

ACC 10000/145/245

20381

INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ON MFAA

(1 of 2 folders)

OCT. 1943 - AUG. 1944

REPORTS ON MFAA

AUG. 1944

1/2

AFHQ, FWB, R. M. REPORT No. 65 - 23 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO In Italian to Italy - 480 METERS-1300 - Aug 22

Measures Proposed for the Reconstruction of Cassino

The mayor of Cassino, during an interview granted to a correspondent of "Avanti!", described the first measures to be adopted for the reconstruction of the town. News broadcast by the United Nations News Agency, announces that for the reconstruction work to be carried out in the neighborhood of Cassino, the authorities have set aside five million lire. Another ten million have been set aside for lesser works, such as the clearing away of debris.

This is the first time in many long months that Cassino is mentioned, after the hardships it endured during the fighting in that vicinity. This shows, once again, the complete lack of tact and comprehension on the part of the Allies who, after having destroyed priceless works of art, believe they can now wipe out their shameful action by handing over a sum of money for the reconstruction of Cassino. These are the methods by which the Allies hope to earn the eternal gratitude of the...

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AMQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 65 - 23 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M. 491 - 2000 - 22 August -

Enemy Air Attacks over Italy.

Enemy aircraft flew over Cremona, and dropped incendiary and fragmentation bombs on two hospitals. Heavy damage and numerous casualties resulted from the attack.

.....

.....

Venice was again attacked on Wednesday night by enemy aircraft which bombed and strafed the outskirts of the city.

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Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, No... 22 August 1944

LATE BULLETINS

TAF ATTACKS IN NORTH ITALY.

Advance AFHQ, August 21 - Tactical Air Force bombers today switched their attacks from southern France to northern Italy, dealing heavy surprise blows at German supply lines leading into the Italian battle area.

Several waves of fighter-bombers swept down on rail yards at Alessandria, where scores of rail cars were destroyed, buildings were hit, and tracks were blown into tangled wreckage. Other fighter-bombers strafed motor traffic along highways, particularly around Turin, while medium bombers attacked a rail bridge at Borgo San Lorenzo, 15 miles northeast of Florence, and struck at two Po Valley rail bridges on the Bologna-Ferrara-Padua line.

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UN NEWS SERVICE BASIC NEWS - 21 August 1944

LIBERATED ITALYFLORENTINE ART TREASURES

2076

Florence, August 20 - The Allied Monuments and Fine Arts Committee announced that in an initial survey of Florence, they found that apart from occasional breakages to windows and minor damage to roofs, the fine arts treasures of Florence suffered little. The famous Ponte di Parte Guelfa has suffered severe interior damage from a blast, apparently a mine, but the outside walls seem sound.

However, two nights ago the Germans dropped shells on either side of the Ponte Alle Grazie and the Lungarno Seristori. A palace at the corner of Via dei Venci was damaged and the fine church of Santa Croce was damaged on the left side. This church contains the works of famous Italians, some of ~~which~~ which were damaged, including those of Leonardo da Vinci.

(UNN)

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10 Sept 44

AFHQ, PWB, Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy, No. 23,
6 Sept 44, p. 13.

Air Raid Damage.

FERRARA Damage has been pretty extensive, especially to industry and communications. The railway hardly works at all any more.

(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA In the Allied raid on 7th July the central station was hit, the industrial quarter and the railway damaged. The civilian hospital was also hit, causing 50 casualties. Another raid on the same districts was made on the 8th July, and railway traffic was brought to a standstill.

(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

2075

PADOVA There have been eight raids up to 10th July. A good many non-military objectives have been hit, with corresponding effect on civilian morale.

(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

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AFHQ, PWB. R.M. REPORT No. 64 - 22 August 1944 -

1. JEBICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 480 m. - 1400 - Aug 20.

Fascists Safeguard Italy's Art Treasures.

The Minister of Public Education in invaded territory ordered an inquiry to determine what works of Italian art were stolen by the Germans and Fascists in southern Italy, before the arrival of the Allies.

In this light, it must be said that all major works of art in southern Italy were placed in safekeeping in northern Italy, that is in Republican Socialist Italy, before the Allies arrived, so as to prevent the latter from seizing them.

The art treasures which are missing can easily be found in the galleries, museums and private collections of the British and the Americans, to whom they were sold after their removal from Italy.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No 64 - 22 August 1944 -

ITALIAN BROADCAST - REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 0800 - Aug 20

Allied Air Attack on Cuneo.

Yesterday morning the enemy dropped numerous bombs on Cuneo, destroying one dwelling. There were dead and wounded. In the afternoon, other enemy planes dropped bombs on the outskirts of Cuneo. Several farm houses were hit. Two bombs fell on cultivated soil.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT N. 63 - 20 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - m.491 - 20.00
August 19-44

Southern Front - Bomb in Florence

As far as the southern front is concerned, some activity is reported only from the Adriatic sector. The enemy there, made some thrusts supported by tanks. The intervention by German defence troops compelled the enemy to give up any aggressive aims.

In Florence, last night, Florentine Fascists of the "Black Brigades" continued their action of harassing the activity of the invader. A bomb exploded under the bridge of the Santa Trinità, where Allied engineers were busy doing some repair work.

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19 Aug 41

ITALY

Ravenna

Air Raids: Damage in Ravenna—

K22. Italian Home Service, 19.8.44 (08.00). During the raids on Ravenna which took place on July 23rd and 24th (see Digest 1515, 2.8, K9), the Anglo-Americans inflicted particularly heavy damage on churches and convents. The ancient Church of Sant' Agata was hit. In the Church of Santa Maria in Porto, begun in the 16th century and completed in the 18th century with a rich Palladian facade, the 16th century choir, with caryatides by Mariano Francesco, was hit in several places. Immediate measures were taken and many decorated fragments have been saved. The Loggia del Giardino, an elegant building in Lombard marble, was hit, the superb 15th century cloister being seriously damaged. Two arches of the cloister of San Francesco, attached to the Church, built with 16th century materials on the ancient 2nd century site, were destroyed. Blast from the bomb explosion even

ND 1531 21 Aug 44 140

reached the tomb of Dante, causing the loosening of some of the joints in the protecting wall of the chapel.

2071

New Digest 1531 21 Aug 44
p. 40

AFHQ, PWB, R.M? REPORT - 19 August 1944 - No. 62

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ITALIAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS

More Allied "Terror Raids"

"The criminal terror activity of Anglo-American ~~airmen~~ continues." Savona and Reggio Emilia were bombed, in both towns damage was caused to artistic monuments, and a number of casualties resulted.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 63 - 20 August 1944

DNB IN ENGLISH - August 19

Allied Terror Raids Damage Italian Churches - 23569

Milan: Anglo-American airmen the last few days continued their systematic terror raids on the provinces of Bologna, Reggio Emilia, Venice and the town of Fiume. Particularly heavy damage to buildings, and loss of life are reported from Fiume. Attacks were directed exclusively against non-military targets. It is learnt only now that the ancient basilica of Santa Agata, one of the jewels of Byzantine art in Ravenna, was badly damaged in the Allied raids of July 23rd and 24th. Santa Maria in Porto church, situated nearby which is famous for its splendid marble front dating from the 18th century, received a direct hit. The adjacent monastery, with its famous loggias and arches, dating from the 15th century, was heavily damaged. The same fate was suffered by the neighbouring San Francesco monastery. Dante's grave was also damaged.

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Capt. C.-11.

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U NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS Max 20 August 1944 -

LIBERATED ITALY - ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - August 19

Restoration of Naples Church Progresses

Naples, August 19 - Restoration work on the Church of the Annunziata, damaged by a German raid on March 15, is now well under way and soon will be completed, it was announced today by the Fine Art Division of Region 3 of the Allied Control Commission.

(UNN)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT; No. 62 - 19 August 1944 -

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - August 18

Heavy Air Raids on Italian Towns

Milan: During the last few days Anglo-American air raids have been directed mainly against places in southern Piedmont. Particularly heavy raids were made on the towns of Mondovi, Saluzzo and Asti. Modena also was repeatedly raided.

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Capt. C-11.

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AMHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT, No. 61 - 18 August 1944

ITALIAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS MILITARY

Piedmontese Towns Bombed

Cuneo, Mondovi and Saluzzo were subjected to Allied terror raids, states the Fascist radio.

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2066

1-3 17 Aug 44

ITALY

Venice

N.B. 3108 Milan
345 GENOA

Air Raids on Venice— *News Digest 17 Aug 44*

K14 TP (in German for Europe), 15.8.44 (14.33). reports from Venice: A considerable formation of Anglo-American fighter-bombers on Monday attacked the centre of Venice from a low level. The attack was directed against targets at the exit of the Grand Canal, between Santa Maria della Salute, and the Doges' Palace. The German hospital ship "Freiburg," moored immediately in front of Maria della Salute was hit. At the Doges' Palace, Santa Maria della Salute, the Procuratie and many palaces, windows and doors were shattered by blast. The priceless windows of St. Mark's and the Doges' Palace were smashed; many roofs were blown off. According to reports, 38 people were killed. Apart from the casualties on board the "Freiburg" many people on a passenger ferry were killed. The Cardinal Patriarch has visited victims at the hospital.

The "Freiburg" shows more than 200 marks from bombs and bullets (Einschläge und Einschüsse). It is officially reported that four bombs fell in the immediate vicinity, although the "Freiburg" was clearly marked as a Red Cross ship. She was also fired at by machine-guns and cannon. Of the medical personnel on board, one was killed and 11 wounded, among them the ship's medical officer. Fortunately, no wounded were on board the hospital ship at the time.

An eye-witness reports: Just before sunrise I heard the rattling of machine-guns, which came nearer at tremendous speed. [A vivid description of the events which reached their climax when bombs were dropped on the hospital ship and the ferry follows.—Ed.] Later we learned that ten people had been killed outright on the passenger steamer. The passengers had taken refuge from the machine-gun fire in the cabin when its walls were pierced by an enemy bomb. In addition, 40 passengers were injured. [An account of the damage caused in Venice follows.—Ed.]

—And Genoa District

K15 DNB (for Europe), 15.8.44 (18.23), reports from Milan: In an Anglo-American air attack on the Genoa district at the beginning of this month, Rapallo, Santa Margherita and Portofino were also affected. At Portofino, enemy airmen destroyed the Church of San Giorgio, built at the narrowest point of the Isthmus connecting the extreme spur of the Portofino Mountains with the mainland. The Church contained the relics of St. George, which Ligurian crusaders brought from the Holy Land. This 11th century Church, considerably enlarged in the 17th century, is now only a pile of ruins.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT NO; 61 - 18 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 491 m.2300 - Aug 17

Mazzini's House Hit by Bombs

Among the buildings recently hit in Genoa by Anglo-American bombs is the house where Giuseppe Mazzini was born. Precious papers and autographs were destroyed. The archives were fortunately but little damaged.

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AHQ, DWB, R.M. REPORT, No. 61 - 18 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 491M-~~X~~.2000
17 August 1944

Cuneo bombed

Enemy planes yesterday bombed the city and province of Cuneo, causing considerable damages to private houses. Saluzzo and Mondovi were also subject to a severe terrpristic air-raïd, in the course of which the tram running from Mondovi to San Michele was machine-gunned.

In Venice, according to the latest reports, thirty-two more people died as a result of the enemy air-raïd, while eight casualties are in dangerous condition.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT, No. 60 - August 17, 1944

RADIO BERLIN (La Voix du Reich) in French to France - 1800 -
August 16, 1944Germans Safeguard Florentine Art

2062

The celebrated collection of paintings of.....Florence, which had been transported to a chateau in the Tuscan countryside and which had already come within the range of Allied artillery fire, was discovered by a German parachutist and rescued, thanks to his intervention.

This German professor of history and languages chanced to enter a room filled with paintings, wherein, to his great astonishment, he discovered the most beautiful works of Botticelli and other celebrated masters. He immediately informed the commander of his regiment who that very night, in spite of the raging battle, removed the paintings in a train escorted by a squadron of soldiers. The next day they were handed over to the director of the Florence museum in the presence of a representative of the German consul.

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT NO. 60 - 17 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M. 491 - 20.00
16 August 1944

New Details on the Bombing of Venice

2061

New details have been received on the outrageous raid on Venice carried out by the enemy on August 14. Enemy fighter-bombers bombed many points of the city, including St. Mark's Square. Horrible scenes were seen at Malamocco, where the embarkation jetty was bombed, while a steam-boat of the Chioggia-Venice line was approaching it. The bombs caused the death of fourteen persons, while another thirty were wounded. All the wounded were carried to the local hospitals aboard German lorries.

In addition to the hospital ship, "Freiburg", steamer N.1 of the Lagoon Line was hit. The pilot was wounded but he gallantly managed to haul the boat near a pier, though the rudder was seriously damaged.

A group of Italian and foreign journalists, immediately after the raid, went aboard the hospital ship, "Freiburg", whose decks appeared riddled with machine-gun bullets and bomb splinters. Port holes were broken, and blood stains could be seen everywhere. The press representatives were able to conclude that the enemy had hit the operating theater, thus preventing the wounded from receiving any first aid assistance aboard the ship. Their transportation to the land hospital, therefore, was necessary, while the furious enemy raid was at its climax.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 61 - 18 August 1944

BELGIAN HOME SERVICE IN FLEMISH 1300 - AUG 16 (Monitored in London-)

Italian Art Treasures Saved by Germans

Italy - The famous collection of Paintings of the Uffizi at Florence had been evacuated to Cavan (?) by parachutists. The castle came under Allied artillery fire and German soldiers discovered the gallery with these paintings. Artillery grenades came nearer the castle and a single projectile could have set the building ablaze. German parachutists landed at the last moment and saved the entire valuable collection.

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UN NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS n - 17 August 1944 -

ART EXPOSITION AT PALAZZO VENEZIA

ROME, August 16 - Mayor Doria Pamphili has agreed to lend a Velasquez painting of Innocent X, which had not been outside of the Doria Palace for the last three centuries, to the exposition of art masterpieces to be held at Palazzo Venezia toward the end of August, it was stated here today. Famous paintings by such masters as Botticelli, Titian and Tintoretto, and many other paintings which were kept in hiding in Marche Province for protection against German vandalism will be exhibited, and the money realized by the sale of tickets will be used for the restoration of monuments damaged by the war.

(UNN)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 59 - 16 August 1944 -

20381

GERMAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS

POLITICAL

Three More Allied "Atrocities": Today's German dispatches add three items to the current propaganda campaign of attributing atrocities to the western Allies.

1) The hospital ship "Freiburg" was "damaged by a bomb when enemy fighter bombers attacked the harbor of Venice on August 14." Injuries to hospital workers are noted.

2) Also in Venice: Transocean lists various churches and palaces wantonly damaged in the above raid.

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Rpt Cond Enemy Oco. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. Air Raid Damage

ROVIGO is intact, but FERRARA is greatly damaged by bombing. The district around PADUA has been hit and MESTRE even more so LANBRATE, near MILAN has been badly hit.

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Capt. C-R 2057

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ANHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 59 - 16 August 1944 -REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian To Italy - M. 491 - 2330 Aug. 15Genoa Bombed

During the night of August 14, a formation of enemy bombers dropped many bombs on the city of Genoa. Most of them fell on popular quarters. Before the raid was over, ARP squads were feverishly at work. The damage is heavy, and the total number of casualties has not yet been ascertained. Savona was bombed today in the early hours of the afternoon. Damages are reported.

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AFHQ; PWB, R.M. REPORT. No 58 - 15 August 1944 -

SUMMARY OF ITALIAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS

Venice Bombed

This morning the central quarters of the town were raided by Allied aircraft, and a German hospital ship and a motor launch were hit, as well as "many Venetian buildings of the highest artistic value".

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D.O. Reg 12

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Un News Service , BASIC NEWS, for Wednesday 16 August 1944

GERMANS DESTROY HISTORIC BUILDINGS.

ROME, August 15 - The newspaper L'Italia Libera, in an account of the last days of German rule in Florence, reported that on July 30 the Germans ordered the inhabitants along the Arno to evacuate at once 50,000 persons were immediately forced out of their homes and sought refuge in the famous Boboli Gardens.

There was a period of calm which lasted until night of August 3, when the Germans blew up all the bridges of Florence except Ponte Vecchio. Many homes in the neighborhood of the Arno were destroyed by the explosion of enemy mines.

Before evacuating the city, the Germans demolished the Post Office, the National Library, and the historic Palace of the Guelph Party, the Orsanmichele, containing priceless art treasures, and all the hotels along the Arno.

In the Oltrarno section of Florence, food supplies and medicines were looted by the German troops and there were no adequate hospital facilities, water, or electricity.

Toward the end 450 Fascist troops, hidden in houses, opened fire on women and children, wounding more than 300 in one locality. Another group of Fascist snipers used a monastery for cover. Patriots of the Arno Brigade captured 500 Fascist troops.

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Lt. Hartt

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 58 - 15 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M.491 - 23.00- Aug 14

Novara bombed

Last night, enemy aircraft flew over Novara and dropped bombs over the outskirts of the town. Other bombs fell on the village of Casaleggio. The behavior of the population was exemplary.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT. No 58 - 15 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY M.491 2000 Aug. 13 - 1944
(Extracts)Milan Remembers the Brutal Radio

Milan has reminded its citizens today, with a few austere ceremonies, of the brutal and indiscriminate air raids which the enemy carried out against the city in the month of August, 1943, which caused widespread devastation and numerous casualties, and, during which, numerous buildings representing the great traditions of civilisation, were hit. In the courtyard of the Rocchetta, and at the Sforzesco Castle, in the presence of the Head of the Province and other city authorities, a stone was unveiled which is to remind us in the future of the barbarous acts committed by the Anglo-Saxons. This tablet is placed where the Terraces of Bramante display their blackened scars. Other stones have been unveiled in the Basilica of Saint Ambrogio, in the Duomo, in the Scala Theatre, in the Maggiore Hospital and the Marino Palace. The stones bear legends branding the enemy's ferocity and expressing the hope that the Fatherland, painful but not conquered, may soon be reconstructed.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.I. REPORT No. 57 - 13 August 1944

"LA VOIX DU REICH" RADIO IN FRENCH TO FRANCE - 29 m. - 18,00 -
Aug 12 1944

Destruction and Hunger in Florence

With regard to the bombardment of Florence, eye-witness accounts say that the cathedral was directly hit by two shells and that the churches of Santa Maria and...were seriously damaged. The drama of Florence surpasses everything the city has known in twenty centuries; The people are suffering from hunger and make expeditions to the suburbs, searching for something to eat. The German command, in an effort to help the inhabitants, sent lorries of bread to the already evacuated town. In this way twice a day bread was distributed to the population by military bakers.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 57 - 13 August 1944

GERMAN HOME SERVICE 2200 - August 12-44

Damage Caused in Florence by Allied Bombs

2050

Berlin - Florence Cathedral has been hit twice by bombs, and several of the most beautiful buildings have been seriously damaged. The population is starving and their life is in constant danger. They creep along the walls to the suburbs in order to fetch greens and fruit from the gardens. The town has been abandoned by German troops in order to save it from destruction, as we already know. Nevertheless the British have been bombing the town for many days.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 56 - 12 August 1944 -

GERMAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS

POLITICAL - Allied Wrecking of "Open City"

With a tone of indignation and an apparent appeal to Italian sympathies, the German News Agency claims that the British are seriously damaging Florence with howitzer fire, despite the reputed German treatment of Florence as an "open city".

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT. No. 56 - 12 August 1944 -

D. N. B. in English August 11

Florence Hospital Is Hit by British

Milan: In the battle of Florence the British continue to direct strong artillery fire on this town, reports the "Repubblica Fascista". There were no military objectives at all, districts chiefly exposed to enemy shelling. The large hospital of Santa Maria was hit particularly heavily by British artillery during the nights of August 5 and 8, although the hospital was plainly marked with red crosses.

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 56 - 12 August 1944 -

D. M. B. in English August 11

Shelling of Florence Continues

Berlin: The northern part of Florence for the last few days has been subjected to very heavy fire from British howtzer batteries which caused substantial damage to the town. In order to deprive the British High Command of the last pretext for a systematic destruction of the open city of Florence the German command decided to withdraw German protections from the north bank of the Arno to the northern fringe of Florence. The population previous to the withdrawal was supplied with food which will carry them over two days since it is generally known that the British thus far nowhere have been able to provide sufficient food for the civilian population.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 56 - 12 August 1944

ITALIAN BROADCASTS

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - n. 480-1300-August 11

The situation in Florence

The German Military Command is showing in Florence the same understanding and the same respect for art treasures that it showed in Rome. This decision was taken, notwithstanding the fact that it resulted in a considerable advantage for the enemy, with a view to ~~ad~~ saving the art treasures of the city and sparing the civilian population from the horrors of war. The German Command is also aware of the fact that the enemy does not share this attitude and desires to spare the city of Florence and, with it, the cultural and spiritual values which are enshrined in the town. The enemy, instead, would only be inclined to satisfy his military necessities, even though this would entail a large-scale destruction of art treasures. However, the German Command as had already been stated in the communique issued on August 5th. has decided to withdraw its troops from the city and place them on defensive positions around the city itself. Notwithstanding all the promises made by enemy propaganda, the Anglo-Americans have shown no concern whatsoever with regard to the fate of the civilian population in the northern part of the city, which has not yet been occupied. The German Command has therefore taken upon itself the task of supplying, by means of lorries, daily rations to the civilian population of the city of Florence in the northern section of the town.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 54 - August 10 1944

RADIO TEVERE IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M. 245.5 - 22.30 - August 9

Italian Works of Art Sent to England

The de Gaullist News Service reports from Rome that in order to protect the works of art found by the Allies..., they will be brought to England. Among them is the "Primavera" ~~in~~ by Botticelli.

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AFHQ -PWB - RADIO MONITORING - No. 53 - 9 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M.491 - 23.30
Aug 8 1944

Allied Bombing of Vercelli

A few nights ago, enemy aircraft dropped many bombs on the town of Vercelli, hitting many working class houses. Some of the enemy aircraft, flying at low level, strafed the streets of the town.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 52 - 8 August 1944 -

SUMMARY OF ITALIAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS

Other Items

Another terror raid was carried out by Allied aircraft on Mantua. The work of art in Florence have been saved "from the clutches of the Germans", according to Tevere Radio, only to be brought to a safer place by the Allies, in all probability either in U.S.A. or Great Britain".

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AFHQ, FWB, R.M. REPORT No. 52 - 8 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 480 METRES -1300-AUGUST 6
(Extracts)

Terror Raid on Mantua

Mantua has again been the target for a terror raid, carried out by British and American aircraft. Towards 830 hours, an Anglo-American formation appeared, flying at a considerable height. When over the city, the aircraft suddenly swooped down and released many bombs, especially over the centre and the residential quarters of the city. Many houses were destroyed, and others damaged; and many casualties have been caused. Amongst the artistic works hit, we must list the magnificent temple of Saint Francis. From the first reports at hand, one can gather that casualties amongst the civil population are high.

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AFHQ, FWB, R.M. REPORT No. 52 - 8 August 1944

GERMANY IN ENGLISH FOR ENGLAND - 1430 - August 6 (Monitored in London)

Allies Cause Devastation in Florence

Artillery fire from British and American troops is raging against the defenceless town of Florence. Houses, palaces and whole streets are being destroyed. Fires are spreading from south and west to the centre of town. Florence is covered with pall of smoke. Streets are covered with ashes, and shell craters are gaping everywhere. The electric power station is on fire, and trams are standing still. At night, the red glare of fires throws an infernal light on the birthplace of Dante. For a few minutes, flares dropped by aircraft illuminate the horrid spectacle, while terrified people run aimlessly through the streets.

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Lt. Hartt

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ATTN, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 52 - 8 August 1944 -

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH 6 AUGUST

Venice Palaces Stand Little Chance in Air Raids

Venice: By Walter Seidlitz. Places of Venice on the Canale Grande are not bomb proof. The worst is in store for this lagoon city should severe Allied bombing attacks, continue against the foreland of Venice. Many houses already show large cracks. The foundations of century-old buildings, built into the morass of lagoons, shake at the slightest action from outside. Motorboats and steamers are now not allowed to exceed speed limit of six miles, to reduce, the beating of waves to a minimum.

Blast from enemy bombs dropped at the towns of Mestre and Marghera was so enormous that houses in Venice were damaged, although they were about six kilometres away from the bombed town. Some of the finest palaces in Venice are owned by foreigners. In this war nothing is changed in this respect. American film stars like Mary Pickford and millionaires daughters like the Woolworth heiress, Barbara Hutton, have bought some of the finest palaces, and formerly spent many months every year there. Among foreign owners are also the American industrialist Eastman and British Foreign Minister Eden who was born in Venice. The house where the latter was born on Isle Giudecca and a small palace on Canale Grande, St. Marks Square, are still in the hands of the Eden family.

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D.O. Ref 12

AFHQ, FWB, R.M. REPORT No. 52 - 8 August -

RADIO TEVERE IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 245.5 Metres - 2220 - August 6
(Extract)

Allies Gave Works of Art in Florence

According to United Nations Radio, the works of art of the Florence Galleries were saved from the clutches of the Germans.

Professor Fosato (?) custodian of the Florentine Art Library, praised and thanked the Allied authorities for the care they have taken in regard to these works of art.

We may add that this care will probably go further still that is, the Allies will take the works themselves into a safe place abroad, to the United States or Great Britain, for instance.

"
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20307

2039

20381/MFAA

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 48 - 6 August 1944

FASCIST RADIO

Fighting is reported to be still in progress south of Florence with heavy British losses. Serious damage to Florence has been caused by Allied shelling and bombing, and nearly all the bridges over the Arno have been destroyed.

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20084/1
Lt. Harrell

2038

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 51 - 6 August 1944

RADIO LITTORALE ADRIATICO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 268 M. 20.15, AUG. 5

Mantua Bombed

Anglo-American planes carried out a terroristic air raid over Mantua. A large number of private buildings were hit and several monuments of great artistic value were destroyed.

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D. O. Reg. 11

2037

20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS - No. 46 - 5 August 1944 -

FASCIST RADIO:

Florence has again been shelled.

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Lt. Hartt

2036

20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS } No. 46 - 5 August 1944KEATS, SHELLEY RELICS RESTORED TO ROME

2035

ROME, August 3 - Priceless relics of Keats and Shelley, taken from war-time Rome to Montecassino and miraculously saved in the destruction of that sanctuary, were yesterday ceremoniously restored to the safekeeping of the Keats-Shelley Memorial House, Rome, in the presence of Mr. Alexander Kirk and Sir Noel Charles, pre-war members of the Memorial Committee and now United States and British representatives to the Allied Advisory Council for Italy.

.....Restored to their resting place yesterday, the boxes were officially unsealed, their contents found intact, and consigned to the care of the Memorial House. (UNN)

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Rome
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ITALY

Genoa

5 Aug 44

The raid on June 4th on the city of Genoa, where since the opening of hostilities, 180 monuments including churches and palaces have suffered at the hands of the enemy, was particularly heavy in the Sampierdarena district, in which medieval and modern monu-

47

Newspaper 21578 5 Aug 44 p 47

ments were seriously damaged. Very serious too is the complete destruction of San Bartolomeo del Fossato, one of the most important of the many historic buildings in Liguria, and a typical example of the Romanic-Norman period. The cloisters adjoining the church of Santa Maria a Castello, which boasted the remains of frescoes dating from the 15th century, have also been completely destroyed. The Palazzo Doria, a characteristic 16th century Genoese palace, had its roof and part of the interior damaged with the consequent collapse of the Sala della Vergine, and damage of a similar kind was also suffered by the old Palazzo De Mari, a 16th century building and the neo-classic Church della Sapienza, whose walls and roof show signs of damage.

In Voltri, the Church of SS. Nicolo ed Erasmo, built after a probable plan of Bernini, which is important both for its interior decorations and Carlone's frescoes, had its roof severely damaged. At Cornigliano, the Church of San Giacomo, a 12th century building rebuilt late in the 19th century, suffered damage to its roof and grave harm was inflicted on its walls and the upper part of the campanile. The Villa Raggio, a little 17th century palace with large window balconies on the upper floors and interior frescoes in the Baroque style, has also been badly damaged.

2034

20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE; BASIC NEWS - No. 47 - 5 August 1944

TRANSOCEAN AND DNB:

On the Italian front, continued bombardment of Florence is reported.

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Lt. Hertz

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20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS - No. 47 - 5 August 1944 -

FASCIST RADIO:

Following the withdrawal of German troops from some sectors of the Arno, the battle for Florence has entered a new phase. British fighter-bombers have joined in the attack on the city, with resulting damage to monuments and buildings.

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Lt. Hartt

8th Army

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT; No. 50 (?) - 5 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M2491-2000 - Aug 5Allies Responsible for Florence Destruction

Though British propaganda is always ~~very~~ clever, we believe that this time it will be a hard job for it to prove that the responsibilities for the damages caused to the city of Florence do not fall upon the invasion army. Enemy propaganda is now facing obstacles ~~which~~ which are impossible to overcome. They are represented by the many works of art, monuments and churches destroyed. During the Italian campaign, the devilish and barbaric activities of the Anglo-American air and land forces are well known. It would take too long to give here a list of all damages caused. We shall only name the recent ones: The Monastery of Montecassino an outstanding work of art with an age-old tradition, was completely destroyed by combined air and land actions. The Pontifical Villa at Castelgandolfo, full of refugees, was bombed in bright day light; the Monastery of Grottaferrata, the small and neutral Republic of San Marino; the leaning Tower of Pisa, the Duomo of Padua and hundreds of other churches and monuments were raided, and destroyed or damaged. Now, it is the turn of Florence which has been under the fire of enemy guns for several days. Also, in connection with this city, the behavior of our German Allied has been very friendly. Anglo-Americans have refused to recognize it as an open city, in spite of all the declarations and orders issued by the German High Command to prevent troops from passing through the city. Evidently, however, the well-known selfishness of the enemy has taken these statements into no account. All excuses which the enemy will try to invent to avoid responsibility for this new crime will be in vain, because the enemy himself, or to be more exact, General Alexander himself, clearly said that he had the intention of considering Florence one of the usual centers for the transit of his troops.

