

ACC

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20181/1

SOUTHERN REGION - BARI ZONE

DEC. 1944 - JAN. 1946

SOUTHERN REGION. BARI ZONE

EC. 1944 - Jan. 1946

MFAH %

20181/1

Southern Region,

BARI zone

ALLIED COMMISSION HQ.

Sub-Comm for MONUMENTS,

Fine Arts, and Archives

File # 20181/1

SOUTHERN Region - BARI ZONE

Dat.	To
24 Nov 1944	1 Dec.

Date	To
24 Nov 1944	24 Nov 1944

10000 / 145 / 135

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM DEC 44
TO JAN 46
CATALOGUE.

16

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Min. I. Belle Arti

18 GEN 1946

Roma

194

Ministero
della Pubblica Istruzione

DIREZIONE GENERALE
PER LE ANTICHITA E BELLE ARTI

AL DIRETTORE DELLA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA
PER LE BELLE ARTI E GLI
ARCHIVI R O M A

Div. II

Rel. N° 2795

Registrali del 13.12.1945

Dec. la A. 20181/1/

OGGETTO Castello Svevo - Bari -

S: assicura la S.V. che con lettera di pari data è stata autorizzata la R. Soprintendenza ai Monumenti di Bari a concedere alla Associazione Internazionale dei Boy Scouts l'uso dei locali posti al pianterreno del Castello Svevo di Bari, a condizione che il Comando interessato si impegni per iscritto a restituire i locali stessi qualora lo richiedano le esigenze della migliore sistemazione monumentale del Castello medesimo.

IL MINISTRO

3920-9

Assandrucci

10 GEN 1946

FILE N° 20181/1



Ministero
della Pubblica Istruzione
DIREZIONE GENERALE
DELLE ANTICHITA' E BELLE ARTI

Div. II

Prot. 1795

OGGETTO: Castello Svevo - Bari -

Mod. 1 (Belle Arti)

Roma

18 GEN 1946

AL DIRETTORE DELLA SOTTO
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA PER LE
BELLE ARTI E GLI ARCHIVI
ROMA

Ripresenta il del 13.12.1945

Dir. L. N° 20181/I

Si assicura la S.V. che con lettera di pari data è stata autorizzata la R. Soprintendenza ai Monumenti di Bari a concedere alla Associazione Internazionale dei Boy Scouts l'uso dei locali posti al pianterreno del Castello Svevo di Bari, a condizione che il Comando interessato si impegni per iscritto a restituire i locali stessi qualora lo richiedano le esigenze della migliore sistemazione monumentale del Castello medesimo.

3918

IL MINISTRO

F. Bianchi-Bandinelli

ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OFFICE
B A R I

31 December 1945

SUBJECT: Castello Svevo, BARI.

Ref : LB/115/6

TO : Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives,
Headquarters ALLIED COMMISSION,
C.M.F.

1. Ref. your letter 20181/1/MFAA dated 13 Dec 45, copy to us.
2. Herewith attached please find copy of a letter from R. Seprindenza ai Monumenti e alle Gallerie, Bari, which is passed to you for your information and such action as you may deem necessary.

GMR/fh



G.M. Revsley
G.M. REVSLEY, Major
Liaison Office, A.C.
B A R I.

3917

*Copied (with) by
Education SK*

20181/1

C O P Y

R. SOPRINTENDENZA AI MONUMENTI E ALLE GALLERIE
DELLA PUGLIA E DELLA LUCANIA
BARI

N. .1368.....

OGGETTO

Bari - Castello Svevo.

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Bari, .29.dicembre.1945....

Risposta adel

N.

Allegati N.

AL SIG. RANDERI VITO

International Service Reyer Scouts

B A R I

o p.c.

G.M. REVELLY, Major

Liaison Office, A.C.

B A R I

In seguito alla sua domanda, tendente ad ottenere l'uso di alcuni locali terranei di questo Castello, il Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione da me favorevolmente interessate, ha risposto che non e' alieno dalla concessione a condizione che il Comandante degli Esploratori "si impegni, per iscritto, a sgombrare i locali non appena le richiederanno le esigenze monumentali del Castello".

Con l'occasione, faccio rilevare che da qualche tempo alcuni giovani esploratori usano trattenerci nei locali anche nelle ore notturne in compagnia di qualche fanciulla.

Cio' non e' serio, ne puo' essere tollerato per il decoro dell'ambiente. Prege quindi la S.V. di passare da me per concordare fino a quale ora detti locali potranno essere frequentati e per disciplinare l'ingresso al Castello onde possa dare precise disposizioni al portiere.

IL SOPRINTENDENTE REGGENTE
(Arch. Franco Schettini)
Franco Schettini

(sgd)

3916

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

15
NTH/te

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489082, ext. 442 & 254; 478430)

20181/1/MPAA

13 Dec 45

Direction General for the
Antiquities and Fine Arts
Ministry of Public Instruction

R O M E

SUBJECT: Castello Svevo, BARI

1. The Director of the Boy Scouts International Bureau, in London, has informed our Subcommission for Education that the success of the efforts to re-establish the Boy Scout movement in BARI depends now on obtaining the necessary approval for using the ground floor of the Castello Svevo as a Scout Centre.

2. It is understood that the Superintendent of Monuments is favorably disposed to the request.

Newton 3915
NORMAN T. NEWTON
Major, Air Corps,
Director

Copy to:
Education Subcommission
AC Liaison Officer, BARI

C O P Y

BOY SCOUTS INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

Hon: Director
J.S:WILSON, Esq., O.B.E.

38 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1.

26th November, 1945

Lt. Col. Carleton W. Washburne,
Director of Education,
Headquarters Allied Commission (Italy)
Education Subcommittee,
APO 394.

Dear Washburne,

On 24 November I had an interesting and usefull talk with
Captain C.A.Meadows, R.E., 994 Port Operating Coy. (RE), Bari, C.M.F.

A practical problem with which he is faced is the use of
the ground floor of the Old Castle at Bari as a Scout Centre to be used
for both ASCI and GEI under the general supervision of the Bari Rover
Scout Service Crew. The local Superintendent of Monuments is
sympathetically disposed, but the blessing of the Ministry of Monuments
is desirable, if not essential.

Yours very sincerely

Signed:Wilson

DIRECTOR

3914

2018/11

7010. 1642

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel 439081, ext. 142 & 254; 478480)

20181/1/MFAA

1 June 1945

Director General for Antiquities
and Fine Arts - Ministry of
Public Instruction

ROME

Subject: Cathedral, Bari.

The accompanying letter has been received by the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommission through military channels. Reply has been made that this matter now falls within the sphere of the Direction General of Fine Arts. If there are any particular difficulties however, in which you feel this Subcommission can be of assistance, will you please let us know. Have you any information as to the condition of S. Nicola and of other monuments subsequent to the explosion?

For the Director:

3913

J.B. Ward Perkins

J.B. WARD PERKINS
Lt. Col., R.A.
D/Director.

7010. 1642

RESTRICTED

1st Ind to ltr, Hq, Adriatic Base Command, file 000.4(RCCO), dtd 23 May 1945,
subject: "Repairs to Bari Cathedral".

AG 000.4/768 E-0

1st Ind

JC/gen

HEADQUARTERS MEVOUSA, APO 512, 29 May 1945.

TO: Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1 Incl
n/c

/s/ J.C.

20184/1/MPAA

2nd Ind

JBWP/ps

Monuments & Fine Arts S/C, Hq. Alocm, APO 394, 1 June 1945

Vice President, CA Section, Hq. Alocm, APO 394

This is a matter which has passed wholly within the competence of the Italian Government. A copy of the enclosure to the basic communication has been passed to the Director General of Fine Arts, with the request that he inform this Subcommittee in the event of any special difficulties. The Cathedral at Bari is a monument of great importance, which had however previously been the subject of somewhat drastic restoration.

3912

For the Director:

Forward (Info)
J.B. WARD PERKINS
Lt. Col., R.A.
D/Director MPAA S/C

HEADQUARTERS
ADRIATIC BASE COMMAND
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 388

2 May 1945

000.4(BDCO)

SUBJECT: Repairs to Bari Cathedral.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission.
(Att: Lt. Colonel DeWald)

THRU : Commanding General, MTOUSA, APO 512, U.S. Army.

1. On 2 December 1945, during a bombing attack by enemy aircraft which resulted in a series of explosions of ammunition aboard ships in the harbor of Bari, considerable damage was done to the very old and famous Bari Cathedral. Limited repairs were made subsequent to the date on which the latest damage was sustained.
2. On 9 April 1945 another explosion in the Port of Bari, did considerable damage to this same Cathedral. The extent of the damage is outlined to some degree in the attached letter to the Commanding Officer, Adriatic Base Command, from the Archbishop of Bari.
3. It is requested that consideration be given by the **3911** Commission, for the repairing of this Cathedral.
4. It is further requested that an investigation be directed to determine the extent of damages incurred by the explosion of 9 April 1945 to the Bari Cathedral, with a view of initiating a project for the repairing of such damages.
5. Such a project would be of a morale value to the people of this area, who have cooperated wholeheartedly with this command in accomplishing its mission in East Italy. The restoration of such an outstanding monument is believed to be within the scope of the mission of the Sub-Commission on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives, now under the direction of Lt. Col. Ernest T. DeWald.
6. It would be greatly appreciated by the undersigned if a report could be made as to the progress that can be made as a result of this request.

