Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ICC 10000|145|246 20381 INTELLIGENCE REPORTS On MFAA (cf. 20907 ENEMY

Sept. 1944 - Ap. 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ON MFAA (cf. 20907 ENEMY PROPAGANDA) II

Sept. 1944 - Ap. 1945

0004

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 190, 12 April 45

RADIO REPUBBLICAN in Italian to Italy 610 kc 2000 April 10

Allied Air Raids in Italy

Brescia suffered another air raid on Sunday morning. Formations of American four-motored planes dropped many bombs, striking civilian habitations in the environs of the town; They were dead and wounded. There were also savage bombings and strafings in the provinces of Venezia, Rovigo and Udine. A hospital in Udine was struck. Two churches in the province were damaged. Numerous houses were either destroyed or damaged. There were dead and wounded.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

11 April 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 190, 12 April 45

RADIO REPUBBLICAN in Italian to Italy 610 kc 1400 April 11

Bad Condition of St. Peter's Basilica

An incident which might have had very grave consequence took place in the Vatican City. During a storm a large block of stone weighing several quintals detached itself from the cornice of the St. Peter's Basilica and fell from a height of 70 meters. It is worth recalling in this connection that the stability of the greatest temple of Christianity seems to have been affected since November, 1943, that is to say, since numerous bombs dropped by Anglo-American planes exploded in the Basilica's vicinity.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

12 Apr 45

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

RADIO REPUBBLICANA in Italian to Italy 610 kc 2300 April 12

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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17 Apr 45

AFHQ, RADIO MONITORING REPORT.NO. 195, April 16.

RADIO REPUBBLICANA in Italian to Italy 510 kc 0800 April 17

Cassino Newsreel - An invaded Italy the National Institute "LUCE" (N.B. Official Newsreels) has been absorbed by the organs of Allied propaganda. The ANS Agency reports this news, affirming that Italian cameramen paid by Bonomi shot a film of the ruins of Cassino, showing the sad ceremony where, with the ruins forming a sinister background, the serfs of Rome can be seen thanking the Anglo-Americans, the authors of so much destruction.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

April 17, 1945

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 195, April 18.

RADIO REPUBBLICANA In Italian to Italy 600 kc 1300 April 17

Air Raids on Bologna.- Bologna's outskirts were raided by large enemy air formations yesterday. About twenty dead and seventy wounded have been extracted so far from the ruins. During the night of April enemy fighter-bombers raided popular districts of Piacenza. A number of houses was destroyed, while a large number of other buildings was damaged, more or less seriously. The church of S. Maria Garibaldi was also damaged. A number of people were killed, while about 30 persons were wounded.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

13 Apr 45

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

RADIO REPUBBLICANA - In Italian to Italy - 610 kc - 2000 - Apr.13

Allied Raids - Again last night the Allies dropped bombs on dwellings in Milan. The victims so far accounted for are two dead and several wounded. It is also learned that in the same raid serious damage was caused to dwellings in the outskirts of Milan. Some ten persons were wounded. Numerous formations of Allied heavy bombers have also made raids on Gorizia in the last few days, dropping bombs and causing death and destruction. The damage is enormous. The number of victims has not yet been determined. Up to date 24 dead and about fifty wounded have been found under the wreckage. There have also been two new raids on Pordenone, in the province of Udine. Allied planes appeared over the town in midday, launching their bombs on private dwellings and public buildings. A church and a religious college were also struck.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

13 April 45

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

RADIO REPUBBLICANA - in Italian to Italy - 610 kc - 2000 - Apr 13

Croce Heads Monuments Committee. Benedetto Croce has assumed the restoration of damaged monuments. The aged philisopher stated that this committee proposes to co-ordinate eventual private understakings, inasmuch as both the Bonomi government and the occupation forces find it impossible to assume the heavy task of restoring the works of art his by Allied bombs.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

14 April 45

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

RADIO REPUBBLICANA in Italian to Italy 610 kc 1300 April 14

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

4 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 260, 4 April 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Famous Florence Collection Unharmed

The Allied Control Commission has announced that it has succeeded in recovering the famous botanical collection of the University of Florence, which includes a collection of specimens gathered by Bianca Medici. They are unique in the world. The preservation of this world-famous collection is due solely to the German military authorities, who took the necessary precautions to protect it against Anglo-American bombings.

(Radio Adriatico - 2015 - April 4)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 258, 2 Apr 45 1 April 45

Treasures Damaged in Enemy Raid

During the enemy air-raid of March 21 over Venice, the priceless frescoes painted by Tiepolo, and other important works of art, were damaged.

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Apr. 1)

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Capt Bennett

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 258 - 2 April 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

The Basilica of San Lorenzo

The press office of the puppet government of Bonomi has just announced that over twenty-one million lire will be necessary for rebuilding basilica of San Lorenzo of Rome, which was destroyed by the Anglo-Americans in July 43. Its reconstruction presents many difficulties owing to the lack of material and means of transport.

It will be recalled that some six months ago it was stated that the basilica would be rebuilt without delay, with the assistance of the Anglo-Americans, who were to supply the necessary means and material.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - April 1)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

April 3, 1945

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 259, 3 April 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Air-raid over Lodi

Enemy planes bombed the town of Lodi three times in succession, followed by ruthless machine-gunning. Much damage was done to private dwelling-houses. Thirty-one bodies have so far been extricated from the wreckage.

(Fascist Radio - 1600 - Ap. 3)

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16 Mar 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 244, 16 March 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

The Case of Montecassino - Commentary by Malatesta

During the Ides of March, in the year of grace 1944, the British Prime Minister issued an announcement to the worl. An announcement which nobody would believe: the Allied powers had destroyed the Abbey of Montecassino, glory of the Italian and Christian civilisation in the whole world.

The psychologists and criminalists have always demonstrated that the murderer is likely to come back to the place of the crime. Yesterday, in fact, on the anniversary of this crime, the British and American murderers, accompanied by their Italian slaves and servants went back to Montecassino, and precisely to the Abbey.

The manifestation took place among the usual joyful speeches. They were intended to prove, in another way, the ever increasing union existing between the old Anglo-Saxon democracies and the newly born democracy of liberated (hut not too much) Italy.

As Roosevelt's assertion regarding the will of the United Nations to reconstruct all the monuments (more beautiful and more interesting than before) had only caused the laughter of the whole world, the Ambassador of the White House, who attended the manifestation decided to attempt the impossible: the Abbey of Montecassino was destroyed by the Germans, he said.

This assertion was made despite the obvious demonstrations and documents furnished by the peasants and workers who were near the Abbey and who clearly remember the way in which the Abbey was destroyed by Italy's enemies.

It is well known fact: history cannot be changed; however, with a few dollars and a few promises, one can try at least to keep the truth hidden for a few years. This was the aim of the Ambassador of the White House.

The ceremony was attended by many representatives of the Italian authorities, headed by the President of the democratic lieutenancy, with purely representative functions. In these circumstances, temptations are too strong and old Ivanoe gave in to his desire, and delivered a speech. He spoke to the peasants and the workers on the spot; he spoke of the value and the function of Montecassino in the civilisation of the world.

In truth, he seemed to be speaking not to the peasants and workers, but to the American ambassador, and he seemed to say: You see, we are your friends. We are liars like you. In exchange, give us the help which we need so badly for our life.

It is easy to understand the impression caused by this speech delivered by old Bonomi. His statements have no influence. Those who have been eye witnesses to the enemy cruelty and crimes, now know very well that the newly born Italian democracy means.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Mar.16)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Mar.16)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RADIO MONITORING REPORT - PWB - No. 243 - 15 March 1945

Allied Bombers Attack Padua

Once again the devastating fury of the Anglo-Saxon aviators attacked the center of Padua. Yesterday night, in the course of another fierce air raid, numerous bombs and about one thousand incendiary bombs were launched on the city. Among the many buildings which were hit are the church of Santa Sofia and the civilian hospital. Many families were deprived of their homes. The extinguishing of the fires is particularly difficult. One of the enemy raiders crashed in the region of Consalve.

A strafing and bombing action was carried out by enemy planes against Olgiate Coleo (?) A maternity school was hit. In Crandolo an enemy bombing caused damage and casualties.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Mar 15)

Copy to: 2023
Cap Marshall

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RADIO MONITORING REPORT - PWB - No. 243 (15 Mar. 1945)

Bonomi in Cassino

The miserable Bonomi had the impudence to visit Cassino, followed by a series of under-secretaries. The old impostor spoke to a group of peasants and workers, recalling the historical value of Monte Cassino and its abbey. Bonomi then spoke of the will of reconstruction and stressed the help given by the Allies. He then ceded to the United States Ambassador, who stated that Cassino and the abbey were destroyed by the Germans.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Mar. 15)

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0020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Historical Archiginnasio of Bologna Partly Destroyed

In the course of the enemy action of January 29 over Bologna, the historical Archiginnasio ("Studio Bolognese"), headquarters of studies and the light-house of Latin civilization in the Middle Ages, was partly destroyed.

Immediately after the air-raid was over the civil leaders began to work actively, in order to limit damages to the minimum and to safeguard the valuable frescos. The Minister of National Education has issued an order, designed to defend the historical building from further damages.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Mar. 15)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RADIO MONITORING REPORT - PWB - No. 243 - 15 March 1945

Terrorist Enemy Air-raids Over Northern Italy

In recent days the enemy renewed his air-raids over Verona, Udine, Vittorio Veneto and Padua. Considerable damages was caused to our artistic wealth in the various towns hit. Casualties are reported among the civilian population.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Mar. 15)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Sondrio Raided

Enemy aircraft flew over the town of Sondrio yesterday morning dropping bombs amd savagely strafing passers-by. Five people were buried under the rubble and several others were wounded.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Mar 14)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division No.242 - 14 March 1945

Reconstruction of Cassino

It has been announced in Rome that on next Sunday the first stone will be laid for the reconstruction of the first edifice of Cassino, which is to be restored. Ruini will participate in the official ceremony and, as Minister of Public Works, he will deliver a speech. Will he still have the effrontery to say that anti-Fascist democracy is about to reconstruct what Fascism has destroyed? Some months ago a communique issued by the Bonomi government reported that the ruins of Cassino would not be touched, protected by barbed wire, they would be declared a national monument and would be a witness, in the future - stated the communique - of Fascist barbarism. Now instead, reconstruction is beginning over the ruins of Cassino! Perhaps the Anglo-Americans want to cancel every trace of their lack of civilisation of their barbarism, of their crimilality.

(Fascist Radio - 1430 Mar 14)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB - N. 242 - 14 March 1945

Air-Raid over Gorizia

Today in the afternoon enemy planes dropped explosive medium tonnage bombs over a quarter of the suburbs which had already been the chief target of previous air-raids. Other private houses were destroyed.

Prior to that enemy fighter-bombers attacked the village of Gargano, dropping bombs and causing casualties among the civilian population.

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(Radio Adriatico - 2210 - Mar 14)

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Marriott

0023

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

13 March 1945

AFHQ. PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 241, 13 Mar 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Air Raid over Padua

During the night between February 22 and 23 Padua was again savagely bombed by the so-called liberators. Death and destructions were spread in residential quarters. It is reported that the girls' school "Istituto del Sacro Cuore" was hit, while the church of the "Immacolata" was seriously damaged. One hundred and fifty private houses were either destroyed or seriously damaged. The number of casualties is high and hundreds of people are now homeless. Also the inhabited centre of Campo San Pietro was bombed, causing considerable damages. The basilica annexed to the monastery of the Minor Fathers was destroyed.

3089

Enemy planes carried out also a terrorist air-raid over Fiume. The attack was concentrated on residential quarters. The number of casualties has not yet been ascertained. Other bombings were carried out over inhabited localities of the provinces of Venice and Treviso.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Mar 13)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

13 Mar 1945

AFHQ, P.W.B., RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 241, 13 Mar 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Repair at the Palatino

As a tribute to the liberty finally reconquered, the Minister of National Education of the government in the pay of the English, has asked for the necessary fund to put back the raling at the Palatino. The entrance to the Palatino will, afterwards, be allowed to those who have regularly paid their entrance ticket.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Mar.13)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

12 March 1945

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 241, 13 Mar 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Four Pictures Saved by Germans

The command of a German division in the Romagna region has handed over four pictures (which have been saved from certain destruction by the Reich troops) to the head of the Ferrara province. The picture had been stored away in the castle of the Prince of Este to protect them from air-raids.

This news is fresh confirmation of the solidarity between Italians and Germans and of the cooperation offered by the German authorities for the defence of the artistic patrimony of Italy.

It is well-known in fact that German experts of international fame have saved from destruction invaluable treasures, sometimes , even risking their lives in the attempt.

Recently enemy propaganda has once more hinted that in many cases the Vatican had to intervene in order to save from German destruction numerous works of art. This news might be denied by the Vatican itself, which has all the information necessary concerning the help given by the Germans for the preservation of the Italian artistic patrimony.

Certain episodes on our allies' cooperation in defending some of our treasures have been made public.

Only in exceptional cases were some works of art - the picture of Adam and Eve for instance - transferred from southern Italy to northern Italy. The treasures which were saved in southern Italy are almost all of them in villas under the protection of the Vatican.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Mar.12)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

12 Mar 1945

AFHQ, PWB. RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 240, 12 Mar 45

GERMAN BROADCASTS

Reconstruction of Monte Cassino Impossible

VATICAN CITY: The reconstruction of the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino, of world-wide fame, is impossible, This statement was made by a Vatican investigation committee. The renowved Benedictine monastery was turned into a heap of rubble in February, 1944, by American bombing attacks.

(German Home Service - 2200 - Mar.12)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

11 Mar 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 240, 12 Mar 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Allied Vandalism

A sacrilegeous theft was committed in the celebrated Sanctuary of the Madonna del Divino Amore. The sacristan of the Church discovered that the tabernacle had been opened and the gold chalice taken away.

In a near-by church the sacred Host was discovered lying on the pavement.

The first inquiries made threw suspicion on some coloured Allied soldiers, who had been seen loitering in the neighborhood of the Sanctuary. This suspicion is confimed by the fact that the servile Government of Bonomi received the order, which it promptly executed, to give no publicity to the affair. The Allies want the population to be kept in ignorance of such things.

3685 (Fascist Radio - 1300 - Mar. 11)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

11 Mar 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 240, 12 Mar 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Allied Destruction in Italy

According to information garnered from a correspondence of Reuter's News Agency, the British and the Americans are responsible for the destruction of many artistic monuments in invaded Italy, destructions so far kept hidden by enemy propaganda.

We can give the following precisions on what has happened in Faenza, where the International Ceramic Museum has beendestroyed, as well as 129 cases of priceless porcelain kept in a near-by store place. In Cesena the Cathedral has been damaged, in Barga the pulpit of the church of San Francesco, at Castel Fiorentino the ancient gate leading into the town has been rased to the ground. And this is only a small list of all the art treasures which have suffered at the hands of the barbaous methods employed by the Anglo-Saxons against the artistic patrimony of Italy.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Mar.11)

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Capt. C. M
Lt Hartt

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

8 March 1945

RADIO MONITORING REPORT, P.W.B., No. 237, 8 March 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Other Raids

The small town of Quinto di Trento (?) has heavily bombarded yesterday, causing damages and claiming victims.

Other localities of the province suffered likewise from machine gun fire; bombs were dropped in open country.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Mar 8)

Copy to: 20123

Cap. Meredith

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

8 March 1945

RADIO MONITORING REPORT, P.W.B., No. 237, 8 March 1945

Valuable Paintings Saved from Destruction

The general in command of a division operating on the Romagna front has handed over the head of the province of Ferrara six valuable paintings which have been saved from inevitable destruction. This is the hundredth time that enemy assertions on the alleged destruction of works of art in Ferrara by German soldiers have been denied.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Mar. 8)

Copy to: 7003

Capt. E M

0033

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB - No. 232 - 2 March 1945

Air-raids Over Northern Italy

Enemy planes continued their terrorist activities over inhabited centres of northern Italy. Wave after wave of enemy planes bombed the town of Rovigo. Many private dwelling were destroyed. The church and the convent of the Sacro Cuore were also hit. There were many casualties among the civilian population.