In the recent appeal addressed by Alexander to the Florentines, there are some words which are very self-explanatory: "All streets and squares must be left free, so that Allied troops can cross them to follow up the enemy". In other words, this means that troops, tanks, and means of all kinds will have the right to cross city of Florence which, in this way, will no longer be left outside the war, and this, through the abuse of the Anglo-Americans. Perhaps General Alexander will be sorry to have uttered such a declaration, and still more sorry will be the Anglo-Ameri-

can

- 2 -

can special Envoys who, at the right moment, will not know which way to turn to explain the events in a light different from the true one.

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10907
2020

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 50 (?) - 5 August 1944
TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - August 5 - 1944

20381/MFAA

Mantua Damaged in Allied Raids

2029

Milan: Anglo-American bombers again raided Mantua badly damaging important cultural monuments of the famous city. After dropping bombs, British and American airmen swept the city streets and squares with fire from machineguns. The number of killed and wounded has not yet been definitely ascertained.

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20413

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20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE, BASIC NEWS - No. 46 - 5 August 1944.

TRANSOCEAN AND DNE

On the Italian front, the main German dressing-station at Carrara was attacked by Allied planes on Tuesday, despite distinct Red Cross insignia.

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7-5-42 Army

20381/MFAA

AFV, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 50 (?) - 5 August 1944

SUMMARY OF ITALIAN PROPAGANDA TRENDS
Florence Shelled

The damage caused by the Allied shelling and bombing of Florence is again the main theme of the Fascist and Texere broadcasts today. The fact that the Germans declared it an open city is once more pointed out and responsibility for the violation is thrown on the Allied who "utterly disregard the importance and value to world civilisation of art treasures and cultural centres". Allied aircraft strafed a number of women in the province of Modena, says the Fascist Radio, and Litorale Adriatico adds that the town of Mantua was subjected to a terror raid resulting in the destruction of private houses and artistic monuments. 2027

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Lt. Harte

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D. O. Reg 11

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 50 (?) - 5 August 1944

480 - 1300

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - ~~0700~~ - August 5 1944The Bombing of Florence

2026

The shelling of Florence on the part of Allied artillery continues to be the subject of discussion in both the friendly and neutral press. The facts is underlined that the Germans had declared Florence an open city, but that none the less, the British did not hesitate to open fire against the city itself. D.A.Z. writes to that effect that the destruction of invaluable art treasures in the city of Florence follows the destruction of Montecassino, of Subiaco and the air raids on Rome. It is to be pointed out, the paper continues, that no military objective existed in the above mentioned towns. The methods the Americans are now adopting in the case of Florence are the very same they adopted in respect to other Italian cities, i. e., the bringing about of destruction even if there is no justification for such destruction from a military point of view. The British have adopted against Italian cities the very same system they have followed in the case of German cities.

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AFFHQ PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 49 - 4 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 0800 - 3 August 44

2025

Machine-Gun Attacks by Hostile Aircraft

During the last air raid which was carried out by enemy aircraft in the province of Turin, some of these enemy aircraft flew low over the little town of Broni and machine-gunned the population which was fleeing to safety.

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D. O. Rep 10

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 48 - 3 August 1944

GERMAN OVERSEAS SERVICE IN GERMANY - 11,8 KCS - 0945 - August 2,44

Art Treasures Damaged in Florence

2024

Berne: Commenting on the attack on the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Swiss paper "Die Tat" writes: "From the Vatican, it is officially learned that the Germans never established military installations in the Abbey of Montecassino. The Allies, who so often discuss the punishment of war criminals, should first deal with the destroyers of the Abbey of Montecassino."

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20008
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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 49 - 4 August 1944

RADIO MILANO LIBERTA' IN ITALIAN TO ITALY METERS 25.4 08.30
3 August 1944

News From the Italian Front

+ + + + + 2023

Heavy bombers taking off from Italian air fields have bombed objectives in southern France and the installations of the port of Genoa.

+ + + + +

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D. O. Ref 10

Rpt Cond Enemy Occ Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

20381/MFAA

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

In a letter dated 17.7.44 a correspondent writes "Air raid alarms are more and more exasperating, but there were few bombardments on MILAN, which particularly aimed at the railroad. In EMILIA, on the contrary, which represents the back area, life is rather hard on account of the continuous air attacks. The towns are being destroyed systematically and reduced to deserts. We cannot understand how such terroristic raids, as the recent one over BRESCIA, are possible; the city was heavily hit, chiefly in the centre. PIACENZA, CREMONA, MANTOVA and mainly BOLOGNA were repeatedly bombed".
(Censorship Intercept 3.8.44).

P. plus to.

20093
Capt. C. - R.

20113 2022
D.O. Rep. H

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT n.51 - 6 August 1944

DNB IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1625 Aug.2 (Monitored in London)

Subiaco and Bologna Suffer from Allied Attacks

The town of Subiaco, where the Benedictine order originated, has been almost completely destroyed. British artillery fire has reduced it to a heap of rubble. The population lives in caves and has hardly any food. At the request of the Pope a feeding centre has been set up in a Benedictine monastery and 1500 people are fed every day. On the instruction of the Pope more feeding centres are being organized in the Alban mountains in the battle area of the former Nettano beachhead, and in the Liri valley. A sarcophagus containing the remains of Galvani, the great Italian scientist, which stands in the church of the convent of the Order of St. Claire, was heavily damaged during the recent raid on Bologna. The wood work suffered severe damage, while the zinc coffin was unharmed. The coffin next to it, containing the remains of Galvani's wife, was smashed. Both bodies have been reinterred.

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Capt. C.-H.
20403

2021

20381/MFAA

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS - No. 45 - 3 August 1944 -

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - August 2 -

Harbor installations at Genoa were also struck by heavy bombers today.

(PRO)

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20403

D. O. Reg. 10

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS No.44 - 2 August 1944.

ENEMY BROADCASTS

Transocean and DNB:

Allied air raids are reported over northern Italy. The Palazzo dei Diamanti in Ferrara and two churches in Modena have been damaged.

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Capt. C. H.

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 48 - 3 August 1944

20381/MFAA

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - Kics. 620-0700 -
2 August 1944

The Southern Front

British attacks south of Florence have continued, but German defenders have prevented the enemy from gaining ground. On the other sectors, fighting has been on a local scale. The invader has continued to bombard Pisa and the Leaning Tower has been damaged.

2019

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Lt. Hantt

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB? R.M. REPORT - No. 50 (?) - 5 August 1944

DNB IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 16.25 Aug.2 (Monitored in London)Subiaco and Bologna Suffer from Allied Attacks

The town of Subiaco, where the Benedictine order originated has been almost completely destroyed. British artillery fire has reduced it to a heap of rubble. The population lives in caves and has hardly any food. At the request of the Pope a feeding centre has been set up in a Benedictine monastery and 1500 people are fed every day. On the instruction of the Pope more feeding centres are being organized in the Alban mountains in the battle area of the former Nettuno beachhead, and in the Liri valley. A sarcophagus containing the remains of Galvani, the great Italian scientist, which stands in the church of the convent of the Order of St. Claire, was heavily damaged during the recent raid on Bologna. The wood work suffered severe damage, while the zinc coffin was unharmed. The coffin next to it, containing the remains of Galvani's wife, was smashed. Both bodies have been reinterred.

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Capt. C.-R.

238

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT NO. 49 - 4 August 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - August 3, 44

Allied Planes Bomb Field Hospital

Berlin: The main German first aid post at Carrara on the Italian front was attacked by Anglo-American aeroplanes although it was clearly marked by Red Crosses, it was stated here on Thursday at noon. Several bombs fell, killing wounded and sick soldiers as well as men of the ambulance corps. This attack is a renewed violation of the Geneva convention.

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2017

20381/MFAA

Rpt Con Enemy O.c. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

RIMINI "... Rimini does not exist any more. Even the workshops have disappeared. This is the 20th bombardment she has gone through we call her the "great wounded". The hospital, the Suffragio Church, Castellaccio, the buildings of poor Mr. Trozzolini, all razed to the ground. So many places don't exist any more...
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44.)

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203 93

Capt Craft. Murray

2016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 44 - 2 August 1944.

ENEMY BROADCASTS - German Overseas Station:

In order to save Pisa from destruction, the German troops have evacuated the historical parts of the city. The Allies claimed that the "Leaning Tower" was being used as a German artillery observation post, but this, as well as other historical monuments, was not in military occupation.

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Capt. Keller
Lt. Hart

2015

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R(. REPORT, No. 48 - 3 August 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - August 2

+ + + + +

The Allies began shelling Florence on Monday. The Germans declare this is without military value, as they declared Florence an open city a long time ago. German troops have formed a cordon around the town and all traffic between the front line and the rear is directed around it.

+ + + + +

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Lt. Hontt

2014

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS No.44 - 2 August 1944 -

FASCIST PALACE OPEN TO PUBLIC

ROME, August 1 - Palazzo Venezia, long carefully guarded to keep the rank and file citizens out of this headquarters of Fascism, is soon to be open again to both the Italian public and Allied troops on leave in Rome.

An art show assembled from the museums of Rome, Naples, and Montecassino will be opened shortly, it was announced today, in the former Duce's palace. The paintings will include some of the finest art works of the Renaissance period.

(UNN)

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Rome
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2013

20381/MFAA

Rpt Cond Enemy Occ. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

Another writer states "If you could see that LA SPEZIA is reduced to, you would no longer recognise it. The beautiful avenue LUNGOMARE, via Piave, via Garibaldi... are only a heap of rubbish.
(Censorship Intercept 1.8.44).

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D. O. Rep. 10

2012

1 Aug 44

ITALY

Bologna
Ferrara

Air Raid Damage: Ferrara, Bologna

K18. *Italian Home Service*, 1.8.44 (07.00). Enemy air raids on the towns of Emilia have caused fresh appreciable losses to the nation's artistic heritage. At Ferrara serious damage has been caused to the famous Palazzo dei Diamanti, which housed works by Dosso Dossi, Giuseppe Mazzolino and Garofalo. (See *Digest* 1515. 2.8, K10.) At Modena the Campori museum has been damaged, but fortunately considerable losses are not to be deplored there. At Bologna the building known as La Palazzina (? del Viola), which is associated with the name of Bentivoglio, has been hit. The church of Santa Maria della Purificazione and the (? Porta Nuova), damaged previously, have suffered fresh damage. The 15th century Palazzo (? Alamandini), of which it is hoped to salvage the capitals and the portal, has been almost entirely destroyed.

News Digest 1517 4 Aug 44 p40

2011

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 47 - 2 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - MTRS. 480-1300
1 August 1944Florence an Open City

.....and the air raid started exactly twenty-four hours after General Alexander had sent a message, which was an appeal to the population of Florence in which he said he had every intention of sparing the city from the horrors of war. Of this he gave his guarantee but, at the same time, he instigated the so-called patriots to offer resistance to the authorities and to German troops.

Exactly twenty-four hours after the message was sent out, General Alexander brought his artillery to bear on the city. This shows what the word of an Anglo-American General is worth.

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Lt. Hunter

2010

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 47 - 2 August 1944

D.N.B. IN ENGLISH - August 1, 1944

Art Treasures Destroyed by Allied Bombings

Milano - Anglo-American air forces on Monday made terror raids on several towns of the Italian province of Emilia, according to an announcement by a north Italian radio. Once again numerous irreplaceable works of art and precious buildings were destroyed. Palazzo dei Diamanti at Ferrara, which is named after the 12,600 The collection of pictures kept in the palace was also heavily damaged. At Modena two loggias of the old Ducal Palace were wrecked. San Domenico church opposite the palace also fell victim to a terror raid. The same fate was suffered by the Church of Santa Maria della Purificazione.

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20073

Capt C. - M

2009

20381/MFAA

(FHQ, PWB, R2L. REPORT - No. 48 - 3 August 1944

GERMAN HOME SERVICE IN GERMAN - 0900 - August 2, 1944

Allies Destroy Art Treasures

Milan: In the course of July, precious Italian art treasures again fell victim to Anglo-American terror attacks, Italian headquarters reports. Churches and museums with irreplaceable treasures were destroyed or damaged in Ferrara, Modena and Bologna.

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20093

Capt C. - H.

2008

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 47 - 2 August 1944 -

RADIO TEVERE TO ITALY + 491 METERS - 2230 - 1 AUGUST 1944

Italian Front

It is learned that the Leaning Tower of Pisa was damaged yesterday by fire from American artillery.

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Lt. Haritt

2007

21381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 47 - 2 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 2330 - 490 Meters
1 August 1944

Famous Monuments Damaged in Pisa

2036

Although the German Command had forbidden its troops to enter the Leaning Tower of Pisa, which, according to the Allied Command, was used by the Germans as an observation post, and although manifests were published stressing the wish to save Pisa's famous artistic monuments from destruction, the enemy has begun the bombardment of the historical district of this Euscan city. Many houses in this district were severely damaged and the famous cemetery was destroyed by enemy grenades.

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWE, R.M. REPORT No. 47 - 2 August 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - Kles. 610 - 0800
1 August 1944

Florence an Open City

2005

Sometime ago, the German High Command made a statement, which is known to all, to the effect that Florence was an open city and was being treated as such. In fact, no German troops or German commands of any kind are stationed in the city. In spite of this, the Americans have concentrated their attacks against the centre of the city and have damaged some of the art monuments of the town. The message addressed by the Allied High Command to the Italian Patriots, inviting them to protect public utility works in order that Allied forces may avail themselves of these works when the time comes, places all responsibility, as was the case for Rome, on its own shoulders for what may happen to Florence.

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IQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 46 - 1 August 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 620 kc 0800 July 30

Group of Artists Entrusted with War Documentation

A group of artists attached to the General Allied Headquarters in Italy has been entrusted with the task of finding and creating photographic documents of the places through which war has passed. It will be interesting indeed to see in what way the artists will represent the ruins of Montecassino and other famous monuments, destroyed by Allied bombs.

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20381/MFAA

'FHQ, PWB, REP. REPORT - No. 46 - 1 August 1944

RADIO MILANO LIBERTA' (Clandestina)

Radio Milano Libertà reports the activities of the Italian patriots in German-occupied Italy, acts of sabotage etc. In a subsequent broadcast it announces that Pisa is a "heap of ruins": the Leaning Tower and the Baptistry have been destroyed by the Germans. An appeal is made to the Patriots to fight the enemy with every means at their disposal.

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~~D. J. Papp~~

Lt. Hart

2003

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT, No. 46 - 1 August 1944 -

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - July 30

Pisa Tower Shelled by Allies

Berlin: Allied batteries started shelling the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy, German military quarters have announced. The Allies justify the shelling by claiming that the Germans are using the tower as an observation post. German military quarters refute this allegation emphatically and declare that neither is there any German observation post on the leaning tower nor is there any military installation in its vicinity. German quarters point out that if this irreplaceable monument of architecture is destroyed, the Allies alone are responsible.

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2002

LT Hunt

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 46 - 1 August 1944

RADIO TEVERE ON ITALIAN TO ITALY - 245.5 M. 2030 July 31

Palazzo Giustinian in Venice Blown Up

The historical Giustinian Palace in Venice has been blown up by some terroristic elements. Twenty people were killed and 50 wounded when the building collapsed. Thirteen terrorists have been executed.

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20423
D. O. Reg. 12

20.1

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT NO. 46 - 1 August 1944 -

DNB IN ENGLISH - July 31-44Florence Spared by German Command

Berlin: German Supreme Command in Italy declared some time ago that Florence was to be an open city, and always treated it as such. No German troops, staffs or outposts of any kind are in the city and installations are not made use of for military purposes by German troops. Nevertheless the Anglo-Americans lately made repeated terror attacks on the centre of the city and caused irreparable damage.

General Alexander, Allied Commander in chief in Italy addressed as in the case of Rome an appeal to the population of Florence to render active support to the Anglo-Americans by way of acts of sabotage and destruction of military installations. He also asked the population to see that public buildings and bridges, telephone and telegraph, public utility works, railway stations, etc., fall into Allied hands in sound condition, so that they may be used in the fight against German troops.

In order not to give the enemy any pretext for destruction of irreplaceable cultural treasures of this city, the Germans have renounced the use of installations and institutions in Florence. The Allies, however, wish to make use of these in their fight against Germany. This fresh proof of Anglo-American mentality is another example of what they did at Montecassino, Castel Gandolfo and in Rome.

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Lt. Hunt

2010

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 46 - 1 August 1944

GERMAN OVERSEASSERVICE - IN GERMAN - 15,310 Kes. - 1945 - July 31

Yesterday's Terror Attacks on Towns in Northern Italy

Yesterday, the U.S. Air Force carried out a number of terror attacks on towns in northern Italy. Heavy damage was caused in several localities of Piedmont, Liguria, Lombardy and Venetia.

Particularly heavy damage was caused in Ravenna.

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Capt. C-M.

20113

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT n. 46 - August 1, 1944 -

20381/MFAA

"MILANO LIBERTA'" RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 23,00 - July 31Destruction in Italy

Pisa is a heap of ruins. The historic leaning tower, the most precious jewel in its kind of Italian art, which for centuries endured all cataclysms of human history, is no more. The tower of Pisa and her "Battistero", which represented a document of great historic value, are now a heap of rubble. The Germans committed such a crime. Italy's barbaric enemy is using all that is most sacred not only of the cultural and artistic treasures of the nation but also of human dignity to reach his goal. The barbaric enemy is also allowing women and children on troop-trains and trucks carrying troops and war material to supply the fighting front in order to prevent partisans from engaging in any action against such convoys.

It is the German barbarian who builds fortifications in the immediate surroundings of historic and artistic monuments not only to delay the Allied advance but also to throw on them the responsibility of their destruction. The Germans repeated at Pisa the crime of Cassino and are now planning to do the same at Florence, the Etruscan capital custodian of invaluable works of art.

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20083

Lt. Hart

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS, No. 41 - 30 July 1944 -

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, July 29 - The heavy bombers operated in weather which grounded all medium aircraft. Light bombers and fighter-bombers hit military objectives at Genoa and Santa Margherita along the Ligurian coast and at least five rail bridges were struck in the same general area.

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20103

1098

D. O. B. 10

Capt. Keller

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS No.42 - 31 July 1944.

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY July 30 -

Coastal forces of the RAF yesterday hit railyards at Ventimiglia, and a lone coastal bomber attacked a formation of three enemy destroyers at an undisclosed location. The bombs fell into the midst of the group, but results were not observed.

(PRO)

Copies to:

1997

20103

D.D. R.10

Capt. Keller

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS, No. 44 - 30 July 1944

NAZIS DEVASTATE SAN CASCIANO

WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY, July 29 - San Casciano, 10 miles from its main square to the main square of Florence, was liberated Thursday morning by New Zealand troops.

At 0430 hours, the last German was driven out of the town and at 0500 hours the first New Zealander entered it.

A UNN reporter yesterday found the town a shambles. Everywhere there were indelible scars of the German occupation. In the course of the fighting for the town, a notable milestone on the way to Florence, a number of buildings were damaged, but the Germans, 30 minutes before their hurried departure, demolished most of the buildings skirting the main streets to provide road blocks for the advancing New Zealanders.

The result is that, at a conservative estimate, 60 per cent of the buildings are no more than rubble, entirely roofless, with walls sheer piles of broken bricks and mortar, and with smashed doors and shattered windows panes, littering the streets with debris.

The cathedral and municipal offices were entirely devastated. The water supply and electric power system were smashed.

(UNN)

Cpy to: 20083

1996

20381 / MFAA

UPI News Service, BASIC NEWS, No. 10 - 29 July 1944 -

EIGHT SOLDIERS SAVE ART TREASURES

ROME, July 28 - As the battle for Siena neared its climax, eight British soldiers stationed at Villa Gambacastelli at Arcena fought off a detachment of 15 Germans who tried to set fire to the villa, in which were deposited some of the finest pictures from Siena, Massa Marittima, and Grosseto, it was reported here today by the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommission of the ACC.

The British guards were placed at the villa at the request of the Superintendent of Galleries in Siena and took their places in spite of battle conditions.

The same authorities here also reported that an important 14th Century fresco by Ambrogio Lorenzetti has been found on one of the altars of the Church of Saint Augustine in Siena. It was brought to light when a later painting was removed for safekeeping. (ACC)

Copies to:

20906
20083
20380

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS, No. 40 - 29 July 1944

FASCIST MONUMENT REMOVED

ROME, July 28 - By order of the civic authorities of Rome, the monument to Fascist Heroes on the Capitoline Hill which stood at the left of the Senatorial Palace has been removed.

It was erected in 1926, and was formed ^{from} a huge block of Egyptian marble found in the Sallustian Gardens. The stone itself is thought to have been the base of the Sallustian Obelisk, now at the Trinita' dei Monti. Consequently, it will not be destroyed, but will be preserved as a relic of ancient Roman art, shorn, however of its latterday, Fascist significance. (U.S.)

Copy to.
Rome

1994

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 43 - 28 July 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - M. 491 - 23. 00 - July 27

Enemy barbarity.

The merciless enemy air raids are daily causing new losses to Italian families and damage to Italian art collections. Local trains, private cars and even cyclists and workers walking to their factories were recently machine-gunned by enemy aircraft near Milano. At Venice a central district was machine-gunned by an enemy plane and in Piedmont, Lombardy and the Veneto heavy damage to non-military targets has been recorded.

All this shows that the enemy in these actions is guided by a barbaric instinct and a frenzied of destruction for which sooner or later he will have to answer.

Copies to:

20113

1993

20123

D.O. Reg. 14

D.O. Reg. 12

20381 / NFPA

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 38 - 27 July 1944.

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY July 26 -

AIR: Medium forces of escorted heavy bombers yesterday attacked the Hermann Goering tank works at Linz Austria. Other heavy bombers hit the rail yards at Villach, also in Austria.

(PRO)

Copies to:

20909 / 90

20904

1092

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 37 - 26 July 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, July 25 - Today's communique:

AIR: Medium forces of heavy bombers ranged over a wide area yesterday, to attack military objectives in the south of France, Northern Italy, and Yugoslavia. The targets included two airdromes in the lower Rhone Valley, harbour installations at Genoa, and a tank repair shop and ball bearing plant in the Turin area, as well as enemy troop concentrations in southern Yugoslavia.

(UNN)

Copies to:

20/03

O.D. R 10

1391

20381/MFAA

Enemy
Rpt. Cond. Occ. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944 -

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed."
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

Copies to:

20043

Capt C.-M.

1000

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS - No.37 - 26 July 1944.

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY July 25 -

Tactical Air Force planes yesterday attacked rail lines in the Milan, Piacenza, Cremona, and Mantua areas, and hit at stores and shipping at Ravenna. Medium bombers flown by French crews struck the Imperia rail bridge on the route into southern France. Fighters carried out punishing sweeps over Yugoslavia, hitting fuel dumps, bridges, and other objectives.

(PRO)

Copies to:

20093

1989

Capt. Grafton Murray

20381

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION

Trend of Correspondent's Copy
24 July 1944

VERMILION

KELLY ("News Chronicle")

Have a story that the Germans are holding 230 men, women and children as hostages in the Monastery of St. Ubaldo, overlooking GUBBIO. They are using the Monastery as an observation post and threaten that if the Allies bombard the place they will shoot these hostages. The bishop of Gubbio is said to have appealed, without success, to the Pope to intercede. The refugees have been in the Monastery since July 11th. So far Allied troops have not attempted to bombard the Monastery and it is hoped that advances on either flank may eventually compel the Germans to evacuate the place.

1288

20381/MFAA

A, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 40 - 25 July 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 490 METERS - 23,000
24 July 1944Allied Air Raid on Turin

This morning enemy air formations made terror raids over Turin and other centres of the same province. As usual bombs were dropped without discrimination and hit targets without any military or war importance. The heavy raids resulted in the destruction of residential houses and in casualties, showing in the clearest manner that they had nothing but a terrorist aim.

Copy to:

20103

D.O. Reg. 10

1987

20381/MFAA

Rpt. Cond Enemy Occ. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE --

GENOA May 19th. On Friday 19th, we had another terroristic air raid. Many churches and houses were hit. The Pittalunga Cinema was half demolished... it seems that the whole section around Cinema was the particular target. Buildings in Via Casaregia were damaged too, as well as the Church of S. Zita just in the middle of the Corso Buenos Aires, many blocks in Via Trento, the "Carabinieri" Barracks in Via Trieste, the Fiat premises, the Upim stores in Via XX Settembre, the firemen's Barracks, and many other places all over the town. It was really terrific".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

Copies to:

2010.3

D. O. Rep. 10

1986

20381/MFAA

Rpt Cond Enemy Occ. Italy - No. 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

PESARO "Here the bombardments have greatly damaged the City, especially TREBBIO and PANTANO. The 2nd Artillery Barracks were hit, the soldiers have gone; in the city nothing is left; if you could only see the disaster and desolation. (Censorship Intercept 22.7.44)

Copies to:

20053

Capt Maxse

1985

20381/MFAA

Enemy
Rot. Cond. Occ. Italy - No 20 - 16 August 1944

Sect. XX. AIR RAID DAMAGE

VIAREGGIO Viareggio is bombed every day.... Some days ago a very heavy raid smashed the dockyard, the Varignano, via S. Francesco, via Ravia, the townhall, the pivot bridge, the old Fascist Headquarters, the Commissariat, the Unica stores etc." (Censorship Intercept 21.7.44).

Copies to:

20083

Lt. Harff

1084

ITALY

—Repair of Milan Cathedral Statues—

K17. Transocean (for Far East), 20744 (12.10), reports from Milan: The world's biggest repair shop for damaged statues has been opened near Milan. Between 300 and 400 statues from Milan Cathedral, which were badly damaged in an Allied air raid, will be repaired there. Over 1,000 workers are employed at the shop. The cost of the repairs is being borne by a fund accumulated from a 1% tax levied on the population of Milan in accordance with an agreement between Mussolini and Cardinal Schuster some years ago. This fund enabled the Cardinal to reject the financially alluring offer of U.S. antique dealers for statues from the Cathedral which needed repairing. The statues

New York Times 24 July '44 p.44

damaged beyond repair by Allied raids are to be demolished to prevent their becoming merchandise in countries whose Governments are responsible for bombing of Milan Cathedral.

1983

20381/FAA

ATTN: FWS, R.M. DEPOSED. No. 37 - 21 July 1944

RADIO MESSAGE IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 245.5 - 21.00 - July 20

This is your friend La Guardia speaking to you. This evening I am very happy because I have started a series of purchases on behalf of the Art Museum of New York. I have bought a painting of the fifteenth century by Tintoretto, showing a woman who..... I have bought a magnificent bust of Roosevelt, one of the most beautiful modern sculptures.

I paid five millions for these two ¹⁹⁸² and I thank both the seller and the whole Italian people because this is really a preferential price, such as is made only to a friend. I can assure you that America will honor the work of arts I am sending there. We will take the greatest of care of them. I hope that in a short time the most beautiful things will be safe so that you will not have any preoccupation whatsoever and will be able to work with tranquillity.

Copies to:

20907

20902

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT, No. 37 - 21 JULY 1944

RADIO TEVERE IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 245.5 - 21.00 - July 20

This is your friend La Guardia speaking to you. This evening I am very happy because I have started a series of purchases on behalf of the Art Museum of New York. I have bought a painting of the fifteenth century by Tintoretto, showing a woman who.....I have bought a magnificent bust of Roosevelt, one of the most beautiful modern sculptures.

I paid five millions for these two works and I thank both the seller and the whole Italian people because this is really a preferential price, such as is made only to a friend. I can assure you that American will honor the work of arts I am sending there. We will take the greatest of care of them. I hope that in a short time the most beautiful things will be safe so that you will not have any preoccupation whatsoever and will be able to work with tranquillity.

Copies: to

UN New Service
No. 30

19 July 1944

LIBERATED ITALY

ALLIES REPAIR NAZI DAMAGE

ROME, July 18 - Allied inspection of the town of San Gimignano, which the AMG Protected Monuments List describes as "a whole town of great historic and artistic value" discloses that only slight damage has been done, despite recent heavy German shelling. The Allies are already carrying out necessary repairs. (P.B.)

Copies to:
20083
20380

1980

20381/MFAA

AFHQ. PWB, R.M.REPORT - No. 35 - 19 July 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY M. 491 2330 JULY 18 44Monte Cassino Treasures

According to the Gaullist Agency A.F.I., the Vatican authorities, in collaboration with the Allied authorities, are now making the inventory of 600 cases in which objects of great historical value are packed belonging to the Monte Cassino Abbey. These cases were on their way to Germany when the Holy See intervened and.....

In giving out this report the Gaullist Agency ignored what was published by Press of Republican Italy concerning the delivery made at Palazzo Venezia by the German division "Hermann Goering" of the 600 cases containing the artistic treasures of Monte Cassino.

The description of the ceremony was given great space in the papers and the fact was pointed out as a proof that the German authorities were doing their utmost to save the treasures.

Copies to:

179

~~20044/3~~
20044/90 ✓
20044/1 — Rame
20044/3

Civil Camaraderie Report
from INFO

2123/111 F01514

CAPELLI MARIO
Hotel Excelsior
Rome, Italy

TO CAPELLI GINO
cap. Magg 530 BGT. Ftr. III Comp.
Comando
P.M. 216

18 July 1944

1978

EFFECTS OF BOMBARDMENTS ON PARMA

The sender had news after the third bombardment.