/s/ E.T. Barrett

/t/ E.T. BARRETT,
Colonel, C.E.,
Commanding.

1 Incl: Ltr, Archbishop of Bari,
15 May 1945

Bari, Italy
15 May 1945

ARCHBISHOP OF BARI

Mr. Colonel:

I am honored in sending you a short report regarding the serious damages caused to the Cathedral, an ancient monument of romanesque architecture of the XI century, following the explosion of the ship in the port of Bari on the 9th of April 1945.

- (a) The upper part of the central gable of the facade, already restored after the weakenings caused by air raids, has collapsed up to extrados of the rose window. The ashlar of the aforesaid gable struck and mutilated several of the sculptural elements arranged decoratively around the great rose window of the main facade itself.
- (b) The gable on the left of the transept was seriously damaged and the elegant tracery of the rose window in this gable, because of the concussion and because made of soft stone, has been reduced to fragments.
- (c) All the slopes of the roofs and especially the left have been completely deprived of their tile covering and in several places the truss beds have been shifted.
- (d) The left wall of the transept and all the walls of the circular chapel have been cracked.
- (e) All doors and windows have been destroyed.

I will be especially grateful for all the support you will be able to give me for the restoration of such an outstanding monument.

I beg you to accept my highest esteem.

(Signed) (Archbishop Marcello Mimì)

To Colonel Barrett
Adriatic Base Command

17 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

JBWP/ps 13

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 254; 478480)

20181/1/MFAA

17 April 1945

Ufficio Centrale degli Archivi del
Regno - Ministero dell'Interno -

ROME

Subject: Premises of the Sezione di
Archivio di Stato di BARI.

1. Reference is made to your letter, Sez. 1^a,
Prot. No. 70432/8908.10, dated 22 Mar 45, subject as
above.

3909

2. Following the visit of the Deputy Director of the
Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommission, the entire
basement of the building in which the Archivio di Stato is
housed was evacuated by troops on 7 March 1945.

3. Under the present condition in BARI it has not
proved possible at present to release the upper floors of the
same building. By the evacuation of the basement however, in
which alone are documents stored, the Archives themselves are
completely assured from any further damage.

ERNEST T. DE WALD
Lt. Col., Spec. Res.
Director.

Copy to:

Education S/C. — with copy of
ref. letter

17 APR. 1945

12 Apr 45

12613

Press clippings and
Radio Monitoring
excerpts on
explosion in harbor of
BAR I
9 Apr 45

3908

2018111 | WFAA

12 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 192, 14 Apr 45

RADIO REPUBBLICANA in Italian to Italy 610 kc 2300 April 12

Explosion in Bari Harbor - The Allied naval authorities yesterday reported the explosion, for unknown reasons, of a British munitions ship in Bari harbor on last Monday. The explosion caused great damage to port installations and to buildings within a radius of twenty kilometers. 277 civilians were killed and 1,690 wounded. The explosion also destroyed two other ships and caused huge fires on two merchant ships nearby. The Allied authorities allege that the incident was the result of sabotage and have therefore intensified the persecution of persons suspected of pro-Fascism. A hundred people have already been arrested.

Copy to: 70023

3907

STARS AND STRIPES 13 APR 1945

Bari Explosion Disclosed; Munitions Ship Blows Up

AFHQ, April 12 — Hundreds of Italian civilians and an unannounced number of U. S. and British servicemen were killed and more than 1,000 were injured when a U. S. Liberty ship loaded with ammunition, exploded in the Bari harbor on April 9, in what the Associated Press called "one of the major disasters of the war in the Mediterranean Theater."

A brief announcement issued late today by AFHQ was the first official disclosure that there had been such an explosion. The statement said that the merchant ship blew up, causing service and civilian casualties, damaging a number of harbor installations and civilian buildings and setting three other merchant ships on fire, one of which was towed out of the harbor and beached. The cause of the explosion has not yet been determined, it was said.

A spokesman for the Italian Government was quoted by Associated Press at placing the num-

ber of civilians killed at 267 and the injured at 1,600.

When the ship, carrying aerial bombs, blew up in a huge ball of fire at a little before noon, hundreds of panic-stricken Italians were injured by flying glass and even by doors, desks and chairs.

The roof of the thousand-year-old cathedral collapsed, killing workmen in the church. Scores of other persons were killed and injured as the explosion hurled them through the air. Some Italians ran screaming through downtown streets carrying dead and wounded.

The explosion was so terrific that it reportedly blew one Navy officer right through the wall of his office, which was located not far from the scene.

This was the second major disaster to hit Bari, according to Associated Press, in two years.

More than a thousand persons, mostly U. S. and British seamen, had been killed on Dec. 12, 1943, during a German air raid in which 17 ships were sunk.

3986

14 April 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 193, 15 April 1945

RADIO REPUBBLICANA In Italian to Italy 610 kc 1300 April 14

Explosion at Bari - We have received further particulars on the great disaster which the Allied invaders caused in Bari, namely the explosion of an American merchant ship loaded with bombs. Three other cargo ships which were in the port at the time were completely destroyed by the fire which began as a result of the explosion. About a thousand families are homeless.

The main hospital in Bari was destroyed and the old quarter, in which were located the Norman Cathedral and a celebrated old house, suffered serious damage. All the windows in the city were shattered. The hospitals throughout the entire province have had to take care of the wounded and have also been forced to shelter those who escaped from the collapse of the civil hospital. The results of an inquiry place the responsibility squarely on the Allies and on the personnel employed by them. Upon the suggestion of the traitor Bonomi, the imbecile Prince Umberto went to Bari, thus adding the insult of his presence to the city, responsibility for whose sufferings rests on those same enemy elements which have bombed and inflicted misery on the Italian people. A huge crowd of Bari citizens followed the Prince ~~stopped the car~~ as far as the hospital. Hardly had the car bearing the Prince stopped than the crowd cried: "Assassin, traitor, down with the monarchy". The carabinieri intervened in an attempt to calm the mob, but were forced to send the car away quickly.

3905

Copy to: 70023

TEMPO

4 Aprile 1945

I particolari dell'esplosione nel Porto di Bari

Dolorosa ricerca delle vittime - Le prime salme sono state inumate nel Cimitero militare

(Nostro servizio particolare)

BARI. 13

La effluvia non si è ancora ripresa dallo sgomento per la sciagura che si è abbattuta sulla mariniera barrese e sulla parte più vecchia della città. Ancora oggi il lavoro di diradamento dei macerati di alberi di casse e di paratie galleggianti sull'acqua conclusa e nera del porto non ha rivelato tutti i corpi stroncati delle vittime; ancora oggi le macerie ingombranti le stradine della zona di Santa Chiara e di S. Pietro non sono state rimosse interamente; per cui si pensa che altri morti si aggireranno a quelli che già l'opera pietosa dei soldati e dei marinai alleati, dei militi di ogni arma e di ogni corpo armato italiano ha dissepoliti o raccolti sulle banchine e sui moli liberi dalle fiamme.

Nel tardo pomeriggio i primi automezzi militari hanno trasportato numerosissime salme raccolte negli ospedali civili e militari che saranno inumate nel cimitero militare.

Dopo lo scoppio inmane che ha fatto giungere fino a qualche chilometro dalla città spezzoni e grani di materia bruciante e che ha scosso dalle fondamenta le plecole case dilaganti dei quartieri del porto facendole eruttare frangorosamente, la gente che affollava le strade della città ancora o che si affardava nella gase si è sentita come presa in un gorgo rovinoso, e dopo l'irrefrenabile sgomitamento si è lanciata verso le piazze ed i giardini della periferia quasi inseguita dai susseguirsi degli scoppi.

Più tardi anche i pochi indifferenti e quelli che non avevano potuto abbandonare le proprie abitazioni sono stati trattenuti ad associarsi alla massa dei fuggiaschi per tema che altre rovinose esplosioni avessero potuto accrescere il numero delle vittime.

Così la effluvia si è intrattenuta nei pubblici vicoli e negli orti periferici fino a tarda ora della notte del 9 corrente assistita dalla preoccupazione di non trovare più la propria casa terrorizzata dalle nottate sempre più aiurmenti giungenti dalla zona del porto.

Quando col sopraggiungere dell'alba, si è diffusa la notizia che ogni pericolo era cessato e che i focolai d'incendio erano stati circoscritti in seguito all'energica e pronta azione degli eroici pompieri alleati, allora a poco a poco tutti

sono rientrati nelle proprie case col tutto nel cuore.

Abbiamo voluto toccare con mano le conseguenze dolorose ed immediate del disastro e ci siamo avventurati per quelle che furono le armoniose e beatificanti stradine affluenti a piazza S. Pietro. In questa zona quasi ogni casa ha subito la sua decurtazione; ancora ancora salda qualche muro esterno dell'antica Convento di Santa Scolastica adattato ad ospedale; ma anche qui sono da annoverare non poche rovine alle sale di degenza ed ai servizi sanitari e non poche vittime fra i ricoverati.