Other attacks were carried out over Fiume and Verona. In the latter city, American bombers dropped explosive bombs which hit provate dwelling and public buildings. Assistance to the victims was, as usual, efficient and promptly rendered. Authorities immediately went to the locality which had suffered most from the air raid, to give the necessary orders. The number of casualties has not yet been ascertained.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Mar. 2)

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Capt. Marriott

0034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1 March 1945

RADIO MONITORING Report, P.W.B., No. 234, 5 March 1945

GERMAN BROADCASTS

Air Raids

Half of Verona was laid flat in the latest Allied air raid. Hundreds of craters and a vast field of ruins now reach from outlying districts to the centre of the town. Since the latest heavy raids, which since January have torn deep gaps in the town, it has not yet been possible to determine the damage done to irreplaceable architectural monuments. The Italian Commission on which well-known art experts sit, has not yet concluded its investigations. The complete destruction of the old town hall in Piazza Erbe is a greivous loss. The town hall was built in 1193 and had one of the purest Renaissance facades. In the old city the municipal concert there have been nothing but piles of rubble for weeks; as example Santa Maria della Scala, the church of Saint Bernard and of the Holy Apostle, as well as the cathedral monastery. Many of the old Gothic palaces are in ruins. As Verona has very good air raid shelters casualties have been slight. Every time the alarm is sounded more than one tenth of the hundred thousand inhabitants enter catacombs of the amphitheatre, which dates back to the time of Diocletian and which possesses the best preserved Roman arena.

3990 (Transocean in German - 0654 - Mar. 1)
(Monitored in London)

Copy to: 2012 3
Capt. Arnold

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1 March 1945

RADIO MONITORING Report, P.W.B., No. 231, 1 March 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Enemy Air Raids

Another enemy raid has taken place over Brescia. Many houses were destroyed or damaged. The population remained calm, allowing all the necessary services to function efficiently. Only a few wounded are reported. Various place in the province of Ferrara suffered enemy air attacks. ~~The small village of Orsellato was suffered enemy air attacks.~~ The small village of Orsellato was destroyed. Thirty-five persons were killed and over fifty wounded.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - March 1)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

27 February 1945

RADIO MONITORING Report, P.W.D., No. 228, 27 February 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Indiscriminate Air-Raids Continue

The brutal fury of Anglo-American terrorist planes against the cities and inhabitants of the Italian republic has had fresh objectives - Padua, Verona, Trieste, Pola and Fiume, as well as places in Trevigliano, Padua and Venice. Hundreds of explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped over inhabitated districts without discrimination, the only aim being that of killing innocent people. The air-raid over Padua was of particular violence and the number of casualties is very high. Churches, hospitals and historic palaces were destroyed. The enemy can really boast of having reached his targets. In the face of all this ruin and sorrow, from the Italians of the Republic one cry only rises: that of increasing hatred for the barbarous enemy, whose aim is to quench the light of the spirit and the breath of life in our land.

(Fascist Radio - 1600 - Feb 27)

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~~Lt Col~~ Capt. Marcolf

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB - nO; 225 - February, 23, 1945

Bishops Palace in Bologna Hit During Raid

In the course of an enemy air on Bologna on the 29th of December last, the Bishop's Palace was hit. By a miracle Cardinal Nasalli Rocca and wounded soldiers in the Military Hospital situated in the part of the building that was bombed escaped. Messages of congratulation were received by the Cardinal, who thanked all his well-wishers.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Feb 22)

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Capt. C. M

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB - No. 223 - 21 February 1945

Air-Raid Over Trieste

Yesterday enemy planes carried out an air-raid over Trieste, causing damage. Several houses were completely destroyed and there were casualties among the civilian population.

This morning at San Giovanni a train travelling from Monfalcone to Trieste was machine-gunned. Several people were killed and others were wounded.

(Radio Littoriale Adriatico - 2015 - Feb.20

Copy to: 20123
Cap Marriot

3076

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - No. 223 - 21 February 1945

Requisition of Palazzo Ruspoli Unpopular in Rome

The newspapers and the pupulation of Rome have bitterly criticised the requisition of Palazzo Ruspoli" for the offices of the American Red Cross. An American general answered these criticisms with a harsh statement, saying that the Ruspoli Palace is used by thousands of American soldiers and that this requisition therefore must have precedence over the interests of the civil population. He added that this is a "well established principle in cases of requisition".

The only thing we need add is that the anti-Fascist of southern Italy will have had their eyes opened by now and will understand with what kind of people they have to do.

(Fascist Radio - 1600 - Feb? 20)

Copy to: 2044/23

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

THE STARS AND STRIPES

20 February 1945

MAAF HEADQUARTERS, Feb. 19

+ + + + +

The objectives of the 15th AAF heavies included naval yards at Pola and Fiume in the northern Adriatic. Most of the bombing was visual but the results of the raids have not yet been tabulated.

P-47s of the 12th AAF raided fuel and ammunition dumps near Spezia, causing fires and explosions, while another rocket - carrying Thunderbolt group strafed and bombed a power station in the same area with excellent results.

20123
20133
Capt. Harnett
Maj. Gardner

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

New Giotto Fresco Discovered

During repair work being carried out in Santa Chiara, a new fresco of the Giotto school has apparently been discovered, representating the Virgin praying before the Holy Child.
(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Feb 19)

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0042

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB - No. 221 19 February, 1945

Allies Raid Crems

Enemy bombers have attacked Crems dropping incendiary and explosive bombs on the centre of the town and the suburbs. Many houses were damaged and many people were injured.
(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Feb 18)

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Lt Cott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - FWB # No. 220 - 17 February 1945

Florence Opera Turned into Night-club

BERNE: It is learned that the great opera house in Florence has been turned into a night-club by the Anglo-Americans. Officers and soldiers of the Allied armed forces spend their nights merry-making while the Italian people live miserably and are practically starving.

(German Radio - 1845 - Feb 17)

Copy to: 20084/1/B
Lt Hartt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Air Radd at Verona

Following the air raid carried out during the night of February 12th by enemy bombers over Verona, about fifty workers' houses were destroyed and many others were damaged. Working class districts, where 250 families lived, were mostly affected.

The Carmelitan monks of the "Barefoot" order, whose church had been destroyed during a previous raid, had their convent completely destroyed on this occasion.

(Fascit Radio - 0800 - Feb 16)

Copy to: 20123
Cap. Marriott
270

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The Crime at Montecassino (By Bruno Spampanato)

Through the monitoring of the Anglo-American broadcasts on the bombardment of Montecassino... I know that everyone rebelled... Perhaps each one of us rebelled on hearing the report...that it would have been truly impossible with pther enemies, in another war, to destroy anything so sacred.

... if the German communiquè or a dispatch of one of the news agencies had been the first to give the news. For four or five days whele newspaper columns were dedicated to Montecassino. The destruction of the ancient and famous basilica. The statements made by the abbot, by the monks, by the refugees whem their Christian charity had gathered in the precincts of the sacred walls. The description of the ruins, the dead, the escape from the hill burned by fire and still pounded by the Flying Fortresses not a stone was left. The Rome paper...could not help speaking of the painful event. "Messaggere" of which I was the editor, was the chief paper of the capital. I still remember the thousands of letters, the hundreds telephone calls, after we had published in a number of four pages a whole page with photographs of the Anglo-Saxon crime. The Rome public repeated my first question: "Is it possible"? Sad and indignant, the Pope also asked: "Is it possible?" The Pope at that time was fully aware of the criminal methods of the Anglo-Americans. All the world said: "It is possible?".

Then the reports from the various fronts, the events... put Montecassino in the background. No more was said about it. Today one might think that we had forgotten it. Now the abbey exists no more. The hill still appears scarred all along its sides by the barbarity of these raids. After a year one can still say that the Montecassino crime is a crime...Italians above all must judge and condemn the culprits.

(Radio Fante - 2215 - Feb 15)

Copy to: 200+4/1/B
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

31 Mar 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 257

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Air Raid over Milan

This morning, enemy planes dropped bombs and machine-gunned the city of Milan. Serious damage was caused to private dwellings. So far eleven wounded have been ascertained. The clearing of the wreckage continues.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Mar. 31)

3068

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RADIO MONITORING REPORT - No. 261 - 5 April 1945

Restoration of Buildings and Monuments in Vatican

The "U.N.N.S." reports that in a fewdays the work of repair to building and monuments damaged as a result of the war will be begun in the Vatican. Enemy agencies are very careful not to mention, that the damage was the result of Allied air raids.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - April 5)

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Copy to: 200943
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

6 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 262

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Allied Air-Raid Over Turin

Yesterday enemy planes carried out another terror air raid over the residential districts of Turin, causing casualties among the civilian population and damaging a number of private houses. It is considered that at least fifty people were killed. A hospital was also hit.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - April 6)

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Capt Cutchins

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - PWB, No. 217 - 14 February 1945

Air-Raids over Trieste and Como

In the last few days, a large formation of enemy four-engined bombers dropped bombs on private dwellings. Among the civilian population twenty people were killed, while about one hundred were wounded.

At Como, during the night of February 12, enemy planes dropped bombs on private houses, as a result of which several people were killed and others were wounded.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Feb 14)

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Copy to 20113
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Lt Colt
Capt Marriott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

6 Apr 45

AFHQ, PWB, RADIO MONITORING REPORT No. 262, 6 Apr 45

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Air Raid Over Brescia

Enemy planes carried out two savage and indiscriminates air raids over Brescia in a space of sixteen hours, causing casualties and destruction. During the first raid it was chiefly incendiary and explosive bombs that were dropped, while in the second bombs of all tonnages were used.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - April 6)

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Lt Col

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RADIO MONITORING REPORT - No. 261 - 5 April 1945

Air Raid Over Udine

To-day's waves of Anglo-American bombers bombed the outskirts of Udine and the neighborhood, causing dead and wounded among the civilian population and damage to private houses. During the night, an isolated plane dropped bombs on residential districts of Udine. The military hospital was hit.

In the course of one of the latest enemy air-raids, the churches of S.Lucia and the Madonna di Loreto were seriously damaged.

(Radio Litorale Adriatico - 2210 - Apr 5

Copy to: 20123
3063 Capt Hamilton

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

24 January

RADIO MONITORING Division, P.W.B., No. 198, 24 January 1945.

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Scala Season Begins in Milan

After the series of performances in commemoration of Rossini the Scala theatre will begin its winter season next Sunday, where Verdi's "Aida" will be performed, conducted by Maestro Marinuzzi.

This artistic activity on the part of the Scala Theatre has a particular significance, in that it shows that, despite war emergencies, life goes on as usual in the territory of the Social Republic, where not even artistic and cultural enterprises are neglected.

(Fascist Radio - 1600 - Jan. 24)

Copy to: 20113
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

24 January

RADIO MONITORING Division, P.W.B., No. 198, 24 January 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Damage in Pisa Confirmed by Allies

The "New York Times" correspondent in invaded Italy, referring to the damage sustained by the town of Pisa as a result of Allied air attacks, states that the leaning tower was hit by two bombs, while the famous cemetery has been totally destroyed.

(Fascist Radio - 0700 - Jan. 24)

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Lt Hanks

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

21 January

RADIO MONITORING Division, P.W.B., No. 196, 22 Jan.45.

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Proposed Restoration of Cassino

The effrontery reached by the so-called Bonomi ministers in the service of the British, has surpassed itself in the declaration made by the Minister of Public Works in the course of a meeting with the representatives of the town of Cassino. Ruini declared that the upper part of the town of Cassino would be enclosed in its present condition, and considered an historical monument, to show to what excess enemy barbarity could go. Minister Ruini has not taken into account that Italians have not forgotten that the upper part of the city of Cassino suffered the bombardment of thousands of tons of bombs dropped by Anglo-American airmen, after Anglo-Saxon politicians has declared that the life of one Allied soldier justified the destruction of any historic monument.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Jan. 21)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20 January

RADIO MONITORING Division, P.W.B., No. 195, 20 January 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST BROADCASTS

Enemy Terror Raids

In the terrorist air attack carried out by Anglo-American aircraft against the town of Padua on the 4th of January, a stick of bombs fell less than 30 metres away from the Scrovegni chapel, which is world famous for the Giotto frescoes it contains. The protective measures that had been taken proved effective. This is the second time that this masterpiece has been in danger of being destroyed.

On the 12th March, 1942, bombs fell a few metres away from another world famous masterpiece, the History of the Saints, by Fra' Jacopo Cristofoli.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Jan. 20)

3259

Copy to: 20123

Cap Marriott

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

18 January

RADIO MONITORING Division, P.W.B., No. 193, 18 January 1945

ITALIAN BROADCAST

3058

Accademy reopened at Siena

The Accademy of the "Fisiocratici" has reopened at Siena under the auspices of Allied authorities. Evidently the liberators are working hard for Italy's reconstruction.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Jan. 18)

Copy to: 20083
Lt Hartt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The Library at Cesena

A United Nations News correspondent reports that the Library at Cesena is being put into order again.

The books had been collected in hundreds of wooden cases and taken to safety in the cellars of a convent near the town. Many volumes were; however, destroyed or damaged when the convent became the target for Allied guns.

(Fascist Radio 1300 - Jan 16)

Copy to:

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Capt. C.-M.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Radio Monitoring Division - No. 191 - 16 January 1945

Air Raid Damage in Verona

Many monuments and works of art were destroyed or irretrievably damaged on January 4, following the latest terror raid on Verona. St. Bruone's Chapel, the Capitular Library (apart of which is of the ninth century). St. Sebastian's church, the historica Cipolla house and the palace of St. Sebastian were totally destroyed while the following buildings were seripusly damaged: the church of St. Apostles, the Roman cloister of the Cathedral, Bertani House, the palace of the "Accademia" hotel, the palace of the Bank of Italy and the Romanic house in St. Apostles' square. In addition, Palazzo Bertini, Gonfalonieri house and the "Scaligero" castle sustained damage. Minor damage was also caused to the church of Santa Maria della Scala. This list shows the exclusively terrorist nature of the raid, which resulted in many casualties, in addition to the destruction of monuments.

3050 Fascist Radio - 2000 - Jan 16)

Copy to:

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Capt Thermidt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

13th January, 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 35.

XX. Air Raid Damage

C.PR[illegible] up to 14th December 1944.

There has been no damage in the town except a small bomb on the school. Near the town, towards the sea and at .VENZ. (Carrara station) there has been much damage and many victims. At M.RIN. DI D.R[illegible]. there has been a good deal of bombing .. directed no doubt against the minefields.
(F.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S Y.)

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0060

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

"IL TEMPO"

11 Gennaio 1945

(Bombardamenti a Mantova)

+ + + + + + +

Un giovane mantovano ha dichiarato.....
I bombardamenti aerei hanno colpito la città vecchia:
sono crollati i portici della Basilica di Sant'Andrea ma
la Basilica è intatta.

20113
Lt. Gil

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N°. 187,- 11 January 1945

MORTARA RAIDED

PAVIA - Enemy fighter-bombers yesterday dropped bombs near Mortara and civilian dwelling-houses were machine-gunned. During the morning enemy aircraft dropped bombs on the neighborhood of Vigevano, hitting farm-houses.

(Fascist Radio - 2330 - Jan. 10)

Copy to:

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Lt Col

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 11 January 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

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Enemy Air Raids: The Fascist Radio reports over Milan and its neighborhood indiscriminate strafing and bombing raids, with resulting casualties. The towns of Pavia and Voghera also are said to have been subjected to machine-gunning and bombing. A raid on Udine is reported to have rendered many houses uninhabitable; there are 150 dead and the same number of wounded. Thousands of incendiaries were dropped.

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Lt. Col

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N°. 187 - 11 January 1945

AIR RAIDS ON MILAN

In Milan and the surrounding districts there has been indiscriminate bombing and strafing, resulting in many dead and wounded. In the Pavia and Voghera area too there have been machine-gun actions and dropping of bombs. The raid on Udine resulted in many dwelling houses being rendered uninhabitable. The dead number 150 and the wounded as many. Thousands of incendiary bombs were dropped on the town.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Jan 10)

Milan and several places in its province were yesterday raided again by the enemy. Dead and wounded among the civilians were caused by machine-gunning. In the province enemy bombs hit inhabited areas and especially. Abbiategrasso and Vetrano (?) d'Adda, causing casualties among the people.

(Fascist Radio - 2330 - Jan. 10)

Copy to:

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Capt Marmolt
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Lt. Colt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 11 January 1945

TAF HITS BRIDGES AT MILAN AND PARMA

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, January 10 - Mitchell bombers of the Tactical Air Force yesterday knocked out one bridge and damaged approaches of four others in the Milan and Parma areas, in their continuing attacks on enemy communication lines in the vital rear area of the Valley of the Po, it was announced here today.

The medium bombers also bombed an enemy troop concentration at Crestallano, 10 miles west of Bologna.

Thunderbolt fighter-bombers strafed enemy ammunition dumps 15 and 20 miles southwest of Parma, causing fires and explosions. Havoc light bombers, in a night attack, set huge fires along the Brenner Highway west of Lake Garda, where it is believed enemy fuel stores had been concentrated.