"..... Old Parma was not damaged, but the other part, especially the center, is flat; Via Mazzini, the piazza, Via Dante, Pilotta, Gavour, Farini and adjacent streets, as far as the entrance to the city, have all been hit.

Concerning the last air raid I have no definite news."

2230

785016

Cens. Rpt.

[Handwritten signature]

Civil Censorship Report
from Information Division

2123/INFO/54A

CAPPELLI MARIO
Hotel Excelsior
Rome, Italy

TO CAPPELLI GINO
Cap. Magg. 530 Btg. Ptr. III Comp.
Comando
P.M. 216

18 July 1944

1977

REPORT OF BOMBARDMENTS ON PAFMA

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Concerning the last air raid I have no definite news."

No. 17

20 July 1944.

DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION ON
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Prepared by the Analysis Branch, News Division,
War Department Bureau of Public Relations.

This digest supplements the photostated copies of news stories,
magazine articles, columns and editorials which accompany it.

RADIO MOROC (RABAT) IN FRENCH TO FRANCE AND THE EMPIRE - 16 July 44

(Text) "Vatican City - The Vatican and Allied authorities are making an inventory of 520 cases which the Germans entrusted to the care of the Holy See last January. These cases contain objects of great historical, religious, and archeological value taken from the Mt. Cassino Monastery, especially its library and Naples museums. They were to have been sent to Germany, but as a result of the Vatican's intervention they were brought to Rome. The Germans then claimed their intentions were solely to safeguard these objects. From first reports it appears the cases, which should contain Pompeian plate and jewelry and a collection of weapons, the property of Naples museums, are not among those which the Germans handed to Vatican authorities."

Copies to: Rome

20909/90

20044/1

20904

20044/3

20043

20381
GERMANS DESTROY LOST ITALIAN TOWN - July 16 - 1944.

San Gimignano "of Beautiful Towers" Shelled by Foe After Withdrawal

The New York Times

ROME, July 15 - San Gimignano "of the beautiful towers", one of the most famous medieval towns in Italy, was virtually destroyed in the past thirty-six hours by the Germans, according to official information from the front.

The Fifth Army took it on Thursday by flanking maneuvers made to spare the town. The Germans, who were forced to withdraw, trained heavy guns on San Gimignano and by last evening, had been firing for thirty hours. The official account says that the town is "almost in ruins".

This is one of the greatest artistic losses that the world has suffered in this campaign. In the list of protected monuments issued by the Allied Control Commission San Gimignano was called a "medieval survival of the first artistic and historical importance." As such, it was spared. When the Germans spared Siena it appeared as if they too had come to the conclusion that the great towns of Tuscany must not be destroyed. Now it seems as if such decisions had been left to commanders on the spot. There was no good reason to shell San Gimignano after it had been lost.

San Gimignano presented a faithful picture of the Italy of Dante's time. In fact, Dante, then Florentine Ambassador, went to the council hall of the communal palace in 1300 on a mission. Thirteen of the fifty-six towers on which San Gimignano's fame largely rests were still standing three days ago but, until the Germans cease shelling, we shall not know how many, if any, will remain; what will still be there of the great frescoes of Benozzo Gozzoli and others, or whether the ancient cathedral called La Collegiata will survive.

(The high towers, medieval walls and gates have suffered mainly superficial damage, according to a United Press dispatch from the town. Not one of the thirteen famous towers has crumbled, although some received hits that knocked off molding and other bits of decoration. San Gimignano's small cathedral suffered the most serious damage, from shellholes in the roof and a wall.)

Eleven famous masterpieces of painting, six cases of old armor and one case of the most precious Pompeian gold objects were stolen by the Germans from the Naples collection entrusted to the Abbey of Mount Cassino, it was revealed today when the results of

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Eleven famous masterpieces of painting, six cases of old armor and one case of the most precious Pompeian gold objects were stolen by the Germans from the Naples collection entrusted to the Abbey of Mount Cassino, it was revealed today when the results of a check by the Italian authorities were announced. Germans had supposedly turned over to the Vatican all the cases of art objects found in Cassino, but eleven cases were found to be missing.

The missing paintings are Pieter Breughel's "Blind Leading the Blind", Caracciolo's "Flight Into Egypt", Titian's "Danae", Pannini's "Charles III at St. Peter's", Joos van Cleves' "Triptych", Colantonio's "St. Jerome", Raphael's "Madonna of Divine Love", Titian's portrait of his daughter, Lavinia; Luini's "Madonna," and Sebastiano del Piombo's "Madonna".

Copies 5?
20083
20409/90
20380

AFHQ, PWB, R.M.REPORT - No.34 - 18 July 1944 -

20381/MFAA

TRANSKONTINENT PRESS - 2019 - July 15 (Monitored in London)Venice to House Art Treasures from Northern Italy

Venice: Italian authorities, in cooperation with German military authorities, are at present taking measures on a large scale to safeguard valuable art treasures in northern Italy. The foremost object of this action is to bring art treasures from various towns in northern Italy (in so far as they have not yet been destroyed) to Venice, where they will be stored in the Doge's palace.

Pictures, sculptures and even monuments which had once been removed from Venice, were recently brought back to that city because the rural communities which became their home at the outbreak of war, had turned out to be particularly in danger. The extraordinary feats of transport which have to be performed can be realised from the fact that, for instance, gigantic pictures eighteen metres long and two metres high, as well as monuments weighing seventy to one hundred tons have had to be moved. Such heavy objects can be transported only in special trucks.

Enemy powers have been notified that Venice has been selected for storing northern Italy's most valuable art.

Copies to:

20123
D O R.12
20308/40

20906 (hold)

20881/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, ~~Unit No. 32 - APO 512~~

R. M. Report No. ³²~~47~~ - 15 July 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY M.480.0800 July 14

Allied Raids Cause Destruction in Brescia

During the terror raids against Brescia that took place on July 13, the Anglo-Americans, besides hitting residential districts, also hit several historic monuments. The Bellotto Palace was seriously damaged as well as the Duomo and Children's hospital.

Copies to

20413

D.D. R. 11

1973

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, ~~Unit No. 32 APO 513~~

R.M. Report no. ³²~~17~~ del-15 July 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH July 14

BRESCIA RAIDED BY ALLIED BOMBERS

Milan: Brescia, capital of the province bearing the same name, was attacked twice within the past twenty-four hours by Anglo-American aircraft. Considerable damage was done in residential quarters. Hospitals too, were destroyed. The cathedral, dating back to the seventeenth century, was still on fire on Friday morning. Anglo-American air raids took place also against several communities in the provinces of Mantua, Forlì and Genoa.

Copies to:

20113

O.D. R. 11

1972

81/MFAA

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 23 - 14 July 1944

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, Italy July 13 - Today's communique:

Last night, Allied bombers attacked rail yards at Brescia, in Northern Italy.

Copies to;

20118

D.O. P. 11

1971

131/17AA

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS No. 23 - 14 July 1944

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, July 13

RAF night bombers struck at the Brescia rail yards in northern Italy early this morning, a few hours after American planes had caused heavy damage in the second attack within a week on rail targets in southern France.

Copies to:

20113

D. O. R. 11

1070

ITALY

German Air Raid on Loreto

New Digest 14 May 44 p. 45

K23 Radio Vatican (in French), 12.7.44 (21.00). According to news received by the *Osservatore Romano*, 12.7.44, German aircraft made several raids during the night of July 5th over the basilica and the town of Loreto.

Incendiaries were dropped on the cupola, and the resulting fire was only under control after ten hours. Another bomb opened a large breach in the cupola itself, and Maccari's painting (frescoes in the dome—Ed.) suffered badly.

There were 20 casualties. Some buildings were blasted and partly destroyed by fire.

1069

ITALY

—Allied Objectives: Famous Cities Damaged

K21. Transocean (for Far East), 11.7.44 (18.23).
Selditz reports from Venice: The Allied air war against Italy is continuing bitterly. On the road between Verona and Trieste, 300 km long and one of the most important Italian cross connections, the correspondent experienced four air raids in 12 hours. The old Roman city of Verona was devastated by Anglo-American night bombers. In spite of the clear moonlight they did not differentiate between railway embankments, factories and historical buildings. In the narrow mediaeval Verona streets, famous for its well preserved Roman arena and numerous old churches, carpet bombing caused large-scale damage.

From the Littorio dam, five km long, built by Mussolini 12 years ago to connect Venice with the mainland, the correspondent witnessed the air raid on the harbour city of Marghera. One hundred and fifty four-engined American bombers again stirred up the debris of this city, already bombed 12 times.

On the same road between Venice and Trieste, an hour later, the small town of San Michele was razed to the ground. The town is in a rich agricultural area and is without any industry. The 5,000 inhabitants are experienced in bombing war and take refuge in the fields when the alert has sounded, and as a result there has not been one casualty. When the inhabitants returned after the half-hour attack, there was not one stone left on top of another. The town was wiped out, but traffic continues. The inhabitants live in the open, and after their day's work sit in front of their ruined houses, just as in peace time, watching passers-by with interest.

At about the same time Trieste had its fourth bombing, while the official list of the last raid was posted on the walls. ARP measures have improved: there were no victims this time. Trieste has very safe shelters.

News Digest 13 July 44

1968

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 29 - July 12 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 480 METERS - 0800 July 11

Romagna Bombed

Various localities in the Romagna Province were bombed yesterday by enemy aircraft. Part of a cemetery was devastated by bombs, and a church was damaged. Many casualties were caused, for the most part women and children.

1967

20384/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, BASIC NEWS No. 22 - 11 July 1944

LIBERATED ITALYCemetery wall around Keats' grave being repaired

ROME, July 10 - The high wall around the Protestant Cemetery of Rome, in which John Keats is buried, is being rebuilt, following the damage sustained from a bomb hit March 29. The graves of both Keats and Shelley, whose heart is buried in the adjoining new section of the cemetery, were unharmed by three stray bombs which fell in the famous burial place. (PWB)

Copies

Rome

20910

1966

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, BASIC NEWS No. 22 - 11 July 1944

ALLIED DRIVE "SIGNIFICAT" WEDGE" INTO ENEMY'S TUSCAN POSITIONSLoreto Cathedral Deliberately ^{Bombed} by Germans

LORETO, ITALY, July 6 (Delayed) - Three days after withdrawing from Loreto, the Germans last night sent their Luftwaffe to bomb the magnificent "Cathedral of the Madonna" whose great basilica, dome, and campanile have for centuries dominated the surrounding countryside, a United National News correspondent reported. The attack was deliberate.

The first aircraft over the town dropped hundreds of incendiaries, which at once set fire to the dome and provided the enemy with a perfect target under a full moon. The attack lasted for six hours, during which German airmen attempted to smash the shrine which the Holy See had long ago nominated as the home of the patron saint of aviators.

Some 70 to 80 priest worked with small buckets of sand - the Germans wrecked the water supply before they left - in a hopeless attempt to stem the cascade of molten copper when it poured from the dome along the roof's gutters. The fire, which raged until this morning entirely consumed the outer shell of the dome. Priests remained on the roof during many bombing attacks, and it is a miracle that none of them were killed when the Germans scored a direct hit on the dome. The bomb tore a great hole above the altar and filled the inside of the church with broken masonry, smashed ornaments, twisted metal fittings, and precious lamps.

The superior priests of the basilica said this morning that no one could doubt that bombing attacks were a deliberate attempt to destroy the church, which is also Papal property and enjoys extra-territorial rights. The priests gave highest praise to the Polish troops who worked with them in an attempt to localize the damage, which at first estimate was placed at 7,000,000 lire at the prewar exchange.

The destruction included the burning and bombing of the dome, the bombing of the French and Crucifix chapels, the loss of the Maccheri stained glass, and the frescoes and famous ceiling of the Santa Casa Library. The convent of the Capuchins, dedicated to the service of the cathedral, was also bombed.

Loreto was naturally, not very heavily defended with anti-aircraft guns, but those that were in the neighborhood brought down two enemy planes.

(PWB)

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, R. M. Report. No. 25 - 7 July 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 230 M. M.-2000 - JULY 6The Air Raid Against San Marino

Following the air raid of the 26th of June, carried out by Anglo-American bombers against the territory of the Republic of San Marino, the San Marino Secretary Foreign Affairs states:

1) The consequences of the air raid carried out on the 26th of June by Anglo-American bombers against the territory of our Republic are much more serious than could have been supposed during the first moments of terror. A cluster of bombs struck transversally..... damaging the XVth Century Town Hall, the Museum and other buildings. Other bombs fell in the streets of the town and in the fields where workmen and countrymen were working. The number of casualties has grown from thirty-five to fifty-seven. Thirty-nine San Marino citizens were killed while the eighteen other casualties were members of the Italian colony which had taken shelter here, in consequence of the war. The Regency of the Republic has decreed three days' public mourning;

*Copied to
S. delarino*

1964

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, R. M. Report. No.25 - 7 July 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - July 6

Kesselring Arranges for the Preservation of Siena from Damage

Brescia: (By Transocean's correspondent, Boltho von Honenbach).

The gem of Tuscany, Siena has been spared destruction by Field Marshal Kesselring, who turned it into a hospital town and abandoned the idea of defending it, although it is well suited for such purpose.

Copies to/

20803

1363

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No.23 - July 5 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY Kc. 1500 - 23,30
July 4 - 44Destruction of Basilica of Pola

The serious damage wrought to the Basilica of Pola, well-known work of art whose most interesting and significant portions have been destroyed, is echoed in the appeal addressed by the Bishop of Pola to the population. The Bishop, after mentioning the many victims torn from their dear ones on that tragho day when one of the most beautiful temples of Istria was hit, protested against the violation of every elementary principle of Christian ethics and against every norm of respect current among civilized people.

Copies to

20123

O.D. R. 12

1962

AFHQ, PWB

U.N. News Service, No. 17

5 July 1944.

PEOPLE OF SIENA FETE AMERICAN AND FRENCH TROOPS

SIENA, July 4 +++++
+++++
+++++
The famous art treasures in Siena are undamaged,
although the Germans demolished the San Chiera
Cathedral (sic) to make a roadblock.
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(PWB-PRO)

1961

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90083

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 22 - 4 July 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - Kc.620 - 0800 July 3Allies Bomb Florence

Enemy planes machine gunned the center of the city of Florence, which is an open city, devoid of any military objective. There was damage to private buildings and victims were listed amongst the civil population. Bomb fragments fell only a few yards from the basilica of Santa Maria Novella.

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20024/1/B

D. Hartt

1960

20382/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB RADIO MONITORING REPORT No.22 - 4 July 1944

D.N.B. IN ENGLISH July 3Italian Theater

Berlin: The development of operations in the Italian theater of war has led to the evacuation of the district of Siena, including the town itself, today, forenoon, in order not to subject this Italian center of art and culture to the destructive effects of war, writes Karl Praegner, special correspondent for the Mediterranean area. German defence forces entered favorable positions north of the town, from where they successfully repulsed violent attacks by de Gaulle troops supported by American tank formations. In today's fighting north of Siena the Americans lost twenty-three tanks. The casualties suffered by Algerian and Moroccan rifle formations were no less severe.

1959

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 22 - 4 July 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - July 3Works of Art Returned to Venice for Safety

Venice: The four famous bronze horses of St. Mark's church have been transported back to the city. They form the only antique quadriga in existence in the world. Victorious Venetians brought it home from Constantinople in 1204 and in 1940, when Italy joined the present war, it was taken from the roof of the church to a safe place in the country.

The quadriga will shortly be given its former place. Along with the quadriga, other works of art have also been returned to Venice. The municipal authorities consider that these historical monuments will most likely survive the airwar better in Venice than in the province, which is daily attacked by Allied aircraft.

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Q. B. 12

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB RADIO MONITORING REPORT No.22 - 4 July 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - July 3

Allied Planes Bomb Florence and Empoli

MILAN - Florence has again been bombed by Allied airmen. Damage was done, particularly in the centre of the town. Incendiary bombs were dropped on the church of Santa Maria Novella. Another enemy attack was made against the town of Empoli.

Copy 5
20083

1957

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB

UN News Service N. 15 - 2 July 1944

LIBERATED ITALY

PEACE FALLS OVER LIBERATED PERUGIA

PERUGIA, July 1 -- This famous university city, rich in treasures of art and architecture, is breathing freely again after months of fear and terror, wrote William Doerflinger, United Nations News reporter, today.

Citizens of this city, freed on June 20, are enjoying excellent relations with Allied soldiers sightseeing on leave or assigned to administrative duties within its magnificent sweep of tiled roofs and historic walls, spires, halls, and churches, and among the paintings by Perugino Raffaello and other masters.

As a result of German demolitions the water system is interrupted, although people can secure good water by carrying it into their homes from public sources. The Germans blew up the municipal electric plant and effected a huge crater in Via Carlo Umberto. The electric light, telephone and tramway services are still off, but rapid restoration is taking place under the Allied Military Government authorities.

Shops and villas were looted of everything the Germans could carry away, said Lester Maynard, a retired member of the United States Foreign Service, who was interned in Perugia with his wife and two daughters.

One courtyard of the famous church of San Pietro, said Maynard, was used by the Germans for gasoline storage.

The most hated name in Perugia today, beyond the slightest doubt, wrote Doerflinger, was that of Armando Rocchi, prefect and head of Perugia Province, who fled with his closest henchmen before the Allies arrived. Collaborating with the Germans, Rocchi had conducted a reign of terror in the City.

Rocchi brought about the death of many patriots. Documents dated April 24, found by Allied authorities in his former office, forbade the placing of flowers or other decorations on the graves of these "rebels". Among those shot were a boy of 16 and a man of 60. Scores of attacks on Fascist barracks and town halls, and executions of Germans, were recorded in these captured documents. (PWB)

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1956

20381/MFAA

AFHQ PWB RADIO MONITORING REPORT N.20 - July 2 1944

D.N.R. IN ENGLISH - July 1

Italian Front

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Hitler has declared Florence an open city in order to save
the art treasures of the city.

Copy to:
20033

1955

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report N. 20 - 2 July 1944

D.N.B. IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1010 June 30 (Monitored in London)

RAIDS CAUSE DAMAGE TO HISTORIC TREASURES

Milan It is officially announced that many valuable objects of great historic interest, churches and buildings dating back to the earliest centuries have been destroyed in the continued Anglo-American terror raids on cities, localities and villages in central and southern (sic) Italy. In Alessandria the cathedral was badly damaged while a theatre dating back to the early 19th century was almost totally destroyed as was the Bentivogli Baroque Palace.

In one of latest terror raids in Genoa the Teatro Falcone, attached to the Royal Palace which had suffered heavy damage in October, 1942, was completely wrecked. Several Renaissance buildings were also destroyed. The churches of San Carlo and San Pietro, which contain tombs of historic value of the 17th and 18th centuries and pulpits in classical style, suffered serious damage. Destruction of the Villa Cambiaso building, typical of Genoa's patrician style at the time of the Renaissance, was a particularly painful blow for the population of the town. Pictures by Isola on the ceiling of the Aula Magna of the Genoa University were badly damaged.

In the latest raids on Modena, the cathedral, one of the best-known and most beautiful examples of Romanesque architecture, was hit. The Porta dei Principi with its 13th century frescoes was badly damaged. In the cloisters of the Archiepiscopal Palace near the cathedral, valuable marble sculptures of pre-Roman and Roman times were recovered from under the debris. The famous Palazzo Ducale, one of Italy's biggest palaces, sustained heavy.

In Parma the Palazzo della Pilotta (?) dating back to the 16th century and the Museum of Ancient Art were hit in air raids.

In Ferrara the 16th century Jesuit Church and its valuable paintings, mausoleum, San Sepolcro (?) Church. Santa Maria Nuova Church dating to the 8th century and reconstructed in the Baroque period, and Santa Caterina Church with its valuable painting were badly affected by air raids. Substantial damage was caused to the Castello d'Este, built in 1385 and restored in the 16th century. The Ferrara town hall and the Loggia Dei meroi (?) were seriously damaged.

In the night of June 27 Anglo American bombers raided the harbors of Trieste and Pola, causing great havoc in the densely populated district of Trieste. There were many casualties.

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1954

20003/3

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB

UN News Service N. 14 - 1 July 1944

MEDITERRANEAN

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, June 30 - Today's communique:

Farther inland, troops of 8th Army, still in difficult country, have made substantial gains, taking the towns of Castiglione del Lago, which for many days has been stubbornly defended by the enemy and Montepulciano, together with a number of villages to the west.

AIR: Medium bombers yesterday attacked a number of railroad bridges on the coastal line between La Spezia and southern France, as well as a dump near La Spezia.

Medium and light bombers attacked railyards at Ravenna and Cesena.

1953

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20083

Historical Monuments Damaged in Air Raids

K3. Italian Home Service, 28.5.44 (23.00). Very great damage was caused to cultural monuments in Alessandria during the raid on April 30th last. High explosive bombs shattered the apse of the Cathedral and the Sacristy. The 17th century Teatro Municipale

32 Numb. 1488 July 44 p32-33

ITALY

containing the valuable frescoes of Giotto, and the Palazzo Procede Tivoglio were almost completely ruined.

During the raid on Genoa on May 9th, the Teatro Falcione was destroyed. Still more serious damage to the city's monuments was caused during the raid on May 19th, when almost all the priceless statues in the Church of San Paolo were damaged, the facade and side chapels being also badly affected. The Church of San Pietro alla Foce, famous for its facade and portico, was almost entirely destroyed. The collapse of a neighbouring building badly damaged the Oratorio della Morte e Creazione o dei Nobili, which dates from the middle of the 17th century and is celebrated for classical decorations by Casaregi and the stucco ornaments by Carlo Fazzi which adorn the interior. In the Chapel of our Lord, in the Cathedral of San Lorenzo, the statues of St. John and St. Peter were damaged. Villa Cambiase, formerly Villa Giustiniani, Alesi's first building in Genoa, was almost totally destroyed. ("Senino's") fresco in the central hall was completely ruined.

At the Villa Brignole, now an institution occupied by the Marcelline nuns, which had been severely damaged in last year's raids, the small chapel and the right loggia were damaged. The facade and fixtures of the Villa Sauli were damaged, while the great hall of the Archbishop's Curia, painted by Luca Cambiase was destroyed. The great central fresco by Isola in the University Hall shared the same fate, and the 17th century chapel was also damaged.

In Bologna the walls of the Porta Galliera partially collapsed after the raid on May 13th.

Important monuments suffered in the raid on the same day on Modena, where the cathedral, one of the most beautiful examples of Romanesque architecture, suffered damage both to the structure and to the decorations. The sumptuous Church of San Vincenzo was seriously damaged, as were also the works of art it contained, including the 17th century altar of Tommaso Loraghi. Serious damage was also caused to the Churches of San Domenico and San Salvatore o dei Servi and to the imposing Ducal Palace.

On May 13th, further damage was caused to the 15th-century Palazzo Pilotta at Parma, where the museum of antiquities suffered.

In the raid on Ferrara of June 5th, numerous buildings of historic and artistic importance were damaged, including the 15th-century church of Gesu, containing the tomb of Barbara of Austria. The cloister of the church of San Paolo was also hit, and the church of Santa Maria Nuova, which dates back to the 9th and 10th centuries and was restored in the baroque style during the 18th century, suffered damage to the apse and elsewhere. The church of Santa Caterina Vegri was badly damaged, and serious damage was also caused to the Banca d'Italia, the Social Insurance building and the Castello Estense, built by Nicolo d'Este in 1385 and subsequently restored and modified in the 16th century. The 17th-century Monte de Pietà (State pawnshop), built by the architect Poggio Sanlini, suffered serious interior damage. The Palazzo Municipale and the Loggia Mercati were hit.

Numb. 1488 July 44 p32-33

1952

SAN MARINO

K12 Transocean (in German for Europe) 28.5.44 (08.47), reports from Bologna: During June 26th, Allied bombers, in four consecutive waves, dropped medium and heavy bombs on San Marino. There were casualties among the population which, according to reports so far received, exceed 100 killed and badly injured. In addition, the bombs caused heavy damage.

The Republic of San Marino has, accordingly, addressed a note of protest to the Holy See to be passed on to London and Washington, vigorously objecting to the bombing of its territory. The Legation at the Holy See is the most important diplomatic representation of San Marino abroad. It is in the charge of Minister Serlupi Crescenzi. . . . The protest emphasized that San Marino is recognised as a neutral State, whose frontiers so far have been respected by all the belligerents. The country has no connection with the war. No belligerent could derive any advantage, either economic or military, from these 64 square km. The damage caused by the air raid is consequently entirely cultural. The Cathedral has been destroyed.

At the entry to San Marino stands an order in German stating: "The Republic of San Marino is a neutral State recognised by the Reich Government and the High Command of the German Armed Forces. Passage and residence are prohibited."

The protest from San Marino has probably been passed on to London where the smallest Republic in the world is represented by a Consul General.

News Digest 21466 29 June 44 p 46

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 17 del 29 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 228 KC - 6700 - June 28

SAN MARINO BOMBED

The day before yesterday, in the late hours of the morning, numerous Anglo-American aircraft bombed the city of San Marino. The Cathedral and the Library were destroyed. The casualties were heavy. The Republic of San Marino had in due time advised the belligerent powers of its strict neutrality. At the present moment, the Republic of San Marino was a haven for the women and children who could no longer live in their own homes, destroyed by the enemy.

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20093

Capt C-M.

1949

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB, RMS, Unit No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 16 - 28 June 1944

FASCIST RADIO 2000 JUNE 27

SAN MARINO BOMBED BY THE ALLIES

Yesterday, from 11 o'clock to 1 p.m., in four successive waves, Anglo-American aircraft bombed the city of San Marino. Private houses, the Cathedral and the Library were destroyed.

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Capt. C. M.

1948

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 16 - 28 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 0700 - June 27

RAID ON FORLI'

The suburbs of Forli' were bombed yesterday by enemy forces, and a number of farm-houses were destroyed. Four enemy four-engined bombers were shot down.

Alessandria was also indiscriminately bombed by Allied aircraft.

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90043

Capt. C. H.

1947

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT - No. 12 - 24 June 1944

RADIO BERLIN IN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 11.8 Mos. 09.45 JUNE 23

Allies Destroy Italian Museum

The museum of Lake Nemi has been destroyed by Anglo-American troops. In this museum there were the two ships of Caligula which had been recovered from the lake.

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1946

AFHQ, F.W.B., R.M. REPORT No. 11 - 23 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY - 1700 - June 22

Tintoretto painting destroyed.

Zagreb: During an Anglo-American air raid on Spalato, a painting of the Madonna with Child, by Tintoretto, was destroyed. The painting had been evaluated at one hundred thousand Swiss francs.

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20160

1945

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB

U.N. News Service, No. 148 - 16 June 1944

DOMITILLA MASSACRE IN ROME IDENTICAL WITH THAT OF KATYN IN RUSSIA

ROME, June 15 - According to a representative of the former clandestine front in Rome who inspected the scene of the massacre of 320 hostages in the Domitilla catacombs near Rome, the procedure was identical to that used in the execution by the Germans of Polish officers in the Katyn pits in Russia,

The bodies were buried in a number of rows and separated in layers of caustic material, as in the Katyn pits. The massacre was a reprisal for the assassination of 32 German police agents in Rome.

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C O P Y

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AFHQ, PWB

U.N. News Service, No. 6 - 22 June 1944.

VATICAN SAVES ITALIAN CULTURAL TREASURES

VATICAN CITY, June 21 - Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Vatican, the famous Archives and Library of the Abbey of Mount Cassino, containing rare codices, books, and art treasures, have been preserved from destruction by war.

This library collection was first brought to the old fortress of Spoleto (Rocca di Spoleto), last October, and from there to the Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome, on December 8, 1943, whence it was later transferred to the Vatican Library.

On March 2 and 3, 1944, the Library of the Cardinal of York which was housed in the Episcopal Seminary of Frascati, was brought to the Vatican Library from that building, which had been badly damaged by bombing. It comprises about 15,000 volumes and manuscripts, some of which are very rare. The Archives and part of the Episcopal Curial Library of the same town were also brought to the Vatican on March 3 and 11. Two beautiful carved-wood doors dating back to the 14th century, which belonged to the old Della Rovere family, were also transferred to the Vatican.

Seventy-six cases of extremely rare documents belonging to the famous Basilican Abbey of Grottaferrata near Rome were salvaged and brought to the Vatican on March 1, 1944, while on February 10, 1944, the representatives of the Italian Government Public Libraries entrusted to the Vatican Library numerous manuscripts and other rare objects belonging to the Abbey. (PWB)

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1943

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 220 - 16 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 1222 Kcs. 2000 JUNE 15

Varazze Bombed.

Even Varazze, where there are no military objectives, was subjected to air raid by the delinquent enemy airmen. There were numerous victims and much damage was caused to civil dwellings.

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1942

ITALY

H6. TP (in German for Europe), 14.6.44 (12.30), reports from Venice: It has been learned that U.S. tanks, when entering Rome on June 4th, damaged by gunfire the Colosseum and the National Monument, dominating the Piazza Venezia. On the Corso Umberto, the Palace of Prince Doria, the new Governor of Rome, received a direct hit by artillery fire. On the Piazza Navona, a shell exploded, causing damage.

1949

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FNB, RMS, Unit. No 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 218 - 14 June 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH JUNE 13The American Soldier in Quest of Souvenirs

ALGERIRAS: Objects of art are much in demand by United States soldiers on furlough in Rome, according to Randolph Churchill just returned from Tito's Headquarters.

The secretary of the former Governor of Gibraltar reported that the purchase of objects of art, which was forbidden to German soldiers, was now being indulged in extensively by Allied soldiers, everyone of whom wanted to take home some souvenir.

American soldiers are much disliked by their comrades from other countries, because of the high pay they enjoy, which enables them to purchase much more than their more modestly paid British and French comrades.