Una parete della Chiesa settecentesca adiacente all'Ospedale è stata assai danneggiata e nelle stesse condizioni è la chiesetta di S. Vito e quella più grande di Santa Chiara.

Il tetto della Basilica di S. Nicola che era in via di ripristino è stato sgombrato dalle spazzature d'aria ed ha travolto parecchi operai. Si temono danni al monumentale ciborio, alla grandiosa tomba della regina Bona di Polonia ed alla arciera absidale. Vittime umane sono state percontate ed identificate in tutta la zona; ancor ora si aggirano intorno alle macerie non completamente rimosse i congiunti piangenti di altre vittime.

All'ombra della grandiosa Basilica si è abbattuto con inopinata pernacchia il dolore fondendo in un abbraccio mortale la gente della nostra operosa mariniera con i giovani e generosi figli della Repubblica Stellata e della lontana Inghilterra.

Gli sfollati sono stati ospitati provvisoriamente negli edifici scolastici in attesa che le autorità trovino ad essi più idonei alloggi.

Il Luogotenente generale si è recato in aereo a Bari per visitare i feriti. In rappresentanza del Governo è giunto a Bari anche il Sottosegretario all'Industria, Lavoro e Commercio, Fiore, il quale si è recato subito sui posti colpiti e presiederà oggi una riunione al Palazzo Comunale per esaminare con le autorità locali e con gli organi tecnici il complesso delle provvedimenti da attuare. Il Comitato di Liberazione di Bari e la Camera Provinciale del Lavoro hanno preso l'iniziativa di una sottoscrizione di solidarietà a favore degli infortunati e delle famiglie sfollate che ammontano a varia migliaia, alloggiato provvisoriamente negli edifici scolastici.

3904

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

9A/1.O.

Tel. 478-326

SUBJECT: Requisitioning of library premises.

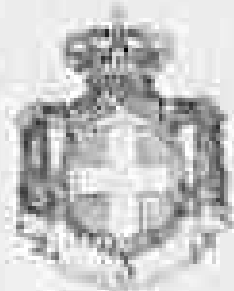
5 April 1945

TO: Allied Liaison Officer
Southern Region (Bari)

A copy is enclosed of a translation of a communication which has been received from the Direzione Generale delle Accademie e Biblioteche. This complaint has been passed for action to the Education Sub Commission. This Sub Commission will be grateful for any action you can take on this matter, and will be glad to have your comments so that a reply may be made to the Ministry concerned.

For the Director of Education:

Sir P.M. Magnus, BT.,
Major.



Ministero dell'Interno

UFFICIO CENTRALE DEGLI ARCHIVI DEL REGNO

 Direzione 1^a
 Arch. 8908.10

Roma 22 MAR 1945

22 MAR 1945

 Alla Commissione Alleata
 Divisione dei Monumenti,
 Belle Arti e Archivi
 Via Vittorio Veneto
 ROMA

OGGETTO Locali della Sezione di Archivio di Stato di Bari. -

Il Direttore della Sezione di Archivio di Stato di Bari, dando partecipazione della visita compiuta il 24 dello scorso mese dal Ten. Col. Perkins ai locali di quell'archivio, aggiunge particolari sulla soluzione adottata in proposito.

Questo Ministero mentre ringrazia vivamente questa Commissione dei risultati ottenuti, si permette raccomandarle, anche per l'avvenire, l'archivio di Bari per una sistemazione definitiva.

PEL MINISTRO

 A. C. 8908.10
 MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES

25 MAR 1945

FIL No

22 MAR 1945

c.

1+1

15 MAR 1945

Mod. 6 (1. Aug. 1944) (Univ. Alt. 101)

11

Roma

15 MAR 1945

Ministero
DELLA PUBBLICA ISTRUZIONE~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~DIREZIONE GENERALE ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

delle Accademie e Biblioteche

Sottocommissione Alleste per le
Biblioteche, le Belle Arti e gli
Archivi - Comando Alleato -

ROMA

Divisione II^a

Poste

1054

Allegato

Riposta al foglio del

Dir.

OGGETTO Requisizione locali biblioteche -

3901

Il R. Soprintendente Bibliografico di Bari ha recentemente comunicato a questo Ministero che un Comando Alleato di zona ha, nel giro di sei ore, disposto il trasferimento in altra sede delle raccolte librerie e della suppellettile della Biblioteca Comunale di Molfetta (Bari) procedendo senz'altro all'occupazione dei locali dell'Istituto senza che l'intervento del Direttore sia riuscito ad ottenere un intervallo di tempo superiore per poter più ordinatamente effettuare il trasferimento in questione.

Nè il caso è unico, perchè anche ad Ostuni (Brindisi) ed in altri Comuni è successo all'incirca lo stesso.

Poichè un tale modo di procedere è gravemente pregiudizievole specie per il materiale librario, spesso di non comune pregio e rarità, posseduto dalle biblioteche, si prega vivamente codesta On. Commissione di voler impartire ai dipendenti Comandi dell'Italia liberata, opportune disposizioni perchè si eviti di addiventare a requisizioni di locali appartenenti a pubbliche biblioteche,

ROMA

delle Accademie e Biblioteche

III

Price

1054

Allyards

OGGETTO - Requisizione locali biblioteche -

1063

Il R. Soprintendente Bibliografico di Bari ha recentemente comunicato a questo Ministero che un Comandante Alleato di zona ha, nel giro di sei ore, disposto il trasferimento in altra sede delle raccolte litrarie e della suppellettile della Biblioteca Comunale di Molfetta (Bari) procedendo senz'altro all'occupazione dei locali dell'Istituto senza che l'intervento del Direttore sia richiesto ad ottenere un intervallo di tempo superiore per poter più esattamente il trasferimento in questione.

Nè il caso è unico, perchè anche ad Ostuni (Brindisi) ed in al

Poichè un tale modo di procedere è gravemente pregiudizievole specie per il materiale librario, spesso di non comune pregio e rarità, posseduto dalle biblioteche, si prega vivamente codesta On. Commissione di voler impartire ai dipendenti Comandi dell'Italia liberata, opportune disposizioni perchè si eviti di addivenire a requisizioni di locali appartenenti a pubbliche biblioteche, invitando altresì i Comandi stessi a derequisire, ove possibile, i locali di istituti del genere già occupati.

Nella certezza che codesta On. Commissione, compresa della necessità di evitare che il materiale librario italiano ~~ca~~ ^{ca} ~~cui~~ ^{ca} ~~inter-~~

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMITTEE

16 MAR 1945

12100-02015

MAR 5 1964

tanza è ben nota, subisce depauperamenti, sottrazioni, dispersioni e danni in genere durante gli sgomberi, vorrà accogliere la presente richiesta, ringrazio sentitamente in anticipo di quanto codesta On. Commissione stessa, aggiungendo un altro titolo di benemerenzza a quelli già acquisiti nel corso di questa guerra per i provvedimenti benevolmente adottati a vantaggio della cultura e degli studi, vorrà fare in proposito.

Sarò grato di cortesi affidamenti.

IL MINISTRO

Angelo Ruy

13 MAR 1945

59 ~~4~~
615

10

ARMY FORM 02136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Sct. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

HQ 54 Area

131300 A

For Action

TO

HQ. AC. Sub Com. Monuments & Fine Arts

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

3900

Originator's No.

QA 36830 Restricted O Re your 20181/MFAA dated
10 march 45 O Basement vacated w.r 7 march 450

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS (CIPHER)

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MES-
SAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
13 MAR 1945

FILE No.

Time

System

Op.

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Time cleared

SIGNED

SIGNED

3999

13 MAR 1945

10 MAR 1945

9

JBWP/mb

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 254; 478480)

20181/MFAA

10 March 1945

Subject: Occupation of State Archives, BARI

To : 54 Area, attn. AA and QMG

1. Referring to our recent conversation on the subject of the Archivio dello Stato (State Archives), located in the basement of the Provincia building at BARI, I should be most glad to learn what was the upshot of your enquiries and, in particular, whether it was found practicable to remove the troops entirely from the basement containing the archives; and if not what action it has been possible to take.

2. I should be grateful for this information at your earliest convenience as I am anxious, wherever possible, to have an agreed solution already achieved before the submission of any general report, copy of which will be forwarded to you for information.

J.B.W.

3898

J.B. WARD PERKINS
Lt.Col., R.A.
Deputy Director.

10 MAR 1945

17 FEB. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

R/1607

17 February 1945

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Archives Building, BARL.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission).

Reference your 20181/MFAA, dated 30 January 1945.