(PRO)

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Lt. Colt
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Capt C.-M

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ITALY
VERONA

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News Digest No. 1654 11th January 1945

K12. Italian Home Service (enemy controlled), 9.1.45 (20.00). Last Thursday (January 4th), soon after 12.00 several hundred Anglo-American aircraft, in successive waves, made a terror attack on Verona. Residential districts were attacked indiscriminately. Numerous priceless monuments of great historic and artistic value were hit, among them the churches of the Sacred Heart, San Bernardino, Santa Maria della Scala, and the Santi Apostoli, the Cathedral cloisters, the Biblioteca Capitolare, the Biblioteca Communale, San Sebastiano, the Castel Vecchio, and the Palazzo Canossa. The Portalupi and Bevilacqua Palaces were heavily damaged. The number of casualties so far is over 100.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - Nº. 186 - 10 January 1945

AIR-RAID OVER VERONA

In the early afternoon of Thursday, last, hundreds of Anglo-American bombers flew in successive waves over the town of Verona in a terror raid. Residential areas were indiscriminately bombed. Many monuments of priceless historic and artistic value were hit, including the churches of the Sacred Heart. St. Bernard, Santa Maria delle Sale, the Santissimi Apostoli, the Archbishopric and Civic libraries, San Sebastiano and Castelvecchio. The Portalupi and Bevilacqua palaces were also seriously damaged. Casualties are estimated, so far as can be ascertained, at over a hundred. Many instances of loyalty and devotion were recorded during the relief work, which went on while the bombardment was in progress.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Jan 9)

Copy to:

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Capt Harwolt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 9 January 1945

TAF AGAIN OVER GENOA

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, January 8 - Fighters and fighters-bombers of the Tactical Air Force, in virtually the only missions flown in the bad weather, yesterday continued their attacks on enemy shipping in the Genoa area, it was announced here today.

Copy to:

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Maj Gardiner

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 9 January 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

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Allies Bomb Hospital: Radio Litorale Adriatico reports that enemy fighter-bombers dropped bombs on the hospital area of Bologna on December 29, seriously damaging the archbishop's residence and a hospital wing, and causing casualties among patients.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 9 January 1945 -

LAZIO-UMBRIA RECONSTRUCTION PLANS

ROME, January 8 - Plans for more than 2,000 works projects for the reconstruction of the Lazio-Umbria region of central Italy have been drawn up since the liberation of Rome, it was reported here today. Most of these projects have already been approved and many are currently being carried out, the report added. The speeding up of the work planned will be achieved by the elimination of red tape and by granting authority to zone inspectors of the Civil Engineering Corps to proceed directly on instruction from the Ministry of Public Works.

Construction of temporary and permanent houses for homeless war refugees, building of bridges, and repairs to public and private buildings and highways will take precedence over other work.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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ITALY

ENCE

NEWS DIGEST No. 1651 8th January 1945

--Venice Area--

K13. Italian Home Service (enemy controlled), 7.1.45 (13.00). Enemy fighter bombers dropped bombs on Pellestrina, near Venice, and afterwards machine-gunned the streets of the town from a low level, killing a boy and injuring others. The facade of the cathedral and a few houses were damaged.

The "liberators" also dropped bombs on the wreck of the "Giudecca," whose shapeless mass recalls the Anglo-American raid of October 13th, when hundreds of workers were killed (see Digest 1585, 23.10, K19, and above, K1).

3017

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 6 January 1945

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

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Allied Air Raids: The Fascist Radio tells of air raid damage in Alessandria, Voghera, Cremona and Mantua, of civilian casualties and the destruction of dwelling houses.

Copy to: 20113 Lt. Colt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N°.182 - 5 January 1945

TARGETS HIT BY AIRCRAFT

VOGHERA

Enemy aircraft on Tuesday afternoon machine-gunned the outskirts of Voghera, where a house was set on fire. One dead and much damage are reported. Other aircraft bombed and strafed the town of Voghera, causing damage to dwelling houses. No causalties are reported.

MANTUA

The south-eastern district of Mantua was again raided on Tuesday morning by enemy aircraft, which dropped many bombs. American aircraft had previously destroyed a whole suburb and many dwelling-houses. The Bishop of Mantua voiced the unanimous indignation on the new brutality perpetrated by air bandits on Villa dei Vetri, which was owned by him and had been transformed into an orphanage, in the destruction of which eleven children and a sister were killed and many others wounded. In his last homily in St. Andrea's cathedral Bishop stated: "In pronouncing our condemnation of the sacrifice of innocent victims, we pray that such sacrifices will be acceptable to God, whom we ask to give feelings of goodness, virtue, humble confidence in our Mother in Heaven, who will not fail to stretch out her hand to the people who strive to build anew from amidst the ruins".

(Fascist Radio - 2330 - Jan. 4)

Copy to: 20113
Lt Col

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N°. 182 - 5 January 1945 -

ENEMY AIR-RAID OVER VERONA

Anglo-American planes again heavily bombed Verona? Wave after wave, they flew over the town, dropping bombs which caused damage to private dwellings. A hospital in the suburbs of the town, a convenent of nuns in the neighboring hills were also hit. Casualties so far ascertained have been three killed and about ten wounded.

(Fascist Radio 1 2300 - Jan 5)

2243

Capt Barrett

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

News Service BASIC NEWS - 5 January 1945

NORTH ITALY RAIL TARGETS HIT

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - January 4 -

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Fortress attacked two rail yards at Verona, at the junction of the Brenner line and the Po Valley rail network, while Liberators hit rail points at Trehto, Bronzolo and Bolzano, further north. Lightning fighters bombed a bridge at Cismon along a feeder line from Trento to Venice.

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Copy to:

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Capt Marriott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MoNITORING - Nº.182 - 5 January 1945 -

UDINE BOMBED BY ENEMY PLANES

On December 28 and 29, Udine was subjected a violent enemy air-raid. Enemy planes bombed residential districts of the town. They also dropped many incendiary bombs. In the course of the Air-raids many workers' houses, institutes and churches were hit. Eight nuns and eighteen children still lie buried beneath the wreckage of the Micesio institute.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Jan. 45)

Copy to:

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Capt Hamlett

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N°. 182 - 5 January 1945 -

TURIN RAIDED BY ALLIED PLANES

Enemy planes flew over Turin, dropping small calibre bombs. Certain districts in the outskirts of Turin were machine-gunned. Machine-gunned was carried out also in the Collegno and Rivoli zones.

(Fascist Radio - 0800Ø - Jan. 5)

Copy to:

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Capt Emblem

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Jan 4

AFHQ, PWD, R.H. REPORT No. 182, 5 January 1945

TARGETS HIT BY AIRCRAFT

MANTUA - The south-eastern district of Mantua was again raided on Tuesday morning by enemy aircraft, which dropped many bombs. American aircraft had previously destroyed a whole suburb and many dwelling-houses. The Bishop of Mantua voiced the unanimous indignation on the new brutality perpetrated by air bandits on Villa dei Vetri, which was owned by him and had been transformed into an orphanage, in the destruction of which eleven children and a sister were killed and many others wounded. In his last homily in St. Andrea's cathedral the Bishop stated: "In pronouncing our condemnation of the sacrifice of innocent victims, we pray that such sacrifices will be accepted to God, whom we ask to give feelings of goodness, virtue, humble confidence in our Mother in Heaven, who will not fail to stretch out her hand to the people who strive to build anew from amidst the ruins". (Fascist Radio - 2330 - Jan 4)

Copies to: 2013
Lt Col

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0078

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

January 2

AMG, P.W.B., R.M. REPORT No. 173 - 2 January

AFTER THE TRAGEDY - A FARCE

In America it is evidently believed that monuments and works of art are made with bricks. When some such building has been destroyed according to them, one has nothing to do but procure a few bricks, pile them up and proceed to rebuilt.

It has just been announced by the Vatican City through one of the enemy radios, that American Benedictines have decided to rebuilt Montecassino Abbey and that the necessary funds will be furnished by American church-goers.

The launching of the subscription has been under taken by the Benedictines themselves, with the assurance that the reconstruction of the Abbey will be carried out in such a manner as to produce as faithful a copy of the original as possible.

We do not believe this is so. In reality it would be a pity. If the Americans put their hands to the task they ought to leave some mark or other of their own on it or some sign in token of their extraordinary fervor. Would it not be better for the edifice to be built in the shape of a sky scrape? It would thus have the advantage of making better use of the space available and of reaching higher towards the celestial heights. It could be equipped with fast-moving elevators and various mechanical devices. There will certainly be an apartment in which relics of the famous air attacks will be preserved, in order that they be handed down to posterity as an unquestionable proof of the law: to destroy and to renew. This would ensure that all the faithful who in future visit the Abbey will pray for the heroic Anglo-American airmen who were responsible for the grand gesture of reducing to dust the centuries-old sanctuary, so that they could rebuild it.

At the time when the destruction was wrought, it was stated by the Americans that it was unavoidable, as some terrible German weapons were housed in the Abbey, weapons which prevented the advance of General Clark's forces. Strategical motives were therefore brought into play. In point of fact it should be remembered that the Abbey was raided during the first days of February, that the Anglo-American advance only took place at the end of May and that its success was due to very different reasons.

This tale of strategical reasons was a joke in bad taste, and the Americans themselves no longer believe it. It has been now definitely established that the Abbey was reduced to dust because it would please the gentlemen across the Atlantic and because it was necessary above all to carry out in actual practice the plan which contemplates the annihilation of European civilisation. So far as Montecassino is concerned, this aim was fully achieved.

The reconstruction of the Abbey which is now planned by American church-goers is nothing and can be regarded as nothing but a distasteful farce. One cannot rebuilt at a stroke what took centuries to built; one cannot reconsecrate with a little lime and concrete what represents the efforts of a thousand years. American hands cannot rebuilt for Italy and for Europe what was essentially Italian and European.

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Works of art, once destroyed, are lost. There is nothing one can do about it. It is necessary to create others. But this will not be done by American genius, given that such a genius does exist. The desire expressed by the Americans to rebuilt the Abbey at Montecassino is an open confession that what should have been saved at any price has been destroyed. But their crocodile's tears amuse us. Let the Americans continue their destruction. This is what they know how to do and must do. They should not talk either of subscriptions of reconstruction. Dollars will not serve to bring our civilisation back to life again. The Abbey at Montecassino can be rebuilt only by Italians, through our sacrifices, with our faith. And we shall rebuilt it; we consider this work of reconstruction a reparation due to our spirit and to the spirit of the world; it will point to the everlasting shame and the barbarous ferocity of those from across the Atlantic. (Fascist Radio - 1300 - Jan 2).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

January 1

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 2 January 1945

BOMBERS STRIKE MILAN RAIL YARDS

ADVANCE, AFHQ, ITALY, January 1 - Havoc bombers struck the Milan rail yards in a daring, low-level night attack which marked the first Allied air blow against the enemy from the Mediterranean in 1945, it was announced here tonight.

(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

January 1

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 2 January 1945

TAF HITS ENEMY SUPPLY LINES

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - January 1 - TAF yesterday finished the year by a round-the-clock bombardment of enemy supply lines in northern Italy, it was announced here today.

Mitchell bombers struck with good results at the Rovereto, Mantua North, Piazzolo and Galliano rail bridges and the Padua North rail diversion route all along into southern Germany. Mitchell bombers scored a direct hit in the center of the 700-foot rail bridge at Canale D'Isonzo, 75 miles northeast of Venice.

In night attacks, Tutcical aircraft struck the gas works at Piacenza, and dispersal areas at the Villafranca, Ghedi and Vicenza airfields, as well as carrying out bombardment of rail yards at Sacile, Casarsa and Pordone.

(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - N.176 - 29 December 1944

BOMBS ON TURIN AND MILAN

Enemy aircraft flew over Turin early yesterday morning. A bomb was dropped in the centre of the city, killing one young man and wounding two people. Dwelling houses were damaged. Enemy aircraft repeatedly machine-gunned the outskirts of Milan. Dead and wounded are reported.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Dec. 28)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service, PASIC NEWS, 29 December 1944

PALAZZO VENEZIA EXHIBITION TO REMAIN OPEN

ROME, December 28 - In response to many requests, the Exhibition of Masterpieces of European Painting in the Palazzo Venezia, which opened last August and has several times been extended, will remain open for several weeks in January, the Monuments and Fine Arts Division, Lazio Region, Allied Commission, announced today. The most recent scheduled closing date had been December 31. Nearly 65,000 persons, including thousands of Allied soldiers, have attended the showing thus far.

On New Year's Day, the exhibition will be open from 0900 hours to 1300 hours. (PWB - AC - PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AMG, PWB, R.I. REPORT No. 175, 28 December 1944

TREVISO RAIDED AGAIN

Anglo-American aircraft have again raided the town of Treviso, dropping bombs and incendiaries. Damage to dwelling houses and casualties are reported. A passenger train travelling towards Asiago a few days ago was repeatedly machine-gunned by enemy aircraft near Campiello. Five passengers were killed and nine wounded. (Fascist Radio - 23 0 - Dec 27)

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Cap Marriott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UP News Service, BASIC NEWS, 27 December 1944

MILAN POWDER PLANT DESTROYED

WASHINGTON, December 26 - Northern Italy's biggest powder factory was destroyed during an Allied air attack on military targets in Milan yesterday, it was reported in a dispatch from Chiasso to the Swiss newspaper Gazette de Lausanne.

The bombardment of Milan shook houses in Swiss territory, where the roar of planes could be heard, the correspondent reported. Flames rose 1,000 feet over the Lombard Plain after two particularly violent explosions, he said.

(OWI)
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 173, 26 December 1944

COLORED PHOTOS OF WORKS OF ART

By order of the Fuhrer, 100 photographs in quintuplicate have been taken of the historical paintings on walls and ceilings, in almost two thousand buildings of greater Germany during this year. Thus one million colored photos of these pictures, drawings and frescos are preserved in color for posterity, in case of destruction by enemy terror bombs. (German Home Service - 1230 - Dec. 26)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 27 December 1944

MediterraneanADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, December 26

Medium bombers carried out a successfull attack yesterday on the Treviso railyards in northeast Italy.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ; PWB, R.M. MONITORING - n.172 - 25 December 1944

RIMINI DESTROYED BY ALLIED AIRCRAFT

The mayor of Rimini, commenting on a news broadcast by the London radio about German destruction in the town, has stated that, in the name of Rimini's dead, it can be asserted, with no fear of denial, that Rimini has been completely,savagely and uselessly destroyed by Anglo-American aircraft raiding the town.

Between November 1, 1943 and September 2, 1944 Rimini suffered 148 raids, at least forty of which were made by massive four-engined bombed formations. Today Rimini is the one Italian town which has been totally destroyed in the true sense of the word. The Anglo-Americans complained that nobody was there to welcome them in this city of the dead; they were wrong; many Rimini people were there - all these killed in more than one hundred raids, who did not rest in peace even in the grave as the brutal fury of the enemy reached them even there.

(Fascist Radio - 2300)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. MONITORING - n.172 - 25 December 1944

EXPERTS VISIT MONTECASSINO

A commission of architects and experts has visited the ruins of the abbey of Montecassino. The commission had the opportunity of judging the savage fury of Anglo-American aircraft in destroying the historic building.

(Fascist Radio - 2300)

Copy to: 200 44/1/13

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 24 December 1944

Faenza

Porcelain Factory Razed

+ + + + + +

It is believed that the museum, which contained virtually priceless ceramic antiques, has been damaged beyond repair. Before the fighting started in the area, the exhibits were moved out of the town to a place considered safe, but the refuge.

Allied military took steps immediately to guard the demolished temporary shelter for the ceramics and a search of the wreckage has begun to uncover articles which may have escaped destruction.

+ + + + + +

Deputy Mayor Ferruci compiled the following list of some of the better-known monuments which have been demolished or badly damaged by the Germans:

The belltowers of the Servi and San Augustino Churches, blown up by mines - the ruins cover both churches; Torre dell'Orologio, completely destroyed; San Ippolito, the town's oldest church, of the Renaissance oeriod, badly, damaged; Communale Biblioteca, burned to the ground and many old books and manuscripts lost, and an outstanding collection of paintings at Villa Acquaviva, partly destroyed. Those paintings which were not damaged were stolen by the Germans.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

IMMORTAL RAVENNA

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The martyrdom of the ancient capital of the Roman Empire of the west, of the Byzantine metropolis, of the Gothic capital, of the Exarchate, can be followed step in the ruins of her monuments. The magic Basilica of Saint John, built by Galla Placidia in fulfilment of a vow, the harmonious apse, the belfry, most beautiful among the many which were the pride of Ravenna, are now reduced to ruins. The Basilica of Saint Francis, solemn and mystical building of the fifth century, where Dante prayed, with its sarcophagi lined in the quiet naves, is irreparably damaged. Near there, in the small temple which contains the mortal remains of the Divine Poet, where the reverent piety of the whole world paid tribute to Italian genius, the bell tolls no more to ask the Virgin for peace for suffering men at the end of the day.