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1940

70381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB

UN. News Service No. 145 - 13 June 1944

ALBAN HILLS TOWNS GUTTED BY WAR; ONLY ROCCA DI PAPA UNTOUCHED

NAPLES, June 12 - The famed Alban Hills suburbs of Rome, favorite putting spots for the population of the Italian Capital, are now charred and blasted by war and German looting.

Genzano, Ariccia, Castel Gandolfo, Marino, Grottaferrata, Nemi, Monte Puzio, Catone, Monte Compatri, Colonna, and Frascati have been found largely destroyed. Rocca di Papa, however, escaped without much damage. Food is short in all the communes.

At Nemi, the museum with the ancient boats of Caligula was burned by the Germans just before they left, said the ACC reports. At Tivoli, a bomb fell in the garden of Villa d'Este, causing slight damage.

Other reports to the ACC said that towns in the Cassino Plain, the scene of some of the heaviest fighting of the recent campaign, are almost completely destroyed. The entire area has been sealed off against the entry of civilians. Frosinone is very badly damaged. Every article in every house was looted, even doors and windows being carried away by the Germans, said the ACC. The water system of Frosinone was ruined beyond repair. Ferentino was half destroyed, and Anagni was "completely damaged" said the reports. (FWB=ACC)

1939

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Capt. Keller
Reg. 4

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 217 - 13 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 1220 Kcs 2000 JUNE 12

Bomb Damage at Spalato.

The "Zagabria Journal" writes that disastrous damage resulted from the June 3rd raid on the city of Spalato. As a result of further attacks effected on the same and subsequent days, 260 people were killed and 280 wounded. It is possible that the number of victims will prove larger after the removal of bodies has been completed. Two hundred homes were completely destroyed and many others seriously damaged. Many public buildings, schools, churches and hospitals were hit.

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1028

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 218 - 14 June 1944

GERMAN HOME SERVICE IN GERMAN TO GERMANY 1235 JUNE 12

B.N.B. IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1953 JUNE 11
(Monitored in London)

Bishop Decries Raids.

Trieste: Antonio Santin, Bishop of Trieste, broadcast an address...in which he expressed his indignation at the terror raid on the town.
"Death and destruction rained down, particularly on working class districts, the statue of the Madonna delle Grazie venerated by so many of us, toppled down from the altar. Her church was destroyed, and Franciscans too were cruelly hit.

"To those who have wrought this havoc I would like to say that these are deeds unworthy of a civilised nation, and that they are completely useless from a military point of view. That is why such acts are regretted by humanity, and why the conscience of the world solemnly raises its voice to demand that the destruction of our cities should cease."

1937

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit, No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 217 - 13 June 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH

JUNE 11

Americans Sink Hospital Ship During Trieste Raid.

Berlin: American bombers during a raid on the city and port of Trieste on Saturday forenoon sank a German hospital ship by bomb hits, competent quarters have announced. The vessel was moored far away from any military target, and according to the Geneva Convention was marked as a hospital ship with the Red Cross.

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1936

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB.

UN News Service No. 144 - 11 June 1944

GENERAL HUME MAKES REPORT ON CONDITION OF ROME

ROME, June 10 - Brig. Gen. Hume, senior civil affairs officer for the AMG, Rome Region, at his first press conference described conditions in the capital city. * * * *

The civil affairs chief said the Nazis did not make off with any of the city's wealth of art; that some treasures are housed in the Vatican, and others in cellars throughout the city.

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1935

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB.

U.N. News Service, No. 140

San Lorenzo Basilica and San Paolo Arch CemeteryOnly Religious Buildings Damaged by Bombing Rome RailyardsEvidence Germans Used Rome for Military Traffic Disclosed

Captain John S. Hall, of the Public Relations Staff of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force, said today that wreckage of enemy guns, gasoline trains, and military supplies in the Ostiense, Tiburtina, and San Lorenzo railyards "explode the German claim that Rome was an open city".

At least 40 German guns, ranging from light field pieces to 15 centimeter heavy rifles, were found in the twisted debris of the Ostiense yards, the air officer said.

Accompanied by a spokesman of the Allied Control Commission, the MAAF official toured three of Rome's railyards, targets of 16 heavy Allied air attacks since last July. Only two religious or cultural monuments were damaged in the entire city of Rome as a result of these precision attacks, the inspectors said.

The two structures were the Basilica of San Lorenzo, only a few hundred yards from the San Lorenzo yards, and the cemetery wall around San Paolo Arch, Protestant burial ground.

1934

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2 31/MFAA

AFHQ, FVB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 216 - 11 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO IN ITALY TO ITALY - 2300 - JUNE 10Anglo-American Air Raids

In the early hours of this morning Anglo-American bombers made a terror raid on the city of Trieste. The bombs fell chiefly on churches, hospitals and workers' quarters. The population suffered casualties.

The enemy raiders also made an indiscriminate attack on Faenza, destroying many homes.

At Pola, where the Anglo-Americans unleashed their fury two days ago on the center of the city, vast destruction and numerous victims are reported.

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1923

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 216 - 10 June 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - JUNE 9

Allied Raid Causes Destruction in North Italy

Milan: An Allied aircraft formation has heavily bombed Forli'. The city center was especially hard hit, Radio Milan reports. Another air raid was directed against localities along the gulf of Genoa, which caused many casualties.

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1932

ITALY

Fall of Rome : A Call to Arms

H2. Stompa, Turin, 6.6.44. Petinato writes: True to his promise, Marshal Kesselring has remembered that, in spite of traitors, he is the ally of the Italian people, and has refused to make of Rome a second Stalingrad. By a timely order, his troops have been withdrawn to north of the Tiber, where the enemy will find them intact and ready to take up the fight again. But it would have been too much to expect a similar proof of chivalry from the enemy, and the Americans, in answer to Badoglio's invitation—in the

Num Digit 0 1473 14 June 44 p 53

absence of one from the Romans—insisted at all costs on carrying on the fight and the butchery in the very centre of the city, which had been evacuated by the enemy, traversing its inert body with their steel giants, as in the case of Frosinone or Velletri, aiming their guns at the Tiber bridges from San Paolo to the Via Cassia in their angry, foolish hope of thus—amid houses and façades, domes, statues and crosses, on precious, frail monuments, unique in the world—reaching the last rearguards of the army which they had been unable to beat or hold in the open field.

When the Romans see with their own eyes the Negroes, New Zealanders, Australians, Tommies, and Sammies desecrating the tomb of the Unknown Warrior; when they see the treasures in their museums confiscated as war booty to enrich public galleries or Jewish antiquarians beyond the ocean, their shops plundered as they were in Naples, the courtyards of their public buildings from the Palazzo Venezia to the Quirinal, and their most beautiful squares from the Antonine Column to the Mussolini Monolith strewn with litter and petrol tins, or ploughed up by the muddy tracks of tanks of the Fifth and Eighth Armies, they will stop applauding and crying Hosanna.

3c 3c

1931

ITALY

Handwritten: 61446
Air Raids: Attack on Viareggio—
 K12 Italian Home Service, 6641 (2300). A new terror raid has been carried out on Viareggio by the Anglo-Americans. Heavy bombs hit the outskirts and centre of the town. The Church of St. Antonio di Padova has been completely ruined, and the Baptistery partially destroyed. The Annunziata Church was also seriously damaged.

1930

NEWS DIGEST

No. 1466 (E. H. Series)

6th June, 1944

This Digest is designed to collect into a form convenient for propaganda purposes information recently received about enemy and enemy-occupied countries. It is prepared under official auspices and all the material in it may be published, subject to Censorship regulations and on the responsibility of the user. The words "do not quote" preceding an item indicate that though the text of the item may be published, no mention may be made of the source. A list of papers whose names may be quoted can be obtained from the editor.

Enquiries and requests for extra copies should be addressed in writing to the Editor, Box No. 2, West Central District Office, New Oxford St., W.C.1.

Germany

LATEST COMMENT

Rome Saved by the Führer—

A1. German Overseas Service (in German for North America), 5.6.44 (05.15). *The Führer has saved Rome.* The eternal city, the cradle of culture and of Christian humanity, will—as far as is in German power—remain undamaged. This momentous decision was announced this evening in a High Command communique. . . . (See A4)

Germany has thus, by relinquishing for the moment important military advantages, made a sacrifice in the eyes of all the world and of Christianity which will beyond all doubt characterise the true attitude of the German spirit. A deed has been done which will be honoured by eternity.

—Kesselring's Proposal—

A2. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (00.21), reports from the Führer's HQ. The OKW announces: Field Marshal Kesselring, the C-in-C of the German troops in Italy, on June 3rd at 23.00 made, through the German Ambassador to the Vatican, the following proposals regarding the recognition of the city of Rome as an open city by the belligerents which were to be passed on to the High Command of the Anglo-American Forces:

(1) Rome is recognised by the belligerent Powers as an open city.

(2) The following are the boundaries of the open city: St. Paolo, excluding the railway line north of St. Paolo up to the Piazza Maggiore line, from the Piazza Maggiore line (railway line and Stazione Tiburtina) to be excluded) to the east of Villa Chigi. From Villa Chigi to the Tiber bend, 1.5 km south-south-west of the race course Tor di Quinto—south of the river Tiber to Ponte Milvio (inclusive)—the western tip of the Vatican city—Porta San Pancrazio and the Trastevere station (exclusive)—Ponte Sublicio (inclusive)—east of the Tiber bank—Porta St. Paolo (exclusive).

(3) Details:

(a) The OKW undertakes, as before, not to keep any military installations or troops within the open city nor to carry out any troop movements.

(b) Such officials and police forces as are necessary to maintain law and order and supply the city are excepted.

(c) No measures of destruction will be carried out within the open city.

(d) All supplies are to be reserved exclusively for the civilian population.

(e) Even after the evacuation of the city by the German Armed Forces electricity and water supplies will be maintained from the present installations as far as they are in the hands of the German Armed Forces.

(4) The condition for this undertaking on the part of the German Armed Forces is the unconditional promise of mutuality.

The German C-in-C has also suggested that the Vatican should be requested to arrange for a suitable control to ensure that the above arrangements are kept.

No reply from the Anglo-American High Command has yet been received to these proposals. Instead, General Alexander has in a proclamation invited the citizens of Rome to offer armed resistance to the German troops.

1929

—Rejected by the Allies?—

A3. Transocean (for Far East), 5.6.44 (09.03), reports under a London dateline: The diplomatic correspondent of the London Times intimates today that the Allies will reject Kesselring's suggestion that Rome be proclaimed an open town. . . .

—German Troops Withdraw—

A4. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (00.30) reports from the Führer's HQ: The OKW announces: Since, in the

course of military operations, the front was approaching nearer and nearer to the city of Rome there was the danger that this most ancient centre of culture in the world might be implicated in direct military operations. In order to avoid this, the Führer has given orders that the German troops are to be withdrawn from the north west of Rome.

The struggle in Italy is being continued with unshakable determination and with the aim of ultimately breaking the enemy attack and, together with our allies, of achieving victory perforce. In closest collaboration with Fascist Italy and the other allies of the Reich the conditions necessary for this are being brought about.

The year of the invasion will bring to our enemies a crushing defeat at the most decisive point.

—Allies Gain Little Advantage—

A5. Transocean (in Spanish for South America), 5.6.44 (0427). "What will become of Rome?" This is the first question asked here in the German capital after the publication of the communiqué from the Führer's HQ and Kesselring's proposal. Since Kesselring's proposal to declare Rome an open city has not so far been answered by General Alexander, competent Berlin circles say that the question whether Rome will be directly included in the war zone depends on whether the Anglo-Americans will treat Rome as an open city.

In this connection, it is said that for many months Rome has not been occupied and that it was respected by the Germans as an open city in order to "deprive the Allies of every excuse for their terrorist attacks." It is also pointed out that from the beginning the German Command in Italy has endeavoured to avoid the destruction of valuable cultural properties.

The evacuation of Rome is described in Berlin as a logical consequence of the German conduct of the war, although a certain loss of prestige cannot be avoided. Informed circles state that the Allies will be unable to derive any advantage from the evacuation of Rome. The necessity of supplying the population with food is, above all, a burden for Allied transport. From the military point of view, the American attacks have failed because they did not succeed in forcing the German formations to give decisive battle in the vast plain of the Campagna. It is stressed that the enemy tank formations succeeded in penetrating the outer area of Rome only after bitter fighting and sustaining heavy losses and after the German forces had withdrawn towards the north west during Sunday (June 4th).

—All Aspects Considered—

A6. Transocean (for Far East), 5.6.44 (11.05). Georg Schröder writes: What does the capture of Rome mean for the development of the war? For the first time in its history Rome is not being defended. For the first time the Italians in the battle before the gates of Rome have not actively participated on either side. Let us draw up a sober balance:

First militarily: as a result of demilitarisation, Rome has, for some months, not been available as a supply and command centre for the front. Whether General Alexander's position will be different depends on whether he is imbued with the same determination as Field-Marshal Kesselring to preserve Rome, by demilitarisation, as a city of irreplaceable art treasures and historic relics. The German Command, ever since Badoglio's capitulation, has operated according to plan, foreseeing delaying fighting in Italy up to a barrier further to the north. The evacuation of Rome was envisaged for November.

Secondly economically: Rome is the only European metropolis which is completely unproductive, living entirely on the administration of the State and the Church, on tourist traffic and on commerce. From an economic point of view this city without factories is a pure liability, since its population, swelled by refugees to two and a half million, has to be fed.

Thirdly politically: from the point of view of politics and propaganda, the occupation of Rome is certainly advantageous for the Allies. This holds good particularly with regard to its effects on the British and American people. But Rome has not been Italy's capital for nine months. The Fascist Government's seat is in northern Italy. It is possible that the Badoglio Government will shortly make Rome its seat. A new phase in internal politics will begin for Italy. Victor Emmanuel must live up to his promise of abdication. The struggle within the Communist, Liberal and Monarchist coalition will be intensified.

Fourthly, with regard to the Church: the Vatican City is now within the Allied sphere of influence. Allied diplomatic representatives at the Holy See have returned to their former residences in Rome while the German Ambassador has probably moved to Vatican City. (See A14.) For the Pope's policy nothing of fresh importance has arisen. Those who know the Vatican are convinced that the Pope will continue to exert his moral authority for the spirit of reconciliation against the inhuman conduct of the war and against Communism.

A7. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (12.46). Dr. Siegfried Horn writes:

The occupation of Rome by Anglo-American troops is described by the enemy as a big political and military success. As far as its military importance is concerned, German political circles point out that the occupation of the capital took place with a delay of many months despite all boastful predictions, and that the way to Rome had to be paid for with tremendous casualties. This is not denied in the Anglo-American camp.

It is further stated that it would have been quite feasible to defend Rome, but that this was not done because such an action would have been tantamount to the destruction of irreplaceable cultural treasures. The fact that the leaders of the Reich should have abandoned any idea of defending Rome was proof of their high feeling of responsibility towards the west.

It also proved that the German Command in no way allowed the enemy to dictate its actions, even though this might have enabled the enemy to score a prestige success.

There is nothing which can make the occupation of Rome an event of political importance, as the enemy would like. However, many delicate questions which had been shelved until the occupation of the city will now demand a solution, viz., the question of Victor Emmanuel's abdication and the problems connected with this.

The enemy has so far not replied to the German offer to declare Rome an open city, nor does the available information suggest that he has any intention of doing so. The insinuation is obvious that the enemy is simply unwilling to avail himself of such an opportunity, especially since the German efforts to demilitarise Rome, undertaken since March this year, have found no response in the enemy camp.

The appeal by the Anglo-American commanders, calling upon the Roman population to take up arms against their German allies is evidence of a will to destruction which pays as little regard to the preservation of irreplaceable cultural monuments as it does

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to the sparing of the civilian population. Rome is yet another example of the well-known tendencies of Anglo-American warfare.

AR. NPD, 5.644 (15.09). The AID writes: The evacuation of Rome is a matter of principle, and of military and political considerations.

By declaring Rome an open city and by evacuating it without battle the German Command has again shown the great feeling of responsibility which it has towards Europe and its unique tradition and culture. The German troops withdrew from Rome without giving battle in order to save the Eternal City from destruction and to prevent Europe from being robbed of irreplaceable treasures.

As in the case of Amsterdam and Brussels, of Paris and Cairo and many others that are less well known, the German Command in the case of Rome again has proved that it is able to put military considerations and political prestige second when it is a case of safeguarding values which are entitled to a higher rank than the needs of the moment.

The civilized world will be filled with the greatest satisfaction by the decision of the German Army Command to spare Rome. History will praise Germany for expressing her recognition of cultural values in this grand manner even in the heat of battle.

In view of the enemy's mentality it was only to be expected that he would prove unworthy of this attitude. General Alexander answered Marshal Kesselring's declaration with an appeal to the Romans to ring the guerrilla warfare against the Germans and by open fighting to pave the Allies way for the pursuit of the Germans. The purpose of this appeal is clear. The enemy is trying to turn the voluntary evacuation of Rome into a battle for Rome so that he can turn the evacuation into the victory which his military vanity cannot do without after the defeats of many months.

There is no doubt whatsoever that the Germans could have defended Rome. By its position on seven hills, at the junction of a network of roads and railways, by the solid construction of its antique buildings, Rome is at least as suitable for defence purposes as, say, Madrid or Stalingrad, provided that the defender is prepared to face the destruction of Rome.

But the German Command renounced such a course of action not only now, but in March of this year when it announced the demilitarisation of Rome. Since March of this year, the walls of Rome have not harboured a single German soldier. On the other hand, the demilitarisation of the extensive area of Rome formed a considerable handicap for the German fronts to the south of Rome. By the taking back of the front to a line to the north of Rome this handicap has been overcome.

The German Command in Italy has gained more military advantages from the evacuation of Rome. The feeding of Rome is from now on no longer the affair of the German, but of the Allied military authorities. The German food supply dumps in central and northern Italy and the German transport network have thus experienced considerable relief.

On the other hand the enemy's supplies and his means of transport, above all the overseas ones, will feel a considerable burden. After the experience of Naples and southern Italy, it may well be doubted whether the enemy is capable of solving this task. "Liberated" Rome is now on the edge of a phase which will, in all probability, be a terrible lesson to the Romans. They will now have the opportunity of seeing put into practice the "freedom from want" point in the Atlantic Charter.

The military advantages which the enemy has achieved by the occupation of Rome are correspondingly slight. The evacuation of the Roman Campagna represents no essential improvement for the enemy air bases, since the taking-off place of the enemy Air Force in the plain of Foggia is almost on the same altitude as Rome. The distance from Foggia to south-eastern Germany and the Balkan area is less than that from Rome.

Finally there remains the political side. For Fascist Italy the Duce has commented in a proclamation to which nothing need be added. For Badoglio-Italy the Allied entry into Rome means the beginning of almost insoluble political difficulties. King Victor Emmanuel must now fulfil his promise to abdicate. At the best, his son will become Lieutenant, but not King. Then Badoglio-Italy will be robbed of the single rivet, weak though it is, which still held together the quarrelling political groups and gave the Badoglio Government a degree of legitimacy, namely the Monarchy. Without a King the kingdom of Italy has ceased to exist in southern Italy, too. The chief sufferer by the occupation of Rome is accordingly the former bearer of the Italian crown who for months—the irony of history—has only owed it to the military superiority of those whom he betrayed. With the abdication of Victor Emmanuel, Storza and Croce and the Communists under Ercoli, not to mention AMGOT, will make Badoglio's life even more difficult than before.

One cannot speak of a German loss of prestige as a result of the giving up of Rome. Let it be remembered that the Allies intended to be there at Christmas 1943, by the latest. The resistance of the German troops did not even permit them to celebrate Easter or Whitsun there.

The next festival which the Anglo-Americans will be able to celebrate in Rome will be the re-election of Roosevelt as President of the U.S.A. That he intends to exploit this event as election propaganda is shown by the announcement that he will broadcast this evening.

—Wilhelmstrasse Comment—

AR. NPD, 5.644 (16.10). At today's Wilhelmstrasse press conference the main interest of the correspondents again turned to the fate of the city of Rome. Stumm was first asked by a correspondent how the Wilhelmstrasse regarded the political significance of this affair. The Minister said ironically that the fall of Rome is only a matter of political interest in so far as little King Emmanuel has now indeed abdicated in favour of Umberto.

London reports are, however, available, particularly a report by the representative of Svenska Dagbladet there, which clearly shows that the Badoglio Government will not change its attitude after the capture of Rome for, according to Svenska Dagbladet, AMGOT will presumably take over the administration of Rome.

In his comments on this matter Stumm particularly stressed that for some months the Germans have done everything to give Rome the character of an open city. Apart from the statement now made by Kesselring, Stumm drew attention to an official German announcement made on March 20th of this year which confirms that the character of Rome as a demilitarised city had already been guaranteed at that time by a series of measures strictly adhered to by the German authorities and troops. Then front line reinforcements and leave traffic was already being re-directed, and all occupation of the city by German troops—apart from the soldiers engaged on the security of the city's population and permanent hospitals—was avoided.

General Alexander's appeal to the population of Rome asking them to wage guerrilla warfare and carry on street fighting was discussed. In contrast to the measures taken by the Germans, General Alexander insists on a march through Rome by the Allied troops without loss of time. While Germany has shown that she places the preservation of Rome as a cultural city before her military interests, the Allies consider it a suitable scene for guerrilla warfare.

In passing, Stumm drew attention to a report that Ercoli-Togliatti, the Italian Communist leader, has stated "Now our hour has struck."

Finally, Stumm stressed the fact that in this war the Allies already had the destruction of countless cultural monuments on their conscience, and mentioned Cassino and Castel Gandolfo as examples. He drew attention to the fact that in the enemy air raids on Italy so far no less than 212 churches and 36 historic buildings in the category of national monuments have been destroyed.

"All roads lead to the [12 road] through Rome," said Stumm. In spite of the greatest military disadvantages, the German Military Command had respected the city of Rome, about 50 km behind its front, as an inviolable and impassable barrier. In the treatment of Rome the German Command has placed ethical and cultural values above military interests. In later history the world of the future will have to enter this as a glorious page for Germany. Stumm particularly drew attention to the fact that a defence of Rome, in connection with a German retreat to the Tiber line, based on the hill positions of Rome could only have been favourable for the German front in Italy.

By the behaviour of the German military towards the open city of Rome the enemy has been robbed of every legal pretext for bombing of the city, the Minister particularly emphasised, not omitting to mention the various Allied bombings of Rome.

After stressing the correct German behaviour in the question of Rome and drawing parallels, in particular with the German renunciation of the bombing of Cairo in the African campaign and the saving of the Cathedral of Rouen, Stumm dealt with the enemy's attitude in this matter.

—Street Fighting—

A10. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (10.34). The IIB reports: Contrary to the wish of the German C-in-C that Rome should be treated as an open city and thus be spared the horrors of heavy street fighting, grim battles developed between the German troops and advancing American armoured formations in the eastern quarters of the city yesterday as a result of the methods of American warfare, which do not make any allowance for the preservation of Europe's cultural treasures. The grim struggle continued into the late evening. No detailed reports are yet available on this fighting.

A11. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (11.40). The IIB has learned these additional details on the course of the fighting inside Rome:

Already in the early morning of June 4th, the C-in-C of the Allied forces instructed his armoured and motorised formations, pressing forward between the Alban hills and the Lepini range, to attack the German barrier positions with all available arms on a broad front. Evidently it was not to his taste that the Germans, through the agency of the Vatican, had announced their readiness to declare Rome an open city and thus to exclude it from the scene of operations, because he did not even give the Vatican emissaries an answer to the German offer.

Although they enjoyed a considerable superiority, the U.S. attacking formations were unable to overwhelm the German lines within the short period planned. In systematic and tenacious fighting, German grenadiers constantly formed fresh nests of resistance along the whole length of the U.S. attacking zone, so that the eastern districts of Rome did not come within the immediate area of operations until the afternoon.

Applying delaying tactics, the German troops then gradually withdrew to the Tiber crossings, strictly adhering to the order to avoid, for their part, any destruction of historic buildings and cultural treasures. Even the Tiber bridges were not blown up after the bulk of the German formations had withdrawn to the northern bank of the river, in order to avoid the destruction of buildings of historic and cultural treasures.

Repeated Anglo-American attempts to dislodge the German rearguards, who were fighting delaying actions, by sweeping enveloping movements broke down against the stiff resistance of effective German strong points and the enemy suffered casualties. These attempts failed, although the Allies used masses of ground attack aircraft and fighter bombers in repeated efforts to pave the way for their ground forces.

—Allies Take Possession—

A12. Norwegian Home Service, 5.6.44 (12.00). Yesterday evening and last night all public buildings and institutions in Rome were systematically occupied by American gentries. Berlin, therefore, has not yet any information on how conditions developed after the Allied occupation of Rome.

The population received General Clark's troops with mixed feelings; the majority of them stayed at home owing to the heavy traffic on the roads which for hours were crowded with armoured vehicles and military cars.

The largest part of the Allied forces has already left the city in a northern and north-westerly direction to resume fighting with the German forces north of the capital. Kesselring has established new positions in a semi-circle round the town, from the north bank of the Tiber to north of Rome.

North of Castella, the Germans continue their withdrawal along the narrow road network across the Sabine hills to the centre of the peninsula, and the British Eighth Army is following these movements and keeping in steady contact with the German rear troops. The main weight of Kesselring's forces is now being grouped in new positions in the Apennines, from where the fighting is to be continued.

—Responsibility for Destruction—

A13. DNB (for Europe), 5.6.44 (16.25). The IIB reports: ... In view of the ruthlessness with which the American Command carried the war into the centre of Rome, it was unavoidable that valuable buildings and irreplaceable cultural possessions should be destroyed. The responsibility for this lies solely on the Allied Supreme Command.

—German Ambassador Moves to the Vatican

A14. Transocean (for Far East), 5.6.44 (15.17). The German Ambassador to the Holy See, Baron von Weizsäcker, has left his residence in Rome, the Villa Bonaparte, and has moved to the Vatican City, according to a spokesman of the German Foreign Office, who added that the Ambassador had been instructed to remain in the Vatican City under all circumstances.

The diplomatic missions of Japan, Hungary, Slovakia, Roumania and Finland will also move to the Vatican.

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. No. 212 - 6 June 1944

REICHERUNDFUNK (GERMAN HOME STATION) IN GERMAN 20:00 - JUNE 5
Allied Terror Raid in Northern Italy.

Genoa, Savona and Turin were again attacked by Anglo-American terror bombers. Residential quarters in the center of Genoa and the famous Church delle Vigne were hit. Besides this Church, dating back to the fifteenth century, a school and cementary and residential quarters in the center of the city were hit. In Savona, workmen's tenement houses, some churches, public welfare establishments and homes for the aged were hit.

Berlin: Five four-engined enemy bombers were shot down by naval flak during a day raid on Genoa yesterday Sunday forenoon. Two fighters were severely damaged and were ablaze when observed on their home flight.

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AFHQ, FWE, FMS, Unit, No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 212 - 6 June 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO (EX-ROME) IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. JUNE 4Turin bombed

This morning, Turin has been the target of another indiscriminate air raid. Formations of enemy planes dropped bombs in a number of places, hitting churches and residential houses. The Moncalieri Cemetery was also hit. Friday, late in the afternoon and yesterday morning, Anglo-American bombers attacked rural centers in the Pistoia area with machine-gun fire and fragmentation bombs. One enemy formation bombed the outskirts of the city, causing damage and casualties. The fury of the aviators is unleashed especially against works of art, hospitals and schools. As regards the latter, the magazine....will publish its the next number the following list of state and private schools... At Ferrara, the... School; the Frescobaldi School of Music; in the province of Florence, the Conservatory of SS. Annunziata di Empoli, the Prato Professional and Commercial School; at Leghorn the S. Francesco Institute.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 211 - 4 June 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 715Kcs. 2300 JUNE 3

Religious Ceremony in Padua

In the presence of the Ministers of Popular Culture and of National Education, of the German Ambassador and of other civilian and military authorities, a Mass was said this morning in Padua in the ruins of the church destroyed by the recent Anglo-American terror raid. After the mass, a memorial stone was inaugurated, which will record for future generations the crimes committed by Anglo-American airmen. Two more memorial stones were inaugurated in the historic Palazzo della Ragione and in the Cathedral. Before leaving Padua, Minister Mezzasoma inspected the office of the daily newspaper "Il Veneto".

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R.M. No. 209 - 2 June 1944.

List of Italian Monuments Destroyed.

Rome: The following additional lists of monuments and works of art destroyed by British and American airplanes has been published:
In Mantua the chapel of Saint Gotthard (XVth century), two other churches and one mausoleum. In Parma the Gothic church of Saint Francis and the XVIII century Governor's Palace were destroyed, while the famous statue of the great sculptor, Canova, was severely damaged. In Faenza, an international museum was destroyed, and an incomparable collection of ceramic art, as well as three XVIIth century palaces were severely damaged. In Vicenza historic buildings and palaces, including the XIIIth century cathedral built by Francesco Della Porta, with cupola and frescoes by Mantegna. A previous list published on Tuesday enumerated 212 churches, 315 schools, 64 theatres and libraries, 53 hospitals, 117 cultural institutes and 361 other historic edifices as having been destroyed.

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20381/MFAA

ON News Service, No. 135, 2 June 1944.

Tactical Planes Play Havoc on German Escape Roads in Vicinity of Alban Hills and in Simbruini Mountains North of Highway 6

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The Tactical Air Force, in the largest-scale close-support operations in months, bombed German troop concentrations at Frascati, Genzano and Marino, near Lake Albano, 15 miles southeast of Rome. They created a whole series of road blocks along Route 7 and the Frosinone-Alatri-Subiaco road leading through the Simbruini Mountains from Route 6 northwards to Route 5 and Avvezzano. They dropped tons of bombs on enemy ammunition dumps, guns, and bivouacs throughout the battle area.