1. The attached report is forwarded.

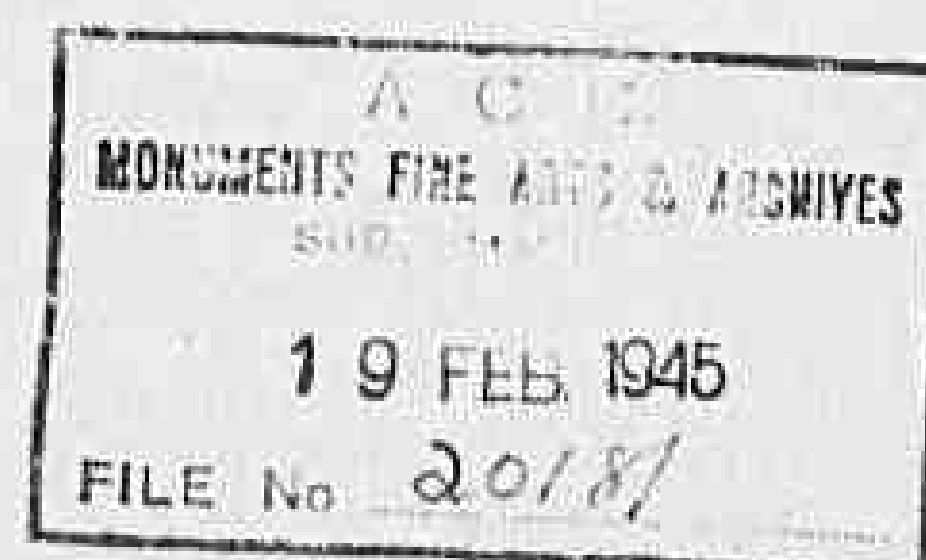
JKD/jh
Incls.

J. A. Bishop
J. A. BISHOP,
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

8A



3897



17 FEB 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION
SOUTHERN REGION
BARI ZONE

SUBJECT : Requisitioned Archives Building, Bari.

10 Feb 1945

REF : BZ/CH/2/1.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Southern Region, A.C.HQ.

X Ref 20181/MFAA dated 30 Jan 45.

On 7th inst a survey was made in the Provincial Building by this Office, which resulted in us obtaining the following informations:

1. Accommodation 120 Rooms which includes 12 large halls, some of which are occupied by
2. 1st floor Provincial Administration
2nd floor Finance
3rd floor Overflow of Finance and Highways and Byways Commission

Mezzanin floor

1. State Analytical Laboratories
2. Chemical Laboratories

3836

3. Ground Floor Left wing

1. Italian Cooperative Troops of Artisan Coy.
R.E. under 12 C.R.E., numbering 4 Officers and 127 Ors.

Basement

- 1 Medical orderly and M.I. Room.

On the 8th inst we contacted the Town Major (50) for information re chances of rehabilitation of Italian Soldiers, his reply ie.

"The question has been under review for some months and immediately a suitable building is found to billet these troops the Provincial Building will be released, at the moment there is no other accommodation available."

2nd visit on the 9th inst This Office inspected the rooms occupied by Italian Soldiers under British Command. Out of the 14 rooms occupied not one had a book in. The 15th room occupied by 4 Italian Officers had some 2 or 3 hundred books.

Basement. They have there no.1 Room and one Medical orderly but

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Basement. They have there no.1 Room and one Medical orderly but have no place on the ground floor or alternative accommodation.

The provision of AFHQ Alm. Serv. is for the night to the
note of A.C. Supplying Unit.

E.S. ORWOOD, LT. COL.

ZONE COMMISSIONER

To Sgt Peebles

Mon. Fine Arts and
Archives Subcomm.

HQ. Allied Commission

Ho appreso con dispiacere che la mia comunicazione le
ha causato delle seccature. Tengo comunque a dichiararle
quanto segue:

Nel periodo 10-15 ottobre 1944 ebbi a trovarmi con il
Prof. Bessone a Villa Indelli presso Monopoli, perquisita
dalla FSS in tale occasione ebbi a constatare con doloroso
stupore che molti libri della bella biblioteca della Villa
erano andati distrutti o deturpati. Parte veniva usata per rad-
drettare i mobili zoppicanti (come ad esempio un'edizione
della Gerusalemme Liberata) mentre altri stampati su carta
Oxford erano usati come carta igienica.

3895

Debbo riconoscere che il Sergente che da qualche giorno
aveva assunto la direzione della villa si curava in modo partico-
lare di riordinare e salvaguardare la biblioteca.

Mi decisi pero', insieme con il mio amico, a segnalarle il
fatto da me constatato temendo che non sempre si trovasse nella
villa persona appassionata e ritenendo che la biblioteca, inutile
per gli usi cui era adibita l'abitazione dalla FSS, potesse invece
contribuire al riordinamento ed alla ricostruzione delle bibliote-
che italiane quasi completamente distrutte.

Roma, 16 gennaio 1945

Con i migliori saluti

Anthony D'Amico

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

BTDA/ps

January 1945

20181/MPAA

Subject: Alleged Damage by Allied Troops - MENOPOLI

To : R3, Southern Region.

1. Ref. your 1st ind. (17 Dec 44) to Bari Zone letter
EL/CA/2/44 of 15 Dec 44, subject as above, enclosed herewith,
in English translation, is a letter (of 22 Dec 44) from Dr.
Augusto Astengo and a declaration (of the same date) signed by
Dr. Astengo and Dr. Giovanni Bessone.

2. It would be appreciated if this question could be
investigated further, in view of the positive nature of the
allegations contained in the letter and accompanying declaration.

By Command of the CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G.R. UPJOHN, Brig
VP CA Sec
D.C.O.S.

2 Incls-
As detailed above (para. 1).

3894

To Sgt Peebles
Monuments, Fine Arts &
Archives Subcomm, A.C.

R O M E

I am sorry to hear that my communication concerning the library of Villa Indelli at MONOPOLI has caused you some trouble.

I wish however to tell you that I brought the matter up to you after having myself ascertained - together with my colleague Prof. Bessone - that the volumes of the library were in great disorder, some of them stacked in cases, others damaged from the tearing off of pages, others again used under the legs of unbalanced tables. We saw a fine ancient edition of the Gerusalemme Liberata used for this purpose.

The sergeant in charge of the direction of the Villa was greatly interested in the preservation and reordering of the books, but we could not hope that he would stay there for ever and that all sergeants in the British Army would be lovers of ancient books.

On the other hand I thought that the above volumes would not be necessary to the furnishing of the villa and that they would be in danger of being looted or damaged by people not interested in them, while they could be invaluable for the reconstruction of Italian Libraries in the North which are nearly completely destroyed.

3893

I hope you ^{will} believe that I mentioned this state of things to you only because I sincerely wished to be helpful both to my country and to the Allied Nations who are so greatly interested in the protection of the Italian cultural heritage.

I am sorry to have caused you ^{any} trouble and I assure you that I shall be more careful in the future and less interested in the good functioning of things in general.

Rome, 22 Dec 44.

Yours sincerely

/s/ Dr. Augusto Astengo

Incl 1

Declaration

We declare that we have ascertained that the books of Villa Indelli at MONOPOLI had been used under the legs of unbalanced tables while others - printed on Oxford paper - had been used as toilet paper.

Some Italian officers who were in the Villa on the 10th-15th of October 44 and whose names - for obvious reasons - we do not know, had also knowledge of the matter and were filled with indignation about it.

Rome, 22 Dec 44

/s/ Dr. Augusto Astengo
Dr. Giovanni Bessone

3892

Incl 2

44

Al Sig. Sgt. PEEBLE

Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

Sub Commission A.C.

R O M A

Apprendo con dispiacere che la mia comunicazione circa la biblioteca della Villa Indelli di Monopoli Le ha creato delle seccature.

Voglio però precisarle che venni indotto a segnalare la cosa a Lei constatando di persona -insieme con il mio collega Prof. Bassano -che i volumi della biblioteca si trovavano disposti in sommo disordine, taluni ammucchiati in cestoni, altri guasti dall'asportazione di pagine, altri usati per raddrizzare tavoli zoppicanti a quest'uso vedemmo adibita una bella edizione antica della Gerusalemme liberata).

Il sergente incaricato della direzione della Villa prendeva molto a cuore la buona conservazione ed il riordinamento dei volumi, ma non si poteva pensare che detto sergente fosse inamovibile e che tutti i sergenti dell'esercito inglese siano degli appassionati bibliofili.

D'altra parte pensavo che i volumi in questione non fossero indispensabili all'arredamento della villa e corressero solo il rischio di venir sottratti o manomessi da ospiti poco curiosi, mentre avrebbero potuto essere preziosi per la ricostruzione delle biblioteche italiane del Nord, quasi completamente distrutte.

Spero che Ella vorrà credere che io sono stato spinto a segnalare la situazione mosso soltanto dal desiderio di far cosa utile sia al mio Paese che alle Nazioni Unite che tanto si interessano della salvaguardia del patrimonio culturale italiano.

Sono dolente di averle procurato delle seccature e per l'avvenire vedrò di regolarmi con più cautela e meno interesse per il buon andamento delle cose.

Voglia gradire i miei più cordiali saluti.
Roma, 22 dicembre 1944.