+ + + + + + +

The Mausoleum of Galla Placidia languishes in the wounds inflicted to its mosaics. The Ursia Basilica, oldest Byzantine church of Ravenna, unique architectural document in the world, and the "Battistero degli Ariani", close by are reduced to impressive skeletons of walls.

And the tragic story continues the Basilica of Santa Maria in Porto and the Loggia dei Portuensi offer the desolate spectacle of a shapeless mass of ruins. Perhaps their wrong was to have been too beautiful! Santa Maria in Porto Fuori built in the fifth century, and its wonderful grandiose bell-tower of the thirteenth century, were totally destroyed by bombs. Giotto's frescoes, jewels of the Rimini school, are now reduced to dust and rubble. And what of the admirable church of San Vitale, built by Giuliano Argentario, which represents the purest glory of architectural Byzantine art in the whole world? What of the Academy of Fine Arts, custodian of the slumber of Bigiarello Bigiarelli? What of the ivory pulpit? What of the well known Costense Library and its precious collections of Dante's works, of its codes of Aristophanes, of the "Isolario", of the musical codes, of the collection of Provençal songs?

(Fascist Radio - 2100)

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Cap. C-M

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

PWB, R.M. REPORT 12 December 1944

London Radio..... admitted that the universities of Pisa and Siena have not been reopened this year. This admission conflicts with the charges previously made against the German troops by the Anglo-Saxon press and radio.
(Fascist Radio-2000)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

WORKS OF ART PRESERVED

The Director General of Fine Arts, Carlo Anti, in the past few days has inspected the collections of works of art which German authorities had moved from some areas in the vicinity of Florence which are now involved in war operations.

Professor Anti checked the paintings one by one, paying special attention to those of larger proportions which had been transported uncrated and only lightly covered with shavings, as they might have suffered damage. Despite all this almost all the paintings are in perfect condition. Only a few suffered unavoidable damage:three or four altogether (out of more than three hundred) bearing the signs of their hasty removal. Professor Anti also investigated the safety of the buildings in which the treasures are preserved and certified that both buildings and rooms are fit for their present purpose in every respect.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Dec. 9)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

DAMAGE IN MANTUA

The precious frescoes of the Bridal Chamber in the Gonzaga Castle in Mantua, have been seriously damaged by Anglo-American air raids. Despite the precautions taken, the explosion of bombs in the vicinity of the Castle have caused large cracks in the Castle walls, with resulting damage to Mantegna's masterpiece.

In March, 1943, American bombers had completely destroyed the Eremitani Chapel in Padua; one wonders whether the flying bandits deliberately intend to destroy all the masterpieces of Mantegna.

(Fascist Radio - 1600)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SCALA RE-OPENS

The Scala is coming back to life once more. The Scala, the greatest operatic theatre in the world, the cradle of operatic art throughout the world, is rising once more from the destruction caused during the savage air raid carried out on the 16th of August 1943. Rubble is giving place to walls and arches, and the ceiling, that famous ceiling, will be reconstructed as it was before. This theatre will open again in the near future for the benefit of world opera.

(Fascist Radio - 1300)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 9 December 1944

RAVENNA TREASURES VIRTUALLY UNSCATHED

RAVENNA, December 8 - The Allied Commission announced today: "In general, all the really important buildings and monuments of Ravenna are, in their essentials intact".

The city was liberated Tuesday.

(PWB - AC)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M.REPORT No. 156, 6 December 1944

ALLIES DESTROY ITALIAN MONUMENTS

A special official publication by the Italian Cultural Administration issued on Tuesday, states that seven hundred and ninety-nine monuments of art, churches and palaces were destroyed by the Anglo-Americans in Italy up to June 4th. The extensive publication of one hundred and twenty-five pages enumerates all monuments of art from Sicily up to northern Italy which were damaged. The publication is based on official material and gives precise reports on the damage caused. The first edition of the book was immediately sold out as the Italian and foreign newspapers as well as the cultural institutes booked orders.
(Transocean - 0600)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, Basic News, 5 December 1944

ENEMY PROPAGANDA TRENDS

GERMAN

Jewish Art-Dealers in the Wake of American Army: The well-known 'Axis Sally' complained in a recent broadcast that Jewish military interpreters in American uniform, had made their appearance in villages in the Aachen area, forcing the inhabitants to sell them art treasures at ridiculously low prices. "This is regarded by the local population as a particularly characteristic feature of Allied occupation."

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 155 - 5 December 1944

JEWISH ART-DEALERS FOLLOW U.S. ARMY

In the wake of the American troops, Jewish military interpreters in U. S. uniform have turned up in the American occupied villages near Aix-la-Chapelle; they go from house to house forcing the inhabitants to sell national art treasures, preferably old...and clocks, and this at ridiculous prices. As is the case in Italy, the appearance of these Jewish art dealers in U.S. uniforms regarded by the local population as a particularly provocative feature of the Allied occupation. (Aix Sally in English - 2000)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. Report No. 155, 5 December 1944

TROGLODYTES OF BOLOGNA
(By EP Correspondent Alessander Boltho von Hohembach)

BOLOGNA - Bologna, the large Italian city nearest to the front, goes more and more underground. The population have made their homes in deep underground shelters. The half of the inhabitants, who left the city two months ago, has long since been replaced by refugees pouring into the town from the front area. But since the front has become stabilized tens of thousands of evacuees are returning to their homes. In consequence the Town Prefect has had to forbid re-emigration as from December 10th, so as to avoid dangerous overcrowding. (Transocean in German)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 154 - 4 December 1944

LIFE IN CESENA

You would not recognise Cesena. Allied bombers and artillery have devastated the city. Even the fifteenth century Cathedral, at the end of Via Mazzini, and the lovely library of Piazza Bufalini have been irreparably damaged.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 154, 4 December 1944

ALLIED TERROR RAID OVER CREMA

Yesterday afternoon, British fighter bombers raided Crema. Damage was caused in the centre of the town and to the suburbs. The San Luigi Institute and neighboring houses received direct hits. Many casualties are reported, especially among women and children. (Fascist Radio 0800 - Dec. 3)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 154, 4 December 1944

FATE OF ITALIAN WORKS OF ART

A few days ago, in a very definite statement, Minister Bigini gave the lie to what the enemy radio had announced concerning the fate of works of art in invaded Italy, and in particular those of Florence.

The statement, broadcast by us, points out that so far as the Germans and the authorities of the Italian Social Republic are concerned, everything had been done to save and protect artistic monuments. Thus the charge brought up by enemy radios, that these works of art had been either stolen or destroyed, is quite without foundation.

United Nations radios are today compelled to take note of this clarification. The unfounded charge against German and Republican authorities remains, however this proves, more than anything else, the systematic distortion of truth to which enemy propaganda has resort. (Fascist Radio - 2000 - Dec 3)

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

4th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12 APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 32.

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

UDINE The railway station has been badly damaged by Allied air raids and civilian travel is prohibited

BOLZANO The town of Bolzano has been practically destroyed; the station does not exist, nor the railway lines of BOLZANO-MERANO-MALLES VENOSTA, which are completely interrupted.
(P.W.B. Florence Report 5.9.44 Ferri, Mario).

BOLOGNA The E.I.A.R. Building in Piazza S. Martino has not been hit by the Allied bombardments.

VENICE. The record number of alerts in one day in VENICE is 14, the daily average being six. At the end of the causeway joining the city to the mainland there are bomb craters. The inhabitants oftern hear the crash of the coastal artillery in the Adriatic positions and usually several times daily the thunder of the German-Italian AA guns.... For six months now Venice has been without water supply, as bombs destroyed the water supply. Yet, in spite of the heat there were no epidemics. At every alert the light is switched off, and all wartime restrictions prevail.
(Transocean 5.11.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, Basic News, 4 December 1944

PARTISANS AID IN RECONSTRUCTING TOWN

WITH ALLIED ARMIES, ITALY, December 3. Partisans have taken a leading part in aiding the reconstruction work at Loiano, in Bologna Province, it was revealed by the Allied Military Government officer here today.

Cooperating with the Mayor, the local town committee, and the AMG, the Partisans are running the mill and the bakery. The leader acts as labor chief for the town committee.

The Partisans are working on the reconstruction of the hospital, which the Germans used as a resistance point, and they are also clearing debris from the streets. This is no small task, for the Germans mined and blew up practically every home along the main highway running through the town. (UNN)

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Capt C-M

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 153 - 3 Dicember 1944

NEWS FROM REPUBLICAN FASCIST ITALY

S.Ambrogio to be Restored

The Mayor of Milan has received the following letter from the Party's federal commissioner and a considerable donation in cash for the repaurs of St. Ambrogio's basilica, which has been seriously damaged by Anglo-American air raids:

"On the day of St. Ambrogio, patron Saint of Milan, this city so hard hit by the barbaric fury of the enemy we. Republican Fascist of Milan, have collected the enclosed sum of meney which we hand over to you as a contribution to the speedy repairs once more a place of beauty and veneration".

The present contribution of 14,313 lire will be followed by others.

Following this striking example of the Republican Fascists in Milan, the Mayor has raised a public subscription for the same purpose, which should have a religious patriotic and local significance. Meanwhile the municipal administration of the city has decided that one million Lire will be set aside for repairs to the ancient basilica.

(Fascist Radio - 2000)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 2 December 1944

MILAN AREA RAIL BRIDGES BOMBED

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, December 1 - Although recurrent bad weather again limited operations of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force to less than 500 sorties yesterday. Mitchell bombers of the Tactical Aur Force severely damaged important rail bridges in the Milan industrial area of north Italy, it was announced here today.

Only small forces were used in the successful attacks on the bridges, at Crema, 25 miles southeast of Milan, and at Romana di Lombardia , 25 miles to the east. Fighterbombers, active in the same area, destroyed or damaged 130 rail cars and 49 motor vehicles, as well as effecting 37 rail cuts in the important supply network of the German forces in north Italy.

Coastal Air Force planes scored hits on a large building on Sansego Island, 60 miles south of Fiume in the upper Adriatic, and also carried out strafing attacks on enemy communications along the Italian Riviera.

(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ,PWE, R.M. REPORT No. 151 - 1 December 1944
to
Repairs the Scala Theatre of Milan

While a group of technicians and workers are working steadily to restore the Scala Theatre in Milan, damaged by enemy bombings, the group of singers who have contributed to the theatre's fame, has decided to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the death of Giacomo Puccini, by presenting two operas of the great musician in the Lyric Theatre of Milan.

+ + + + (Fascist Radio 1500)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - [illegible]IC NEWS - 1 December 1944

ROME ART EXHIBIT EXTENDED

ROME, November 30 - The exhibition of masterpieces of European painting in the Palazzo Venezia will continue through December, the Allied Commission announced today.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un New Service, BASIC NEWS - 1 December 1944

ROME ART EXHIBIT EXTENDED

ROME, November 30 - The exhibition of masterpieces of European painting in the Palazzo Venezia will continue through December, the Allied Commission announced today. (UNI)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 150 - 30 November 1944

Restoration of Milan Cathedral

Milan: The architect of Milan Cathedral has stated that the complete restoration of damage caused to the cathedral by air attacks would take ten years. The cost of repairs would amount to twenty million lire. (Transocean 1521)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 150 - 30 November 1944

Abbot of Montecassino Returns to his Diocese

Notwithstanding his advanced age, Monsignor Gregorio Diamare, the Abbot of Montecassino, has insisted upon returning to his diocese. He has taken up his temporary residence not far from the ruins of the Abbey which was destroyed by the Anglo-Americans and he has started to visit again the various centres that come under his jurisdiction.

(Fascist Radio - 0800)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ; PWB, R.M. - REPORT - No. 149 - 29 November 1944

The Art Treasures of Florence

The London Radio has announced in Spanish (this time it was ashamed to do so in Italian) that various artistic treasures (we us its own words) covered up for four years and a half, have now been uncovered and returned to the galleries and museums of Florence.

This communiquè is first of all, clear proof that the Florentine works of art are still in Florence.

It would appear, therefore, that when the London Radio declared again that the Germans, on leaving the city, had helped themselves to the art treasures of Florence, it was lying. The lies of the London Radio do not surprise us. What does surprise us is that at times it inadvertently lets out some small scraps of truth as in this case, when it informs Spanish listeners that the art treasures of Florence are safe.

Naturally this truth is used as a blind for another untruth. Radio London wants to give the impression that the works of art had been concealed for unacknowledged reasons, that the military authorities had discovered them and returned them, to the joy of the Italians and of the world.

Let us get this straight. The art treasures of Florence were, in the first year of the war, placed for safety in villas, castles and farm-houses in Tuscany. Then when enemy air raids were directed more especially over the country-side, it was deemed wise to bring them back into the town and store them in the large cellars of the numerous Florentine palaces. The transfer was organized and supervised by the appropriate Italian authorities generously assisted in every way by the German command.

Therefore, the fact that so many masterpieces were saved is due to our German ally, without whose help their removal would not have been possible.

If these masterpieces had remained in the country they would have been for the most part destroyed, either on account of the Allied air bombings or in consequence of ground operations, which have been responsible for the destruction of vast areas in Tuscany. Finally, the London Radio communiquè includes in the list of art treasures saved the "Moses" of Michaelangelo, which happens to be in the church of S.Pietro in Vincoli in Rome, and not in Florence. In Florence, in the Museum of the Academy in Via Acquasola, only a plaster copy of the statue is exhibited.

(Fascist Radio - 0800 - Nov. 28)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 29 November 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

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Germans and Italians Protected Florentine art Treasures: An alleged BBC Spanish broadcast, in which it was admitted that the art treasures of Florence have been found and restored, is used as a pretext for a defence of the Fascist and German authorities who supposedly took great pains to protect the masterpieces from the ravages of war.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 28 November 1944

GREEK STATUE STOLEN BY GERMANS

ATHENS, November 27 - While evacuating Greece, the Nazis stole the famous Aurigs statue, made of bronze, from the Delphic Temple, the Exchange Telegraph reported today.
(OWI)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 26 November 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

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Allied Pillage in Rome: "A group of individuals has been arrested in St. Peter's Square, in the act of looting Vatican treasures. The looting took place amidst guitar music and songs.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 26 November 1944

PISA UNIVERSITY BEGINS 601ST YEAR

PISA, November 25 - The Italians themselves, with the aid of the Allies, must rebuild Italy, Professor Luigi Russo, Protector of the University of Pisa, told an audience of distinguished Allied officials and Italian educators today at ceremonies marking the opening of the university's 601st academic year.

The university, although badly battered and looted by the Germans, was reopened with the assistance of the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government.

The ceremonies were enlivened by the traditional student parade in green, blue, red and yellow medieval costumes of centuries ago. They waved brightly colored flags of the local communes, while other students dressed in plumed hats and student costumes sounded the drums.

Professor Russo, who was installed as Pro-Rector of the university by Brig. Gen. Edward Erskine Hume, senior Civil Affairs Officer of the 5th Army, told the audience that it was General Hume who had encouraged university officials to reopen classes, despite the battered condition of the building.

In his long address, Professor Russo stressed the international character of the University of Pisa during its 600 years of existence, adding that frequently as many as 20 languages would be spoken by students during one term. He recalled that recently Maj. Gen. Mascarenhas, commanding officer of the Brazilian troops on the 5th Army front, had found the records of his grandfather, who had been a student in 1822.

"Italy has suffered in this war, but her suffering was not in sinning," Professor Russo said. "Italy must rebuild and the Italians themselves will have to restore Italy with the tools supplied by the Allies. Give us the working tools - the laboratory equipment, the books, and the scientific instruments - and we will restore our university just as Italy will restore itself."

Professor Russo insisted that Italy's part in the war before the Armistice was the war of a party, not the war of the Italian people.

In appreciation of the encouragement and the material support he gave to the university. General Hume was awarded the badge of the Cherubine, an ancient order of the university to which all members of the faculty belong.

Among the guests were the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Gabriele Vettori, Archbishiop of Pisa, and Lieut. Col. T.W.J. Walters, of London, AMG Regional Commissioner in Pisa.

(UNN)

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Lt Hoath

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 25 November 1944

ROME, November 24 - The age-old Academy of San Luca, whose function under Fascism was absorbed by the now abolished Academy of Italy, is preparing to resume activity which continued for centuries before the advent of the Fascist, it was announced here today.

The gallery of the academy will shortly be opened to the public, and will have on view works formerly preserved there.

Both the Academy of San Luca, whose activity was purely artistic, and the Academy of the Lincei, which specialized in the sciences, were displaced by the Fascist-instituted Academy of Italy, which took over the activities of both ancient institutions.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, R.M. REPORT - No. 146 - 25 November 1944

Art Treasures Brought to Light

A number of Italian art treasures which had been hidden for the last four and a half years have, according to Radio London - been discovered and restored to the museums of Florence. Thus London itself has been obliged to deny the false reports accusing the Germans of having looted artistic treasures before they left the city of Florence.