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Capt Keller

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Medium bombers blasted five highway bridges across the Tiber on both sides of Rome in other attacks aimed in cutting off the retreating enemy forces, as well as attacking other roads and rail targets.

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Partisan Activities

K5. Agence Télégraphique Suisse, 31.5.44, reports from Chiasso: The Italian press reports that, on the evening of May 30th, the Anglo-U.S. Air Force attacked numerous objectives throughout central Italy. Bombing was reported in the Florence, Pistoia and Bologna districts, in several villages in the Province of Perugia and in the Province of Terni and Arezzo.

The press also gives several details of the damage caused by the last Allied air raid on Mantua. Seriously damaged buildings include the 14th century Oratorio di San Gottardo, the Palazzo del Capitano, the main staircase of which was completely destroyed, the Rotonda di San Lorenzo and the Cavriani Museum.

In Vicenza, the bombings almost completely destroyed the 15th century Palazzo Bertolini and (v. Colleoni-Porto), and also the Strada delle Scalotte.

In Thiene, serious damage was caused to the 13th century cathedral and two palazzi.

K6. Agence Télégraphique Suisse, 30.5.44, reports from Chiasso: According to *Corriere della Sera*, the Stacchini Hospital, the Pottery Museum, and the Convent of the Sisters of Saint Catherine were destroyed during the last Allied air attack on Faenza.

Precious Manuscripts Damaged in Leghorn

K7. National Zeitung, Basle, 22.5.44, reports from Chiasso: Recent heavy bombings in the centre of Leghorn caused damage to the cathedral and other churches. The precious Incunabula in the Labronica Library and the modern market were seriously damaged.

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20381/MFAA

R.M. No. 209 - 2 June 1944.

NPD IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1100 MAY 31
(Monitored in London) ←Many Raid Casualties at Tivoli

Rome: A United States raid on Tivoli, which was clearly marked as a field hospital town, thus providing no military targets of any description, caused at least 2,000 fatal casualties among the civilian population. Those killed were mainly evacuees from fighting areas who had taken refuge under the sign of the Red Cross hospital, visible at a considerable distance. A casualty clearing station of the field hospital in the National Refectory which harbored 500 wounded was completely destroyed. Thanks to the devotion to duty displayed by rescue squads the majority of the wounded were rescued alive from the ruins. The refectory's church was totally destroyed and the nearby Villa D'Este, of world fame, suffered severe damage.

20043 / Capt Keller

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AMHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. Report No. 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO VIENNA IN GERMAN TO GERMANY 508M 2200 MAY 30

The Raids on Italy

Milan: The enemies intensified their terror attacks recently against unprotected Italian cities. The city of Florence was once more heavily attacked by Anglo-Saxon bombers. In the harbor town of Zara, four churches, including the cathedral and Saint Mary's, as well as a provincial hospital, commercial school and several libraries, two monasteries and an orphanage were destroyed.

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1918

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MEAA

R. M. Report No. 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO VIENNA IN GERMAN TO GERMANY 508M 2200 MAY 30Destruction of the Monastery of Santa Scolastica of Subiaco

Vatican City - The papal cloister for young monks in the Alban Hills south of Rome has been destroyed by explosive and incendiary bombs dropped by Allied airmen. The building were marked as neutral property in the usual way. News about the devastating attack by airmen on the monastery of "Santa Scolastica of Subiaco" was officially confirmed by the Vatican on Monday. "Osservatore Romano" speaks of "an attack of long duration" during which the main building was completely wrecked. The Monastery is absolutely uninhabitable. The official Vatican organ said, "We are informed from authorized quarters that there were no objects of military character in, or in the neighborhood of the Cloister. It is completely isolated, on the slopes of the deep valley of the River Aniene. It was marked by huge Red Crosses as a military hospital. This case is the more regrettable, adds the paper in that "it must be regarded in connection with the recent sad episode of Monte Cassino". Destruction of this Monastery was "another work of the destructive rage of this terrible war", as the Pope recently remarked.

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AFHQ, FWE, FMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. N. Report No 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO VIENNA IN GERMAN TO GERMANY 508M 2200 MAY 30

Air Raid Results in Italy

Rome - So far 212 churches, 315 schools, 64 theatres and libraries, 53 hospitals, 117 cultural institutions, as well as 36 historic buildings, have been destroyed in Allied air raids in Italy.

These figures have been placarded on boardings on houses and walls in Rome.

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AFHQ, FWE, FMS, Unit. No. - APO 512

20381/LFAA

R. M. Report No. 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO BERLIN IN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 11.8 KCS 1345 May 30

"D-Day Calling." in English to Allied Invasion Troops 6.2 Mc. 2005
May 30

After all does it matter if the front in Italy runs across the Italian main-land at Naples or at Rome? It means nothing to the war in general. But it means everything however to Alexander, and to Churchill and Roosevelt. And just as much to the people who are hunting for Italian art treasures and selling them with a big profit in England and America. For the Allied troops and their commander there is only one prospect == Rome or Die. For many of you it can be converted into == "Dream of Rome before you are dead". And for many others "See Rome and think of Berlin somewhere further to the North."

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1915

Anglo-Saxon Contribution to the Destruction of Western Civilization:
Monte Cassino (Sound of Bells)

The Abbey of Monte Cassino came into being through the work of Benedictine monks in the year 528 A.D. Six times destroyed by the Valdals and the Saracens, pillaged during the French Revolution, it arose again six times, always larger and more beautiful. Beacon of learning, center for study, asylum of peace, concentration and prayer, doubly sacred as the custodian of the remains of Saint Benedict, the Abbey was totally, cynically, scientifically destroyed on February 15, 1944, by Roosevelt's highly civilized airmen and Churchill's cannon, with Stalin's approval. When, during the winter the war brought the cannon roaring against Monte Cassino, the community of monks remained, continuing their missions even when the battle raged day and night in the gorges of the nearby mountains. (The sound of an organ is heard)

From Cassino and from other localities there swarmed to the monastery thousands of women, children and sick, from whence to escape invasion and bombing, from whence to escape death. They placed themselves under the protection of Christ and of Saint Benedict. But no one thought they would have dared touch such a sacred place that was the salvation of so many innocent ones committed to the shadow of the Cross of Christ. February 8, 1944.

The enemy command pretended that the Germans had installed themselves in the Abbey. Several American planes dropped a kind of ultimatum. The prior sent off a clear-out denial to the Anglo-Saxon command; he assured them that there was not a single German soldier - only refugees. The reply arrived at the Anglo-Saxon command. (In the background is heard another voice which says: "Cablegram from the Allied Command in Italy - It has been assured that there are no Germans in the Abbey", and the reply: "No matter - bomb it anyway". At this point there is heard the roar of planes, explosions, cries, lamentations prayers.)

Listen to the voice of the innocent: Radio London, Radio New York, Radio Moscow. Listen (Disks are played: Radio London = "The Abbey of Monte Cassino is razed to the ground; Radio New York, the Voice of America = "The greatest aerial operation of the War" = "Marshal Stalin sent a telegram of congratulations.")

Radio Rome responds with the voice of the Abbot Bishop of Montecassino, miraculously saved, who says into the microphone: "Not a single German soldier was ever in the Abbey. Not one."

Amongst the destroyed documents was the first documents written in the Italian language: "Seo ca chelle terre per li confini che chi contene 30 anni li possette parte de sancti benedicti."

These men that all the riches of their land were not worth a single letter of this documents. These words resounded throughout Montecassino in the year 960 A.D., Presidente Roosevelt, that is to say five centuries before Columbus left in the "Santa Maria" and planted the Cross of Latinity on the so-called new world, of which you today, President, are the first gangster!

1914

Anglo-Saxon Contribution to the Destruction of
 Monte Cassino (Sound of Bells)

The Abbey of Monte Cassino came into being through the work of Benedictine monks in the year 528 A.D. Six times destroyed by the Valdals and the Saracens, pillaged during the French Revolution, it arose again six times, always larger and more beautiful. Beacon of learning, center for study, asylum of peace, concentration and prayer, doubly sacred as the custodian of the remains of Saint Benedict, the Abbey was totally, cynically, scientifically destroyed on February 15, 1944, by Roosevelt's highly civilized airmen and Churchill's cannon, with Stalin's approval. When, during the winter the war brought the cannon roaring against Monte Cassino, the community of monks remained, continuing their missions even when the battle raged day and night in the gorges of the nearby mountains. (The sound of an organ is heard)

From Cassino and from other localities there swarmed to the monastery thousands of women, children and sick, from whence to escape invasion and bombing, from whence to escape death. They placed themselves under the protection of Christ and of Saint Benedict. But no one thought they would have dared touch such a sacred place that was the salvation of so many innocent ones committed to the shadow of the Cross of Christ. February 8, 1944.

The enemy command pretended that the Germans had installed themselves in the Abbey. Several American planes dropped a kind of ultimatum. The prior sent off a clear-cut denial to the Anglo-Saxon command; he assured them that there was not a single German soldier - only refugees. The reply arrived at the Anglo-Saxon command. (In the background is heard another voice which says: "Cablegram from the Allied Command in Italy - It has been assured that there are no Germans in the Abbey", and the reply: "No matter - bomb it anyway". At this point there is heard the roar of planes, explosions, cries, lamentations prayers.)

Listen to the voice of the innocent: Radio London, Radio New York, Radio Moscow. Listen (Disks are played: Radio London = "The Abbey of Monte Cassino is razed to the ground; "Radio New York, the Voice of America = "The greatest aerial operation of the War" = "Marshal Stalin sent a telegram of congratulations.")"

Radio Rome responds with the voice of the Abbot Bishop of Montecassino, miraculously saved, who says into the microphone: "Not a single German soldier was ever in the Abbey. Not one."

Amongst the destroyed documents was the first documents written in the Italian language: "Sao ca chelle terre per li confinì che chi contene 30 anni li possette parte de sancti benedicti."

These men that all the riches of their land were not worth a single letter of this documents. These words resounded throughout Montecassino in the year 960 A.D., Presidente Roosevelt, that is to say five centuries before Columbus left in the "Santa Maria" and planted the Cross of Latinity on the so-called new world, of which you today, President, are the first gangster!

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 2000 MAY 30

Finnish Bulletin (See D.N.B.)

Chinese Front.Italian Cities Damaged in Enemy Raids.

During the terror raid carried out by Anglo-American formations on May 13th on Parma, many monuments were hit. The colossal building of the 16th century "Pilotto", which contained the Library, the picture-gallery, the State Archives of the State, the Academy of Arts and the famous Farnese Theatre has been partially destroyed. The famous monument to Maria Luisa has been smashed. The Gothic churches of San Francesco and of Santa Maria delle Grazie were also hit.

The following day, Mantua was the objective of the enemy's fury. An incendiary bomb hit the 15th cupola of the church of San Gottardo and other bombs fell on the Fabriano building and on the church of San Gervasio. The Church of San Lorenzo and the Museum of Fabriani especially were hit. During the enemy raid of May 14th on Vicenza, many buildings of historic and artistic importance were hit, among them the 18th century church of San Gaetano and Palazzo Bastico.

Serious damage was caused in Faenza during the enemy raid of May 13th. The famous International Museum of ceramics was destroyed. The twenty-two halls and the scientific installations are now a heap of rubble.

On May 27th, 28th and 29th the enemy airforce carried out a raid on Vercelli where, among other things, a school and several houses were hit. Genoa was also the objective of an enemy raid which caused heavy damage to residential districts and some casualties. The neighborhood of Florence was attacked again, as was Pistoia. Rural districts, also, were raided in this province with resulting deaths and casualties. Bologna and country districts of the province of Perugia were bombed. An enemy aircraft was shot down and its crew captured. Other places in the provinces of Terni, Viterbo and Arezzo were raided.

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R. M. Report NO. 207 - 31 May 1944

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RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY KCS 713 2110 MAY 30

Churches Destroyed by Allied Bombs

The roof of the church of S. Scolastica at Subiaco has caved in completely as a result of Anglo-American bombing. Also the Sanctuary "Divino Amore", near Rome, was hit and damaged. The celebrated villa d'Este near Tivoli was savagely devastated by the flying gangsters. These are the strictly military objectives which the Liberators have struck in the last forty-eight hours in Italy.

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Capt Keller

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AFHQ, FNB, RMS, Unit No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. Report No. 207 - 31 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 2000 MAY 30Finnish Bulletin (See D.N.B.)Chinese FrontJewish Attitude to Destruction of Churches

Monte Cassino, the basilica of S. Lorenzo, Cologne Cathedral and hundreds of other churches have been destroyed by the "Liberators" and now the ancient and venerable Monastery of Santa Scolastica at Subiaco has suffered the same fate. Thus they have tried to extinguish another beacon of civilization and Catholic wisdom. Is there anyone now who can doubt the deliberate, premeditated desire of the enemy to destroy all that is represented by the glory of our religion and of our civilization? Well then, listen to what Jewry prescribes: "It is commanded that all Jews do their best to see that everything pertaining to the Christian Church be destroyed. This holds also for its servants, the priests". It was Degiaboine (?) who, in pointing out and illustrating this order, declared, on November 5, 1930: "Christianity must be submerged in a sea of horrors and of blood". Thus we have one of the aims of this war which was desired, prepared and financed by the Jews, for whom the so-called democratic countries are only the tools, and the people the mass laborers.

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Capt Keller

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EXTRACTED FROM THE BASIC NEWS BULLETIN NO. 132
30 May 1944.

* * * * *

MAAF Strikes at Bridges, Railway and Road Communications,
to Harass Battered German Armies.

Liberators, escorted by long-range Mustang fighters, attacked port and harbor installations at Genoa and the railway yards at Verucchi, midway between Turin and Milan, and 80 miles northwest of the big Italian shipping center. No enemy fighter opposition was encountered on either mission, and flak was only moderate.

At Genoa, two merchant vessels were caught by direct hits, and the Ansaldo drydocks and slipways were pocked by bomb patterns. *****

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 206
30 May 1944.

Tivoli Raided

Rome - Tivoli, east of Rome, suffered great damage in Allied
air attacks. Several thousand dead and wounded are spoken of.
The town is reported to be in ruins.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 206
30 May 1944.

A Correspondent Visits the Front

*****The ruins of Velletri, a town which existed three thousand years ago and is therefore older than Rome, have been ground to dust. One of the most handsome pearls in the necklace of towns around Rome has been wiped out.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 200
30 May 1944.

Raid on Florence

Rome - The city of Florence Saturday was again subjected to a heavy Anglo-American bombing raid. Again irreplaceable cultural treasures were destroyed.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 206
30 May 1944.

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Air Raids on Outskirts of Rome

***** A number of churches were hit, among them that of Santa Maria Maggiore and San Biagio. Residential sections were also hit. There were many casualties. The fury of the enemy was also directed against Viterbo. Among the buildings hit, is the large theater of.....the hospital of San Simone and the Vignola Fountain. The number of victims is now being ascertained.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 206
30 May 1944.

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Rome Bombed

This morning Anglo-American planes, after having flown over the city of Rome, struck at the ancient Via Appia as well as the new Via Appia, dropping fragmentation bombs. Some bombs were dropped at San Paolo. The Divine Amore sanctuary, so dear to the Romans, was not spared.

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K11. DNB (for Europe), 29.5.44 (10.31), reports from Rome: The world-famous Villa d'Este at Tivoli was destroyed during the Anglo-American air attack on Saturday, May 29th (see yesterday's Digest 1460, K201). Four churches, a convent school and the town hall were also hit.

News Digest 1464 2 June 44 p.50
Tivoli Mined by Germans:

K3. Stockholms-Tidningen, 1.6.44. In an article on the southern front, Kumlien mentions, in connection with the destruction of Tivoli and the Villa d'Este by Allied aircraft, that at the time of the Italian capitulation he visited the district, and the frightened inhabitants told him that the Germans had mined the power station and a simple push on a button was sufficient to blow it up.

1905

K9. Rome Radio (home service). 29.5.44 (20.00). This morning Anglo-American aircraft, after flying over the capital, went over the old Appian Way and the new Appian Way, dropping HE and incendiary bombs. Some bombs were dropped near San Paolo, and others in the zone near the Via Tuscolana. The Capella del Divino Amore, so dear to the Romans, and from which the Image was brought for safety to Rome, was not spared from the enemy's savagery.

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AFHQ, FWB, RMC, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 205, 28 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kos. 1300 May 27Russian FrontWestern Air FrontAir Activity in Italy

Two more enemy formations later attacked Tivoli, causing a great deal of damage and some victims. Villa d'Este, that historic jewel of the Renaissance, was hit and damaged.

It has been learned that during the recent air raids on Subiaco, the historic abbey of Santa Scolastica, founded by Saint Benedict towards the end of the fifth century, was hit. The front of the monastery was damaged, but fortunately not seriously.

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AFHQ, FWB

UN, News Service, No 131 - 28 May 1944

GERMANS SACKED CHURCH AT CASTROCELO

WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY, May 27 - German troops, evacuating Castrocielo during the present Allied offensive, have sacked and looted the church, tearing down the sacred paintings and rifling cupboards and drawers, reported the Civil Affairs Officer of the Eighth Army AMG today.

The same AMG officer reported that Castrocielo is partly destroyed, but that large parts of the town are habitable and a number of people stayed in their homes throughout the fighting. Many who fled to the hills are returning, and yesterday the CAO began distributing food and cleaning up the town.

Among those who have not yet returned are the ex-podesta (major) and the town treasurer, both of whom fled with the Germans. (PRO)

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New York #259 29 May 44 p.4
A10. Transocean (for Far East), 27.5.44 (09.00), reports
from Vatican City: The historic Abbey of Santa Scolas-
tica at Subiaco in the Abruzzi mountains was attacked
and damaged by Allied aircraft. One student was killed
and an abbot wounded. The Abbey was founded by St.
Benedict.

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ARHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 205, 28 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 2000 May 27

Enemy Raids on Italian Cities

Heavy assaults by Anglo-American bombers were made on Parma (?), Besides many buildings, artistic and valuable monuments, were destroyed: four churches, the Cathedral, St. Francesco's, Santa Maria's with its Monastery and Library, and Our Lady of Health, as well as the Civic Hospital, Schools and Colleges, the Professional Institute for Orphan Children, of War, the Archiepiscopal School, the Franciscan School, Sta. Maria's Cloister and other public buildings.

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—And on Viterbo—

K13 Rome Radio (home service), 27.5.44 (20.00).
Enemy aircraft have attacked Viterbo. Among the
damaged buildings was the great Teatro dell'Unione,
the Hospital of San Simone, and Vignola's Fontana
Grande. The number of casualties has not yet been
established.

New York #146 31 Aug + 4 p 37

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 203
26 May 1944.

Teatro Olimpico to be Protected

Milan: After the world famous Teatro Farnese in Parma was destroyed by air attacks the Italian Committee for protection of Italian art treasures decided to take measures to protect the equally world famous Teatro Olimpico at Vicenza, which has already suffered damage from air attacks.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 202
25 May 1944.

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Enemy Raid on Pisa

The great church of St. Antonio in Pisa was completely destroyed by the Anglo-American bombs. It was built in 1141 by a friar of the order of San Basilio. Besides its considerable architectural value, it was famous for its precious works of art.

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EXTRACTED FROM RADIO MONITORING REPORT NO. 202
25 May 1944.

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Vicenza Among Cities Whose Works of Art Have Been Hit

As is known, the Ministry of Education has made public a list of the main works of art hit by the enemy in our cities. To the many inhabited localities, we must add Vicenza, which has suffered very much from the vandalistic fury of the aerial bandits. In fact, among other important monuments, the pride and the patrimony not only of Italian, but of European and world civilization, the Cathedral, a number of beautiful palaces of Gothic architecture, and the ancient Palace of the Territory, dating from the time of the Commune, have been destroyed. Damaged, among others, were the Casa del Tiepolo, the Church of Santa Caterina, the Churches of Santi Felice and Fortunato, the Bishop's palace and several other artistic and historic palaces.

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New Digest # 1456-23 May '44 p 3

Cassino Monastery: Allied Guilt Maintained

A9. Transocean (for Far East), 23.5.44 (17.25). American efforts to wash their hands of the bombing of the world famous Benedictine monastery on Monte Cassino in Italy were sharply repudiated on May 23rd by the Deputy Press Chief, Sündermann. He stated that the discovery of German war materials in the ruins of the monastery after its occupation by Allied troops reported by an American news agency does not change the legal position.

He referred to the OKW's statement of February 16th, 1944, announcing that the monastery had been included in the German defences after the Allies had bombed the monastery from the air and had shelled it with artillery. Sündermann added that this statement unambiguously establishes the legal position, and no matter what the Americans say they cannot shirk responsibility for the destruction of the monastery. (DNB, 23.5.44 (17.21), provided "raw material for the German press" on these lines.—Ed.)

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 200 - 23 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 735 Kcs. 0800 MAY 21
(Excerpts)

The Raid on Parma

Now that some days have passed since the Anglo-American raid of May 13 on Parma, the damage done to the city is seen to be even more serious than was first thought. Famous buildings such as the Government Palace, formerly the residence of the Dukes of Parma, the Picture Gallery, the Library, the Farnese Theatre and the Oratory delle Grazie, a national monument, were all completely destroyed. The Governor's Palace, the Town Hall, the Art Institute, the monuments to Vittorio Bottego and Giuseppe Verdi and a number of other buildings of artistic value were seriously damaged.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. Report No. 199 - 21 MAY 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs 2100 MAY 20Party PressAllied Looting of Art Treasures

The "Provincia Repubblicana" has published an interesting article on the so-called protection afforded by the British and American Government to artistic monuments in occupied countries. We all know that all that has so far been removed under cover of "protection" has been taken over by the rapacious Jews. Shortly before Christmas, hundreds of high-ranking personalities in Britain and in the United States received cards announcing the sale of art treasures taken from southern Italy. Some neutral countries learned of this through the "Times" and expressed their astonishment. They had to come to the conclusion that Italy was indeed robbed of her treasures. Some Stockholm newspapers reported that large quantities of Italian works of art are for sale in New York. In one day alone objects were sold for a total value of thirty million dollars, and on another day for the sum of forty eight million dollars.

The "New York Herald-Tribune" wrote that a Jew lay his hands on the portals of the Cathedral in Palermo and shipped them to the United States. Other treasures were shipped at the same time which had been taken from the Chapel of Santa Rosalia, the Patron Saint of Palermo.

Not only American Jews are guilty. British Jews had their fair share of the spoils. Some London papers announced that the treasure of Sant'Agata had been taken with great skill from an antique dealer of New York. Week after week, month after month, the Jewish hyenas, the same who even before the war, looted Germany, go on robbing and looting. All this, while the Allied authorities talk of protection of the art treasures of the south.

The "Italia Repubblicana", the organ of the Republican Fascio of Venezia Giulia, published an appeal in its first edition. "Who has forgotten the tragic days that followed 9 September? General chaos, the dismemberment of the army, disorder everywhere. All seemed to be lost: country, honor, faith. An ominous menace threatened the peninsula; it seemed that soon all the country would be in the hands of the enemy. Today things have improved; but the danger is still there.

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News Digest #1454 23 May 44 p 47 Italy

LATEST COMMENT

Allied Looting of Art Treasures

HI. Rome Radio (home service), 20.5.44 (21.30). *Piemonte Repubblicano* has published an interesting article on the pretended protection of all foreign artistic and cultural treasures by the British and U.S. Governments, from which the following is an extract: "It is well-known by now that everything which was sacred and dear to our entire artistic world is flowing into the greedy hands of the wily Jews. Shortly before Christmas, hundreds of prominent people in the U.S.A. and Britain received elegant ivory cards by which one of the richest antique dealers in the world invited his aristocratic patrons to the first private auction of famous art treasures from Sicily."

Some neutral States were greatly surprised to read this news in the *Times* and the *Washington Star*, and awoke at last to the realization of the enormous extent of the plundering that was going on. Even the *Stockholm press* has repeatedly referred to art auctions in New York, where great quantities of Italian works of art have been sold. In fact, they reported that in two days alone rare Italian works to the value of 30 million and 48 million dollars were sold. The *New York Herald Tribune* reported the other day that a Jewish dealer had succeeded in bringing the famous doors of the Duomo at Palermo to safety by shipping them to New York. The rich treasure from the Chapel of Santa Rosalia, the patron saint of Palermo, was transported in the same ship.

"But it was not only American Jews who did good business in Sicily. British Jews were also able to secure their share. In fact, at one of the recent sales in Britain the arrival was announced of the priceless treasure of Sant'Agata, which the hungry Jews said they had been able, with cunning and at a heavy sacrifice, to wrest from the New York art dealers."

"The same Jews, who, during the last world war, and especially during the inflation period, sacked Germany and Austria, are now, in their hunger for booty, starting vast deals in southern Italy, while the Governments concerned close their eyes with a derisive smile, greatly amused by the brilliant brain-wave of 'protection' for all artistic and cultural treasures."

— O ged Damage to Art Treasures

RSS. Rome Radio (home service). 19.5.44 (13.00). The Ministry for National Education has published a list of the principal works of art in Italian cities which have been hit by the enemy. From the list of destruction caused by the Anglo-Saxons it is evident that the full fury of their vandalism has been directed to the destruction of a single objective: Italian civilisation, in the most lofty and mystic expression of its genius.

In Turin, our opponents' barbarity was vented especially on the centre of the city, destroying palaces—such as that of the Philharmonic Academy—which, in themselves, constituted great works of art. We may also mention the destruction of the Via Po, the buildings in which were among the most interesting examples of architecture associated with the name of Amedeo di Castellamonte; and there are as many ruins to be found around the Piazza del Castello. Of course, the "Liberators" did not overlook museums and churches, among which we may mention the Churches of the Consolata, Santa Croce, Carmine, San Domenico, the Egyptian Museum and the Gallery of Modern Art.

At Genoa, the invaders attacked the mediæval area, as well as that of the 17th Century, destroying the Tower of the State Archives, and many churches, among which are the Duomo of San Lorenzo, and the noble Doria family.

Milan received more or less irreparable damage both in the central and in the outlying districts. Damage has been caused to the Duomo, San Lorenzo, Sant' Ambrogio, San Babila, the Museum, the Seminary which contained paintings by celebrated Masters, the Castello Sforzesco, and hundreds of palaces of considerable artistic and historical value.

The enemy bombs did not even spare the city of the Saint of Padua which, as is well known, contains no objective of military character.

After quoting the damage sustained by monuments at Florence, Pisa, Arezzo—where the house of Petrarch was destroyed—Prato, Treviso, Rimini, Ancona, Verona, Pistoia, the list refers to the damage at Bologna where, together with many churches and palaces, the house was destroyed where Guglielmo Marconi was born.

Even Rome was not spared from destructions and in the very first attack—which the enemy defined as "a model of technique and precision"—a direct hit was made on San Lorenzo, one of the seven Pontifical Basilicas.

At Grottaferrata, Viterbo and Terni, famous works of art have been lost. But what can be said about the ruin of Monte Cassino, for centuries a beacon of Christian civilisation and a monument of incomparable beauty?

Finally, Naples, at the thought of which every Italian heart is deeply moved. Among the immense ruin caused to the city by more than 100 attacks, we will

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—Alleged Damage in Milan and Turin—

K13 Agence Télégraphique Suisse, 19.5.44. *Corriere della Sera* publishes details of damage caused to historic monuments in Milan and Turin. The following have been almost completely destroyed in Turin by air raids: the Philharmonic Academy and the Palazzo Bertobelli Sambuy. The famous Via Po has been completely demolished. The 17th century Arsenal, the University, the Churches of the Consolation and the Carmine have been destroyed. The

News Digest #1455 24 May p48

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majority of the works of art of the famous Juvara are nothing more than ruins.

In Milan the Churches of Sant'Ambrogio and San Babila, as well as one of the annexes of the Cathedral, the City Hospital, a museum and the Sforza Castle do not exist any more. The Casati Library is entirely destroyed.

—Ravenna—

K14. Transocean (for Far East), 22.5.44 (15.30). Hohenbach reports from Venice: Incomparable works of art at Ravenna, especially Early Romanesque churches and Early Christian mosaics, upwards of 15 centuries old, are in great danger. Bombs dropped by Anglo-American aircraft have fallen in the immediate vicinity of the world-famous Mausoleum of the Empress Galla Placidia, which contains some of the most valuable mosaics in existence. It was completed in 440 A.D. and is in an admirable state of preservation. The famous church of Santa Maria Maggiore has been hit. The Commissioner for the Protection of Fine Arts in Ravenna, Moschini, informed the correspondent that no means exist of moving the mosaics from the walls and placing them in safety. Their destruction would be an irreparable loss, since there is nothing in the world to compare with the Ravenna mosaics in the field of early Christian art.

—And Parma

K15. Rome Radio (home service), 21.5.44 (08.00). Damage caused by the Allied air raid on Parma on March 13th is much greater than was at first thought. The Palazzo del Governo, the Palace of the Dukes of Parma, the Picture Gallery, the Palatine Library, the State Archives, the Farnese Theatre and the Oratorio delle Grazie were completely destroyed. The monument to Verdi is among the many artistic treasures badly damaged.

AFHQ, PWS, RMS, Unit. No. 3 - APO 512

20381/MPAA

R. M. Report No. 196 - 18 May 1944

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PIO ROMEO IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 KCS 2000 MAY 17Minister Graziani's Inspection on the Front
(See Broadcast of May 16th, 1400 hours)Enemy Raids on Cities in Northern Italy

The criminals of the air last week attacked cities in northern Italy, causing casualties among the population and destroying residential districts, as well as valuable monuments. On May 13th Parma and Pidenza were the objectives of the enemy fury. The number of victims was high, especially in Pidenza. On the same day Modena was attacked by "Liberators". The Cathedral and many houses were hit. In the afternoon of May 15th the ferocity of the Anglo-Americans was directed against Faenza: three blocks of houses were razed to the ground and there were many victims. After a few hours, in a country district in the province of Piacenza, some laborers were bombed. The brutal attack did not spare a motor-ambulance which carried the injured who had been machine-gunned. The authorities gave assistance in all the places which were hit.

