

ACC 10000/145/227 20363

DO's Maj. NEWTON

Aug. 1945 - May 1946

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

20363/MFAA

7 May 46

Dear Col Newton:

I am writing to you on behalf of Mr. Ward Perkins who is very busy at the present moment but promises to write very soon. It's a matter which you were personally dealing with, namely the Memorial of the Allied Landing at Paestum. You surely remember the various stages it has gone through; however, in order to refresh your memory, here are the main points that I dug out in your DO file.

It all started with a telephone conversation between Col Kerr, former Chief of Staff of the 36th Division, and you. There came next:

1. Letter from you to Mr. Gilmore Clark of the National Commission of Fine Arts, Washington, dated 31 Oct 45, with which you informed him on the matter and asked for a project.
2. Meeting between Col Kerr, Bianchi-Bandinelli and you. 1035
3. Letter from Sestieri, Superintendent of Antiquities of Salerno, to the Direction General. (copy enclosed)
4. Letter from you to B-B. telling that the desires of the Division are very simple plinth; that you have written to Mr. Gilmore Clark; and that the Commanding General of the 36 Div., will call upon Mr. G.C.
5. Letter from Mr. Gilmore Clark to you. He will be delighted to meet with Col. Kerr and General Walker and presumes that the Memorial will come under the Battle Monuments Commission or similar body.
6. Letter from B.-B. to you of 15 Jan. 46 in answer to you enquiring about how things were progressing toward expropriation and transfer of the land at Paestum
7. Letter from the Direction General to Maj. Bell, (who sent it back to Mr. Ward Perkins) of which I am enclosing a copy, dated 9 May 46

To this letter Mr. Ward Perkins would like to answer, but doesn't know how to begin with. Col. Kerr has probably gone back home and according to Mr. Ward Perkins you are the only

person who can contact him, Mr. Gilmore and Gen. Walker and suggest what action should next be taken. The most urgent thing seems to be to ask the 36th Division to send to our D.C. a definite plan and indicate the amount of ground desired.

I am sorry to trouble you ever across the Atlantic on AC matters, but I am sure you are as anxious as both the Italian Government and the 36 Division are that a suitable Memorial be erected on such an historic place as Paestum.

Next time I write I will tell you more about other MFAA problems and their solution that may interest you.

Mr. J. Ward Perkins sends his best wishes and so do I.

Yours ever,

F. B.

Fanny Bonajuto

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS
Direction General of Antiques
and Fine Arts

Rome, 9 May 1946

To the Allied Sub-Commission for Monuments and Archives
R O M E

Subject: Paestum - Memorial to Allies landing

The Director of Antiques at Salerno, who was charged to deal with Mr. Barlotti, proprietor of the land where the memorial to Allies landing at Paestum ought to be built, states that said proprietor is, on a general line, willing to sell the piece of land necessary to said purpose.

In case the surface needed were not too large, he would also be willing to give it gratuitously. In any case Mr. Barlotti asks to be informed about the size of the surface before taking a decision. He would also prefer the monument to be built as near as possible to the road leading to the shore, in order to avoid damage to cultivated ground. 1033

We refer the above information waiting to know your decision.

Details about this matter were already given to Major Norman T. Newton

for the Minister

(sgd.) Formichi



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

Mod. 1 (Belle Arti)

Roma 9 maggio 1932

Alla Sottocommissione
Allestata per i Monumenti
e gli Archivi - Via Vene-
to ROMA

Risposta al f. del
Dir. Te N°

Prot. N° 1430

OGGETTO Paestum - Monumento commemorativo dello
sbarco alleato.

Il Soprintendente alle Antichità di Salerno,
il quale fu incaricato di svolgere trattative di-
rette con il Sig. Barlotti, proprietario del terrene-
no prescelto per l'erezione di un monumento commemo-
rativo dello sbarco alleato a Paestum, ha fatto
presente che l'interessato è disposto, in linea
di massima, alla cessione dell'area di terreno
occorrente allo scopo.