3891

Prof. Augusto Bassano

44A

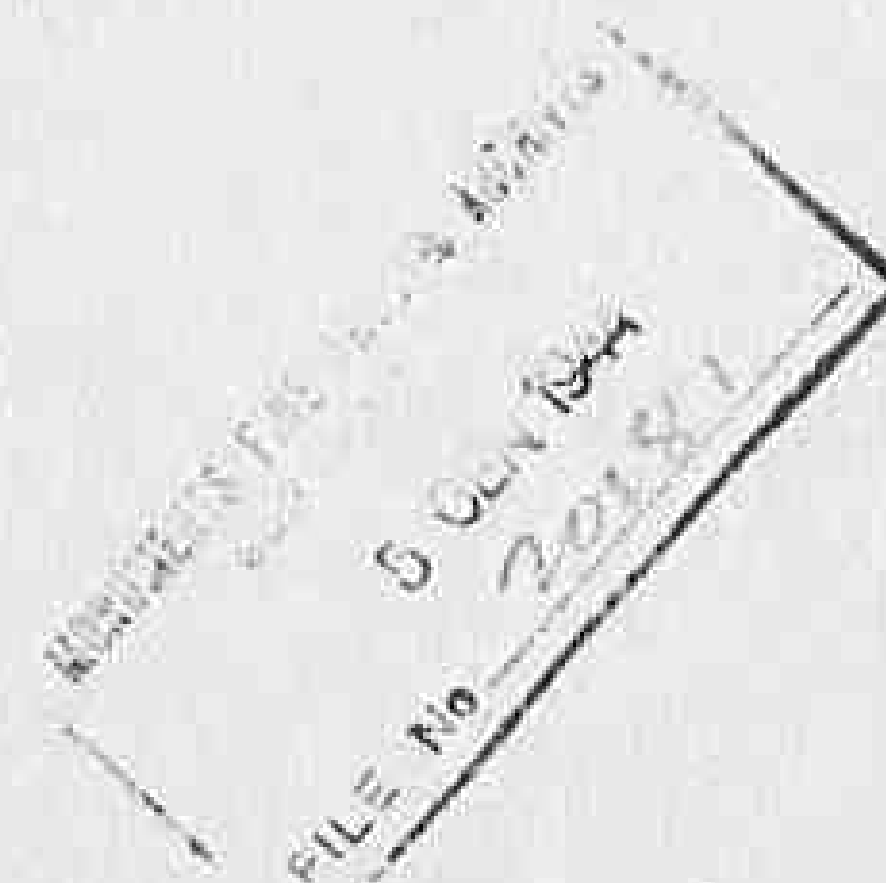
D I C H I A R A Z I O N E

Dichiariamo che ci consta che i volumi della Villa Indelli di Monopoli erano stati usati per raddrizzare tavole zoppicanti, mentre alcuni -stampati su carta Oxford-erano stati usati al W.C. come carta igienica. Della cosa erano al corrente - indignati - anche altri ufficiali italiani presenti nella villa verso il 10/15 ottobre u.s. di cui non conosciamo per ovvie ragioni - il nome.

Roma, 22 dicembre 1944

Dr. Augusto Osting
Dr. Giovanni Basso

3890



ALLIED COMMISSION
SOUTHERN REGION
BARI ZONEMFA 16 DIC 1944
17 DIC 1944

17 DEC 1944

0900

15 Dec 44

(43)

Ref : BZ/CA/2/44

Subject : Alleged damage by Allied Troops - Monopoli

9 24HS

To : Allied Commission,
Southern Region.

1. Reference HQ Allied Commission letter 20181/MFAA dated 16 Nov 44.

2. Considerable difficulty was experienced by 54 Area in locating the Villas in question, but it was finally established that only one, the Villa Indelli, was requisitioned.

3. Attached are copies of letters 79TM/102/8 dated 10 Dec 44 and 3852 A/Q dated 12 Dec 44 from 79 Town Major and A.A. & Q.M.G. 54 Area respectively in reply to my enquiries.

4. In view of the above report and of the apparent discrepancies in the statement by Augusto Astengo, I would request that he be required to explain and substantiate his statement.

5. 54 Area has meanwhile been requested to take suitable steps to ensure the preservation of the library.

3889

E.S. ORPWOOD.

Lt. Col.,

Zone Commissioner.

GIW/jjf

R12275 ESO/GAS

1st Ind.

HQ, SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394, 17 December 1944
TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission

A C 1. Forwarded for your information.

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES

19 DEC. 1944

FILE No 20181

For the Regional Commissioner:

I. WARREN
Lt. Col. SF. Res.
Executive Officer

COPY.

434

Subject:- Alleged Garage - Monopoli.

7/11/102/3

To:- HQ 5th Area CTF.

Villa Indelli, Contrada G. Asana.

Ref your 3852 A/2 dated 1 Dec 44 investigation shows that the library of the above mentioned villa appears to be intact.

This Villa is the only one belonging to Barone Indelli occupied by troops.

Two remaining Villas in the neighbourhood are occupied by members of the Indelli family, an accredited member of which could be allowed to investigate upon application to the Field Security Officer, No 1 Special Force.

Incidentally there are no fireplaces in the Villa in question, and the Sergeant of the Field Security Section, the HQ 1/c of the billet is understood to be a journalist in private life, has taken an interest in the books therein, and has no knowledge of any mistreatment to the contents of the library.

10 Dec 44.
Field
HQ.

Signed P.A. Le Sueur,
Major
7th Town Major

Copy to:- Field Security Officer
No 1 Special Force.

3888

Subject:- Alleged Drage - MONOPOLI.

2852 Y9.

None Commissioner (2)
Bari Zone.

43B

With reference to your letter R2/CA/2/44 dated 21 Nov 44.

The attached report forwarded in duplicate is the result of investigation carried out by the Town Major of Monopoli. In view of the contents of the report it is suggested that Augusto Antengo be asked to explain his statement.

GF
12 Dec 44.

Le B. Antengo
A.A. & C.M.C. Lt. Col
54 Area

2463 24

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

JBWP/mb

APC 394

Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 664; 478480)

20181/MFAA

16 November 1944

Subject: Alleged Damage by Allied Troops to
Libraries near MONOPOLI.

To : RC, SOUTHERN Region, AC, attn.
O.I.C. BARI Zone.

1. On 14 Nov 44 a certain Augusto Astengo, Dottore in Legge of SAVONA, now working with Allied Intelligence, visited the office of this Subcommission and made following statement.

2. In the hills above MONOPOLI (Prov. Bari) are at least three villa belonging to a Barone Indelli, said to be Republican Fascist Ambassador to Japan.

3. In two of these, occupied by Field Security Service, Special Forces, are large Libraries, well arranged and of considerable value, especially for history and jurisprudence. The occupying troops do not appreciate the value of the books and misuse them freely as props under wobbly furniture, as kindling for fires, etc. These things Astengo himself has seen. NCO's have protested but without avail.

4. May I request that this matter be brought to attention of No. 3 District for enquiry, and that if the facts are substantiated they be requested to take action necessary to prevent further damage.

3887

E. T. De la
ERNEST T. DE WALD

To : RC, SOUTHERN Region, AC, attn.
O.I.C. BARI Zone.

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3887

E. T. De Wald
ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec? Res.
Director.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 20181/MSAA

30 Jan 45

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Archives Building, BARI

TO : R.O. Southern Region
Attn: O. 1/c BARI Zone.

1. On 3 Dec 43 the premises of the "Archivio Provinciale di Stato" at Bari (Palazzo dell'Amministrazione Provinciale, Lungomare) were first occupied by Allied troops.

2. Reports (extracts enclosed in duplicate-Incl. 1,2) from the American and British Archives Consultants attached to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee indicated that these premises were being used as billets for Allied troops during the months of March and April 1944.

3. Later reports (English translations attached in duplicate-Incl. 3,4) from Italian State Archives Officials state that as of 6 Dec 44 these premises were still occupied by Allied troops.

4. The Italian reports (Incls. 3,4) complain that up to 6 Dec 44, a year after the original occupancy, the premises are occupied although frequent representations have been made to Allied and Italian local authorities to have them derequisitioned.

5. The British and American Consultants recommended that the premises be restored to the Italian Government because it is difficult to protect these important Archives from hazards and to make full use of records while troops are billeted there.

6. It would be much appreciated therefore if you would have an investigation made of conditions at the present time to determine:

- a) What unit is occupying the premises;
- b) Whether the whole building or only part is occupied by Allied troops;
- c) Whether such occupancy is actually a matter of military necessity;
- d) If alternative accommodation is available for the troops.

7. If investigation shows that the building should be returned to the Italian Government, alternative accommodations are available.

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2. Reports (extracts enclosed in duplicate-Incl. 1, 2) from the American and British Archives Consultants attached to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee indicated that these premises were being used as billets for Allied troops during the months of March and April 1944. 7-C, D

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- a) What unit is occupying the premises;
- b) Whether the whole building or only part is occupied by Allied troops;
- c) Whether such occupancy is actually a matter of military necessity;
- d) If alternative accommodation is available for the troops.

7. If investigation shows that the building should be returned to the Italian Government, and that alternative accommodations are available, it is requested that the occupying unit be asked to move so that the "Archivio Provinciale di Stato" may be derequisitioned as soon as possible.