The Minister for National Education in Florence

The Minister for National Education arrived in Florence today. He gave instructions to the Superintendent for Monuments to save works of art from enemy air attacks. He met the representatives of cultural institutes to discuss questions of an urgent character.

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20381/LFAA

R. M. Report No. 195 - 17 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 2000 May 16

Italian Cities Bombed.

Bologna was savagely attacked again yesterday by enemy aircraft. The bombs on the city and on villages of the province hit institutes, churches, hospitals and residential districts, causing everywhere death and ruin. Vicenza was also raided. The Cathedral, churches, religious institutes and houses were hit.

Groups of bombers carried out a terror raid on Trento. Departments of the Santa Maria Hospital, the Archiepiscopal College, artistic buildings and houses were much damaged. "Liberators" also bombed Padua and neighboring places. The Church of the Cappuccini was completely destroyed. An elementary school near Trento was razed to the ground. Many isolated peasant houses were hit by the enemy bombers. Officials went at once to the bombed areas to assist the injured and homeless. The number of the victims is not yet ascertained but it is thought it will be high.

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News Digest #1450 18 May 44 p.54

Widespread Air Raids—

K13. Rome Radio (home service), 16.5.44 (20.00). Bologna was savagely attacked again yesterday by enemy aircraft. Bombs dropped on the city and on communes in the Province, have struck institutions, churches, hospitals and residential buildings, sowing sorrow and ruins.

The Anglo-Saxon air criminals also struck at Vigevano. The Duomo and other churches were destroyed, and the famous Palazzo Schio. Religious institutions and working class dwellings were severely damaged.

Other bomber formations made a terror attack on Trento. Some parts of the Santa Chiara Hospital, the church of the Annunziata, the Capucin Church, St. Martin's Home for Children, the Archbishop's College, the XVIIIth Century Palazzo (del Monte) and many private dwellings sustained very severe damage.

The "Liberators" also bombed Padua and rural centres in the surrounding country. The church of the Capucins has been completely destroyed, as has also a large part of the nearby convent of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sales. An elementary school in a small locality was razed to the ground. Many isolated farms were also targets for the bombers.

The authorities went at once to the localities affected to organise assistance. Investigations are being carried out to ascertain the number of victims, which is expected to be high.

K14. Transocean (for Far East), 16.5.44 (23.00), reports from Chiasso: Rome and a number of places in central and northern Italy have been raided again, and Rome Radio announced that eight Anglo-American aircraft were brought down. Hundreds of bombs were dropped on the centre of the well-known sea resort, Viareggio, many houses being levelled to the ground. There were many casualties. The former town hall, theatre, and other buildings in the older part of the town received direct hits. The church, district prison and the historic tower on Harbour Canal were damaged.

A raid on Piacenza caused numerous victims among the rural population. *Corriere della Sera* reports.

Rome: Another Move in "Open City" Game—

K18. Basler Nachrichten, 14.5.44, reports from Rome: For some days now the German Supreme Command in Italy has enforced fresh measures "for the stricter observance of Rome's character as an open city." In addition to the barrier round Rome, the Germans have also erected a second one round the centre of the city. Soldiers, except members of the Military Police and the Medical Corps, may henceforth "on no account enter, even with a special permit," this central area. As a result of this, German soldiers are no longer to be seen in the centre of the city.

News Digest # 1453 22 May 44 p48

Italy

New Digest #1447 15 May 44 p 64
Air Raids: On Florence—

K21. Rome Radio (home service), 11.5.44 (23.35).
During yesterday and the day before, Florence was
again the object of the enemy terror raids.

In spite of all the measures taken by the German
military authorities to avoid irreparable damage to this
town of very great artistic and cultural value, the enemy
has once again given proof of his barbaric methods. He
deliberately ignores the fact that Florence is an
undefended town, without garrisons, stores of food or
other goods, industries and objectives that help in any
way the conduct of war and warfare.

Besides innocent human victims, the enemy bombs
caused the destruction of residential houses—and par-
ticularly of working-class houses—and grave damage
to cultural buildings, among which was the
Comunale, one of the largest and most beautiful
Europe.

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20381/MFAA

AEHQ, PWB, FMS, Unit. No. 8 - AFO 512

R. M. Report No. 191 - 12 May 1944

RADIO VATICAN IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 50,26 M 2030 May 11RAIDS ON CASTELGANDOLFO

"L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO" gives the following details on the recent raids on the extra-territorial property of Castelgandolfo:

"It is our sad duty to take stock of the damage caused by the many raids on the extra-territorial pontifical Villa of Castelgandolfo, which still houses crowds of refugees, both in the buildings and in the park. Thanks to providential intervention, there has been no loss of life, but material damage is considerable.

"On the night of April 28 four fragments of bombs fell within the grounds of the villa, damaging numerous plantations and the boundary wall. On May 5, at 1030 a large formation of four-engined bombers, after raiding Albano, flew over Castelgandolfo and dropped several bombs on the Villa.

Fortunately most of the deadly missiles failed to explode. One of them, however, hit the railway station, causing a fierce fire which could only be put out after several hours work and thanks to the assistance of large numbers of refugees from the pontifical Villa. Some fragments hit the Belvedere area and the olive grove situated below the villa of Propaganda Fide. That same night the factor's house suffered considerable damage when three fragments of bomb fell on it.

"Tuesday, May 9, at 1300 some bomber formations again flew over the territory of the Villa, dropping numerous incendiary bombs and one high-explosive bomb, fifty missiles in all. The central area of the villa was hit in the part below the college of Propaganda Fide. Three incendiaries fell on the terrace of the Belvedere. The water system from the lake to the buildings suffered most. Several trees were broken. This time again, in spite of the large number of bombs which were dropped, there were no casualties, as the workers who were busy repairing the damage of previous raids had returned to the shelters for the midday recess. More than 300 workmen, most of them refugees, are engaged in repair work at the Villa."

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AFHQ, PWB, EMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 191 - 12 May 1944

INB IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1412 May 10 (Monitored in London)AIR RAID DAMAGE IN ITALY

MILAN: It was announced from the Duc's Headquarters that Anglo-American air forces have caused damage in Italy to date as follows:
 212 Churches, 53 hospitals, 315 schools, 28 libraries, 36 art monuments, 34 theatres, 79 picture-houses, one concrete hall, 117 cultural institutions, six public installations and nine institutions of social welfare.

Damage has occurred in the following towns:

MILAN: 1 church, 144 schools, 12 libraries, 13 art monuments, 11 theatres, 32 picture-houses, 89 cultural institutions, one concrete hall.
 TURIN: 30 churches, 22 hospitals, schools, three libraries, four theatres, 23 picture-houses, five cultural institutions, nine art monuments.
 ROME: two churches, three hospitals, four schools, one library, one picture-house.
 GENOA: 25 churches, seven hospitals, 35 schools, three libraries, six theatres, five picture-houses, two cultural institutions.
 BOLOGNA: Six churches, three hospitals, one school, one library, five cultural institutions.
 FLORENCE: Two churches, two hospitals, one picture house, six social welfare institutes.
 FORLI': 23 churches, three hospitals, nine schools, one library, two theatres, two picture-houses, one art monument.
 SPEZIA: Four churches, one hospital, six schools, one art monument, three picture-houses, six cultural institutions.
 SIENA: Three churches, one hospital, three schools, one library, one theatre.
 FERRARA: Six churches, one hospital, one art monument.
 AREZZO: Five churches, two hospitals, four schools, three libraries, four art monuments, one theatre, four cultural institutions, seven social welfare institutes.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 190 11 May 1944

20381/MFAA 64

RADIO BERLIN GERMAN TO AFRICA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA 16M 0945 MAY 10

BERLIN: The NEW YORK TIMES has made some enlightening announcements regarding the strange method by which American pilots are being trained for their mission, the annihilation of morale. According to the paper, the American fliers receive pamphlets in which especially remarkable edifices are marked with one, two or three stars. Buildings with three stars should only be hit in emergency, but, as the "NEW YORK TIMES" adds mishaps sometimes occur. So for instance, the well known Basilica San Lorenzo in Rome was destroyed in spite of its three stars and the fact that the pilot's life was not at stake. Eisenhower's theory that the life of a single British or American soldier is more important than any cathedrals or monasteries obviously still prevails.

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AFHQ, PWB.

UN. News Service No. 114 - 10 May 1944

20381/MFAA

CHURCHILL APPOINTS ART COMMITTEE

LONDON, May 9 - An advisory committee has been formed by Mr. Winston Churchill to report on questions of the return of works of art taken to Germany and other enemy countries during the war. The committee will co-operate with the commission already appointed by President Roosevelt and with any similar entities which may be set up in other Allied countries.

Although the committee's main job will begin when peace comes, it is felt that it may be of great value to the government at present in advising the army and air force. The chairman of the committee is Lord MacMillan, a former Minister of Information, and members include directors of the leading British museums and art galleries.

(UHN)

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AFHQ. PWB, R&S, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 190 - 11 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 0800 MAY 10

A BRITISH COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE THEFTS OF WORKS OF ART MADE BY THE AXES.

Reuter reports that, while for some time there has been in operation, on the part of the United States, a commission entrusted with the task of investigating the thefts of works of art perpetrated by no other than the Axis governments and their elements, no organization of that kind has thus far been created in England. The agency continues that this serious gap has recently been filled by the British Prime Minister, who said yesterday that he has made arrangements for the appointment of a commission which will take care of the above, under the direction of Lord Melan (?), the British representative with the Inter-Allied Commission for Italy. Thanks to Churchill, Great Britain will have her own commission of enquiry into the thefts. That is the nth proof of British impudence.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INFORMATION DIVISION

62

2123 / INFO
10 May 1944

SUBJECT : *Censorship Report*
TO : *Monuments, Fine Arts, & Archives S. C.*

1. The attached information was extracted from reports sent to the Information Division, A.C.C., by *Civil Censorship group*:

1. " In Milano entire streets and wards have been destroyed. The center especially has been bombed. The Scala, the Marino Palace, the Gallery, the Porticoes, the Royal palace, the Archiepiscopate all have been damaged, and to a great extent demolished. The Duomo has suffered many damages....." (From: Rag. GESANA, Alberto - Via G. EG. venini 45 - Milano, Italy - To: GESANA, Ambrogio - P/SOC. Alto Trionfo - CAPIGLIETTO BLANCHI per MOCCONE - Cosenza)

1879

John V. Hinkel
JOHN V. HINKEL
Major, M.I.
Director,
Information Division

20359

HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES
Public Relations Section

A.A.F. - M.A.F. Hand-Out

8th May 1944.

SUMMARY

Following up yesterday's daylight attack by 15th A.A.F. heavy bombers, R.A.F. Liberators, Hurricanes and Wellingtons last night bombed railroad yards and industrial targets at BOCCACCIO. Crews reported fires still burning from the earlier attack, and the night bombers scored hits on factories, yards, and nearby installations. It was the second successive night attack on the German Capital.

Air battles near BOCCACCIO during yesterday's attack by Fortresses and Liberators cost the Luftwaffe 20 fighters. Of these bomber gunners claimed 11 and escorting Lightning and Mustang pilots nine. Early reports indicated good coverage of the target, with hits on workshops, repair sheds, rolling stock, oil tank cars, a roundhouse, and other installations. Two choke points in the yards were also hit.

Spitfires of the First Tactical Air Force, sweeping north of BOCCACCIO yesterday, shot down nine ME-109s in a swift engagement near LATE

A-20 Bostons bombed supply and ammunition dumps near AERIO, while Mustangs and Invaders postholed roads in the GHIOLINO area. They also attacked a supply dump east of BOCCACCIO, and a tunnel near BERRACIO. Twelve trucks were destroyed by strafing.

P-47 Thunderbolts attacked bridges at ACQUEDUZZO and LATELLO, (shipping at CIVITAVECCHIA and PORTO FERRIO (on the island of ELBA), and rail lines near TABO, a few miles west of ORVINO.

Spitfires and bomb-carrying Spitfires attacked shipping and installations at three points along the east coast near ANCONA.

Coastal Air Force units attacked shipping, supply points and rail targets along the DALL'AMIA coast. One DO-217 was shot down by Coastal Spitfires off BARRIESTI.

During these operations 50 enemy aircraft were destroyed. Two of our heavy bombers and 12 other aircraft are missing.

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HEADQUARTERS

8 May 1944

Info for
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successive night attack on the human Capital.

Air battles near BONAVENTURE during yesterday's attack by Fortresses and Liberators cost the Luftwaffe 20 fighters. Of these bomber gunners claimed 11 and escorting Lightning and Mustang pilots nine. Early reports indicated good coverage of the target, with hits on workshops, repair sheds, rolling stock, oil tank cars, a warehouse, and other installations. Two choke points in the yards were also hit.

Spitfires of the First Tactical Air Force, sweeping north of BOHE yesterday, shot down nine ME-109s in a swift engagement near LACCHING.

A-20 Bostons bombed supply and ammunition dumps near ALBAIO, while Mustangs and Invaders postholed roads in the STELLINO area. They also attacked a supply dump east of BOHE, and a tunnel near BELAGH.

P-47 Thunderbolts attacked bridges at AGUEDERRE and ISACILLO, (shipping at CIVITAVECCHIA and PONTO FERRAIO (on the island of MDA)), and rail lines near FABLO, a few miles west of ORVILLO.

Mustangs and bomb-carrying Spitfires attacked shipping and installations at three points along the east coast near ARCOHA.

Coastal Air Force units attacked shipping, supply points and rail targets along the DALLATIAN coast. One DO-217 was shot down by Coastal Spitfires off BARDISI.

During these operations 30 enemy aircraft were destroyed. Two of our heavy bombers and 12 other aircraft are missing.

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HEADQUARTERS
- 8 MAR 1944
A. C. C.

20381/NEAA

AFHQ. PWB.

UN. News Service No. 113 - 9 May 1944

COMMUNIQUE S

ITALIAN FRONT

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, May 8 - Monday's communique:

AIR: Other fighter-bombers attacked enemy shipping at Civitavecchia, Porto
Ferraio and off the Dalmatian coast.

Copies to:

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Capt Keller

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WHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT, No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 187 - 7 May 1944

20381/MFAA

59

RADIO BERLIN GERMAN TO AFRICA AND SOUTHEASTERN ASIA. 24M MAY 6

Rome has been bombed again by Allied bombers. Entire blocks of houses were destroyed and the civilian population suffered losses. The main target was the thickly populated residential districts. Because firemen and the Red Cross are still busy rescuing the wounded and digging out bodies, the number of victims of this new terror raid of North-American fliers cannot be determined at present.

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UAFHE, PWB, RAS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 186 - 6 May 1944

RADIO BEROMUNSTER IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 539M 2250 MAY 5

According to reports of northern Italian papers the bombing of Piacenza caused the death of eleven persons. Many people were injured.

Copies to:

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HQ, PWB

20381/AFPA

UN News Service, No. 111, 6 May 1944

COMMUNIQUE

ITALIAN FRONT

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, May 5 - Friday's communique:

AIR: Bad visibility yesterday hampered air operations, but medium bombers attacked rail bridges at Grosseto, Albinia, at Torre and Fabriano. Fighter bombers also hit rail communications in the Terni-Sulmona area and north, east and south of Rome. Fighters maintained battle line patrols.

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AFHQ, PWB

UN News Service, No. 110, 5 May 1944

20381/MFAA

56

ITALIAN FRONT

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, May 4 - Thursday's communique:

Yesterday medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force bombed bridges at Spoleto, Orvieto, Ficulle, Taggia, and Imperia and the railyards at Ventimiglia. Light bombers attacked rail and supply installations north of Rome, the harbor of Civitavecchia, and the Foligno-Terni rail line. Other fighters and fighter-bombers attacked shipping and communications targets near the Dalmatian coast.

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Capt Kella

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AEHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. L. No. 185 - 5 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 570 Kcs. 1300 MAY 4

ITALIAN NEWS

OUTSKIRTS OF ROME BOMBED: This morning, from 8:30 to 10:15, enemy air formations were over the outskirts of Rome. They dropped many bombs. Some buildings received direct hits. Others were seriously damaged. Thus far it is known that four persons killed and one injured. First Aid crews of the U.N.P.A., fire fighters and members of the Red Cross went to the scene.

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AFHQ, PWB, RUS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

381/MEAA

R. M. No. 185 - 5 May 1944

54

RADIO BERLIN IN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 11.7KCS 0800 MAY 4

The number of U.S. bomber shot down in the course of the air attack on Florence has increased from five to six. The American attack was carried out by only a few planes. Nevertheless it proved to have catastrophic results. Two of the most beautiful churches in that city of art were destroyed. The Americans thank God are unable to destroy the art treasures of the museum because they were handed over in time to Vatican authorities by the German Command.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 185 - 5 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 2300 MAY 4

ENEMY RAIDS ON CENTRAL ITALY

Yesterday morning, an Anglo-American bomber formation machinegunned from a low altitude a passenger train on the Livorno-Colle Salvetti railway. Many persons were killed.

During the enemy raid carried out on Livorno some nights ago the Church of the Salesiani was destroyed.

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AFHQ, FWB, RMS, UNIT. NO. 8 - APO 512

R. M. NO. 185 - 5 May 1944

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH MAY 4RADIO VIENNA IN GERMAN TO GERMANY 508 M 2200 MAY 4RAID DAMAGE IN ITALY

MILAN: A large number of famous and historic buildings, as well as many fine modern buildings, were destroyed by Anglo-American air gangsters in the course of the last few days' air raids on Italian towns. Buildings destroyed in Florence include a famous Renaissance palace in the Piazza Corsini. The Teatro Comunale of Florence, Italy's most modern opera-house, and the Church of the Seven Saints, were likewise completely destroyed by Anglo-American bombs.

At Alessandria, the Cathedral was demolished. The Church of St. Alexander in the same town was destroyed, as were the Palazzo Trotti, which contains one of Italy's finest Renaissance libraries, and San Michele, a welfare organisation. The bombardment of Alessandria caused heavy casualties among the civilian population. Hundreds were killed or wounded.

The latest Allied air raid on Genoa likewise resulted in heavy casualties among the civilian population, since most of the bombs fell on densely populated working-class districts. It is feared that many people are still buried under the debris of demolished buildings. In the town of Reggio-Emilia, sixty were killed and sixty-three wounded.

In Florence hundreds of residential buildings were destroyed on May 1st and 2nd. Enemy planes dropped bombs mostly on densely populated parts in the centre of the town. About sixty twin-engined American bombers attacked Florence on May 1st, and about a hundred twin-engined Mustangs attacked on May 2nd. The American air gangsters dropped explosive bombs on several churches.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNL No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 184, 4 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 KCS 23:00 MAY 3

TERROR RAID ON TREVISO

The Allies were unable to justify their terror attack on Treviso, which caused the death of many citizens, as the city is devoid of any military target whatsoever. When a wave of indignation arose also in neutral countries owing to the barbarian attack, the Allies had resort to one of their usual fanciful lies. They said that the raid on Treviso took place while the Italian troops under the Command of Marshal Graziani were being reviewed by the Minister of the Reich, von Ribbentrop. No comment is required.

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UN News Service, No. 109, 4 May 1944

COMMUNIQUE S

ITALIAN FRONT

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, May 3 - Wednesday's communique:

AIR: Rail communications in northern and central Italy were main objectives yesterday of both medium and heavy bombers. Medium bombers attacked bridges at Orvieto, Marsciano, Campo di Marte and Ficulle, while heavy bombers attacked railyards at Castel Maggiore, Parma and Fano and bridges at Orbetello and the port of Spezia.

Shipping off the Dalmatian coast was attacked by fighter-bombers. One enemy aircraft was destroyed during the day and six of ours are missing.

Last night heavy and medium night bombers attacked Genoa and Piacenza. During daylight yesterday about 35 enemy aircraft were sighted active over the battle areas. MAAF flew nearly 1,800 sorties.

LAND: Several enemy raiding parties were repulsed along the front and on the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead. Patrols were active and there were some clashes.

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Capt Keller

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AFHQ, PWB

20381/MFAA

UN News Service, No. 109, 4 May 1944

FLORENCE RAILYARDS HAMMERED BY MAAF

Allied Force Advance Headquarters, Italy, May 3 - Bombers of the MAAF struck for the second day in succession the rail yards at Florence continuing the "operation strangle" which is slowly throttling all German supply routes in northern and central Italy.

Both medium and heavy bombers were out yesterday, giving weight to the series of attacks which since March 24 have cut and kept out all longitudinal rail lines from Florence to Rome.

Halifaxes, heaviest hitting of all night bombers in use in the Mediterranean theatre, attacked a new target, Piacenza, on the main Mont Cenis-Bologna-Rimini line across northern Italy last night. For the fifth night running RAF Wellingtons bombed the three west-coast ports of Genoa, Leghorn and La Spezia, used by the Germans to move by sea the supplies now cut off from overland transport.

Marauders of the Tactical Air Force attacked Florence rail yards yesterday. Trackage, warehouses and factories were smothered in flames as a result of the attack.

Two rail bridges south of Florence on the main line to Rome were smashed by Mitchell bombers. They were the spans at Orvieto and Ficulle. A third bridge at Marciano, on a spur line north of Rome, was also struck. Trackage near Perugia and Cecina was also torn up by the rail-busting medium bombers. Fano, Ancona and Parma were heavily pounded, and an approach bridge at the coast town of Fano was reported hit.

Coastal planes attacked enemy Siebel ferries at Floca harbour, Yugoslavia, and strafed enemy motor transport in Albania. (UNR)

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Capt Kellh

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UN No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 184, 4 May 1944

20381/MFAA

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RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 KCS 23:00 MAY 3

ENEMY RAIDS ON ITALY

Rural countries near Bologna were heavily hit by Anglo-American bombers. Alessandria was raided twice in a few hours. The Communal Theatre, which was built in 1775, and many houses in the center of the city were destroyed. An enemy bomber was shot down by anti-aircraft fire.

The center of La Spezia and its suburbs were attacked and devastated by the Liberators. The anti-aircraft defense shot down two planes.

During a strafing action carried out by the Anglo-Americans on Ascoli Piceno, Captain Giorgio Allegra, volunteer of three wars, and Manager of the newspaper "Il Popolo Piceno", was killed. Faenza was also raided by the terror bombers. A residential district in the suburbs was entirely destroyed. There were many victims.

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20381/MPAA

AFHQ, PWB, RAS, U S No 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No 184, 4 May 1944

RADIO BERLIN IN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 9,500 Kcs. 9,45 MAY 3

BERLIN: On Tuesday night, the German air defence repulsed an attack made by twenty Soviet planes, shooting down seven of them.

ROME: ON Tuesday, American planes carried out a heavy terror raid on the residential sections of the city of Parma. Dropping explosive and incendiary bombs at random, they caused a great deal of destruction in the densely populated parts of the city, resulting in particularly heavy losses among the civilian population. Also in Bologna, which was attacked by U.S. fighter units, the civilian population suffered considerable losses.

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AFHQ, FNB

UN News Service, No. 108, 3 May 1944

ROME RAIL TARGETS AND WEST ITALIAN PORTS ATTACKED IN AIR ASSAULT ON GERMAN SUPPLY LINES

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, May 2:- With bad weather over principal target areas again cancelling the operations of heavy bombers, MFAA yesterday continued its slashing assault on the rail and sea supply routes of the German armies in Italy.

Among the latest objectives attacked were the Frosinone and the Colleferro railroad stations in Rome, the Campo di Marte rail yards in Florence, the west coast ports of Genoa, La Spezia and Leghorn, and the northeast Italy rail center of Alessandria. Alessandria, on the principal rail route from southern France into Germany, was attacked for the second night in succession, while the coast ports have been under relentless attacks for over a week.

Medium and fighter-bombers delivered a series of scorching attacks on bridges, rail lines, ammunition dumps and enemy concentrations all the way from Florence down to the battle lines. Bridges at Pontedera, on the Pisa-Florence line, at Cala Vara below Leghorn, at Grosseto and Montemolino, northwest of Rome, and just south of Florence were successfully attacked. A fighter-bomber formation returning from the attack south of Florence strafed a factory near Siena, where ammunition was stored. A gigantic explosion resulted, which sent a column of smoke a mile high and enveloped the attacking planes. All flew through it unscathed, although one plane was hurled 20 feet upward by the force of the explosion.

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AFHQ. PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 183 - 3 May 1944

RADIO BERLIN GERMAN TO AMERICA 25 M 1500 May 2

During a raid by North American bomber formations over upper Italy, U.S. terror planes attacked Florence. Numerous bombs were dropped on the center of the town, damaging residential districts. Among other buildings, the Opera House was hit by the American bombs.

MILAN: Strong Anglo-American air fighting forces on Sunday noon attacked the outlying districts of Milan. Their objectives were apartment houses in workers' districts. A church was also destroyed.

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20381/MFAA

C AFHQ. FWB., RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 183-3 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 kcs. 2360 May 2

ENEMY RAIDS ON ITALY

Enemy bombers have raided Florence again. Residential districts were hit. The Church of the Sacred Heart was destroyed. There were many casualties.

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2 May

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ART TREASURES PRESERVED BY ALLIED EXPERTS

NAPLES, May 1 - Co-operation between Allied fine arts officials and Italian government experts has already preserved scores of priceless buildings and art treasures for posterity. Besides taking precautions consistent with military necessity to prevent damage to monuments in areas affected by the war states A.C.C. British, American and Italian art experts and archaeologists have completed many important repair and restoration projects.

One example of this work is the repair of the Church of Monteoliveto in Naples, recently damaged by Nazi bombs. The famous Renaissance church contained priceless Florentine sculptures of the 15th century. Its facade was almost completely destroyed by a German bomb, and the elaborately sculptured Florentine tombs were blasted from their places.

Under A.C.C. supervision, salvage work began the morning after the raid. Less than weeks later temporary protective walls had been built about the damaged portions of the church, and further restoration can now progress without danger of looting or further collapse of walls.

Other Naples churches, including the Incoronata, San Giovanni a Carbonara, Gerolomini, have also been repaired. Funds for urgent restoration work in liberated Italy are advanced by the Allies. American and British art experts and archaeologists inspect proposed projects and supervise repairs, assisting the Italian authorities.

Careful provisions have been made for the protection, as well as military necessity permits, of monuments and other works of art in Rome and other areas beyond the present battle line. Forward Allied units have detailed lists and air photographs showing the location of items to protected. (UNN)

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Lt Col.

Maj Gardner

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AFHQ, PAB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 182 - 2 May 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 kcs 0800 MAY 1

ITALIAN NEWS:

The Anglo-Americans have again carried out indiscriminate attacks on the Italian cities, causing damage and victims among the population. Genoa has again been attacked, and the enemy also dropped bombs on small towns on the eastern Riviera.

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RMR 142 30/4/42

20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 kcs. 1400 APRIL 29

42

ENEMY RAID ON ROME

Anglo-American aircraft raided the suburbs of Rome yesterday, between the hours of 2100 and 2200, dropping many bombs. Damage is said to be considerable.

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Lt Col
~~Capt H.H.~~

88

News Digest # 435 1 May 44 p.56

20381

—Reported Damage in Parma—

K30. DNB (for Europe), 28.4.44 (18.20), reports from Berlin: Clearance work in the centre of Parma, heavily hit by U.S. bombers on April 25th (see Digest 1434, 29.4, K18 still continues. The great extent of the damage is being gradually revealed. Although visibility was perfect, the Anglo-American terror pilots released their bombs on the centre of Parma, famous for its buildings and paintings. H.E. bombs almost completely destroyed the Madonna della Steccata Church, built during the first half of the 16th century. Under the debris of the church were found many women and children who had sought refuge in the church. The residential districts round the Romanesque Cathedral, erected in the second half of the 11th century, also suffered serious damage. Many artistically valuable Renaissance buildings were destroyed. Much damage was caused to an old school, on the walls of which were frescoes by Correggio.

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INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ON MFAA

(2 of 2 folders)

OCT. 1943 - AUG. 1944

242

REPORTS ON MFAA

AUG. 1944

AFHQ, PWB, RAS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. R. 180 - 28 April 1944

0381/ITAA

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NEWS BULLETIN

London: The Swedish "DAGENS NYHETER" writes that the Germans lie when they declare that Rome is an open city. The Romans cannot move a step without meeting a German soldier. Near the Colosseum numerous Tiger tanks can be seen and concentrations of guns at the Forum.

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Lt Col

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RMR No 0179 27 Apr 44 O

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RADIO BERLIN IN ENGLISH TO OVERSEAS 24M. 0915 APRIL 26

38

Every German and every friend of culture was shocked, once more, when the German Radio announced yesterday evening that enemy air force formations attacked the city of Munich the night before last and destroyed; amongst other priceless cultural monuments the Bavarian State Library, the Wottelsbach Palais, the old Pinakothek, as well as the building of creative German arts and the Bonifacius Basilica. One is at a loss to comprehend the wanton destruction of such places, which have nothing to do with the German war effort, nor with German plane production. One could cite hundreds and thousands of instances, when the enemy's airmen willfully dropped their cargo of death on civilian dwellings and other targets, which cannot possibly be termed military targets. No American dollars, nor British pounds can ever replace these treasures, which belong to the whole civilised world,

Copies to:

20904

1358

RMQ No. 179 27 Apr 0

20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 kcs. 2300 APRIL 26

37

RAID ON PARMA

The Anglo-Americans raided Parma yesterday. Several churches, including of the Specchiato (sic) suffered heavy damage.