1032

Tale cessione potrebbe avvenire anche gratui-
tamente, nel caso che l'area da occupare risulti
di modeste dimensioni. Tuttavia, il Barlotti desi-
dera, prima di pronunciarsi definitivamente, che
gli sia fatta conoscere con esattezza l'estensione
dell'area occorrente. Egli, inoltre, gradirebbe
che il monumento venisse eretto il più possibile
in prossimità della strada che porta alla spiaggia,

./.

allo scopo di evitare danni alle coltivazioni.

Quanto sopra si porta a conoscenza di codesta Sottocommissione, con preghiera di far conoscere le determinazioni che riterrà di adottare in proposito.

I precedenti della questione furono, a suo tempo, resi noti al Maggiore Norman T. Newton di codesta Sottocommissione.

IL MINISTRO

Bornick

203603
My dear Norman,

19 Jan '46.

Mill House
—thatched
Exeter

I write once more, to be sure of catching you in case you leave before 15 Feb, your lunch date. It is now all too dear I shall run it very fine as to seeing you, if indeed I manage it. It appears that all ships sailing this month have been Italian POWs., and it appears to be beneath the dignity of the British Raj that I should accompany them! Just as well perhaps, as the doctors have suddenly sprung a suspected chronic appendix on me; and while it is very unlikely I shall need anything immediate done to it (it is by now an old friend and the source of my headaches — if that indeed is what it is) I am naturally anxious to know exactly where I stand and am accordingly having a wonderful time with barium-meals & X-rays.

Anyway even if I miss you it will mainly be a matter of personal regret after your assurances

how everything stands. Signora B. is of course a
rock.

You say both Lanes in Germany are very
reticent. I believe in the case of the British it
is because they haven't got anything. Have you
talked to Morey about the American side? Surely some
of the know-alls in Washington could help.

I meant to send you an extract from
an article by Metzoff (talk of know-alls!) of the
Stus. o. Stipes on MFAA incompetence in the
North. Appeared in the College Art Journal, which is
not by me as I write. I'll send it next week;
you might even care to send them a few facts.

As for staff and so on, I leave that to
you to judge. As far as I can see Signora B.
will probably suffice, and her I am prepared to
take in strength at the British School as from
1 February (if necessary). You will be able
better to judge if there will be need of typing
staff still, other than for Harry's needs; I gather

he is winding up too. My own position with AC will be purely honorary & part-time, & I had not anticipated requiring anything more of them than the retention for a while of an office and the files and of the AC facilities for mail etc.

I shall also have to go down on my knees for help from Naples to Rome with wife, personal baggage and $\frac{1}{4}$ ton of books for the School; but that I shall presumably have to look to Harry for and will be writing him personally.

1030

I should be most grateful if you would pass the news of my further-delayed arrival to the Spjovists (32.703. Do you see them?) and to the British School (870513) for the information of my present tenants, the Wilsons, and of Mrs Agnesetti, the assistant librarian. There should be several parcels arriving for me ^{at AC} in the fairly near future.

Greetings to all, and best, talk of sunshine
Yours ever
John.

P.S. I have good news of the prospects of
the return of the German libraries — the
Storia dell'arte library from Florence is said
by an Italian Office to be still missing. If the
Italian Government hasn't put forward its
suggestion for their return under some international
regime it would be very well that they should
do so formally through their Embassies at ~~the~~ an
early date. Their Embassy in London is so
advising them too.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

NTN/to

APO 394

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

25363/MFAA

24 Jan 46

FROM: Maj N.T. Newton, AC

Dear

John:

1. This is written to put you in the picture on the latest development about the German libraries, and to serve as source of continuing AC policy in case you do not return to Rome before I leave.
2. On 18 Jan we got a rumor that Prof Doro Levi (recently returned to Italy from the US and now slated to head the "documentation" work of recovery for the Ministry) was being sent to Salzburg by the American Embassy in connection with the German libraries. This was complete news to us.
3. I telephoned Morey's office at once. He was not in, but Stohlmann confirmed the rumor without hesitation, adding that he had assumed we knew about it.
4. From my telephone conversation with Stohlmann, from another with Morey the following day, and from a chat with Morey at the Academy at dinner the night of 20 Jan, I understand the following:
1029
5. The American "Political Relations Officer" at Vienna, on instructions from the State Dept at Washington, telegraphed the American Embassy in Rome (about 12 Jan 46) to inquire whether the library of the German Archeological Institute might be sent down to Italy in the 17 freight cars in which it was then packed in (or near) Salzburg. Morey, after consulting his files (but not us), telephoned back and talked with a

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them there. (Morey has thus far been unable to dispel my puzzlement as to why an Italian should do the accepting. I personally think it is because the authorities in Austria don't quite understand the position of the libraries, and possibly because they are thinking in terms parallel to those surrounding the transfer of the Alto Adige deposits without appreciating the juridical differences between the two trans-actions).

6. Morey took the matter up with the Direction General (not of Academies and Libraries, but of Antiquities and Fine Arts) and was told the Italian Govt would gladly act as physical custodian of the libraries but could not accept the responsibility of ownership. The storage rooms in the basement of the Galleria d'Arte Moderna would be available as a repository for the books. Doro Levi would be available to go to Salzburg.

7. In order to get Doro Levi to Austria, Morey appealed to Admiral Stone's office (dealing, I take it, with Lt Behn) for transport. To support the request, Morey says he gave the Admiral's office a full memorandum on the matter (which was not referred to MFAA S/C by either Morey or the CC's office). A command car was provided by AG and Doro Levi left for Salzburg on Saturday morning, 19 Jan. (I heard these details from Morey at 1230 that day by telephone when he responded to a message I had left with his Secretary earlier in the day asking him to phone me).

1028

8. I pointed out to Morey (in this conversation of 19 Jan) that I was naturally very much surprised that we had not been at least informed of all this; that we should have been consulted in advance, I said, was too obvious to require comment. I pointed out that, being responsible for protection of Allied interests in Italy, I would at least have to inform the British Embassy (since he had not done so) by joint memo to Polads A and B. I also pointed out that AC's recommendation (by the CC's letter of 9 Nov 45 to the Ambassadors) had been against physical return of the libraries until at least the British and American Govts had made an agreed statement of policy. This seemed to upset Morey somewhat, and he asked me whether I couldn't hold up the memo until after Doro Levi had returned from Austria with more information as to the details (perhaps, he pointed out, the British Govt had been consulted in Austria).

Arte) and was told the Italian Govt would not

*Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione*IL DIRETTORE GENERALE
DELLE ANTICHITA' E BELLE ARTI

Roma, 15 gennaio 1946

Major, Air Corps Director
NORMAN T. NEWTONMPAA
ALLIED COMMISSION

Caro Major Newton,

avevo già sollecitato, prima ancora di ricevere la Sua lettera, la pratica relativa all'esproprio del terreno presso Paestum destinato al monumento commemorativo dello sbarco della 36^a Divisione.

Dal Soprintendente Sestrieri ho ricevuto oggi una lettera dell'11 corrente, nella quale mi si informa dello stato di detta pratica.

In base ad essa farò i passi necessari per farla ulteriormente procedere. Spero pertanto di farLe sapere ancora qualcosa prima di febbraio.

Cordiali saluti dal Suo 1025

20363

24 GEN 1946

FILE

20363

*Francis Sandmeyer**Phoned Col Kim 22 Jan*

Dear <

Norman Newton,
A.C.

Dear Major:

May I have your comment or
advice as this — and the letter
back, both at your convenience.

Thanks!

C. M. M. M.

1013

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Dec. 5th 1945.

32

Dear Major Newton.

I wonder if you would institute an enquiry for me.

A British painter by name Leonard¹⁰¹¹ Campbell-Taylor (R.A.), asked my wife to trace for him whether a picture of his, ~~painter~~ which used to hang in Rome before the War is still in existence. He was told that his name was