(Fascist Radio - 0800)

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~~Lt Flood~~

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service BASIC NEWS - 23 November 1[illegible]4

NAZI THIEF MAY DIE OF RADIUM POISONING

PISA, November 22 - Somewhere in northern Italy is a Nazi SS soldier, who, if he hansn't already been killed by Allied artillery, bombs, or small-arms fire, will soon be dead of radium poisoning from the unprotected vial of pure radium which he looted from the University of Pisa's Institute if Physics and Chemistry.

Allied medical authorities said today that burns caused by the unprotected radium will cause a slow but certain death accompanied by excruciating pain.

University officials said that the SS troops, who were billeted in the institute's buildings, had orders to destroy what they could not carry away just before Allied troops liberated Pisa. The university officials destified that the SS men carried out their orders punctiliously, stealing books and instruments and the radium, and destroying some of the heavy laboratory installations.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 23 November 1944

GERMANS DESTROYED FLORENCE MSS

FLORENCE, November 22 - German troops destroyed, damaged, or looted about 100,000 books, letters, old manuscripts, and records from the archives of the University of Florences's library of letters, university officials said today after completing the two-month task of examining the items.

A heap of what appears to be rubbish, almost a foot high, lying on the floor of the university's Institute of Paleontology is evidence of the German destruction, which occured in a villa north of this city where the documents and books had been sent for safekeeping during the war. Stained from wine, dirt, sewage and rain, torn by the boots of German soldiers who used the valuable collection as a rug in the villa's cellar, what remains of the collection now looks like a load of junk.

Included in the destroyed archives were original collections of the first printed Chinese literature, and many original Oriental manuscripts. One item in the archives destroyed by the Germans was a set of original manuscripts by German scientists of a century ago. These items are irretrievably lost, since there are no other copies in existence anywhere in the world, not even in Germany.

(UNN)

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Lt. Hartt.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 22 November 1944

GERMANS DEMOLISH ABBEY BELL TOWER

BADIA A SETTIMO, November 21 - The Germans demolished the magnificent 13th-century Campanile of the Abbey here, which was one of the finest bell towers in Tuscany and a landmark of the Arno Plain.

Of no military value, the tower was blown up by German engineers as the Allies neared Florence late in July.

At the same time, the Germans also demolished the other great tower of the Abbey, the Colombaione, which served as a gateway, to the Abbey and on which, immediately above the gateway, was the great Gothic relief of Christ Adored by the Cistercians - one of the principal works of Gothic sculpture in Tuscany.

After leaving the Abbey, the Germans shelled it for days, adding to the ruins caused by the mines.

A report by Allied Military Government art experts stated that the beamed ceiling of the Abbey, covered with rich 14th-century painted decorations, was intact. Also intact was the 14th century choir loft with a Della Robbia frieze and small Ghirlandaio School frescoes.

German destruction also damaged the Chapel of San Quintino, which suffered the collapse of one wall and damage to part of the cupola frescoes by Giovanni da San Giovanni.

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The remaining frescoes by the same artist on other walls were pitted by German shells. (UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 21 November 1944

REBUBLICAN FASCIST

Allies Bomb Parma, Brescia, and Savona Province: It is stated tonight that Allied planes on Saturday made several bombing and strafing attacks on the outskirts of Parma, the town and province of Brescia, and the province of Savona. In Parma, many women and children were allegedly killed and others wounded; in Brescia, there were numerous wounded; in the rural areas of the province of Savona, three persons were reported to have been killed and five wounded.

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1 of 24

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th November 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12 APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 31.

CONTENTS

Air Raid Damage

PADUA. Padua had six bad air attacks, but the town has not suffered much. The station is completely destroyed, and so is the church Eremitani, where the frescoes of MANTEGNA were, but the Basilica of Sant'Antonio and the famous chapel of the SCROVEGNO, with its GIOTTO frescoes are intact.

In VICENZA the station has also been completely destroyed, but the town has not suffered at all.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No. 44 26.10.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 21 November 1944

A.M.G. REPAIRS PISTOIA COURTHOUSE

PISTOIA, November 20 - The Palazzo Pretorio, 14th Century Gothic couthouse, which was badly damaged by a German land mine last summer, has been temporarily repaired by the Allied Military Government and now is being used for court sessions, a United Nationas News correspondent said in a dispatch today.

The land mine had ripped through all the floors of the ancient building. AMG officials provided lumber, cement, and glass, which were used by local workmen in repairing the building. (UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 19 November 1944

RAVENNA ISOLATED

As this scraper pushes along the southern rim of the valley, Ravenna and its surrounding area, hemmed in now on three sides by natural and German-diverted watercourses, is more and more left isolated.

Patrols of the 8th Army have reported no contact with enemy forces which withdrew following the blowing of the retaining banks of the Montone and the Ronco Estuary, just south of Ravenna, although mines were left scattered throughout this area.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 20 November 1944

PISA AND SIENA UNIVERSITIES TO REOPEN

FLORENCE, November 19 - Two of the oldest universities in the world - the University of Pisa and the University of Siena - will re-open this week, it was announced today by officials of the Allied Military Government and Allied Commission, who took a large part in preparing both institutions for re-opening.

The University of Pisa, despite badly battered buildings, which Allied authorities have partially repaired, will re-open on Saturday, November 25. At that time the new rector of the University who will be chosen by members of the faculty, will be installed and classes will reopen to several hundred students. The Pro-Rector is Dr. Luigi Russo.

A communal and academic ceremony and colorful procession is planned for the re-opening of the University at Siena on Sunday, November 26. Famous as early as the 14th century, the university at Siena will open its classes in buildings untouched by the war.

The ceremony at the University of Siena, an institution mentioned in history as early as the 12th century, will be held amid wreckage which is now being cleaned up by workmen under the supervision of Allied education officers. The buildings were badly damaged during the fighting for the city, with much of the damage inflicted by the Germans. A German mine wrecked a tower and most of the library and scientific equipment was looted by the Germans.

The Germans also looted 23 cases of books from the specialist library, which was one of the finest in Europe, and medical equipment from the clinics and wards of the university's medical school. Some of this equipment has already been replaced by the Allied Commission's Public Health Sub-Commission from the hundreds of tons of medical supplies arrived from the United States during the last two months for the exclusive use of Italian civilians.

Other sections of the University suffered heavily the German looting and destruction.

In spite of these difficulties the faculty, under the direction of Pro-Rector Giovanni Cicogna, is planning to begin its school year on January 15.

The University of Pisa buildings were dated 1493 and were extended by Cosimo I in 1543. Galileo was appointed professor of mathematics there in 1610. (UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 140 - 18 November 1944

German Photographic Exhibition at Asti

The German photographic exhibition entitled, "Beauties of Italy", has been opened to the public at Asti. It was arranged by the "Italy and Civilisation" group.

(Fascist Redio - 0800)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 140 - 18 Novemb 1944

Verona Area Bombed

A few American fighters and bombers dropped bombs yesterday in certain areas in the vicinity of Verona. Serious damage was caused to civilian homes and many people were killed. Other buildings which were hit include a hospital.

(Fascist Radio - 1400)

Copy to: 20123

Capt. Warrick

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No.140 - 18 November 1944

Fiume Bombed

The devastating fury of the enemy today again fell on Fiume. British and American aircraft in successive waves dropped bombs on the centre of the town, destroying many dwelling houses.

Casualties are reported.

(Fascist Radio 2000)

Copy to: 20123

Capt Marriott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 140 - 18 November 1944

Jews Active in Naples

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Jews living in Naples, who numbered only a few hundreds before the war, are now more than four thousand. The number of pawnbrokers has greatly increased and Jews are doing profitable business by buying for low prices invaluable works of art.

(Fascist Radio 2300)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ& PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 138 - 16 November 1944

NEWS FROM REPUBLICAN FASCIST ITALY

Pavolini Visits Ravenna

The Party Secretary has arrived at Ravenna from a town where he arrived on Monday night. At Ravenna he paid homage at the grave of Ettore Muti. A service was then held in the Church of Santa Francesca, now half destroyed by American bombs. The ceremony was attended by delegations of the Republican Fascist federations of Milan and Bologna, and of the independent legion "Muti". Local authorities and Black Shirts of the third Black Mobile Brigade and of the National Republican Guard were also present.

(Fascist Radio - 2000)

Copy to: 20093 C.
Capt. C-M

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 16 November 1944

LIBRARIAN PRAISES ALLIED AID FOR ARCHIVES

ROME, November 15 - The work of the Allied Commission in protecting Italian archives was praised today by Frederick W. Shipman, director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, New York, after a visit of inspection here.

Safety of archives in liberated Italy has been promoted by AC's Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Sub-Commission, to which have been appointed officers who had specialized experience in the National Archives at Washington or at the Public Records Office in London.

Hilary Jenkinson, secretary of the latter, on a recent visit to Italy, voiced similar praise of the Sub-Commission's efforts in guarding bot only precious historical manuscripts, but also current records - administrative, legal, and the like - of possible importance in restoration of normal transactions.

Shipman noted favorably that special attention had been given to listing repositories and to finding displaced documents.

Through Allied efforts, losses have been reduced, and as a by-product something approaching a complete survey of Italian archives is developing as a future aid to scholars and administrators, the Roosevelt librarian pointed out.

Italian Coöperation has been good, Shipman continued; but without the Sub-Commission, little effective care could be given in areas still under direct military government, or in place where severe disorganization of normal civilian life has occurred.

The greatest loss to records has been the deliberate burning by the Germans in September, 1943, of the most valuable part of the Naples archives, Shipman recalled.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 15 November 1944

ROME ART GALLERY TO REOPEN TODAY

ROME, November 14 - The reception hall and picture gallery of the Conservatori Palace, closed on account of the war, will reopen tomorrow.

The paintings have been placed in their former order, while several important works from the Museum will remain in other halls of the Palace until the former's reopening.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 136 - 14 November 1944

NEWS FROM "INVADED' ITALY

Italian Art Treasures Safe

The Minister of Education in Bonomi's Cabinet, De Ruggero, in a statement to Italian and foreign journalists, admitted that owing to the precautions taken by Fascist and German authorities, many Italian works of art had been preserved.

He had likewise to confess that the damage caused by Allied bombardments or Italian towns is very serious.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Nov. 12)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.L. REPORT No. 136 - 14 November 1944

NEWS FROM "INVADED" ITALY

Florence Bridge in Use by Allies

The U.N.N.S. reports that traffic, even of heavy vehicles, has been authorized across the Trinità Bridge in Florence.

It will be remembered that Anglo-American propaganda had announced that the bridge had been destroyed by the Germans.

(Fascist Radio - 2000 - Nov. 12)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, RADIO NEWS, 13 November 1944

ROME REACHOURS LIBRARY LOOTED

ROME, November 12 - The Germans looted the priceless library of the Rome Jewish community of more than 10,000 rare volumes, including irreplaceable first editions, and of countless thousands of manuscripts and other rare documents dating back to the Middle Ages, it was revealed today by Captain Jacob Hochman of Chelsea, Massachusetts, Jewish chaplain of the Rome Allied Area Command, in a radio broadcast to the United States.

Captain Hochman asked the people of America to begin gathering a library to replace the one stolen by the Germans during a systematic looting spree which began 13 October 1943.

The German looting had its usual paradox. Although the Jews are considered by the Nazis as inferior, the Nazis so highly valued the Jewish library that they assigned a German officer, who was a book and manuscript expert, to the task. He carefully supervised the looting and shipping, which was carried out by a special military squad. So valuable did the Nazis consider the library that they used the precious space of two freight cars to transport the loot to Germany.

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Captain Hochman said in his broadcast:

"In the course of centuries, lovers of learning had gathered an extraordinary fine collection of books and manuscripts, and scholars from the world over studied from them. One of the first acts of the Germans was to loot this collectio completely and with the books they carried off a number of students."

The chaplain reported that the community already had begun to restock the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

library, but thus far only a handful of books have been restored to the shelves.

Captain Hochman suggested that the people of America begin now to collect a library for the Rome Jewish community, to be shipped to Italy as soon as war conditions make it possible. (WRC)

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~~Sigafoos~~ Lt. Cott

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 131 - 8 November 44

(Transocean - 1610)

Americans Bomb Famous Landmark

Bergamo: The village of Bonate, birthplace of the girl who had a vision of the Madonna, and attracted thousands of pilgrims, has been bombed by American fliers, it was reported on Monday. Ten people were killed and eleven wounded at Ponte San Pietro., which is part of the village. The doors and windows of the house where the girl was born were shattered.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 131 - 8 November 1944

NEWS FROM REPUBLICAN FASCIST ITALY

Art Culture Week in Turin

The Action Group "Italy and Culture" has organized an Art Culture week in Turin in the premises of the group in Piazza San Carlo. There is also a book exhibit of selected volumes of Italian and German authors.

Ducumentary and war films will be shown during the week and there will be a performance of chamber music before the closing of the exhibition.

(Fascist Radio 0800)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 130 - 7 November 1944

Allied Planes Raid Milan

Milan: About noon Saturday some Anglo-American planes dropped bombs in the northern districts of the town and strafed pedestrians in busy squares. A large building of several floors collapsed, burying everyone who was inside; thus far twenty-dight dead and seventy injured have been taken from the debris.

(Transocean - 1700 - Nov. 5)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The Italian Front

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Fifth Army traffic and supply centres on the Bologna to Florence road bombed causing heavy damage.

(Fascist Radio - 2300 - Nov. 6)

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(Capt. C. M.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MISCELLANEOUS

Allied Planes Raid Milan -

Milan: About noon Saturday some Anglo-American planes dropped bombs in the northern districts of the town and strafed pedestrians in busy squares. A large building of several floors collapsed, burying everyone who was inside; thus far twenty-eight dead and seventy injured have been taken from the debris.

(Transocean - 1700 - Nov.5)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 131 - 8 November 1944

(D.N.B. - 12,00)

Irreplaceable Treasures Are Destroyed by Allies

Milan: Parma was the target of a heavy Anglo-American bombing raid on November 6. Numerous dwelling houses and many famous buildings and art treasures were destroyed....which is believed to be the oldest theatre in the world, and the library containing famous ancient...including a very old Koran and two famous manuscripts, one of the "Divina Commedia" and one of Martin Luther were obliterated. The Palace of Empress Maria Luisa with its famous frescoes by Correggio is now nothing but a heap of debris. In addition to these irreplaceable art treasures, several churches and historical buildings for which the town was famous have been...completely?

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Capt C M

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 7 November 1944

M.A.A.F. HEAVIES HIT BOLZANO POWER SUB-STATION

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, November 6 - Heavy bombers of the 15th USAAF today hit the important Bolzano power sub-station one of the principal feeder installations along the electrified Brenner Pass line connecting Germany and northern Italy.

+ + + + + +

Medium bombers hit a transformer station north of Verona, and another near Trento, in attacks against southern stretches of the strategic Brenner Pass route.

(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 7 November 1944

ROMAGNA TOWN RESUMES NORMAL LIFE

WITH 8TH ARMY, November 6 - Another little Romagna town on the Via Emilia between Cesena and Forli - Forlimpopoli - is emerging from the terror of German domination and in the final stages of warfare being fought in the vicinity, has begun its resumption of normal living.

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In Forlimpopoli, little damage was caused to the houses or buildings. A leading citizen told a UNN correspondent that 10 per cent of the town had been damaged, and of that damage, 50 per cent was reparable.

+ + + + + +

The famous Forlimpopoli castle, built by the Ordelaffi Family in 1372, is being used by countless refugees. The castle was not hit when the battle raged in and around the town, and the custodian was able to hide from the Germans most of the age-old Roman relics and paintings in the castle.

(UNN)

Copy to: 20093
Capt. Griff. Murray

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - RADIO NEWS - 6 November 1948

GERMAN

The Plight of Venice: Walter Seidlitz, Transocean correspondent, spoke in a dispatch about the difficult times the lagoon city is going through. Six air raid alarms a day are usual. Bombs have damaged and destroyed many famous buildings and the population of the town has been without water for the past six months, owing to the destruction of the waterworks. In spite of this, there are no epidemics in the city, the life of which is ruled by war-time restrictions. Seidlitz adds that Venice has lately become the social and cultural center of the Italian republic, after the loss of Rome and Florence.

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Cap Marriot

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 6 November 1944

BOMBERS SLASH AT BRENNER PASS RAIL LINE

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, November 5 - Medium bombers of the Tactical Air Force yesterday slashed at key and rail bridges in the Brennero Pass, Milan and Turin areas in their first flights after a prolonged "stand-down" due to unfavorable weather over northern Italian targets, it was announced here today.

The hard-hitting Mitchells and Marauders struck at embankments, bridges, a rail yard and a cliff-side stretch of the stretegic rail route along a 26-mile section between Verona and Trento as well as hammering at seven important road and rail bridges in the Milan and Turin ares.