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20093

1857

RADIO No. 179 27 Apr

20381/MEAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 kcs. 2000 APRIL 26

36

NEW RAID ON CASTELGANDOLFO

"OSSERVATORE ROMANO" publishes an article entitled: "New raid on Castelgandolfo": "After the raid of April 21, when eight bombs were dropped on the Pope's villa, another attacks was delivered during the night of April 23. Much damage was caused to the roofs of Villa Torlonia and the Palazzo del Deago which belong to the Holy See and are inhabited by nuns. Some damage was done also to the front of the Apostolic Palace. As has already been announced, 4,500 refugees artaken care of in the Papal villa, while others sleep under canvas in the gardens".

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20044/3

Capt Keller

~~11-11-44~~

20903

1956

RMR No. 177 27 Apr

20381/MTAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 14:00 APRIL 26LITTORIA ABOUT TO BE RAZED TO THE GROUND

Littoria, the most recent of all European towns, is about to be destroyed by the Anglo-Americans. Day and night, enemy guns pound the city, which has already suffered very heavy damage. Nothing remains of the beautiful church in the Romanesque style nor of the Government Palace. The tower of the Town-hall has been reduced to a heap of rubble.

Littoria, which was considered one the best creations of Fascism, was founded on 18 December 1934. Its population before the war was some 30,000 inhabitants. It had risen in the heart of the Pontine Marshes, reclaimed by the Fascist Regime. The whole town was built in a matter of fifty months and was inaugurated by the Duce. In its nine and-a-half years of life it had been visited by scientists and writers, politicians and students coming from abroad to admire the results of the constructive and creative capacity of the Italian people. Its coldly premeditated destruction is a new crime to be added to the long list of Anglo-American crimes against art and civilization.

1955

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20043

Capt Keller

RMR 079

27 Apr

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20381/MFAA

34

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 0800 APRIL 26

DISCOVERY OF OBJECTS BELONGING TO THE SAVOIA FAMILY

In the Palace Farnese di Caprarola, the property of the Family of Savoy, three thousand cases containing precious Bohemian and Moravian glass, tapestry, paintings from Italian and foreign painters, as well as furs, pieces of cloth, woolen blankets, and large quantities of miscellaneous objects of great value.

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20043

20909

Capt Keller

1954

RMR 170 27 Apr 44

20381/LEAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 0800 APRIL 26AIR FRONT.

The Allied Air Force has again attacked the papal villa of Castelgandolfo, in which more than 4,500 homeless people are sheltered. They dropped clusters of incendiary bombs. Some buildings were damaged. Moreover, workers' residential sections in Turin and Pavia have been bombed without discrimination. In the course of a recent air raid on Pisa, the old temple of San Paolo was seriously damaged. The historic church, which dates back to the year 805 contained frescoes by Cimabue and artists of the school of Giotto. The ceiling was completely destroyed and the portal was unhinged.

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1853

O RMR No. 181 20 Apr

20381/MFAA

REPORT TO SWEDISH STATEMENT THAT ROME IS NOT AN OPEN CITY
(Monitored in London)

D.N.B. IN GERMAN TO EUROPE 1439 APRIL 26 BERLIN (UNOFFICIAL)

The Vatican itself, the diplomatic missions accredited to Rome, and international press correspondent there, having acknowledged Germany's efforts to save Rome by suitable measures, the former Rome correspondent of the Swedish paper "DAGENS NYHETER" now asserts that alleged demilitarization of Rome is not in accordance with facts.

It is stated in the Wilhelmstrasse that this press correspondent who published his report only after his return to Sweden, has thus, so to speak, provoked bombing attacks on Rome by providing British and Americans with a pretext. The Wilhelmstrasse says that it would be interesting to know at whose instructions this report was put out. In any case it must be said that the Swedish paper attributes greater importance to a mendacious sensation than to efforts of the entire world for the preservation of Rome and its cultural monuments.

1352

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UNRIS 103/27 Apr 50

20381/MFAA

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ITALIAN FRONTALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, April 26 -

AIR: Heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force yesterday attacked an aircraft factory at Turin, rail yards at Ferrara and a bridge at Parma. Tactical Air Force medium and fighter-bombers continued their attacks on enemy rail and communications targets north of Valmontone. Fighters and fighter-bombers carried out offensive shipping sweeps. On the night of April 24-25, light bombers attacked road movement in the enemy's rear areas.

Copies to:

10103
10093

1351

20381
News Digest No. 1432 p 44 27 Ap 44
57Confiscations of Crown and Other Property

K5. Transocean (for Far East), 26.4.44 (12.22), reports from Rome: The Governor of the Province of Viterbo has ordered the confiscation of the property of the House of Savoy. This measure refers in the first instance to the Farnese Palace at Caprarola, one of the most beautiful rococo buildings in Italy. The seizure is also announced of the property of Count Cesare Maria de' Vecchi at Viterbo. The Count was sentenced to death in absentia with Count Ciano.

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20043
Capt Kuller

1850

UNRS 103 / 27 Apr 440

20381/MFAA

TURIN AIR FACTORY AND FERRARA RAIL YARDS ATTACKED

ALLIED FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, April 26 - Heavy escorted bombers of the 15th AAF Tuesday delivered a smashing blow at the Fiat steel works in Turin and the Aeronautica d'Italia aircraft plant, which produces single-engined fighters there for the enemy. They also attacked the key rail centers of Ferrara and Parma, on main rail lines south from central Europe.

Liberator bombers scored at least eight direct hits on the main assembly plant of the aircraft factory, and hit main buildings of the steel works and the factory airdrome nearby. Ferrara rail yards were particularly hard hit, the north end of the yards and the choke point being almost obliterated by bomb bursts, as shown by bombstrike photographs. Clouds over the target at Parma obscured results.

Copies to: 10103
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AFHQ, PWB.

UN News Service, No. 102, 26 Mar 44.

20381/MFAA

OBSERVER GIVES LIE TO NAZI CLAIMS THAT ROME IS OPEN CITY

WASHINGTON, April 25 - Nazi claims that Rome is an open city were branded as false by special correspondent Hamrin of the Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in an uncensored column on Monday. Hamrin said:

"There is ample proof in Rome that the Nazis do not respect an 'open city'. Every impartial observer will admit that the term as applied to Rome has long lost its meaning. The Germans abuse it daily and hourly.

"Despite all allegations of the Fascist press that Rome never offered a military target, the Romans take such statements with a sceptical smile, as they cannot walk a step without meeting German troops.

"I myself in Rome saw their tanks parked in the shade of the Colosseum, and German guns hidden in narrow lanes near the Forum of Trajan" wrote Hamrin. "The citizens of Rome who have seen all this think kindly of the Allies for refraining from bombing the Colosseum and the Forum.

"It cannot be alleged that the Allies have attacked historical Rome, as they have exclusively concentrated on legitimate military targets. During the first assault when Rome was attacked, Ostia station was destroyed and 13 German ammunition trains exploded. Citizens watched the huge black column of smoke with grim humor.

"The sight of Fortresses and Liberators has contributed largely toward the Roman conviction that the Allies will win the war. Romans agree that after Nazi abuse of their city, the Allies are completely justified in bombing military targets in Rome.

"In their opinion, the Germans even abuse the Red Cross. They have seen many long columns of German trucks with the Red Cross emblem pass by. The contents of the trucks have raised their suspicion. This is a grave accusation, but even as a neutral observer. I cannot go so far as to dissociate myself from their view altogether.

"It may be stated that the Romans did not suspect the Allies when bombs fell in the Vatican area.

"Nor did the bombing of Cassino Monastery cause any indignation among them, as the evacuated monks confirmed that the Nazis had also abused the holy building." (UNN).

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20044/3
Lt. Col

20381/MEAA

AFHQ, FWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 178, 26 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 715KCS, 13:00 APRIL 25"LIBERATORS" FIERCELY ATTACK ANCONA

Enemy bombers have attacked the city of Ancona. The center and the suburbs of the city were heavily bombed and machine-gunned. On April 11th the enemy carried out eight raids in twenty-four hours. After pounding the coastal zone for several days, the night of April 14th Anglo-American planes dropped bombs on the small village of Pecora, where many persons were killed, including children. No building in Ancona has been spared by the enemy barbarity and many residential districts were entirely destroyed by this savage fury. The Cathedral, the churches of Jesus, San Domenico, San Cosimo, Sant'Anna Santa Maria, the Archbishopric, the Government Palace and the town-hall were destroyed, and under their ruins are many dead. Schools, hospitals, cemeteries and shelters were not spared. Seventenths of the city are damaged and thousands killed or injured. People remained in shelters, ready to resist and to continue work, notwithstanding enemy attacks. Their sorrow could not daunt the faith of the people of Ancona.

ENEMY RAID ON CASTELGANDOLFO

American bombers again attacked Castelgandolfo. They hit the historic villa of the Pope, where women and children who had lost their homes during former raids on the Castelli Romani, took shelter. The Vatican has confirmed that the building suffered heavy damage and the "Osservatore Romano" announces that high explosive bombs fell in the yard of the Castle and caused serious damage.

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M. J. N. N. N.

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 178, 26 April 44.

RADIO VIENNA GERMAN TO GERMANY 508M 2000 APRIL 25TERROR RAID ON MUNICH:

for BERLIN: A night raid on Munich again proves the enemy's criminal determination German places of culture and irreplaceable objects of art. Among world famous cultural monuments destroyed by the British bombers are: the Wittelsbach Palace, The Academy of Arts, the Odeon and the Basilica of Bonifacius. By such infamy, the English airmen prove themselves representatives of a nation which has no respect/art.

The air gangsters had to pay dearly for their attacks on the cultural monuments in Munich and other places in southern Germany, as well as in the southeastern area. Altogether 167 enemy planes were shot down. If we add those aircraft which made emergency landings in Switzerland, we find that the Anglo-American air force lost 180 planes in the past twenty-four hours.

1846

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 178, 26 April 1944.

20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713KCS. 13:00 APRIL 25

ENEMY RAID ON CASTELGANDOLFO

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1345

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R.M. Report No. 178, 26 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 Kcs. 0800 APRIL 25

NEWS-FROM OCCUPIED ITALY: The British radio in Bari has made a symptomatic statement. After having mentioned the names of towns and cities in central and northern Italy bombed during the last few days by the Anglo-Americans, the radio said the following: "Tomorrow it will be the turn of a large city and center in central-northern Italy."

Copies to:

AFHQ, PWB.

UN News Service, No. 102, 26 Mar 44

20381/NEAA

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24

BRITISH AND AMERICANS LIBRARIANS IN BARI TO STUDY COLLECTIONS

BARI, April 25 - Prominent American and British librarians have visited this city recently to study the library and archival situation in this part of Italy and suggest how the Allies might help safeguard the rich heritage of Italian library collections. Among these visitors are Mr. Fred Shipman, Director of the White House Library at Washington, Mr. Roland Segalini of the Boston Public Library, and Prof. Hilary Jenkinson, Director of the Library of the City of London. (UNIV).

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(JCN)

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New York 1432 2746 44 p46
—And Elsewhere

K15. Transocean (for America), 26.4.44 (17.28) reports from Milan: Genoa was attacked on the night of April 24th, according to *Corriere della Sera*. Residential districts and cultural monuments, including the historic Andrea Doria Palace, where Verdi lived during his sojourn in Genoa, suffered damage.

British aircraft also bombed Tivoli. Last week Venice was raided. (See Digest 1429, 24.4. K27.) A residential district, a cemetery and a hospital were hit and a church was destroyed. At Padua, which was also attacked there were numerous casualties.

Milan + Venice covered by RMA reports.

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Probably de-
newer copy
for the Genoa
item.

1943

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, FWB

UN News Service, No. 101, 25 Apr 44

On Sunday night RAF Wellingtons attacked the harbors of San Stefano, Piombino and Leghorn, on the Italian west coast, while Liberators struck at the port of Genoa, and Halifaxes, heaviest hitting of all night-flying bombers, pounded the Farma rail yards, on the Turin-Bologna-Rimini line across northern Italy.

Tactical Air Force planes continued their secondary attacks against the enemy's supply lines in Italy, in raids against rail lines and bridges at Inci-sa, Poggibonsi, Cecina, Aquila, Montesilvano and Attigliano. Only one miss was reported in all these missions, at Poggibonsi, where the big viaduct escaped bomb strikes.

In raids on enemy airfields at Rieti, Foligno and Perugia, several parked aircraft were destroyed. Ammunition dumps and motor transport were also targets for day and night attacks.

Coastal Air Force planes attacked rail traffic in the Dubrovnik area, Yugoslavia, and also demolished a bridge at Valona in Albania.

MAAF flew approximately 1500 sorties Sunday. Fifty-one enemy air-craft were destroyed, and 17 of ours are missing. (UNN).

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20043

Capt Keller

1842

up 111 Sept 43

(from "Anglo-American terror raids")

20381/MFAA

22

AFHQ, FWB, RRS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 177, 25 April 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 KCS. 1400 April 24.

According to the findings of the Vatican technicians, the damage suffered by churches and other religious buildings amounted to some 10 billion lire. Unfortunately both the number of casualties and the amount of damage have by now reached a higher figure.

These data, published by the Vatican and therefore worthy of credit, make it unnecessary for us to add any detailed proof. We shall instead go on to examine the political methods of the Anglo-Americans in their dealings with the Catholic-Church. It is sufficient to remind our listeners of the unconditional support granted by the semi-official organs of British and American propaganda to the Easter-message of Sergei the pseudo-Patriarch of Russia who asked for nothing less than the elimination of the Pope; of the constant anti-Catholic utterings on the part of the Anglican Church which means to deprive Catholicism of its universal character based on the leading and enlightening quality of Rome; of the appeals for peace and understanding among men broadcast by Churchill and Roosevelt in between two terror raids on our churches and our homes.

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Lt Cott

Reg: files
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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

21

R. M. Report No. 177, 25 April 1944

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 713 KCS. 1400 April 24

ROME AREA RAIDED.

Yesterday afternoon and last night American planes again raided the Rome area. Some of the aircraft flew at a very low altitude-strafting the suburbs. Early this morning the roads of access into Rome were bombed and machine-gunned.

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Lt. Col

1040

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 176, 23 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 KCS 14:00 APRIL 22

NEWS FROM INVADED ITALY

The "Manchester Guardian" reports from Palermo that collections of valuable books and manuscripts, removed from the National Library, were sold by American soldiers or used as packing-paper.

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Sgt Puhler

Reg. 1 files

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RUS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 177, 22 Apr 44.

SOLDATENSENDER GERMAN TO SOLDIERS 221M 2000 APRIL 21PARIS ATTACKED

PARIS. Last night, Anglo-American flyers made another terror raid on Paris and again have dropped their bombs at random over residential sections. The well known amusement center of Montmartre was damaged severely. Around the church of Sacre Coeur large bomb craters developed. Most of the windows of the church itself were smashed. The hospital of..... and several others were also victims of this terror attack. The surrounding suburbs also suffered severely. Time bombs which have been dropped especially created very considerable damage. No conclusive reports on the exact amount of killed are available as yet.

During the night on Wednesday the British effected a terror attack against Rouen. They dropped their bombs over the city at random and damaged the cathedral. The fire of the cathedral was extinguished by German soldiers, endangering their lives. This Wehrmacht had also saved the cathedral from destruction. According to latest reports the amount of killed among the population is announced at 1,200.

is the second time this has happened. In July 1940
The German

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No, 177, 22 April 1944.

RADIO ZEESEN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 11:30 APRIL 21

AMERICAN BELIEVE IN BOMBINGS

STOCKHOLM: The U.S. Invasion General Eisenhower stated according STOCKHOLM TIMNINGEN dispatch from New York: Also religious buildings must be bombed. The Swedish paper adds that 74% of the U.S. population share Eisenhower's opinion.

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1837

ANHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

R. M. Report No. 177, 22 Apr 44.

RADIO ZEESEN GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 11 : 30 APRIL 21

GERMAN DEFENDS ROME'S TREASURES

PARIS: The report about the demilitarization of Rome is receiving a great deal of attention from all French newspapers. The Paris paper MATIN writes: The situation is clear. If bombs fall on Rome, no excuse is admissible any more. The paper "AUJOURD'HUI" writes: We can no longer doubt that Germany and the nations she has assembled around her are defending the moral and religious heritage of thousands of years against the materialism of the capitalistic power and against bolshevism.

In 1914, the Germans succeeded, in spite of the fighting in France, in saving the churches and monuments and now they are the real defenders of culture against those who are flattering themselves that they are waging the war in the name of civilization; although in the prosecution of the war, they do not know any other means than those which destroy the marks of culture and civilization.

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20381/AFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 177, 22 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710Kcs 0800 APRIL 21

RAID DAMAGE IN PROVINCE OF ROME

The inspector of the Salesian Institutions wrote a report on the damage caused to the various Salesian buildings by enemy-raids in the province of Rome. At Lit-toria, the parish church of St. Mark was destroyed; the Salesian institute at Genzano was badly damaged; the parish church and the manse at Grottaferrata were damaged; the Shrine at Frascati and the brothers' house were destroyed; the In-stitute at Villa Sora was damaged.

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Capt. Kelle.

1836

AFHQ, FWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

15

R. M. Report No. 177, 22 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710Kcs 0800 APRIL 21

TWENTY FIRST APRIL

Today, April 21 is the anniversary of the foundation of Rome. Throughout centuries of historic events, of ups and downs, Rome never lost her character as the beacon of European civilization though she knew both the joys of triumph and the bitterness of defeat. Today the Eternal City is threatened again. Today more than ever before in the course of this war between Europe and Anti-Europe, the defense of Rome means the defense of European civilization. Ravaged by bombs, Rome has become a front-line city in the battle being waged against the European fortress.

All Italians think of Rome today. The first detachments of our armed forces fight for her safety and all the youth of Italy proclaims its desperate determination. Rome is our own; the honor of our nation is bound to the defense of Rome.

1835

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AFHQ, F.W.B, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 177, 22 April 1944.

29381/MFAA

RADIO VICHY IN FRENCH TO FRANCE 0630 -755Kos APRIL 20

The bombing of Rouen and Paris were of equal violence. Bombs fell at random on inhabited areas, causing ruin and terror. Damage was considerable. Relief was hindered by the explosion of delayed action bombs. In the region of Paris, roads were congested all day with ambulances bringing wounded to the city and relief truck going in the opposite direction.

This morning and continuing for several days, there will be held in the churches of Rouen, funeral rites for the victims of last Thursday night's RAF bombing of the city. The Cathedral was too badly damaged for services to be held there.

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. Report No. 176, 21 Apr 44.

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710Kcs 1300 APRIL 20

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Roosevelt's answer to the appeal of the Irish Premier, De Valera that Rome should be spared is as follows: "The American military authorities intend to avoid, as far as possible, damage to sacred and historical monuments, but it is understood that if tactical operations or necessities of war force us to choose between sparing monuments or sacrificing our soldiers, we shall not hesitate to take the decision which we think advisable.

The NEWS CHRONICLE commenting on the President's answer, writes that the Allies do not intend to consider Rome as an open city.

1833

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Lt Col
20380

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 173 - 20 April 1944

20381/MFAA

RADIO VIENNA GERMAN TO GERMANY 588M 2200 APRIL 19

LONDON: The accuracy of the North American bombers is not very great, declared the air expert of the London paper EVENING STANDARD. With this statement the British paper tries to cover the destruction of European art treasures. In the same article it is said: If the time has come, then destruction is the slogan of the hour, no matter if it goes for cathedrals or restaurants.

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20380

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New Digest No. 1128 22 April 44 p 45

V A T I C A N

Fate of Art Treasures: Fascist Denial

K25. Rome Radio (home service in Italian), 19.4.44 (21.00). Irresponsible persons who have sold themselves to the enemy have recently spread the rumour that the Germans intend to carry away Vatican treasures. The Corrispondenza news agency explicitly denies such absurd rumours, saying: "The Germans will never touch anything preserved in the Vatican, but rather, as is well known, have always cooperated in removing artistic treasures from the perils of war and then handing them over to the Vatican authorities."

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E X T R A C T

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT. NO. 8 - APO 512

APRIL 20, 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 173

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RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 2000 APRIL 19

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

+++++

A STRONG DENIAL

There have been rumours to the effect that the Germans intended to remove some of the treasures housed in the Vatican. LA CORRISPONDENZA denies these rumours in a most emphatic manner.

+++++

1830

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20381

News Digest No. 1430 25 Apr 44 p 32.

North Americans have not even this pretext

86

MONTE CASSINO TREASURES: NEUTRAL REPORT.

K25 Liberte', Fribourg 15.4.44 The following delayed report has been received from a reliable source in Rome: Some time ago, the reporter went to Castel Sant'Angelo in order to attend the arrival of the Monte Cassino treasures (see Digest 1319, 17, 12, K37), which the Germans had secured and which they were obliged to restore on account of protests from the Vatican.

It happened thus: a German colonel visited the Monastery in order to transport "to a safe place" the library archives, whose value is beyond estimation. The Benedictine Fathers opposed the transport, alleging that, as regards the majority of the treasures, they were only custodians on behalf of the State. The German colonel replied that he came in the name of the Italian Republican State, in agreement with the Vatican. The Fathers objected that they had not got the necessary packing cases to transport such a precious load, whereon the colonel sent for a lorry load of planks and had cases made.

When the Benedictine Fathers arrived in Rome they went to the competent Ministry and the Vatican where they were told that nothing was known about this operation. The Vatican protested and the Germans, after stating that they had never given such orders, ordered a search to be made. The precious spoil was found at Spoleto, well beyond Rome. The Germans were obliged to restore it to the Benedictines. The Vatican will guard it as long as the war lasts.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 APO 512

15 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 169

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710Kcs 1400 April 14

TIME BOMB FOUND IN VATICAN

From the Vatican: A large-sized ~~time~~ time-bomb of the same make as the American bombs used in the Balkans by Tito's partisan bands, has been found in the Sistine Chapel, behind the monumental painting of the Last Judgment by Michelangelo.

1828

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 APO 512

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7

April 14, 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 168

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710Kcs 0800 April 13
TIEPOLO FRESCOS SALVAGED

The marvellous frescoes by Tiepolo which covered the walls of five halls in the villa of Val Morana*, bombed during the raid of March 26th on Vicenza, were saved from destruction by fire, thanks to the Admirable work of the firemen. The convent attached to the villa was destroyed.

* Villa Valmarana

1827

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 APO 512COPY

13 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 167RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kes 2000 APRIL 14CINNETTI PALACE DESTROYED

= Cinnetti The Cinetti Palace in Velletri has been practically destroyed in a recent American raid. In one of the wings that by some miracle was left standing, the Germans discovered a library consisting of some 4000 books that were found to be of very great value. The library was taken to Rome by the German Command and handed over to the Princess Cinetti for safe-keeping.

1826

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UNIT NO. 8 - APO512

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7

13 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 167

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710rcs 1400 12 April

TREASURES STORED IN VATICAN

The Vatican Radio reports that the Pope today visited the vaults of the Vatican Library where the most valuable collection of artistic treasures is preserved. REUTER reported this morning that the treasures of the Monte Cassino Abbey have also been deposited there.

1825

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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12 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 166RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 1400 APRIL 12
ABBEY DESTRUCTION NOT NECESSARY

In an article concerning the destruction of the Monte Cassino Abbey, the British Catholic paper TABLET addresses the following questions to the British Government:

"What is the result obtained by the Allies after the destruction of the historic Abbey of Monte Cassino? Does anyone still affirm that German artillery was in the monastery and that the cloister was for the Germans a more useful observation post than its ruins are now? What is the result of this vandalistic destruction of the mountain is still in the hands of the Germans." 1824

The newspaper asks that the question be discussed in the House of Commons and the British Government convey assurances that such things will not happen in the future. "The criminal destruction of the Abbey", the British paper concludes, "must remain a ~~useless~~ useless and senseless act."

20381/MFA
Intelligence, MFA

Sofia, Bulgaria

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION

8 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
No. 163

RADIO BOMB IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 1300 APRIL 7

RAID DAMAGE IN SOFIA

The Bulgarian press stresses the terrorist character of the latest raids on Sofia. A number of artistic and cultural monuments were destroyed, including the National Library, the Holy Synodus, the Bishop's palace, the Municipal Library, the University, the Art Galleries, the Academy of Music, a concert hall, schools, theaters and cinemas.

Copy for 20904

1823

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 - APO 512

4

6 April 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 161

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 1700 APRIL 5
ANTIQUE STATUE FOUND IN SALONIKA

A statue dating back to the time of Constantine has been found in Salonika in the course of excavations made in one of the central squares of the town. The German military authorities handed the statue over to the local authorities.

20381

1322

News Digest 1415 7 Apr 44 p 52
84--DAMAGE TO CHURCH PROPERTY--

K21. Transocean (for Far East), 5.4.44 (16.29), reports from the Vatican: The Vatican illustrated monthly paper Ecclesia, in its latest edition, published a series of photographs of bomb-damaged Catholic churches and other cultural treasures. There are pictures of the devastated church of Saint Babila, and the chapel of the Ospedale Maggiore, at Milan, the churches of the Madonna di Campagna and the Madonna della Divina Provvidenza, at Turin, S. Pietro della Porta, and two other churches at Genoa. Many other pictures show destroyed churches at Bologna, Terni, Civitavecchia, Naples, Messina and in other badly bombed cities. The last three photographs show the destruction at Saint Hedwig's church in Berlin.

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1821

News Digest 1415 7 Apr 44 p 52

—AND IN VICENZA

K22. Rome Radio (home service), 4.4.44 (23.35).
Stefani reports that for the fourth time, in the space of three months, Vicenza has been the target for the destructive fury of the bandits of the air, who attacked it with extreme violence on the evening of April 2nd. The attack was merciless. In several parts of the town whole blocks of workmen's dwellings were hit again, their destruction rendering numerous families homeless.

In the sad ensemble of destruction, the loss of buildings linked with history and with the city's life and heritage is deplored. A hospital (l'Ospedale Psichiatrico) and a cemetery (il Cimitero Maggiore) were hit; also a theatre (il Teatro Cittadino), the Palazzo (? Schiavetto), and the ancient tower of the Palazzo di Territorio, which recalls the Vicenza of the days of the Signorie and the City States, and the hall of the Communal Institute. The buildings of the Teatro Olimpico (cf. yesterday's Digest 1414, K11) suffered damage, but fortunately the San Palladiana, one of the most beautiful in the world, is safe.

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Art. Remains Safe in German Hand
(News Digest #1414, 6 April, 1944)

C54 DNR, 4.4.44 (19:12) During excavations carried out recently in a square in Salonica, a valuable statue from the time of Constantine the Great was found. The German soldiers carefully dug out the statue after the competent Greek authorities had been informed of its discovery; it is in a good state of preservation. It goes without saying that this statue as well as all art treasures and cultural documents discovered by the German Armed Forces, remains in the possession of the Greek State. After it has been handed over to the Greek authorities, the statue is to be put up in the Pantheon of Calerius (sic)

The event demonstrates anew how the German Armed Forces respect and preserve the cultural treasures in the countries under their occupation, in contrast to the Anglo-Americans who take away and trade the art treasures of southern Italy.

In this connection, a report is of interest saying that the German Armed Forces, during clearance work in the west Grecian town of Ionnina, found the famous Bossimais library consisting of more than 6,000 volumes which had been thought lost for many years. The library has been taken to a safe place. It was found in a state of utter neglect in a cellar near the outskirts of the town where it would have been destroyed within a short time by damp and mould. Now this valuable library is again at the disposal of Greek science.

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Intelligence, MFAA

Germany

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION

April 4, 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 159

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 1300 APRIL 3

PROTECTION OF ART TREASURES IN GERMANY

In Germany colored photographs of every work of art which might be injured by enemy raids is in course. Many special photographers are engaged in this work which will require no less than 150,000 different photographs.

Copy to:
Capt. Hammond.

20381/1FAA

AMHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. 158 - 2 April 1944

RADIO CATALS ENGLISH TO UNITED KINGDOM 310M 1830 APRIL 1GERMAN SUPPLY DETOURS AROUND ROME

The German police authorities in Rome have carried out a trip for foreign journalists, which incontrovertibly proved that the German supply routes do not lead through the city. Within a line surrounding the open town, all military traffic is cut off by means of barriers and street barricades. All important roads to Rome are closed by the military authorities. Military bypass routes are some 6 to 8 miles outside the city. Thus, Rome's character as an open city is maintained.

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AFHQ, PWB, RRS, UNIT, No. 8 - APO 512

20381/AFAA

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R. M. No. 158 - 2 April 1944

1

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710 Kcs 2000 APRIL 1

NOTE OF THE MONUMENTAL BUILDINGS IN FLORENCE HOLD STOCKS OF WAR

MATERIAL

In order to reassure the population that had been impressed by rumours to the effect that war material was stored in various monumental buildings of the city, the Head of the Province of Florence appointed a special commission of Florentine personalities that, headed by the Cardinal Archbishop of Florence, carried out exhaustive investigations at the end of which the following report was published "The undersigned met in the Archbishop's palace in Florence on March 21, 28 and 31, in the presence of Mgr. Della Costa. Having heard of the rumours circulating among the population of Florence that the vaults of San Lorenzo, the Medici Chapel, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, Santa Croce and the Baptistry were used for storage of war material; even though they did not credit such rumours, aware as they were that a special Body has been appointed for the purpose of safeguarding the city's works of art; the undersigned made a careful investigation and reached the following conclusions:

1) No material of any kind is stored in the vaults of the Cathedral, the Baptistry or Santa Croce.

2) There are still some medical stores in the vaults of San Lorenzo and those of the Medici Chapel.

So as not to give ground to possible misinterpretations, the Commission asked the authorities to remove this material, and their request was granted.

3) Having been informed that there were in the city, dumps of inflammable fuel, the Commission made careful investigations but only found that 10 small gasoline tanks were kept near a monumental building, for ambulance."

The Head of the province has organized collective tours so that the citizens may see for themselves that their fears were unfounded.