B. If derequisitioning is not possible at this time, it is requested that

- a) the D.C. of the occupying unit be reminded of the provisions of AFM A&A. Memo No. 54 of 6 Dec 44 (copy attached-Incl. 5) in particular paras. 5, 9, which govern the use of ancient monuments and archives.

7 E

b) This is to be assured that the occupying unit are complying with the terms of this Directive.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

[Signature]

G.R. MURPHY Brig
VF CA Sec
DOOS AC

5 Incls-

- Incl 1 -Extract from report (30 March 44) of Mr Hilary Jenkinson (in duplicate)
- Incl 2 -Extract from report of Mr. Fred. W. Shipman (in duplicate)
- Incl 3 -English translation, letter of the Ministry of Interior, State Archives, Prot. No. 62609/8908, of 28 Dec 44 (in duplicate)
- Incl 4 -English translation, letter of the State Archives, BARI, N. 1056 IX of 6 Dec 44 (in duplicate)
- Incl 5 -AFHQ Adm. Memo No. 54 dated 6 Dec 44.

3885

F
7
5
received

7A 331
Extract from Memorandum (by Mr. Hilary Jenkins)
War Office Advisor on Archives) on Archives
Visited March 1944 (H. ACC, ref. SG 314.8,
20 Mar 44).

MARI

A. Provinciale di Stato. No damage by bombing but troops have for some time been billeted actually among the Archives. No complaints against the present occupants--a company of R.A.--and their C.O. told me they were most careful; also they could in some cases (as their Sergeant-Major, who accompanied me round with the Archivist, agreed), board off sections of the documents and help in other ways. But the troops have to pass continuously among large sections of the documents, inflammatory stores are there, and the position is in every way most undesirable. I reported the matter to the Provincial Commissioner, Colonel Vining, who had already been disturbed by the situation and he promised to look into it personally and was confident that he would be able to get the troops moved into empty rooms in the same building.

* * * * *

(Visited 22/23 March 1944)

* * * * *

3884

BARI

A. Provinciale di Stato. No damage by bombing but troops have for some time been billeted actually among the Archivists. No complaints against the present occupants--a company of R.E.--and their C.O. told me they were most careful; also they could in some cases (as their Sergeant-Major, who accompanied me round with the Archivist, agreed), board off sections of the documents and help in other ways. But the troops have to pass continuously among large sections of the documents, inflammatory stores are there, and the position is in every way most undesirable. I reported the matter to the Provincial Commissioner, Colonel Vining, who had already been disturbed by the situation and he promised to look into it personally and was confident that he would be able to get the troops moved into empty rooms in the same building.

+ + + + +

(Visited 22/23 March 1944)

+ + + + +

3884

Incl 1

7B 133B

Extract from Report of Mr. Fred. W. Shinn,
Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library,
as Temporary Archives Adviser to the Monuments,
Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the
Allied Control Commission, Submitted to the
President and the Civil Affairs Division of
the War Department.

* * * * *

* * * * *

BARİ

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives) A.D. 809-1937:
The provincial archives at Bari were begun in 809 and run to 1937; the very ancient records were stored at Bitonto where they are safe; the modern administrative records were not moved, but also are safe. The archives building was legally requisitioned, and one hundred British troops were billeted here. The archivist, Pasquale di Bari, said the troops were well behaved and were under strict orders to use care. Their presence naturally hindered the archivists in their work. For instance, a first aid station was set up in a room, 20' x 20', the walls of which were lined with records. However, the archivist was permitted to come into the room to get records and he had no real complaints. Certain sections had been boarded off by the troops to shut off their own quarters. Inflamatory stores were there and when Jenkinson had visited the place a month before, he had been assured by a Sergeant Major that some other place in the building would be found for the troops. This had not been done by time I made my visit.

* * * * *

* * * * *

Date visited: April 21, 1944

BARI

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives) A.D. 809-1937:
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3883

Date visited : April 21, 1944.

Incl 2

7C ~~532~~

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Direction General of Civil Administration
State Archives

Sect. II

Prot. No. 62609/8903. / 1 Enclosure

Rome, 28 December 44

To : Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives, Rome.
Subject: Rooms occupied by the State Archives Section, BARI.

One year ago, on December 3, 1943, without any previous order of requisition, a British unit occupied part of the office - and deposit-rooms of the State Archives Section of BARI, in the building of the Provincial Administration, on the Lungomare, with obvious permanent danger to the material stored in them.

This inconvenience was immediately pointed out and also ascertained through personal inspection by high Allied Authorities viz. Mr. Jenkinson, Secretary of the London Record Office and Mr. Shimen, Librarian at the White House Washington, on the occasion of their visit to BARI in March. The Director of the Archives repeatedly remonstrated both to the Preside of the Province and to the Town Mayor without obtaining any practical result, although he was always given the best hopes for the future.

3382

One year has now elapsed and the conditions that perhaps then rendered necessary the continuation of the occupation have been surmounted. This Ministry therefore believes that the time has come to address to your Subcommission the request to make use of its authority in order that the possibility of evacuating the above mentioned rooms be re-examined.

Herewith is a copy of the last letter on the same subject, dated 6 Dec 44, received from the Director of the Archives Section of BARI.

for the Minister

/s/ illegible

Sect. II

Prot. No. 62609/8908. / 1 Enclosure

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for the Minister

/s/ illegible

Incl 3

STATE ARCHIVES

Province of Bari

M. 1056/IX

To: The Ministry of Interior, Central Office of the State Archives, Rome.

Subject: Rooms.

The situation in which this Archives Section has found itself after the requisition of the offices and deposits by Allied troops in December 44 has been mentioned several times to the Ministry of the Interior, to His Excellency the Prefect of Bari, and to the other Provincial Authorities, Italian and Allied, from whom help could be obtained.

Unfortunately all the requests have had no result whatever.

His Excellency the Prefect of Bari, to whom I personally addressed myself so as to illustrate as best as I could the situation of the rooms divided in two groups and lacking any communication between them, has recently answered that, in spite of the great interest he and the Executive Officer of the A.C. had taken in the matter, nothing could be obtained from the Town Major.

None the less this Direction is firmly intentioned to reach a positive solution of the problem which proves to be a very serious one not only to the Archives but also to the public, to scholars and the corporations and institutions who have any use for these collections. Therefore he is calling the attention of the Ministry to the possibility of having the Allied Subcommission for Antiquities and Archives take an interest in the matter.

In April 44, the representatives of the British and American Governments visited the Archives in Bari and were distressed at the trying condition in which it found itself, promising them to give it all their support.

Unfortunately the conditions of the moment prevented any positive solution of the matter, Bari being then in the area immediately behind the fighting line.

However, now that the conditions have changed altogether, it is not improbable that the above mentioned Subcommission for Fine Arts and Archives, which, according to the press reports, takes an active interest in all such difficult situations, will favourably examine the request for derequisitioning the rooms, which has already so many times been made through this Section.

Please let us know the outcome of this request and in case that the action required should be taken directly by the Direction of this

the requisition of the offices and deposits by Allied troops in December 44 has been mentioned several times to the Ministry of the Interior, to His Excellency the Prefect of Bari, and to the other Provincial Authorities, Italian and Allied, from whom help could be obtained.

Unfortunately all the requests have had no result whatever.

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3881

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Please let us know the outcome of this request and in case that the action required should be taken directly by the Direction of this section itself, please give the necessary instructions.

The Director

/s/ Di Bari

Incl 4

7 E

RESTRICTED

DCK/ar

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM)

NUMBER

54)

6 December 1944

PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY OF HISTORICAL
AND EDUCATIONAL IMPORTANCE IN ITALY

1. The following instructions for the protection of property of historical and educational importance apply to all territories administered directly by AFHQ.

2. To avoid needless damage to works of art, Allied Commission have prepared lists of the principal historical monuments, deposits of important documents (archived), and artistic treasures of ITALY, with the degree of their importance indicated. These lists are known as "Lists of Protected Monuments" and supersede the lists printed in the Zone Handbook of Italy, and AFHQ General Order Number 68 of 29 December 1943 insofar as it refers to the Zone Handbook. For easy reference these lists are printed in sections on a regional basis, and will be issued on demand by the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommittee of Allied Commission.

3. a. Districts and Base Sections will insure that complete sets are maintained at their headquarters and that the undermentioned keep a file of those sections which affect their areas of administrative control:

Headquarters Areas
Headquarters Sub-Areas
Town Majors
Real Estate Officers.

3880

b. Attached as Appendix "A" is an index showing the subdivision of the lists by areas, which may be used as a guide in requesting them.

4. All buildings listed in the "Lists of Protected Monuments" will be deemed "historical buildings" and will not be occupied when alternative accommodation is available or without the express authority in writing of this headquarters, which will in such instances consult the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommittee of Allied Commission. Consent will, however, normally be given when occupation is considered necessary in furtherance of the cultural, educational or welfare requirements of the Allied Forces. Churches will NOT in any circumstances be occupied.

