Commission is forwarded
for the comments of the Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission.

9 Apr 44
Referred for
comment

to Maj
General, whom
Maj DeWald signed on
telephone 8 Apr 44.

S. E. Fiske
NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel, Deputy,
Executive Commissioner.

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See
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20034/1

COPY.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
FINANCE SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

2965A

13025/F

31 March 44

SUBJECT: Naples Marine Zoological Institute and Aquarium

TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner.

1. Reference your 26/20/CA dated 27 March 1944.
2. When the subject of the Naples Marine Zoological Institute and Aquarium was first brought to our notice, the RFO Region III was consulted, and he informed this Sub-Commission that the Aquarium had received such amounts as ~~he~~ had been applied for and approved within the regular budget of the Region. This Sub-Commission therefore recommended that the suggestion of a remittance from the Royal Society be turned down.
3. On receipt of your letter, the RFO Region III has again been consulted, and as far as he knows, the situation remains entirely unchanged. The Aquarium has not applied for funds for some time.
4. It appears, therefore, to this Sub-Commission that the remittance from the Royal Society should not be approved. If it is desirable to keep this scientific institution in operation the necessary finance should be provided through the Italian Government budget.

BELT/rha.

/s/ E. H. FOLEY, Jr.,
Colonel,
Joint Chief Finance Officer.

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17
Naples, Aquarium, Library,

Depot from, at

PONTEL ANDOLFO (Prov.
Benevento - N5898).

Building containing it occupied
by Allied Troops.

Report of Provincial Commissioner,
10 Mar 44. — File 20905.

Copy in 20900, item 20.
(with minute.)

3323

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SUBCOMMISSION FOR MONUMENTS FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES

15
PKBR

28 February 1944

20031/MFAA

SUBJECT: Reopening of the Aquarium.

TO : Executive Commissioner

The attached report from the Regional MFA&A Officer Region 3
is forwarded for transmission to AFHQ.

The correspondence is returned.

PLBK
P.K. Baillie Reynolds.
Major R.A.
Director, MFA&A Subarea.

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A.P.O. 394, U.S. ARMY

FA-19

22 February 1944

SUBJECT: Attached Correspondence.

TO : Director, Sub-Commission on Monuments, Fine Arts and
Archives, HQ ACC, APO 394.

1. The Aquarium and Zoological Station of Naples is at present situated in the midst of an important and costly military installation. The Commanding Officer concerned has been consulted about opening the Aquarium to the general public and he has stated that due to the type of installation, it would not be feasible to allow access to civilians. The building is encircled by roads that are in constant use by the military installation and a special, wired passage would not be possible.

2. The Commanding Officer has, however, approved the proposal to allow Allied officers and soldiers either singly or in groups to visit the Aquarium. A charge of 20 Lire is made and it is understood that a fair income results. The office has further assisted the Aquarium in its publicity and the promotion of visits by groups of soldiers.

3. Certain funds have been made available to the Aquarium through AMG Finance Officer, namely to replace the former state and city subsidies.

4. This office secured information on the status of the Aquarium for the Royal Society of London and it is understood this institution is making a grant of 1000 pounds for the 1944 program of research.

5. This office has been assured by Dr. Montalenti that with all the above mentioned assistance, the Aquarium and Zoological Station can now carry on an active program of research in which certain Professors of the University of Naples and their students are participating.

Paul Gardner
Major, AUS.
Regional Officer of F.A.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

M/mit

14 February 1944

SUBJECT: Communication to Lt. Col. J. L. Kincaid

TO : HQ A.C.S.

1. In accordance with request of the Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, there is enclosed herewith letter from the National Research Council to Lt. Col. J. L. Kincaid as Senior Civil Affairs Officer, ^{NAPLES} Italy, on the subject of reopening the Aquarium of the Zoological Station in Naples to the public.
2. It is stated in the forwarding communication from Civil Affairs Division in War Department, Washington, that the matters referred to in this letter have not been cleared with the British.
3. A report on action taken will be appreciated.

HENRY PARKMAN, JR.,
Lt. Colonel,
Acting Deputy Chief.

Incl. as above

3321

C O P Y

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HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A.F.O. 394, U. S. ARMY

FA-1

1 February 1944

SUBJECT: Research Program for 1944 of the Aquarium of Naples.