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20384/RTAA
Intelligence, RTAA

Padua, War Damage

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 APO 512

31 March 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 156

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 1915 March 30

THE BISHOP OF PADUA INDICTS INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING

Ovetari

The church of the Hermitage in Padua was built in the thirteenth century, long before the birth of Columbus. The Chapel of the Olivetari contained priceless frescoes that were considered the best in the world. This church was hit in one of the latest raids on the city and the Chapel wrecked beyond repair. There were many casualties, and the Bishop spoke on their grave. "Is it right", He asked "To wage war on innocent and weak people?" He recalled the plea of the Pope and added his own humble plea that a stop be put on these barbarous attacks. By way of answer, Padua was raided again on March 22, in the evening. Precision bombing this: the Cathedral was hit, that beautiful temple that had been planned by Michelangelo in 1552. They should at least admit, these barbarians, that they do these evil deeds because they wish to blot out our glorious past. But they are too cowardly for such outspokenness. They who raid Rome, knowing that they will not be opposed, have no conception of fair play at all.

Manitoga

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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UNIT. NO. 6 - APO 512

20581/MPAA
Intelligence, MPAA

War Damage

MARCH 30, 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 155

RADIO ROMAN IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 71 Okas 1400 MARCH 29

RAID ON RIMINI

The latest raid on Rimini shows once again that the enemy does not aim at military objectives. On March 24th, five waves of enemy bombers deliberately hit a civilian hospital, the churches of Suffragio and San Girolamo, the convent of the Capucin monks and the cemetery. Residential quarters also suffered heavily, and there were many casualties among the population.

RADIO BERLIN GERMAN TO AFRICA 51M 1845 MARCH 29

AND CASSINO COMMENT

RECEIVED

In discussing the reasons for their new defeat the Britons and the North Americans are silent on a very important fact: namely, that by the barbaric destruction of the Monte Cassino Abbey which was executed without motive, the German line of defense increased greatly in strength. As long as the Abbey existed, its territory has to be respected by the German military authorities; but after the Britons and North Americans had finished their wanton job of destruction of the Monastery inhabitants, the extended area of the former Monastery buildings was added to the German defense line. This also has been officially announced on the part of the Germans. Many tactical advantages resulted from that action.

CHIETI SHelled

BERLIN: British and American batteries again recently shelled the open city of Chieti. Several houses were hit and destroyed. Chieti is the seat of an Archbishopric and has no military installations.

✓
20381/MFAA
Intelligence, MFAA

Padua, War Damage

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
RADIO MONITORING SECTION
UNIT NO. 8 APO 512

March 28, 1944

RADIO MONITORING REPORT
NO. 153

RADIO ROBE IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 710kcs 0800 MARCH 26

NEWS FROM "LIBERATED" ITALY

Enemy aircraft raided Padua for the sixth time. Incendiary and high-explosive bombs fell on residential quarters in the center of the city, damaging also the Palace of the Ragione, Madonna and Tarditi. The residence of the Carmel monks was also hit.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

ETDW/bmp

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

20381/MTAA

14 March 1944.

Subject: Information on Occupied Italy.

To : Deputy Executive Commissioner.

1. The following is submitted in compliance with the request contained in your 2153/INFO of 9 March 1944, subject as above.

2. The Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives would be assisted by having reliable information on the following points:

- a. Official or quasi-official enemy claims touching damage to or destruction of buildings and monuments of artistic or historical importance.
- b. First-hand statements concerning the same from whatever source.
- c. Objects of art removed from Italy by the enemy.
- d. 'Black market' in objects of art, whether for export or for retention in Italy.--On this point information is desirable also for the parts of Italy in Allied hands.
- e. Location (precise, if possible) of collections of museum, library, or archive material deposited in ricoveri for safekeeping.
- f. Identity of official Italian Superintendents for Antiquities, Galleries, or Monuments appointed since 1941 (with addresses, when possible).

E. T. De Wald

ERNEST T. DE WALD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SEC.

2153/INFO
9 March 44

SUBJECT: Information on Occupied Italy

TO : Regional Commissioners
Heads of Sub Commissions

Could questionnaires be supplied by Mar 21 detailing information required on Occupied Italy.

These questionnaires will be passed on to Intelligence Agencies dealing with this subject and a considerable percentage of answers to information requested may be expected.

Handwritten signature
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel, Cavalry
Deputy Executive Commissioner

1811

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RADIO ROME "SOLDATENSENDER"

GERMAN

1400

FEB. 17

BERLIN: KESSELRING'S DECLARATION ON THE BOMBING OF MONTE CASSINO.

The Commander in Chief of the German troops fighting in Italy, General Field Marshall Kesselring issues the following declaration on the barbaric Anglo-American bombing attack on the sacred Abbey of Monte Cassino:

"1. On February 15, 1944, from 0930 to 1000 hours several waves of attacking Anglo-American four-engined aircraft dropped numerous bombs on the Abbey of Monte Cassino, headquarters of the Benedictine Order. The Monastery was completely destroyed and a large number of people living in the Monastery were killed or injured. The Abbey suffered severe damage on January 15th by enemy artillery fire.

"2. The enemy command says they executed the attack in order to annihilate the German troops in the Monastery and to destroy the German defensive installations there. About that announcement I clearly state: The Vatican approached me through the German ambassador at the Papal Seat a few months ago and asked me not to include the Monastery at Cassino in battle operations. I promptly agreed with that suggestion, under the condition that the enemy would act accordingly. Therefore I issued orders forbidding German soldiers to enter the Monastery or its immediate vicinity. The strict execution of this order was guarded by all troop commanders and specially installed posts as well as by the field police. Even permission to temporarily accommodate the most severe wounded cases in the Monastery was not given until the bombing of the Monastery. Numerous Italian refugees though were permitted to enter the Monastery. Therefore hundreds of refugees were in the Abbey at the time of bombing, who had taken refuge there, trusting to the holiness of that sacred district and the immunity of the Monastery. In order to preserve the cultural, irreplaceable articles in the Monastery, particularly the library, their transfer into the Vatican City was executed by German troops some time ago.

"3. The assertion that the Monastery was made into the strongest artillery fortress point in the world is a monstrous lie.

"4. Also, further assertions that the Abbey, and the ground nearby, was used and built up for other military installations; machine gun emplacements, artillery observation posts etc. are nothing but invented stories. As a matter of fact no German soldier had been in the Monastery since the cultural treasures were transferred so that neither the shelling of the Abbey buildings by American Artillery on January 15 nor by the air forces on February 15 inflicted any military damage or injured a single German soldier. The only casualties were the monks and the Italian civilian refugees who remained in the Monastery.

"5. The fact that no German soldier was on the grounds of the Monastery is confirmed by the following written statement.

a) The Abbot of the Monte Cassino Monastery, Bishop Gregorio Diamare stated: "I certify, by request, that there neither was nor is any German soldier in the Monastery of Monte Cassino. February 15, 1944. Signed Gregorio Diamare, Bishop of Monte Cassino.

"2. The enemy command says they executed the attack in order to annihilate the German troops in the Monastery and to destroy the German defensive installations there. About that announcement I clearly state: The Vatican approached me through the German ambassador at the Papal Seat a few months ago and asked me not to include the Monastery at Cassino in battle operations. I promptly agreed with that suggestion, under the condition that the enemy would act accordingly. Therefore I issued orders forbidding German soldiers to enter the Monastery or its immediate vicinity. The strict execution of this order was guarded by all troop commanders and specially installed posts as well as by the field police. Even permission to temporarily accommodate the most severe wounded cases in the Monastery was not given until the bombing of the Monastery. Numerous Italian refugees though were permitted to enter the Monastery. Therefore hundreds of refugees were in the Abbey at the time of bombing, who had taken refuge there, trusting to the holiness of that sacred district and the immunity of the Monastery. In order to preserve the cultural, irreplaceable articles in the Monastery, particularly the library, their transfer into the Vatican City was executed by German troops some time ago.

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February 15, 1944. Signed Gregorio Diamare, Bishop of Monte Cassino. b) The administrator of the Abbey of Monte Cassino, Don Nicola Clementi and Bishop Delegate of the Administration Office for the region of Monte Cassino Don Francesco Saltonio, who escaped the bombing attack on February 15 during which the entire Abbey was destroyed declare that no German defense installations, troops or war material of any kind could be found inside the Monastery.

February 16, 1944. Signed Don Nicola Clementi, Don Francesco Saltoni. "6. After the destruction of the Monastery building the Monastery of Monte Cassino became part of the German defense positions which is evident.

"7. The Papal residence of Castelgandolfo was also attacked and heavily damaged by Anglo-American bombers. By these attacks more than 500 persons, among them 16 nuns, were killed. It was never

occupied by German troops. This area was also particularly respected. "8. As the responsible Supreme Commander in Italy I herewith declare: American soldiery regardless of all culture, in impotent rage, has senselessly destroyed one of the most precious monuments of Italy

and has killed Italian civilian refugees, men, women and children, by bomb hits and by artillery fire. Again it has been proven that the Anglo-Saxon and the Bolshevik Commands have no other goal than the destruction of European culture. For the cynical untruthfulness and the hypocritical statements with which the Anglo-Saxon Command is blaming me and my soldiers I can only express the deepest contempt.
Signed: Kesselring, General Field Marshall.

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

20381/1FAA

RADIO ROM: ITALIAN 2000 FEB. 15

SOURCE UNKNOWN CA. FEB. 15 1944

This morning Rome suffered a new terroristic raid. At about 1100 hrs, Anglo-American four-motored airplanes, supported by fighters, appeared over the city and dropped numerous bombs in the residential districts. The enemy dropped his bombs everywhere.

Entire buildings were destroyed and many persons were killed. The violence of the bombardment did not even spare the most densely populated areas. A Red Cross first-aid dispensary was completely destroyed.

After dropping the bombs the planes strafed the people. Numerous trams were hit. A count of the exact number of dead and wounded will be made,

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

RADIO ROME "SOLDATENSENDER" GERMAN 1460 FEB. 15

ROME: In the course of the Anglo-American raid on Rome on the night before last, one enemy flare hit the roof of the Pope's palace. A fire was started, but was extinguished by the Vatican fire-brigade. The parachute of the flare had been shown to the Pope by his request, Monday morning. Furthermore, a large amount of Anglo-American propaganda leaflets had been dropped on Vatican City. The Vatican Radio on Monday again expresses its strongest protest against the violation of Vatican neutrality by the Anglo-American air force, and emphasizes that the territory of the Pope's summer residence of Castel Gandolfo as well as the one of the Congregations, College Propaganda Fide, is extraterritorial. Furthermore Vatican Radio states that 18,000 evacuated women and children had been in the attacked territory.

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ATTN: RMR. PWR. PBS - APO 782

20381/AFPA

AB. Feb. 16

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 0800 FEB. 15

In the Church of the Osservanza which was ruined in the course of the recent terror-raids on Siena, one particularly valuable masterpiece was destroyed among many others: the well known terracotta by Della Robbia featuring the Coronation of the Virgin.

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1806

20381/MFAA

RADIO BREMEN ENQ. TO UNITED KINGDOM 1730 Feb 14

ROME: The Cardinal Prefect of the Collegium De Propaganda Fidei has gone to Castalgandolfo to inspect the ruins of the buildings which were destroyed during the Anglo-American terror raid.

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H. C. C.

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

NEUTRAL BROADCASTS

RADIO BEROMUNSTER (SWITZERLAND) GERMAN 1930 FEB. 13

ROME: According to Radio Rome the City of Rome was bombed last night. Seven bomb hits landed not far from the Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore. Simultaneously other Allied aircraft dropped bombs over the urban district of Tusculano. Several buildings were several damaged.

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AFHQ, FVB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 1300 FEB. 12

Bishop Agostini speaking at the rites of the victims of the recent air raid on Padova said: "Pray for us, this is the cry I heard from the lips of the dying and their relatives." The Bishop closed by asking the people to pray for a hasty end of the struggle and renewed brotherly love after the peace.

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1903

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AFHQ, FVB, RME, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 1300 FEB. 12

ITALIAN FRONT:

The Pope was persuaded by his staff from visiting the Papal summer home at Castel Gandolfo, due to the danger to which he would expose himself to the Anglo-American raids. He ordered the transfer of the more valuable objects to Vatican City for the villa was declared uninhabitable.

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LT Capt

Capt Keller

1502

AFHQ, PWB, RFB, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 912

20381/MFAA

Pope's Summer Home in Battle Area

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, February 12 = The following official statement was issued this morning: " Castel Gandolfo, the Pope's summer home, now lies in the battle area and contains heavy saturation of German forces. Whenever vital enemy forces appear there, they will of necessity be bombed." (PWB)

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H. C. C.

1801

20381/MEAA

RADIO VIENNA - GERMAN 1700 FEB. 11

BUCHAREST. In an order of the day, signed by the chief of State, Marshal Antonescu, the Roumanian merchant marine and Navy were distinguished.

ROME. The following in an eyewitness report from Castelgandolfo the Summer residence of the Pope, after yesterday bomber attack by the Anglo-Americans: "The village looks completely destroyed from the ruins of the palace where the Collegium of the propagation of the faith is located alone, 200 corpses were picked up. The total number of casualties can not be estimated yet but hundreds of dead are expected as a result of this new terror attack made by the Anglo-American air forces on the Summer residence of the Pope".

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20044/3

20903

1300

✓ 20381/1FAA
AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 2200 FEB. 10

Enemy bombers attacked the town of Castelgandolfo this morning for the third time. Many bombs were dropped on residential districts, and caused considerable destruction and many victims. Many bombs fell on the Papal villa and some of them hit the "Propaganda Fide" college near the villa where many people took shelter.

Firemen and "Unipa" first-aid squads left Rome for Castelgandolfo and Albano, which was also bombed. Vatican authorities sent vehicles and medical supplies.

The "OSSERVATORE ROMANO" reports that numerous bombs were dropped on the territory of Papal villa, and caused damages and victims. The daily of the Holy See says that a part of the college "Propaganda Fide" is built on extra-territorial ground and that this has also been destroyed. The daily adds that in considering the special right of the Holy See has protested, covering also the past two raids.

1799

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~~2104/3~~
Capt Keller

RADIO ZEESEN RUSSIAN 09:15 FEB. 10

20381/MEAA

ROME: Anglo-American aviation carried out a new terroristic raid on the town of Viterbo and a number of other localities in this vicinity. Great damage was caused to residential districts and numerous historical and cultural monuments. During the raid on Florence, the famous actress, Nina Cavalieri, was killed.

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Capt. Keller

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20381/MEAA

APR, PWB, PMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 542

INSIDE NAZI EUROPEItaly: Pope Protests Nazi Violation of Vatican Territory

NEW YORK, February 9- A United Press dispatch from the Italo-Swiss frontier says that Pope Pius XII has made a formal protest to Germany against the action of the Nazi military and police forces in "raiding" the Vatican-owned St. Paul's College in Rome.

The news Service said "unimpeachable sources" said the German Ambassador to the Holy See was handed the Vatican protest this morning at a two and a half hour meeting with Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State. These sources, according to the United Press, charged that the German authorities and the Fascist Blackshirt police violated the extra-territorial right of the college by entering the buildings during the night of February 3 - 4 to arrest five Italian army officers accused of high treason. Among the arrested men was General Monti who commanded the Italian Air Forces in Sicily. (P/B)

1791

Vatican Reaffirms Right To Grant Asylum

LONDON, February 9 - The Associated Press reports that the Vatican Radio said last (Tuesday) night, in commenting on a Fascist raid on historic St. Paul's Cathedral in Rome, in which an Italian general and others were seized that the Church will continue to offer charity to everyone.

The Vatican radio declared Sunday that by forcing entry into the Basilica the Fascists had violated the Vatican's extraterritorial rights (under which the Basilica is not subject to local or state authority) and asserted that a formal protest was made.

The broadcast last night also said that the Vatican newspaper OSSERVATORE ROMANO mentioned "the hospitality granted to the arrested persons" and emphasized, "Charity is for all, and rejection and banishment are for none. This is a point on which the faithful and the priests will never be able to give in".

The Nazi-controlled Rome Radio said Monday that 64 persons were arrested in the raid, including Italian officers, Jews, and some attempting to evade German labor conscription. (P/B)

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AFHQ, PWB, RMS, LIT, No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 2000 February 8

BURMA FRONT: Formations of Anglo-American planes bombed Livorno, Viterbo, Rieti, Frascati, and other localities north and south of Rome. There were damaged and losses among the civilian population. Florence was raided in the afternoon by a group of planes which dropped bombs in the outskirts. The residence of the famous artist, Lina Cavaliere, was hit by a bomb. She was killed together with her servant and an attendant. A few planes flew over Rome. One of them fell on a building which was completely destroyed by the explosion of its bombs. Other houses were damaged. Two dead and two wounded were found under the debris. Nearby the body of one of the enemy pilots who had tried to save himself by parachute was discovered. The other pilot was burned to death in his plane.

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20043 / Lt Cott
20043/2

1796

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

RADIO VIENNA GERMAN 1700 Feb 7

ROME: Vatican circles announce: "The damage caused on----- clergy
property in Italy by the terror raids of the British and the Americans has
surpassed the sum of 10 billions lires".

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20381/MPAA

LIBERATED AREAS

Nazi Destruction of Italian Art Called Deliberate

WASHINGTON, February 6--U.S. Senator Pat McCarran, of Nevada, commented Friday on the Nazis' destruction of Italian art works in the Villa Montesano Livardi near Nola:

"A report of British War-Secretary Sir James Grigg says that a German incendiary squad' deliberately and wantonly' destroyed priceless Italian art-works at Livardi on September 30.

That is a clear indictment of German vandalism.

"The treasures consisted of 886 cases of selected documents from the state archives and museum pieces taken from Naples to Livardi by Italians for safe keeping. Included were important archives of European history dating from 1238 to 1811, and an early Botticelli portrait and a Luini Madonna.

The destruction was carried out under orders from German military authorities.

"This act parallels their destruction by gasoline fires of the University of Naples and the Royal Society.

"In Russia, according to recent reports, the Germans sacked Peterhof, where ...centuries of architecture was expressed. At Novgorod they burned and smashed cathedrals, strewing glass, furniture and books over dirty snow. In Pushkin and in Pavlosk the story was the same. What the Germans couldn't carry off they burned.

"All of Europe was gutted by these vandals, who sought to enrich the private collections of their Nazi dictators.

"Wherever the Nazis have passed, they have left cultural ruin and poverty. They have applied civilized methods, system and actual study to acts of grossest barbarism." (PWB).

1794

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20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN 2230 Jan. 24

Enemy planes have bombed with high explosive and incendiaries, the suburbs of Siena. Many buildings have been destroyed, among others the historic cathedral of the Osservanza. The number of victims is being determined.

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RADIO ROME 2000 Jan 20

20381/MFAA

The latest bit of humor includes a declaration by the American representative of the Allied Commission in Italy. He stated that London and Washington have published exhaustive documentation of the spoliation of works of art by the Germans in the provinces of southern Italy. The Germans, he said, took 206,000 volumes from the library of Naples and the artistic treasures from the Abbey of Monte Cassino.

It is not even worthwhile to reply to this, for the whole world remembers with contempt the fire in the library of Naples started by the Allies during the days of ~~their~~ occupation; and the whole world also remembers the recent announcement that the precious manuscripts conserved at Monte Cassino were brought to safety in Castle Sant'Angelo in Rome.

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AMHQ, PWB, RUS, UNIT No. 8 - APO 512

R. M. No. ?

RADIO ROME IN ITALIAN TO ITALY 22:30 Jan. 20th

According to information so far at hand, the following localities have been bombed in addition to Rome: Pisa, Perugia, Jesi and Pontassieve. Everywhere, the Anglo-Assassins sowed death and destruction.

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20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 22:30 12 Jan 44

Once again the enemy has vented his fury against churches and other religious institutions. The Chapel of San Giuseppe was destroyed during the bombing of Pola on Jan 9th. Father Crazino Zanini met his death beneath the debris of the chapel. In this same city, Anglo-American bombs also destroyed the beautiful 14th century church of San Francesco.

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20381/1FAA

XV

PWB, PES

UNITED NATIONS NEWS SERVICE 23:00, 12 Jan to 23:00 13 Jan 44

"The Art Guardians".

WASHINGTON, Jan 13 (PWB):- Doctor Charles G. Abbot Secretary of Smithsonian Institute, Washington, "commenting on German destruction of art in occupied countries said: The Nazis are now posing as protectors of art treasures in Italy". A German broadcast to Europe January 4th said, "The German organization for the protection of Art treasures in Italy has begun activities in Tuscany, Professor Hein Heinderich, director of the German Institution at Florence agreed with competent Italian authorities on necessary measures to take most of the Tuscany Art Treasures from temporary places within Tuscany". Abbot said: "Here are just a few of the Nazis wholesale activities against the World masterpieces of art and literature. In Naples, German soldiers were more destructive than Vesuvius by deliberate fires the Nazis destroyed irreplaceable archives of the University of Naples and some 200:000 volumes of the Royal Society. Looting a Benedictine Abbey at Monte Cassino, near Rome where Italy's treasures had been placed for safekeeping, the Germans made off with one of the richest collections ever brought together including works of Titian, El Greco, Correggio and Goya.

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20381/MFAA

XIV

ITALIAN TO ITALY 20:00

DEDICATED TO RADIO SHAME:

Radio Shame, that is Radio Bari, broadcast the following the day before yesterday: "Enemy propaganda is short on subjects; The other day, Rome Radio, always under close German control, reported that Allied Troops had shipped, or were on the point of shipping, a large number of Italian art works to the United States. Once for all, we repeat that this is nothing but deliberate invention. Not even one work of art has been exported by us. However, we are convinced that Radio Rome is broadcasting this clumsy to justify the authentic robbery of works of art by the Germans in unoccupied Italy".

To Radio Shame we reply:

- 1) Ours is not propaganda; unfortunately it is a chronicle, a sad chronicle, a naked exposition of facts;
- 2) Rome Radio is subject to German control;
- 3) We agree with those "bought men" of Radio Bari that they had no part in the exportation of even one work of art, even if they wanted to they would find it impossible, because only the Anglo-American invaders and not their servants can steal our artistic treasures;
- 4) Not only do the Germans not export works of art, but when they can, they take these works of art to safe places out of the reach of the Anglo-American invaders. The recent case of the art treasures of the Montecassino Abbey is an example;
- 5) The Anglo-Americans themselves through their newspapers, such as the Daily Herald, Washington Post, and others, have on various occasions reported that an Allied commission of experts have arrived in southern Italy to organize the exodus of our works of art to Great Britain and the United States;
- 6) Can the "bought" men of Radio Bari tell us -- to merely illustrate one of the many instances -- just where are the artistic treasures of the Pinacoteca of Palermo are at the present moment?

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20381/MFAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 08:00

FORLI: We are now in a position to present the details on the incursions against the city of Rimini Dec 28th, 29th and 30th. The first raid was conducted in two ways, the second in four, and the third in one. The attack on the 28th was the most devastating in size of area hit and number of houses destroyed. It is not possible to list the streets and areas that were hit, especially the rural sections of the city. A number of public buildings and churches were either totally or partially destroyed. The population of Rimini maintained the greatest and most praiseworthy calm in the face of the series of terrorist attacks.-

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FMJ, PWB, RMS, UNIT. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/TEAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 13:00 Jan 6

Page 2b EXTRACT

The Bishop of Padua also used words of condemnation in referring to the criminal devastation of churches, houses, and institutes by Anglo American planes during a recent raid against the city.

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AFHQ. F.W.B. RMS. UNIT. No 8 - APO 512

20381/MEAA

RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 20:00 Jan 5

Extract from "A REFUGEE FROM BARI"

A sort of competition took place between the British and Americans for the possession of our works of art. The most valuable pieces of course, went to the high commands, the works of lesser values were disputed among the others. Public museums were requisitioned while private collections were paid for with occupational money, which is without value.

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20381/MFAA X

RADIO SOFIA

GERMAN 18:15

ROME: The Anglo-American occupation forces are continuing what they started in Sicily, preparing in southern Italy transports of art pieces. From art pieces wrested from the ruins of Herculaneum the first transport is being formed. Because of the typhus which is raging in Naples, this transport is being sent in the harbor of Salerno and from there it will leave for the U S.

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4 Jan 44

20381/MFAA

RADIO ZEESEN (GERMANY) GERMAN TO OVERSEAS 18:45

MILAN: The German protection of art pieces in Italy, which in close collaboration with the competent Italian authorities has brought into safety the cultural treasures of the Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino, has opened its activities in Tuscany. The director of the German Historical Museum in Florence, Dr Heidenreich, has discussed with competent Italian authorities the measures by which valuable works of art pieces in Tuscany will be brought from their present provisional places of safety to safe localities without moving them from Tuscany.

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20381/MFAA

Jan 4
RADIO ROME "SOLDATENSENDER" GERMAN 22:00

ROME: The Hermann Goering Armored Division handed over to the Italian Government on 40 trucks today in the historic Piazza Venezia in Rome the art pieces and cultural treasures which were saved by units of that division in the midst of battle from the monasteries of Teano and Monte Cassino. Involved are historic items of extra ordinary value, pictures, books, documents, etc. All these pieces were brought into safety to Teano, at the moment Italy entered the war, from Naples and other places which seemed to be endangered. As these territories became the battle grounds as a result of the Badoglio treason, the Hermann Goering Division undertook to recover these art pieces in order to save them not only for the Italian people but for all mankind. This action of safekeeping came to an end today when all the items were ~~re~~ handed over to the Italian Government.

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RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 20:00

THE CONSIGNMENT TO PALAZZO VENEZIA OF TREASURES FROM THE ABBEY OF MONTE CASSINO: While in occupied Italy the Anglo-Americans are continuing to loot all the art treasures, including those in private houses, in Republican Italy the works of art which attest to Italian creative genius through the centuries are being transported to places of safety by that same ally enemy propaganda attempts to picture as a plunderer.

It was our German comrades of the " Hermann Goering Division" who brought inestimable cultural wealth to safety. With the echo of the consignment of treasures of the Abbey of Monte Cassino to Italian authorities still alive, another ceremony has aroused a fresh wave of sympathy towards the brave Goering Division. As will be recalled, an important collection of work of art from the National Museum of Naples had been deposited in this same Abbey of Montecassino. In spite of the fighting in which they are actively engaged, the Goering Division, at the termination of a long phase of operations, succeeded in transporting that vast quantity of artistic treasures to Rome and consigning it to the Italian state; The ceremony of consignment took place at Palazzo Venezia at 12:00 in the presence of Italian and German authorities.

The works of art, which had been transported to the capitol in 40 trucks will be placed in custody in the Vecchia Sapienza, in part in the Vatican, and in other localities. While the troops were unloading the crates temporarily housed in the Palazzo Venezia, the German Charge d'Affaires spoke briefly on the collaboration of German comrades in the protection of Italy's artistic wealth. Following the talk, Col Schelgel of the Goering Division formally consigned the works of art. Prof. Alfonso Bertolo of the Ministry of National Education replied to Prof. Bers, the German Charge d'Affaires.

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FM. PWB, EMS. Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MEAA

January 3 6b ROME RADIO ITALIAN TO ITALY 20:00
ANOTHER ITALIAN CITY BARBAROUSLY ATTACKED:

Pistoia has suffered a new terrorist attack. A number of artistic monuments in the historic Piazza del Duomo were hit, including the Palazzo del Tribunale and the Battistero. The chapel of S. Paul's Church suffered damage. The densely populated districts were among the bombed area. The number of victims among the civilian population has not yet been ascertained. It is known, however, that the number is high.

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AFHQ. PWB. RES. Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

ROME RADIO ITALIAN TO ITALY 22:30 Jan 3

ROME: The spoliation of southern Italy by the enemy is continuing. Yesterday the Anglo-American radio announced that more than 50,000 works of art have been taken from the Naples area, including a collection of famous Herculanean books. The enemy is justifying his actions by claiming that the works of art have been removed to safe places in the United States and Great Britain, naturally.

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RADIO ROME ITALIAN TO ITALY 08:00

FERRARA: The bandits of the air launched a violent attack against the densely populated quarters of Ferrara with several waves of bombers. The Red Cross Hospital was hit in full. The Palazzo di Ludovico il Moro, a world famous monument, receives three hits, but fortunately the bombs did not explode. The number of victims and amount of damage has not yet been ascertained.

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AFHQ. PWB. RMS. Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

20381/MFAA

Dec 30 2b ROME RADIO ITALIAN TO ITALY 13:00

ROME: Some days ago the English insinuated that it was the intention of the Germans to raze Rome to the ground rather than leave a city to the Allies. This is puerile maneuver: the Anglo-Americans have already thought of destroying Rome; they have enough money to rebuild the city more modern than ever.

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WH. PWB. RMS. Unit. No. 8 - APO 512

Dec 30 4x RADIO BERLIN GERMANY 20:00

NAPLES: Pictures and other artpieces in the Royal Palace in Naples are confiscated by the Anglo-American occupational authorities. American troops are busy at the moment with the collecting of these artpieces, and are bringing them on to boats which will transport them to the United States. The organized robbery of artpieces is under control of North American museum directors.

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Italy
Gathering

AMGOT Hq.
22 Oct. 1943

A communication from Maj. T.B. Jackman, MGS AFHQ dated 5 Oct. 1943 forwards to Hq. AMG. a copy of methods of securing bibliographical information in Italy, which mostly means having access to central files in Rome, and lists of various annuals which supply such information. These were prepared by W.O. Hasell in London during Sept.

They are filed in the Central Registry in AMGOT/ 124 / Hq.

MH

1. Paris.
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marked
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*The location
in Italy of
published Intelligence
Material Relating
to Italy & Other
Countries*

*On < App. >
Italian Almanacs
Annuaire
Gazette (Litt.)*

M. E. Wolfson