RESTRICTED

Del 5

R E S T R I C T E D

AFHQ Adm Memo # 54 (cont'd)

5. a. Whenever it is found essential to occupy such buildings, the Commander of the occupying troops will be responsible that every reasonable precaution is taken to prevent careless or wilful damage and especially souvenir hunting. In the case of museums, galleries, libraries, repositories of documents and other cultural institutions, the contents will be stored separately from the parts occupied, communicating doors between the occupied and unoccupied parts of the building will be blocked, along with all unnecessary entrances from outside whether to the occupied or unoccupied parts. Notice boards will be erected, and all troops billeted in the building will be provided with passes and will be the only troops permitted to enter.

b. A single officer will in each instance be made responsible for the observation of these precautions and arrangements will be made whereby responsible Italian officials can have access for purposes of inspection.

6. Partial occupation of a large historical building, i.e. the occupation of only a small corner, or occupation by troops of more than one Allied Nation, will be avoided wherever possible. In the past buildings so occupied have suffered a high proportion of loss and damage, not necessarily attributable to the occupying units.

7. ALCOM has a staff of officers with expert knowledge of such matters who should be consulted in all cases of doubt. Where such officers rule that specific items e.g. of furniture should be included in those stored separately, their ruling will be binding subject to the right of appeal of the occupying unit to this headquarters through the normal channels.

8. In addition to the historical monuments etc. mentioned in the lists, there exist important repositories to which the more valuable treasures of museums and galleries have been removed for safety. The sites of such repositories are, with a few exceptions, included in the Lists, and these will on no account be occupied.

9. In the case of organized collections, written papers (Archives) and of books it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war. Careless handling or disarrangement can moreover be as harmful as destruction. In the event of the occupation of buildings, or parts of buildings, containing such collections, the commander of the occupying troops will be responsible for seeing that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent damage or dispersal.

By command of General WILSON:

C. V. Christenberry
C. V. CHRISTENBERRY,
Colonel, AGD,
Acting Adjutant General.

1 Incl - Appendix "A"

DISTRIBUTION:

"C"

- 2 -

R E S T R I C T E D

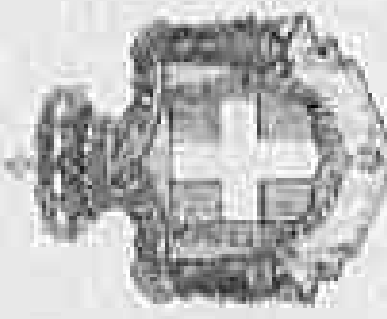
RESTRICTED

APPENDIX "A" to AFHQ Adm Memo # 54 .

LIST OF REGIONAL SECTIONS OF PROTECTED MONUMENTS

- 1 and 2. Sardinia and Sicily; Apulia, Calabria, Campania and Lucania (revised edition).
 3. Lazio and Abruzzi-Molise.
 4. Tuscany, Umbria and Le Marche.
 5. Liguria and Piedmont.
 6. Emilia and Lombardia.
 7. Le Tre Venezie.
-

3879



Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE AMM. CIVILE

Archivio di Stato

Divisione II^a
Prot. N. 24609/908. 20/10/44

7 F. 2 8 DIC 1944
Roma, 7 8 DIC 1944

LA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA - DIVISIONE DEI MONUMENTI, BELLE ARTI E ARCHIVI.

Via Vittorio Veneto
ROMA

Proposta al Foglio del
Dir. 24

OGGETTO Locali della Sezione di Archivio di Stato di Bari. -

Circa un anno fa, e precisamente il 3 dicembre 1943, senza preventivo ordine di requisizione, un reparto inglese occupò una parte dei locali d'ufficio e di deposito della Sezione d'Archivio di Stato di Bari, siti nel palazzo dell'Amministrazione Provinciale sul Lungomare, con ovvio permanente pericolo del materiale ivi conservato.

L'inconveniente venne subito fatto rilevare, e fu anche constatato de visu da alte Autorità Alleate, quali Mr. Jenkinson, Segretario del Record Office di Londra e Mr. Shipman, Bibliotecario della Casa Bianca a Washington, in occasione di una loro visita a Bari nel mese di marzo. Molte rimostranze furono fatte in proposito dal Direttore dell'Archivio, sia al Preside della Provincia che al Town Major ma senza conseguire nessun pratico risultato, pur ricevendo sempre i miei affidamenti per il futuro.

Cra a distanza di un anno superate le condizioni che forse allora rendevano necessario il mantenimento di quella occupazione, questo Ministero crede venuto il momento di rivolgersi a codesta benemerita Commissione con preghiera di voler interporre la sua autorità affinché sia di nuovo presa in esame la possibilità di lasciare liberi i locali in questione.

DIR. GEN. ANV. CIVILE
Archivio di Stato

Divisione II^a
Prot. N. 34609/908. 12 Allegati

LA COMMISSIONE PER LA
VISIONE DEI MONUMENTI, BELLE AR-
TI E ARCHIVI.

Via Vittorio Veneto
R O M A

Resposta al Foglio del
Dir. N. 12

OGGETTO Locali della Sezione di Archivio di Stato di Bari. -

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tivo ordine di requisizione, un reparto inglese occupò una parte dei
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di nuovo presa in esame la possibilità di lasciare liberi i locali in
questione. 1A

Si crede opportuno in fine unire copia dell'ultima lettera a corr.
ricevuta in proposito dallo stesso Direttore della Sezione d'Archivio
di Bari.

MONUMENTI, BELLE ARTI E ARCHIVI

30 DIC. 1944

FILE NO.

PER MINISTRO

[Signature]

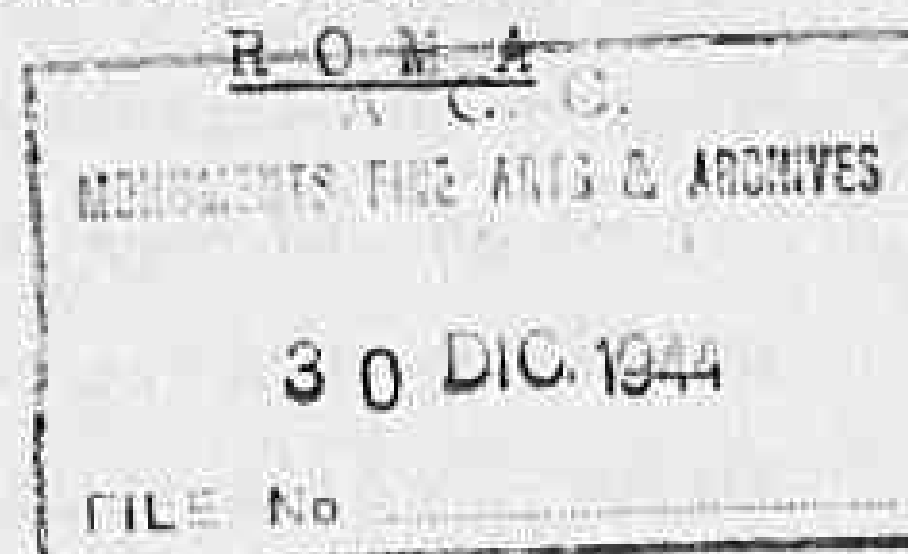
ARCHIVIO DI STATO
della
Provincia di Bari

Bari, 6 dicembre 1944

AL MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
UFF. CENTR. ARCHIVI DI STATO

N. 1056/IX

Oggetto : Locali. -



La situazione nella quale è venuto a trovarsi questo Archivio dopo la requisizione degli uffici e dei depositi da parte di truppe alleate nel dicembre dello s.a. è stata fatta presente, più volte, a codesto Ministero, a S.E. il Prefetto di Bari e alle altre Autorità Provinciali, anche Alleate, dalle quali poteva ottenersi qualche aiuto.

Purtroppo ogni insistenza ha avuto sempre esito negativo.

Ultimamente S.E. il Prefetto di Bari al quale ci si era rivolti di persona per illustrare e perorare il più caldamente possibile la situazione dei locali suddivisi in due tronchi senza nemmeno la possibilità di poter comunicare, ha risposto che nonostante il vivo interessamento suo e dell'Ufficiale Esecutivo dell'A.C. presso il Town Major, nulla si era potuto ottenere.

Tutto ciò non fa recedere questa Direzione dal fermo proposito di giungere alla favorevole risoluzione del problema quanto mai spinoso per l'Archivio, per il pubblico, per gli studiosi, e per gli Enti e le istituzioni che se ne servono e all'uopo richiama l'attenzione di codesto Ministero sulla possibilità di interessare la Sotto Commissione Alleata presso la Commissione Consultiva per le antichità e gli Archivi.

3877

Nell'aprile scorso i rappresentanti del Governo Britannico e Statunitense visitarono l'Archivio di Bari e rimasero molto addolorati della penosa situazione in cui era venuto a trovarsi e

assicurarono , allora, tutto il loro appoggio.

Purtroppo le condizioni del momento - Bari era territorio funzionante da immediata retrovia delle armate avanzanti - non permisero una favorevole soluzione.