TO : Deputy Chief of Staff, C.S.T. A.M.G. HQ.
Attention Major W. D; White

1. Dr. Giuseppe Montalenti, Second Director of the Aquarium of Naples states that the Aquarium is the only biological institution in Naples that is physically able to function at present. It is being used by several professors of the University of Naples, by Professor Ranzi of the University of Milan and by students.

2. The research program in part for 1944 includes:

- a. By Dr. Montalenti: "Sex Problems and Sex Hormones in Fish".
- b. By Professor Ranzi: Book on "Embryology"
"Physiology of the Embryology of Cephalopoids".
- c. By Students of Prof. Ranzi: Research Problems on General Biology.
- d. By Professor Palombi: "Worm Parasites of Fish and Other Marine Animals".
- e. By Students of Dr. Montalenti: "Sex Differentiation of Cephalopoids".
"Nervous Systems of Fish".
"Pathenogenesis of the Eggs of Fish".

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f. Bibliographical work by several professors of the University of Naples.

g. Practical work by the students of Dr. Montalenti and of Professor Ranzi.

3. Dr. Montalenti states that a heavy expense is the purchase of fish and other marine specimens for the research work.

4. Dr. Montalenti states that the research program outlined above cannot be carried out without some sort of financial assistance such as that proposed by the Royal Society.

Paul Gardner
Major, AUS,
Division of Fine Arts

Transmitted Fine Arts

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HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394, U.S. Army

25 January 1944

SUBJECT: Grant from Royal Society for Aquarium of Naples
TO : R.C.A.O., Hq. Region 3, A.M.G.

1. In reference to the attached cable, the Finance Officer, Region 3, and the present Director of the Aquarium have been consulted.

2. The Finance Officer has suggested that when the grant offered by the Royal Society is received here, an account will be opened for the Aquarium. Monthly funds needed for the operation of the Aquarium, based on a submitted budget, can then be approved by this office.

3. The Director of the Aquarium states that some small sums are being made available through AMG, and that these will take care of the deficit of 1943. The grant of the Royal Society will be used for the 1944 operation ^{research} expenses.

4. The Aquarium is now open for visits by Allied troops at a nominal fee, but because of its situation, it cannot be made available to the general public.

HEADQUARTERS
19 APR 1944
A. C. C.

PAUL GARDNER
MAJ. AUS
Division of Fine Arts

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COPY.

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL.
2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington D.C.

January 11 1944

Lieut. Col. J. Desley Kincaid
Senior Civil Affairs Officer
United States Army HQ
Naples, Italy.

SUBJECT: Reopening of the Aquarium of the Zoological
Station in Naples to the Public.

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this communication is to enlist your interest in the Zoological Station, an institution in Naples which has a long and distinguished record in the advancement of science and which is well known and respected by biologists the world over. It has been in operation for about seventy years and has extended its hospitality to research workers of all countries, including many from the United States. It has received wide international support in the form of subscriptions to research tables. Such institutions as the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard, the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City, the Smithsonian Institution, various Universities and the National Research Council have in the course of years maintained tables there which have afforded the opportunity to investigators to carry on some of the most important biological research of the period.

A letter recently received from Lewis H. Kleinholz, Captain, Air Corps, U.S. Army, states that the Station, which is situated in the Villa Nazionale, is physically intact and that its staff has not yet been dispersed.

The Assistant Director, now in charge, is Dr. G. Mantalenti, who is known to many American biologists, since he spent a year in this country as a fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation working at the University of Chicago. I have known him personally for about fifteen years, having met him both in Italy and in the United States. He is a thoroughly honest, sincere and capable man who has devoted his life to science.

Captain Kleinholz has talked with Dr. Mantalenti and from their conversation the following points emerged:

1. Financially the station is in a precarious position because it has no source of income by which the staff can be maintained. Mantalenti is appealing to the

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Rockefeller Foundation for some monetary aid.

2. If the Aquarium could be opened to the public and the usual admission fee charged, the income could aid materially in relieving their present distress, particularly in keeping the staff intact until some adequate financial arrangement could be made.

I am writing to you directly on the advice of the office of the Secretary of War, realizing that, while the above suggestions seem reasonable, any action that is taken with regard to the Station must be based upon conditions as they are at the time in Naples. I do wish to say, however, that anything that can be done to save the Naples Zoological Station from disintegration will be received by scientific men with gratification and a feeling of relief.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Reed G. Harrison
Chairman

RGH aw