Desert Air Forces fighter-bombers attacked railway lines in Yugoslavia, where desperate German forces are trying to effect their escape from the Balkan trap.

Approximately 30 enemy aircraft were encountered in northeast Italy and over the Brenner Pass area, and at least one was destroyed.

(PRO)

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20103 Piedmont
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Maj Eathoven

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 129 - 5 November 1944

ITALIAN BROADCASTS - MILITARY NEWS

Enemy Aircraft Over Milan This Morning -(Fascist Radio - 2000)

4 Nov. At noon today a few enemy aircraft flew over Milan bombing and strafing indiscriminately north of the city. In a quarter where traffic is particularly intense, dwelling houses were hit and several dead and many wounded are reported. First aid squads of the fire brigade, of the Red Cross and of the ARP organization were rished to the spot by authorities.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

NEWS FROM "INVADED" ITALY

Mgr. Diamare Returns to Cassino

Monsignor Diamare, Abbot of Montecassino, who was accompanied to Rome by the Germans after the destruction of the abbey of Montecassino, has returned to the ruins of the monastery. In giving the news the AFI news agency says that five monks remainded in a grotto of the monastery as they did not want to leave the body of Saint Benedict unguarded.

(Fascit Radio 2300)

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Lt Catt

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 3 November 1944

KESSELRING ORDERS SHOOTING OF LOOTERS

HQ, AAI, November 2 - Immediate execution of all German soldiers caught looting in Italy was contained in a captured German infantry battalion order signed by Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, commander of the German Armies in Italy.

Pillaging has become so prevalent it amounts to "a dangerous disease," the order said.

Kesselring's order follows:

"My order of 8 July, 1944, which provided for immediate execution, without trial, of all pillagers caught in the act, was the last means at my disposal to counter-act the ever-increasing disease of pillaging.

"I remind each commander that it is his duty to counteract pillanging with the utmost energy, and if necessary, to enforce obedience with the weapon in his hand.

"This order will be read to the troops each pay day".

(PRO)

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20900 (for comparison)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 126 - 2 November 1944

Ducati Commemorated

Journalist Morino has written a long article, published in the "Corriere della Sera", in commemoration of Prof. Pericle Ducati. Ducati was a brillant scientist and could not help adhering to the Fascist principles for which he had struggled. He could not help giving his life for those ideals of national greatness for which he had fought as a young man on the Carso and on the Piave and for which he has shed his blood.

(Fascist Radio - 1400)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 126 - 2 November 1944

FASCIST RADIO 2000

Appeal of De Ruggiero to Spare Ravenna

The United Nations news bulletin reports that the so-called Minister of Education of the Bonomi Government. De Ruggiero has addressed an appeal to all fighting forces urging them to spare from destruction the proceless artistic treasures of Ravenna. Professor De Ruggiero has not felt however the necessity to condemn the barbaric and indiscriminate Anglo-American bombing which resulted in the destruction of the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia in Ravenna. This is one of the many aspectes of is the hypocrisy and falsity of the Government of Invaded Italy. They first open wide the doors to the invaders and then they cry over the destruction caused by their own foolish policy.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 125 - 1 November 19..

NEWS FROM "INVADED" ITALY

Italian Masterpieces Stolen by the Allies

The liberators are enriching their museums with masterpieces stolen from invaded Italy, aided and abetted in this by the so-called Bonomi Government.

According to reports from various news agencies, it appears that the National Museum in Washington has received as a donati an important collection of Italian masterpieces consisting of 71 paintings and 21 sculptures, the gift of the Jew Scheps, president of an international Jewish co-operative firm. The various items belonging to this collection were bought in Italy by Anglo-American soldiers for practically nothing from Italian, with the authorisation of the so-called Bonomi Government.

(Fascit Radio - 1300).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPPORT - No. 125 - 1 November 1944

NEWS FROM REPUBLICAN FASCIST ITALY

Death of Professor Pericle Ducati

Professor Pericle Ducati, professor of history of art in Bologna, who was attacked and wounded in that city some time ago, recently died at Cortina d'Ampezzo where he had been taken. The funeral service was celebrated with great solemnity and the highest political and military authorities were present at the ceremony. Wreaths were sent by the Duce and by Secretary of the Party.

(Fascist Radio - 1400)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UNN SERVICE - [illegible].SIC NEWS - 1 November 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST

Fascist Art Critic Shot: Considerable space was given to the martyrdom of the noted Fascist professor and art critic, Pericle Ducati. Ducati, a specialist on Greek and Etruscan civilizations, was supposedly shot by assassins because of "his refusal to approve the betrayal of the House of Savoy".

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 126 - 2 November 1944

DNB in German to Europe - 1254 + Oct 31 - Monitored in London)

Coastal Craft Attacked off Spezia

German Naval batteries at the mouth of the Magra and near Spezia successfully attacked the band strongpoint near Carrara . Off the east coast of Italy a group of enemy light coastal craft was subjected to the fire of a naval battery. The enemy craft turned off to the south.

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LT Hartl

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 1 November 1944

CESENA LITTLE DAMAGED BY WAR

ROME, October 31 - Less than 20 per cent of the houses in Cesena, the first Po Valley industrial city to be liberated by the Allies, were rendered uninhabitable by air bombings and German demolition squads, according to a report reaching here today.

Most of those dwellings, the report added, can readily be put in condition. Fifteen thousand of the city's normal population of 40.000 already have returned to their homes.

The town's two most important industries, a large canning factory and a sugar refinery, were saved from German demolitionists and should soon be back in operation.

All but two of the city's flour mills were totally destroyed, but flour and pasta stocks on hand are said to be sufficient to meet the city's needs for about four months.

(UNN)

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Capt. C-M

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AEHQ,PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 126 - 2 November 1944

DNB in German to Germany - 2158 - October 31 -

(Monitored in London)

Berlin: Business deals made by Jewish bargain hunters in occupied Italy with looted art treasures has brought such high profits that the United States National Gallery now also gets its percentage from this stolen goods. It was announced in Washington that seventy-one Italian paintings were presented to the United States National Gallery by a Jewish art dealer. There was something suspicious about that.

There was a famous gift of United States Secretary of Finance Mellon, who under Presidents Coolidge and Hoover cheated the American taxpayer out of billions of dollars on behalf of nine million dollars in one day. Then this philanthropist presented the nation with a series of paintings worth, as stressed by the United States press, a million dollars. They were paintings with names hard to pronounce for American tongues, such as Titian, Correggio and Caracci. He was afterwards adequately praised in the United States press in articles for which 500 dollars were paid.

This time profiteering business seems to have been at least as profitable and in a short time, conducted by Roosevelt's charming wife. Daughters of the American Revolution, accompanied by a few women of the race of Josephine Baker and ladies of Jewish faith with a great name for culture will derive pleasure from the spoils gained by United States and will perish in misery and disease while more consignments of stolen art treasures are on their way to the United States.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NEWS - 31 October 1944

ITALIAN ART PRESENTED TO U. S. GALLERY

WASHINGTON, October 30 - The gift of a large collection of rare Italian art to the National Gallery of Art here was announced today.

The gift consisted of 71 paintings and 21 pieces of sculpture from the Samuel H. Kress foundation of New York. The gift will,make the gallery collection of Italian art one of the most comprehensive in the world. (OWI)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 115 - 20 October 1944

TRASOCEAN in English - October 19

Damage in Verona - 0955

Verona: (By Walter Seidlitz): The old town walls of Verona withstood the latest heavy air attacks better then modern Italian concrete pillboxes. Some direct hits from the heaviest bombs went down on these walls, which are about eight hundred years old. A two metres thick layer of sand covering the walls was merely pitted. On the other hand, Verona has suffered heavy losses in historic objects. For the first time, bombs also fell during the latest attacks within the town walls, whereas in the course of former attacks the suburbs of the town had been badly damaged. The church of Santa Toscana was badly damaged, also the section around the old market place. However, in spite of heavy attacks, life continues as before in this rich town.

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Capt. Marriot

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT -

UN News Service, BASIC NEWS - 20 October 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 19 -

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Bad weather yesterday considerably curtailed operations, but fighter-bombers attacked rail yards at Vinkovci, Yugoslavia and gave close support to the land forces in attacks on bridges near Bologna and on the rail yards at Modena.

Medium bombers hit Padua rail bridge.

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Cap C.-M
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Cap. Harnick

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 112 - 17 October 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 0800 - October 16

Treviso Bombed Again

Treviso has again been bombed by "Liberator" aircraft. Numerous high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped on the residential quarter of the town. As a result of the attack, many houses collapsed and many people were killed or wounded among the civil population. Rescue work was carried out promptly and efficiently.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 17 October 1944

M.A.A.F. MEDIUMS ATTACK BRIDGES IN N. ITALY

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 16 -

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Marauder bombers struck at a railway fill and bridges along the Verona-Trento line linking up with the Brenner Pass route into Germany, and branch lines from Verona to Brescia and Vicenza, with excellent results.

Mitchell bombers, operating farther west in the Po Valley, reported clouds over the eight road and rail bridges which were their targets in the Milan area.

Fighter-bombers took heavy toll of enemy defending forces in attacks in close support of the 5th and 8th Armies. Heaviest attacks were concentrated on German defenses east of Cesena, on the Rimini-Bologna Road, where several German outposts in outlying villages were destroyed, and the last remaining bridge over th Savio River in the German rear was destroyed.

In night attacks early this morning RAF bombers struck at rail yards near Opicina, near Trieste, and a bridge near San Benedetto in Italy. (PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

AFHQ? PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 112 - 17 October 1944

GERMAN RADIO OSLO - In German - 9.3 - 18,00 - October 16

Treasures of Bruges Cathedral Are Safeguarded

Berlin: The British newspaper "Daily Telegraph" has published a report about the so-called "looting of the Bruges Cathedral's art treasures by German soldiers". German military circles make the following statement, reagarding this incident:

"During the night from September 8 to September 9, a German shock troop, consisting of 45 volunteers led by an art expert, crossed the Schekdt river, passing by enemy armored units, and reached the town of Bruges.

In Bruges, the art treasures of the Liebfrauen Church, known throughout the world, were placed under the protection of the German Wehrmacht and brought into safety. The most prominent works of art thus recovered are: the sculpture group "Madonna and Child" by Michelangiolo, and paintings by Van Dyck, Caravaggio, Osenbrandt and by other masters.

The Bishop of Bruges has been informed, by the German Governor, by the following letter: "As experiences made in Italy and France have shown, the Anglo-Americans are depriving the occidental cultural circle of the most venerable and beautiful creations of European genius, to transfer them, as museum pieces or part of private collections, into surroundings lacking the intimato contact with soil and European spirit. To prevent this desecration of art by Anglo-American business methods, and to safeguard the European art treasures for the Catholic Church, the German Wehrmacht has taken the necessary steps". 2959

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 112 - 17 October 1944

TRANSOCEAN in English October 16

Italian Art Treasures Not in Germany - 0930

Milan: The art treasures of the Florentine collection which have been carried away by the Germans as claimed by the British in newspaper reports are in reality safe in Italian hands and under good guard. This has been announced by the Italian Minister of Education, Carlo Alberto Biggini, in a statement to the press. He gave detailed indocations about where the art treasures had been and were being kept. He said: "The Italian curators of the museum in Rome, Florence, and central Italy as well as the representatives of the Vatican are qualified to meet the British and testify how conscientiously the transportation and the care of the masterpieces has been conducted by Italian and German quarters. As world famous references, the Minister named the German art historians, Professor Bruhns, Evers, Heidenreich, Siebenhuner and others.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 112 - 17 October 1944

N.P.D. In German TO Europe - 1436 - Oct 14

Wilhelmstrasse Press Conference

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Stumm sharply criticized the enemy reports of deliberate damage caused to Basilica of Loreto By German aircraft. He described this version of enemy propaganda as an infamous calumny designed for no other purpose than to find an alibi for the express order given to destroy Montecassino.

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Capt. Maxse

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 15 October 1944

MFA.A.F. HITS NORTH ITALY, AUSTRIA, HUNGARY

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 14 -
While medium bombers and fighters of the Tactical Air Force continued their assault on German positions around Bologna.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, R.M. REPORT - No. 111 - 15 October 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491 - 2000 -Oct 14.

A report on the Preservation on of Artistic Treasures:

(The following item, very incomplete, is apparently a report by the Ministry of Public Education, Biggini, on the work done by Italians and Germans for the preservation of Italian artistic masterpieces. Monitor's Note).

....works of art were preserved in safe places such as galleries, museums, etc. and many of them, including private collections, were transferred to villas and castles. Later they were distributed in well selected dispersal areas, following the development of war operations and taken to a few places which seemed and still seem to offer adequate guarantee against the increased danger to which our artistic treasures are exposed. Everybody can confirm...from the enemy to the personnel of our Office for Antiquities and Fine Arts on the steps taken...German authorities gave us their unceasing and effective help in this arduous and sad task. They offered us the collaboration of their experts, and above all their motor vehicles...succeeded in removing the works of art from shelters at the very last moment, when they were already under artillery fire. All personnel participated in this work, neglecting all consideration of physical risk. The shelters emptied were those in the mountains near Monte Spertoli, near Bibbiena, at Poggio a Cajano and...The zeal with which the Germans have carried out all this can be confirmed by officials in the offices of Rome and Florence for the preservation of antiques as well as similar offices in central Italy. The Vatican representatives expressed their warmest thanks to the Germans for this work. It has always been stated on the other side of the front line...for the safety of Italian artistic treasures as they belong to all mankind. We wish to believe that the same duty is felt on the other side. These feelings were expressed by Dr. Alexander Lankendorff in a letter addresses on June 18 to Professore Giovanni Poggi of the Florence Gallery.....

The enemy should think instead of the destruction of Montecassino, of the Malatesta Temple at Rimini, of Mantegna's frescoes at Padua, of the Church delle Grazie at Milan, of the Genoese palaces, invaluable masterpieces of Italian art, all irretrievably lost as a result of the enemy's bestial and fruitless system of air bombing. The enemy should concern himself with Ravenna whise wonderful teeasures, during these days, are threatened with destructions....

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Lt Walt

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MF&A

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 14 October 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY , October 13 -

Mediterranean Allied Air Force:

Very strong forces of 15th AAF heavy bombers yesterday, in direct support of 5th Army operations, attacked troop concentrations, ammunition dumps, and factories, and supply centers in the Bologna area. The heavy-bomber attack was supplemented by a coördinated medium-bomber offensive against objectives in the same area.

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UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 14 October 1944

1,200 TONS ON GERMANS IN BOLOGNA

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 13 - More than 1,200 tons of bombs were dropped on German barracks, bivouacs, ammunition factories and supply depots in the 15th AAF's record-breaking assault on enemy positions surrounding Bologna yesterday, it was announced here this afternoon.

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Last night, RAF heavy and medium bombers attacked the Bronzolo railyards on the Brenner route with good results. All planes returned to their bases.

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(PRO)

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20381/MFAA

PWB, REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY
No. 24 - 13 Sept 1944 -

Air Raid Damage.

IMOLA (Bologna). The outskirts of the town ano targets such as bridges and stations have been constantly bombed throughout May, June, and July.
(Civil Censorship Intercept 22.7.44)

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 October 1944

RECORD M.A.A.F. ASSAULT HITS BOLOGNA

ADVANCE, AFHQ, ITALY, October 12 - The heaviest force of bombers ever sent out by the 15th AAF over one target bombarded German communications and other targets on the outskirts of Bologna this morning in a devastating raid, it was announced here tonight.

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Un News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 October 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - October 12

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RAF medium and heavy bombers took off after dark for a concentrated attack against the rail yards at Verona, in northern Italy, in a raid which followed a successful daylight bombing of Trieste harbor and the rail bridge at Casara. In the Bologna area, Marauder bombers went for bridges and an ammunition dump, while other medium and light bombers supported Allied troops pressing on the key city with attacks on communications and gun positions in the battle area.

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Cap C.-M Capt Marriot

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Un News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 October 1944

MEDITERRANEAN

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 12 -
Last night, medium and heavy bombers attacked the rail yards at Verona.

20123
Capt. Marriot

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 October 1944

ITALIAN RESISTANCE FRONT

ADVANCE HQ, AAI, October 12 -

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Patriots of the Domodossola sector now have at their disposal several airplanes, with which they bombed Fascists positions at Luino and at Laveno on Lake Maggiore. Two transports of Fascist troops were sunk following Patriot air raids.

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UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 12 October 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY October 11 -

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Last night, our bombers attacked the rail yard at Verona, in northern Italy.

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Capt. Marriot

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20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 12 October 1944

M.A.A.F. HITS RAILYARDS AND BRIDGES

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, October 11 - Flying Fortrasses and Liberators of the 15th USAAF, in the air for the first in three days, yesterday bombed railyards and bridges north of Venice, on the main German communication lines from northeastern Italy into the Balkans, it was announced here today.