Ma non è improbabile, adesso che le condizioni sono del tutto cambiate, che la suddetta Sotto Commissione per gli Archivi e le Belle Arti la quale, a quanto ne dice la stampa, si interessa fattivamente di tali incresciose situazioni, possa prendere benevolmente in esame la richiesta di derequisizione già tante volte avanzata per questa Sezione.

Si resta in attesa di conoscere l'esito della pratica e, nel caso che essa debba essere intrapresa direttamente da questa Direzione, le istruzioni necessarie.

IL DIRETTORE ff.
(F.to DI BARI)

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

R/1324

22 December 1944

SUBJECT: Palazzo JATTA - Bari Zone.

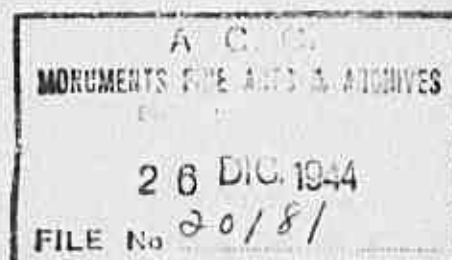
TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission. ✓

1. When Lt. Col. WHITE visited this headquarters, he raised the question of the Palazzo JATTA.
2. I attach report on this subject, received from Bari Zone.

JKD/jh
1 Incl.HEADQUARTERS
24 DEC 1944

J. K. Dunlop
J. K. DUNLOP,
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

3876



ALLIED COMMISSION
ZONE COMMISSIONERS OFFICE
BARI

RC 22 DEC 1944

18/12/44
EZ/CH/2/44

Subject: Palazzo Jatta

Regional Commissioner
Southern Region
A.C. ✓

Ref. your letter R/1273 dated 12 December 44, and Telephone-conversation (Executive Officer - Zone Commissioner) of 16 December 44.

1. On or shortly after my return from Naples I discovered from D.A.C.M.G.II 54 Area that the Unit concerned, an R.A.F. Unit, was still endeavouring through other channels to press for requisitioning of the entire building.
2. I accordingly requested 54 Area to take immediate steps to ensure that the Museum and Library were protected, pending a definite decision.
3. This was duly carried out, and the following final decisions have now been agreed by all parties concerned:-
 - a) The whole of the ground floor, except a garage and a stable are NOT to be requisitioned. This floor consists, apart from the Museum and Library, of store-rooms mainly for oil and cereals, and offices of Dr. Jatta's estate.
 - b) The owners and others concerned in the stores must be allowed free access to their respective rooms.
 - c) Only the 1st floor may be requisitioned (the owner has living accommodation elsewhere). This floor will be used as offices for the R.A.F. Unit concerned.
4. Dr. Jatta is taking the additional precaution of making a separate entrance to the Museum, and has expressed himself as satisfied with the arrangements. 3875
5. If it is considered desirable to have the whole Palazzo derequisitioned, I will take up the matter, but owing to the shortage of accommodation I do not personally recommend such a step.
6. I am making a personal visit to Juve shortly, and will investigate in order to ensure that there are no causes for complaint on the part of Dr. Jatta nor danger to the Museum and Library.

7. H.Q. Allied Commission letter 20181/AFAA is returned herewith.

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 5. If it is considered desirable to have the whole Palazzo derequisitioned, I will take up the matter, but owing to the shortage of accommodation I do not personally recommend such a step.
 6. I am making a personal visit to Ruvo shortly, and will investigate in order to ensure that there are no causes for complaint on the part of Dr. Jatta nor danger to the Museum and Library.
 7. H.Q. Allied Commission letter 20181/AFAA is returned herewith.

E. S. Crawford
 E. S. CRAWFORD, LT. COL.
 ZONE COMMISSIONER
 BARI ZONE

18 DEC 1944

163.

11 DEC 1944

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 439081, ext. 442 & 664; 478480)

JEMP/ps

20181/AFAA

11 December 1944

To Direzione Generale delle
Antichita' e Belle Arti
Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione

Subject: Palazzo Jatta, RUVO.

ROMA

We are happy to be able to report that we have been informed that in consequence of representations made by this Subcommission the proposal to use the premises of the Palazzo Jatta, RUVO for military purposes has been abandoned.

For the Director:

J.B. Ward Perkins

J.B. WARD PERKINS
Major, R.A.
Deputy Director.

3874



MINISTERO DELLA PUBBLICA ISTRUZIONE
MINISTERO DELL'EDUCAZIONE NAZIONALE

Direzione Generale delle Antichità e Belle Arti
 Direzione Generale delle Antichità e Belle Arti

Divisione II

Prot. N° 866

Allegati

Risposta al f. del

Gen.

Sez.

N°

OGGETTO

Ruvo di Puglia - Museo Jatta. - Archivi

Colonnello E. De Wald-Direttore
 della Sottocommissione per i Mo-
 numenti Belle Arti e

ROMA

E' pervenuto dal Soprintendente alle Antichità della Puglia in Taranto il seguente telegramma:

"Allesti chiedono requisire Museo Jatta di Ruvo di Puglia punto Frego intervenire immediatamente per assicurare esistenza magnifico museo punto Soprintendente Drago"

Qualunque sia il motivo che abbia fatto decidere tale requisizione, non posso non preoccuparmi della sorte delle preziose collezioni del detto istituto che, dal forzato sgombero, non potrebbero non aver nocimento. Si tratta di una raccolta veramente cospicua di ceramiche ruvestine del IV e III secolo a.C., molte di grande mole e tutte di alto valore artistico: già la loro semplice rimozione e il loro provvisorio trasferimento in altra sede costituirebbero un grave pericolo per la loro incolumità.

Mi rivolgo pertanto alla S.V. perchè, ove -come ho fiducia- si compenetri delle apprensioni da me nutrite e convenga della necessità di salvaguardare quelle importanti raccolte, voglia prontamente ed autorevolmente intervenire.

3873

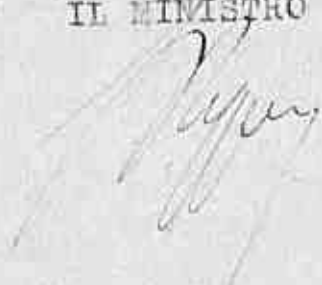
./.

20181

nire perchè la requisizione non abbia luogo.

Ringrazio in anticipo, restando in attesa di un cortese cenno, che confido sia tale da rassicurarmi del tutto.

IL MINISTRO



2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

JEW/ps

20181/MFAA

4 December 1944

Subject: Palazzo Jatta, MUVO, Proposed Requisition.

To : R.C., SOUTHERN Region.

1

1. The MFAA Subcommittee has been informed through the Director of the Provincial Museum at Bari that the R.A.F. propose to requisition the Palazzo Jatta at MUVO. This building which, is a Protected Monument under the terms of A.A.I. Administrative Instruction No. 10, contains the most important private collection of Greek and South Italian pottery that there is in Italy.

2. The removal and storage of this collection is not practicable owing to the extremely fragile nature of the majority of the exhibits, which would inevitably suffer from breakages, loss of labels etc.

3. It is requested that strong representations be made immediately to the requisitioning authorities that, in the event of requisition of the Palazzo Jatta, the four rooms containing the collections be reserved from occupation and securely sealed; that facilities for inspection be accorded to the owner or to his representatives; and that suitable instructions to prevent damage or misappropriation be issued in writing to the occupying troops.

By Command of the CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

3872

R. B.
h. G.R. USJ III, Brigadier
VP CA Sec
D.C.O.S.

20 Dec 44

1

PWB Unit No. 12

To: Mr. Ward-Perkins
From: Mr. Radford
Date: 2nd December 1944

When in Bari two days ago I saw Professor Gervasio, the director of the Provincial Museum. He informed me that the British Command in the district was about to requisition for the R.A.F. three or four palaces in Ruvo in the province of Bari. Among the palaces was the Palazzo Jatta which contains a valuable collection of Greek and Apulian vases discovered in the vicinity and housed in four rooms on the ground floor of the palace. The collection is of considerable importance for the story of pre-Roman Apulia. It is the result of excavations carried out in the nineteenth century by the Jatta family and belongs to that family. Professor Gervasio who knows the collection personally pointed out that many of the vases were in a very fragile state and that it would be difficult to move the collection without considerable damage or loss both from breakages and from the displacement of labels etc. The Jatta family were fully prepared to see the requisitioning of the whole of their palace but had asked that the four rooms housing this collection might be exempted and sealed. Professor Gervasio was most anxious that this should be done. As I was leaving Bari immediately I was unable to make further enquiries from the requisitions office, but it seemed to me that action should probably be taken by the monuments and fine arts commission and I promised Professor Gervasio that I would bring the matter to your notice. Full information about the collection and its value and details of its location in the palace are available both to Professor Gervasio and to the local superintendent of monuments at Ruvo. I attach for your information a copy of the latest publication on the collection.

C. A. Radford 3871

CONFIDENTIAL

Chief of Intelligence
PWB, ITALY.

P.S. I am only just back and will ring you next week when Harman, our Deputy Director, has left. At the moment I must conform to his programme.

C.A.R.

0 2 4 9