In night attacks directed against the supply lines of the German divisions battling to hold the Allied armies at the southern edge of the Po Plain, RAF medium and heavy bombers struck at the Verona railyards, where large concentrations of military stores were piling up for the front.

The railyards attacked in northeastern Italy were those at Mestre, five miles northeast of Venice, and Treviso, 15 miles northwest of this important Adriatic port. The two bridges which were bombed were located at Susegana, 25 miles north of Venice, and at San Donà del Piave 15 miles northeast.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 105 - 8 October 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 491M. 1300 & Oct.7

Art Treasures and Their Fate

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Regarding Italian masterpieces, the American superintendent of Fine ~~Arts~~ Arts stated a few days ago that many art treasures in the peninsula have been destroyed or damaged, but that despite this the situation regarding art treasures in Italy is not as bad as might have been expected considering that war has swept over the land.

It will be recalled that a few days ago, an American agency, reported that Anglo-American and negro soldiers has found pictures by Giotto, Raphael, Botticelli and Lippi, in the neighborhood of Florence, and that they used them as beds and couches. Thus priceless works of art were destroyed.

This news made a great impression throughout the world and among the cultured classes in American and in Great Britain. So much so, that last night, Radio London found it necessary to attempt to explain away such a monstrous example of vandalism and tried to blame the Germans for the destruction. According to London Radio, the Germans before taking flight from Florence supposedly took away many artistic treasures which were to have been sent to Germany. Such accusations are utterly false, for, as everyone knows, the Germans, jointly with Fascist authorities, have made every effort to save and preserve Italian artistic treasures from harm. The fact that Radio London made such an accusation so late in the day is a proof of this. This accusation has, however, another explaination. The British and Americans have every intention of stealing Italian masterpieces, and therefore they accuse the Germans of having taken them, in order to explain their disappearance. This time, however, the Allies have unexpectedly fallen into their own trap; namely, the fact that the Germans have always displayed the greatest respect for all art treasures, not only in France, as enemy propaganda has admitted, but in Italy as well, and to this end, they provided for the transportation of many art treasures to the Vatican in order that they should not suffer the consequences of war. The transport of art treasures was often carried out, while battles were still raging, as ocurred for example, with the art treasures in Naples and Montecassino. Another proof of German respect for art is seen in Kesselring's efforts to save the art treasures in Rome, Siena and Florence.

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 5 October 1944

T.A.F. RESUMES CLOSE-SUPPORT IN ITALY

ADVANCE AFHQ, October 4 - Medium and fighter-bombers of the Tactical Air Force resumed operations yesterday after being grounded by stormy weather on Monday, to bomb 10 road and rail bridges in the Milan and Padua area, and to give close support to 5th Army troops at Loiana and Vergato, it was announced here today.

In addition, the planes out enemy rail lines in 17 planes, and inflicted considerable damage on rolling stock. Airdromes at Villafranca and Ghedi, southeast and southwest of Lake Garda, were also strafed, with good results.

Mosquitoes and Beaufighters of the Coastal Air Force, on night intruding operations in the Po Plain, shot up railways, trains, motor transport, a small factory, and coastal shipping at Trieste, Marano, and in the Gulf of Venice.

Heavy bombers were grounded for the eighth successive day by unfavorable weather.

(PRO)

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Capt Harriott

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 5 October 1944

FLORENTINE PAINTINGS STOLEN BY GERMANS

FLORENCE October 4 - It was disclosed here today that between 400 and 500 works of art belonging to the Uffizi Gallery and other Florentine collections have been stolen by the Germans from the Tuscany villas in which, on Mussolini's orders, they had been placed on the pretext of saving them from Allied looting.

Although about half of the stolen canvases are of secondary importance, there are many of considerable artistic value. Among the latter are such masterpieces as Raphael's Veiled Woman, Botticelli's Minerva and Centauro, Donatello's Saint George. Michaelangelo's Bacchus, and Rembrandt's Portrait of an Old Man.

(PRO)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 102 - 5 October 1944

GERMANS OVERSEAS SERVICE - 1400 - 11,80 October 4

Anglo-American Terror Acts Cause Horrible Damages

The director of the National Gallery in London has admitted that the Anglo-American terror raids have caused horrible damage to works of art. The London art expert had furthermore to admit that the Germans had not, as was announced, stolen precious French works of art, but that not a single object had disappeared from French museums.

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RFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 102 - 5 October 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491 - 2000 - Oct.4

Bonomi Under-Secretary of Instruction visits Frascati

The "United Nations News Service" reports that the so-called Undersecretary of Instruction in the Bonomi Government went to Frascati to visit the ruins of the town and especially schools destroyed by Allied bombs. It is learned from a neutral agency that while Signor Mattarella was on his way to the Salesian College at Villa Sora he passed a half-destroyed house on the wall of which the following sentence had been painted: "This town was destroyed by the Anglo-Americans three days after the Badoglio armistice had been signed".

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Lt. Colt

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 101 - 4 October 1944

Editorial No. 76 of the "Corrispondenza Repubblicana"

Destruction pf Artistic and Cultural Monuments in Europe

With regard to the destruction of works of art and museums, the director of the National Gallery in London, has made the following statements to a reporter of the British Information Bureau: It is certain that our raid raids in Italy have caused terrible losses. We have destroyed for ever frescoes in Padua, the Temple of Malatesta at Rimini, churches in Milan, temples and monuments belonging to the most outstanding artistic heritage of Christianity. In France, we have caused serious damage to Rouen and Caen which has been reduced to a heap of rubble. In these last years it has often been stated that the Germans removed practically all the works of art from the Louvre. I was asked to express an opinion on the subject, but I avoided doing so as I was convinced that this was a short-sighted form of propaganda, in view of the fact that no work of art has been removed from the Louvre of for that matter from any provincial museum in France, according to a statement made by the director General of the French museums.

"This," the British Curator concluded, "is due to the fact that the Germans have always shown the greatest respect for museums and works of art."
(Fascist Radb 2000)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 101 - 4 October 1944

MISCELLANEOUS Italian Broadcasts of Oct 2

Only England's Art Treasures Suffered from the War.

The director of the Metropolitan Museum of New York has made a surprising discovery. As member of a commission for the preservation of monuments he has prepared a report to inform the whole worls that England is the only nation whose art treasures have really suffered from the war. Only the Rouen and Benevento cathedrals have suffered damage which can be compared to those of the .... cathedral. This is gross exaggeration when we remember the numberless art treasures reduced to ruins in Italy and in France, all almost razed to the ground by the barbaric Anglo-American carpet bombing. Some days ago the UNNS itself announced to the world that priceless paintings by Botticelli and Giotto has been as hammocks by the barbaric soldiers who had invaded the Florentine used region. Is this not a vandalic destruction of the works of art belonging to the Italian artistic wealth?

And the Malatesta Temple of Rimini, the Arch-Gymnasium of Bologna, the Palace of the Three Hundred at Trevivo, Beatrice's house at Florence, the Montecassino Abbey, the ancient churches and historic buildings in Padua and Milan and in many other Italian cities, are they not Italian works of art destroyed by the Anglo-Americans? Do these false defenders of civilization really think that only the few or many Anglican churches which the German vindictive air arm was able to destroy possessed an artistic value? (Fascist Radio 1400)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 100 - 3 October 1944

NEWS FROM NON-FASCIST ITALY - October 1

Alexander, Preserver of Italian Monuments-Responsibilieties For Destruction at Florence

Professor De Ruggiero, Minister of Education in the Bonomi Cabinet, felt it necessary to send a letter to General Alexander, to thank him for what he has done to preserve the artistic treasures of the city of Florence.

After the "Degree ad Honorem" conferred on him by that other proud Italian figure, Professor Amodeo, Rector of Naples University, General Alexander now receives the Holy Sacraments as preserver of Italian monuments, at the hands of the Minister of Public Education in person. The Anglo-Saxon merits, as regards the preservation of our monuments by General Alexander, are undeniable. It is not necessary to bring them to memory; everybody remembers them quite well. And if there is anybody who might have forgotten them he can contemplate the rubble of most of our famous Italian cities of our loveliest countryside.

Alexander, in his letter of reply to De Ruggero attributes the damage suffered by the city of Florence exclusively to the action of Germans shells and asserts that he has exerted every affort to drive the Germans out of the city by bringing pressure on their flanks, with the aim of avoiding fighting in the centre of the city itself. The British General should have mentioned that armistice which had been proposed to him and which he rejected, an armistice which aimed at preserving Florence, and which would have allowed the Germans to withdraw north of the city without fighting.

Alexander, who is a military technician, has certainly estimated the consequences of his refusal the Germans, in order no to allow themselves to be pressed by the enemy inside the city were forced to ensure that the river Arno became a delaying obstacle in the enemy's march. The Germans with an apparent tactical sacrifice on their part, respected Siena and I do not see why they should not have respected Florence, a town which for its art and history has a greater importance than any which can be claimed by the town of Santa Caterina. All this naturally is not mentioned by Alexander in his letter - a perfectly understandable omission. All excuses are plausible to the culprit. It is not comprehensible, however, on the civil side, which in this wase is represented by the Minister for Education who, instead of protecting his own interests, which after all are those of the nation at large, associated himself with the defendant and gives him not only a most complete acquittal but a title of merit as well. Or even better, it is really perfectly understandable when one comes to reflect on the fact that De Ruggero is a member of a government born of treason and which

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Professor De Ruggiero, Minister of Education in the Bonomi Cabinet, felt it necessary to send a letter to General Alexander, to thank him for what he has done to preserve the artistic treasures of the city of Florence.

After the "Degree ad Honorem" conferred on him by that other proud Italian figure, Professor Amodeo, Rector of Naples University, General Alexander now receives the Holy Sacraments as preserver of Italian monuments, at the hands of the Minister of Public Education in person. The Anglo-Saxon merits, as regards the preservation of our monuments by General Alexander, are undeniable. It is not necessary to bring them to memory; everybody remembers them quite well. And if there is anybody who might have forgotten them he can contemplate the rubble of most of our famous Italian cities of our loveliest countryside.

Alexander, in his letter of reply to De Ruggero attributes the damage suffered by the city of Florence exclusively to the action of Germans shells and asserts that he has exerted every affort to drive the Germans out of the city by bringing pressure on their flanks, with the aim of avoiding fighting in the centre of the city itself. The British General should have mentioned that armistice which had been proposed to him and which he rejected, an armistice which aimed at preserving Florence, and which would have allowed the Germans to withdraw north of the city without fighting.

Alexander, who is a military technician, has certainly estimated the consequences of his refusal the Germans, in order no to allow themselves to be pressed by the enemy inside the city were forced to ensure that the river Arno became a delaying obstacle in the enemy's march. The Germans with an apparent tactical sacrifice on their part, respected Sinna and I do not see why they should not have respected Florence, a town which for its art and history has a greater importance than any which can be claimed by the town of Santa Caterina. All this naturally is not mentioned by Alexander in his letter - a perfectly understandable omission. All excuses are plausible to the culprit. It is not comprehensible, however, on the civil side, which in this wase is represented by the Minister for Education who, instead of protecting his own interests, which after all are those of the nation at large, associated himself with the defendant and gives him not only a most complete acquittal but a title of merit as well. Or even better, it is really perfectly understandable when one comes to reflect on the fact that De Ruggero is a member of a government born of treason and which has one purpose only, which is to serve the enemy.

(Fascist Radio-1200)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 2 October 1944

DAMAGE DONE TO EUROPEAN ART

WASHINGTON, October 1 - Francis H. Taylor, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and member of the American Commission for the Preservation of Arts and Monuments, said in an interview yesterday on his return from London that Great Britain has suffered shocking damage to its artistic heritage, and that many of England's great monuments are in ruins.

Taylor went to London to attend a conference of Allied ministers of education, brought together to study the problems of the recovery and restitution of works of art that will be recommended for consideration as part of the surrender terms.

After making a personal survey of damage to works of art in England and France, and studying an official report of the situation in Italy, Taylor believes the war damage to the art of France and Italy is "far less tragic than expected." He says:

"Great Britain has suffered more damage to its artistic heritage than either France or Italy".

He reports that in England 4,000 churches have been damaged, including the cathedrals of Canterbury and Exeter, and 2,800 have been completely destroyed.

Only at Rouen and Benevento have any of the great cathedrals suffered damage comparable to the destruction of the cathedral at Exeter Taylor said.

The British libraries, he added, have also suffered great destruction, particularly the working libraries of law and medicine, as well as the 18th and 19th century newspaper collections.

Taylor believes, however, that the situation regarding the Belgian art collection was no more serious than that of France. He said the most important collections of the Netherlands' Museums and galleries had been discovered intact at Maastricht.

(OWI)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 96-28 Septembre 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy M.491 19,00- Sept 27

Allied Air Raids in Northern Italy

Enemy aircraft formations yesterday afternoon bombed Pallanza and Baveno, hitting dwelling houses and workers' quarters. A boat belonging to the lake service was bombed and strafed and later sank. The whole of the Lake Maggiore shore area from Baveno to Verbania was repeatedly strafed. So far forty-three dead and several wounded have been indentified. In addition, enemy aircraft bombed some mountain areas in the Ossola region and strafed a group of children.

An ancient church was destroyed at Sestri Levante during one of the latest enemy air raids on the Riviera.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

News Service, BASIC NEWS - 27 September 1944

Pisa Tower Damage was German

ROME, September 26 - Ironically enough the sole damage to the famed Leaning Tower at Pisa - which in German broadcats the Allies so frequently were accused of shelling - is the loss of one colonette struck by a German anti-aircraft shell.

The loss of the colonette - one of the hundreds of small columns that circle the tower at its several levels-was confirmed today by the Allied Control Commission's Division of Fine Arts, Monuments, and Archives.

Detailed inspection of art treasures in Pisa is hampered still by German mines and booby-traps, ACC's experts reported.

"The southern half of the town is smashed badly; but the northern portion is damaged mainly by the mines which the Germans blew in every street leading north from the river, as they retreated, "Major J.B. Ward Perkins, deputy director of ACC's MFAA Division, reported.

The Lungarno (street) on both banks of the river has a few blasted gaps; otherwise , that interesting section escaped with superficial damage. The picturesque medieval Chapel of La Spina on the south bank is substantially intact.

The condition of the Cathedral area (including the Leaning Tower) in the decidedly vulnerable position on the northeast corner of Pisa was described today by ACC officers as " a monument to Allied restraint."

Already the roofs of the Cathedral and the Baptistry have been repaired following unusually slight, superficial damage, merely from small shells.

The only serious damage to historical treasures is in the Campo Santo, the roof of which burned after the Germans had removed all fire fighting apparatus from the area.

Brigadier-General E.E. Hume, commanding the Allied Military Government units with the 5th Army, had ordered immediate first-aid measures, and, in a race with approaching winter rains, engineers already are constructing a temporary roof over the Campo Santo, while ACC experts and their Italian colleagues are patching the damaged frescoes.

In this charming cloister, the famed 14th Century frescoes known as "The Trimph of Death" certainly can be restored, ACC officers reported. (UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 94 - 26 September 1944

RADIO MILANO LIBERTA' - Italian - 1230 - Sept. 25

I Destruction of Rimini

The town of Rimini id a heap of smoking ruins. Before their flight, the Germans razed Rimini to the ground. Out of the 70,000 inhabitants only a few tens of thousand remain.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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25 Sep 44

ITALY
Genoa

NewsDigest #1561 25/9/44 1 50

—Damage in Genoa

K15. *DNB*, 24.9.44 (13.28), reports from Milan: A new Anglo-American terror attack was made yesterday on Genoa. Residential quarters in the centre of the city were particularly affected. Many buildings of great artistic value were destroyed: among them the famous Teatro Carlo Felice, the Palace of the Accademia, the Church of SS Cosmo e Damiano, dating back to the (?12th) century and the Archiespiscopal Palace.

The population is indignant at this criminal terror attack directed exclusively against non-military targets.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 94 - 26 September 1944

REPUHLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M. 491 - 0700 - September 24

Enemy Airoraft Raid Genoa

The air raid carried out by the enemy against the city of Genoa on September 4th was of a violence and intensity far greater than of any raid carried out against this city so far. Hundreds of houses in the center were wrecked and many artistic and historic buildings were destroyed. The Nino Bixio monument received a direct hit and so did the thousand year old Church of S. Cosimo. The indignation of the people of Genoa was extreme. The inhabitants of the more populous districts made vident demonstrations and while the raid was still on screamed abuses at the enemy pilots.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 92 - 23 Sept. 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 491 M.-12 0-Sept 22

Florence Art Treasures Destroyed

Many precious paintings which were in Florence had been removed by their owners or by the people to whom they were entrusted in order to avoid the destruction caused in Florence by the fire of enemy artillery. However, these precautionary measures were all in vain, according to a statement made by the Anglo-Americans, reporting a statement by the director of the Florence Library. Soldiers of the Eighth Army, having found various pictures have... Among paintings in question, are pictures by Rubens, Giotto, etc., the famous "Battle" by Paolo Uccello, Botticelli's "Spring" and the Adoration of the Magi, also by the same painter, Masaccio's "Bell" (?), the "Coronation of the Virgin", by Filippo Lippi and the "Virgin" by Fra Bartolomeo.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 92 - 23 Sept. 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 491 M.-1200-Sept 22

Destruction in Pisa

The admission yesterday by the enemy of the serious damage caused in the city of Pisa as a consequence of Anglo-American bombings, is today completed by information concerning the damage caused in the famous Pisa cemetery. In fact, following the explosion of a grenade, many art treasures were destroyed, among which were the frescoes of Veneziano. The British agency which gave out this information, states that restoration work will be carried out, stressing with cynical sarcasm that the famous fresco "The triumph of Death" was given an extraordinary coloring by the fire.

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AFHQ, PWB. R.M. REPORT No. 92 - 23 Sept 44

LEIPZIG RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.29.16 - 18.00-September 22

Rimini is a Heap of Ruins

Milan - The town of Rimini has been reduced to a mass of rubble by British and American artillery. This fine sea resort of 30,000 inhabitants on the Adriatic coast has been razed to the ground without any military reason as no military target was in the city.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 91 - 22 September 1944 -

RADIO TEVERE in Italian to Italy - 245.5.m. - 2030 - Sept. 21

La Verna Monastery Damaged by Allied Shells

The English Rome radio has confirmed the report that during the advance of Allied troops, the famous franciscan Monastery of La Verna was severely damaged by Allied artillery fire. The passage leading from the Sanctuary to the underground cell, where Saint Francis received the stigmata, was hit.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 91 - 22 September 1944 -

TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH - September 21

Rembrandt Painting Found in Air Raid Shelter - 2205

Amsterdam: One of Rembrandt's most famous paintings, the "Night Watch", has been discovered in an air raid shelter in the Allied-occupied Dutch city of Maastricht, "Algemeen Neederlandsch Oersbureau" reported on Thursday. The Amsterdam newspaper "Telegraaf" reports that "Night Watch", as well as numerous other famous Dutch paintings, had some years ago been evacuated to the Dutch province of Limburg, without the pubblic, for obvious reasons, being told of this fact. The newspaper adds that transport of the huge "Night Wathh" canvas was extremely difficult.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 90 - 21 September 1944

DNB IN GERMAN - Sept. 20

Air Attack on Trieste

Milan - The latest air attack on Trieste inflicted heavy damage especially on the picturesque San Vito district of the town. The Chapel of Madonna del Mare and the nearby Franciscan monastery were hit. Nine bombs were dropped on the monastery, and a further bomb hit the Chapel dell'Immacolata, destroying it completely, with the exception of the statue of the Madonna on the altar....

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 19 September 1944 - 20381/MFAA

ART WORKS SAVED IN DUTCH TOWN

MAASTRICHT, September 18 - Hidden before the Germans invaded Holland and movend again when their hiding place was destined to become part of the Germans' Atlantic Wall, 1,800 paintings from the priceless Ryks Museum collection in Amsterdam have been preserved safely during the war in an air-conditioned sandstone cavern on the outskirts of Maastrich, the United Press reported yesterday.

Among the masterpieces in the underground vault are the works of Rembrandt, including his famous Night Watbh, and works of Van Dyke, Hals, Rubens, Tintoretto, Van Gogh, Murillo, El Greco, Monet, Van Ruisdael, Steen, Vermeer, Van Scobel, and Lavman. (OWI)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

NOTIZIE NAZIONI UNITE - No. 26 - 19 Settembre 1944

Per la tutela dei monumenti e dei parchi romani.

ROMA, 18 settembre (NNU) - L'Assessore Valerio De Sanctis ha fatto alla NNU alcune dichiarazioni in merito a quello che si è fatto e si fa nel campo delle belle arti, come pure per cancellare dai parchi e giardini della città le conseguenze della trascuratezza e dei danni dovuti alla guerra. La riapertura dei Musei Capitolini, già iniziata, e i lavori per ricollocare al loro posto i capolavori che erano stati ricoverati nei sotterranei oer difenderli dalle offese belliche, saranno proseguiti e completati, mentre sono in corso i lavori per la riapertura di altri musei di pertinenza del Comune, fra i quali il Museo Napoleonico. Le maggiori cure sono dedicate alla conservazione e tutela dei monumenti, e all'uopo anche l'Assessore De Sanctis ha messo in rilievo la necessità di una intensificazione della vigilanza.

L'attuale deficienza di sorveglianza fa sentire le sue conseguenze anche nei parchi e giardini che, in conseguenza della guerra, hanno subito danni valutati dalle perizie in 140 milioni. Per un ripristino della tradizionale bellezza dei giardini romani, le Autorità Alleate hanno concesso finora 16 milioni, e per la fine del mese corrente i lavori già in corso restituiranno al Giardino del Lago il suo consueto attraente aspetto, con le aiuole curate e fiorite, mentre altri lavori sono stati iniziati al Pincio. Analoghe cure verranno successivamente dedicate, man mano che ciò si renderà possibile, al Colle Oppio, a Villa Sciarra, a Villa Celimontana e alle altre oasi cittadine, nonchè al Lido e alla pineta di Castelfusano, che è abbastanza deteriorata e ancora insidiata dalle mine tedesche. Per quanto riguarda lo Zoo, una speciale commissione consultiva ha tenuto la sua prima riunione; è in progetto, fra l'altro, una mostra avicola che rientrerà nel quadro di un'azione da svolgere, d'intesa con il Centro di Avicoltura, per la propaganda di utili allevamenti domestici fra le massaie, e un incremento delle attrazioni per bambini.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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CN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 19 September 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ ITALY - 18 September 1944 -

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Last night, our bombers attacked Brescia, rail yards in northern Italy.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 88 - 19 September 1944 20381/MFAA

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian To Italy - M.491 - 8-1300 - Sep.17

Enemy Air Attacks in North Italy

Modena was repeatedly attacked during the last few days by formations of enemy bombers. Many people were killed and wounded, and the head of the province was amongst the casualties. Bologna was attacked on Wednesday last by a large Anglo-American formation which dropped bombs on the centre of the city. Amongst the buildings hit were the dental clinic and the Church of Santa Maria dei Servi.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 87 - 17 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491-0800-Sept.16

Passenger Train Machine-Gunned - Gorizia Raided

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As a result of an air raid carried out by enemy four-engined ~~for~~ bombers over the town of Gorizia, twenty-five people were killed.

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NOTIZIE NAZIONI UNITE - No. 23 - 16 Settembre 1944

COME FURONO DISTRUTTE LE NAVI DI NEMI

ROMA, 15 Settembre 1944 - (NNU) La Sovrintendenza ai monumenti del Lazio ha condotto a termine l'inchiesta sulle distruzioni delle navi di Nemi operate dai tedeschi senza nessuna ragione militare.

Come si sa le navi furono estratte dal lago di Nemi nel triennio 1929-32 e furono sistemate in due grandi edifici a forma di doppio capannone. Fino alla notte tra il 31 maggio e il 1 giugno le navi rimasero incolumi anche dai bombardamenti. In quella notte i custidi furono estromessi violentemente dal museo dai tedeschi e trovarono rifugio in grotte vicine in modo da poterlo sorvegliare e seguire le mosse del nemico. Nella giornata del 31 maggio i bombardamenti e i cannoneggiamenti furono assai vivaci ma neppure questa volta le navi subirono danni ed è escluso che qualche colpo abbia potuto provocare l'incendio. Verso le 21,30 i custodi videro un piccolo lume aggirarsi nell'interno del museo. Poi quel lume si spense. Verso le 22 improvvisamente nei due baracconi si sviluppò un incendio violentissimo che in breve tempo investì tutto l' edificio. Si esclude che il vento abbia potuto favorire il propagarsi delle fiamme essendo la notte calmissima. I tecnici hanno spiegato che quando si sparge la benzina in un posto le fiamme si propagano immediatamente da un capo all'altro; quindi tutto contribuisce a confermare la convinzione che, quando il lumicino fu visto, un incaricato del comando tedesco stava appunto spargendo la benzina sulle navi. Altri elementi confermano questa tesi.

Le navi di Nemi che costarono tanto lavoro e che rappresentavano il più antico modello di costruzioni navali, poichè quelle custodite nel Museo di Oslo sono di gran lunga posteriori, non esistono più. Esse sono state distrutte anche nelle più piccole parti, nelle travi, nelle tavole. La Sovrintendenza alle Antichità del Lazio aveva per fortuna curato il trasporto a Roma di tutto ciò che era trasportabile. Difatti si trovano ora in salvo a Roma presso il Museo Nazionale le 13 teste ferine di bronzo e la testa famosa rappresentante Medusa, nonchè le piccole erme bifronti di una transenna, più la grande ancora di ferro ed altre cose minori. E' tutto quello che rimane delle navi di Caligola.

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 16 September 1944

GERMANS DESTROYED NEMI RELICS

ROME, September 15 - The Germans are responsible for the wanton destruction of the historical ships located in the museum of the town of Nemi, it was revealed today in an inquiry carried out by the Superintendent of Monuments in Latium Province.

These ships, which represented the most ancient model of naval construction, dating back to the times of the Emperor Caligula, had been removed from Lake Nemi during the years 1929 1932.

Technical experts point out that the fire which broke out in the Nemi Museum was waused by the Germans, who must have sprinkled gasoline from one end of the building to the other.

Only 13 bronze heads and the famous head of Medusa were saved and transferred to the National Museum of Rome.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 15 September 1944

ART TREASURES BROUGHT OUT OF HIDING

ROME, September 1944 - Forty-nine cases containing paintings of a famous Roman collection and others protecting nine renowned frescoes have been removed from the underground vaults of the Capitoline Museums to their art galleries. These art treasures were placed underground two years ago.

(UNN)

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 15 September 1944

FAMOUS SCULPTURE MISSING IN LIBERATED TOWN

ROME, September 14 - A fresco by Spinello Aretino has been found intact in the City Hall of Civitella Val di Chiana, where the notorious German massacre of the population took place June 29. A famous Della Robbia sculpture is apparently missing, according to preliminary investigations but another has been found unharmed.

(UNN)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 85 - 15 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.35-1600 - Sept.14

House of Mazzini Destroyed

The house of Mazzini in Genoa was almost completely destroyed during the attack made on Genoa by enemy aircraft during the night between the 13th and 14th of August last. The house where Mazzini was born was at a considerable distance from the railway station and the harbor. With it were destroyed all the master-pieces which admirers, throughout the world, of this great Italian has gathered. A few days before, the house in Pisa where the great Italian, an antagonist of the Savoias died, had also been destroyed. This is liberation as carried out by the Anglo-Americans.

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 14 September 1944 20381/MFAA

AFHQ, September 13 -
Mediterranean Allied Air Force:

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Coastal aircraft carried out attacks against shipping in the Adriatic and the Gulf of Genoa.

Last night medium and heavy bombers attacked the rail yards at Bologna.

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AFHQ, P&E, R. M. REPORT - No. 84 - 14 September 1944

"AXIS SALLY" TO U.S. Expeditionary Force - 2100 - 6.1 Kcs. - Sept. 13

Monte Cassino

In a letter to the Pittsburgh paper "Catholic", a Roman Catholic Chaplain of the U.S. 5th Army disclosed that he talked to the Abbott of Monte Cassino recently. The Abbott declared that the Americans are completely responsible for the destruction of his Abbey, and that the Germans claim that, when the Americans began shelling the Abbey, no German troops were present there, was absolutely true.

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 14 September 1944 20381/MFAA

RAF. ATTACKS BOLOGNA RAIL TARGETS

Advance AFHQ; September 13 - German communications lines in the Po Valley were blasted last night as RAF Wellingtons, Liberators, and Halifaxes attacked railway yards at BOLogna, it was announced today.

The yards, built only a few months ago, are off the main line, northeast of the city. It was the first time they were bombed by RAF medium and heavy craft.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

DNB in German for Germany - 1625 - 13 September 1944

Naples Picture on Sale at Stockholm.

Stockholm: The famous painting by the older Peter Broughel, "Blind load the Blind into the Abyss", which belongs to the Naples Museum has been offered for sale in Stockholm. The United States art gangsters have lost no time in realizing their loot.

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20381/MFAA

PWB, REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY
No. 24 (13 Sept 1944)

Air Raid Damage.

MILAN. Recent anglo-american air raids have caused ruinous destruction to Via(Aurelio Saffi) and the railway line running alongside. The bombing of VENTIMIGLIA, on August 4th caused grave damage to the BEVERA railway station. The remaining two trains serving the Riviera from the west use steam engines, while those from the east have been completely abandoned. Road traffic is slow and very difficult owing to the serious interruptions. Transport between GENOA and SEEZIA is almost exclusively confined to rafts with an engine. After the destruction of the PO bridges transport between GENOA and the hinterland became extremely precarious. (Libera Stampa Lugano 23.8.44)/

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Maj. Andrews

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20381/MFAA

PWB, REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY

No. 24 - 13 Sept 44 -

Air Raid Damage.

Allied aircraft still repeatedly bomb the MILAN marshalling yards with incredible precision, flying very low to attack road and railway bridges.
(News Digest 4.9.1944)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 September 1944

RAILWAYS BLASTED

Behind the battle-lines in northern Italy, successful attacks were made on enemy communications. Rail bridges were hit in the Modena area and northwest of Bologna. Roads and rail tracks near Bologna were also cut. A bridge over the Po north of Castel Giovanni was destroyed.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 13 September 1944

SOUTHERN FRANCE, GOTH LINE TARGETS BOMBED

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - 12 September.

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Later today, railroad bridges at Piacenza, Parma, and Solignano, and a road bridge at Pavia were attacked. Other road bridges were bombed near Molare, south of Alessandria, at Fornovo, south of Parma, and at Traversa, north of Florence.

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 83 - 13 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491 - 2000 Sept.12

Enemy Aircraft Machine-Gunned Cremona

During the night of September 11th, enemy aircraft machine-gunned and dropped fragmentation bombs in the outskirts of Cremona. Some casualties were caused. Yesterday afternoon other attacks were carried out against the suburbs of this city. Slight damage and a few casualties are reported. During one of these raids a fighter-bomber, after having machine-gunned a lorry, dived low and machine-gunned a field where a group of children was playing. A few boys were killed and others were injured. The plane crashed and the crew was killed.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 12 September 1944

T.A.F. BOMBERS HIT GOTH LINE

Advance AFHQ, Italy - 11 September 1944 -

+ + + + + +

The bridges attacked are at Vigevano, 20 miles northeast of Florence, at Canneto, 60 miles southeast of Milan, and near Vergato, soutwest of Bologna.

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(PRO)

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20113 D.O. Rep 11

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - 12 September 1944

RADIO STELLA NI in Italian to Italy - 491.M.- 2335 - September 11

German Planes Attack Italian Front

+ + + + + +

The first wave of German night fighter planes appeared at about one o'clock over the region of the objectives. The night was clear and visibility excellent. Despite violent enemy defence, the German aircraft launched several heavy bombs, particularly on the localities of Riccione, Bombaccio and Altopascio, transformed by the enemy into supply bases.

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Part of the aircraft attacked communication lines, artillery positions and anti-aircraft batteries from a low level, particularly in the Pesaro, Pistoia and Lucca regions, where serious destruction was caused.

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20381/MFAA

AFHQ, PWE, R.M. REPORT - 12 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAM FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.4918- 23.00 - Sep.11

Allied Aircraft over the Gorizia Aera

British and American aircraft on August 20 bombed Sarzano in the Gorizia province. Some dead and many wounded are reported. Damage to private houses is stated to be heavy.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 12 September 1944

AFHQ, September 11 -

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Mediterranean Allied Air Force:

Medium forces of fighter-escorted heavy bombers yesterday attacked two oil refineries and other military objectives in the Vienna area, and port installations at Trieste. Fighters strafed an airdrome in Hungary.

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Last night, medium and heavy bombers attacked the rail yards at Milan.

(PRO)

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - 12 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy, M.491 - 2000 - Sept.11

Air Radio on Milan

Last night, Milan was subjected to another enemy terror raid. As usual, private dwellings were hit, shools, a convent and the church of Astori. Similar terror raids were carried out in the neighborhood of Milan. The exact number of dead and wounded, which is not very high, is being ascertained.

Also Pession di Chieri was the target of enemy four-engined bombers. There were some deaths and many wounded among the civilian population.

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NOTIZIE NAZIONI UNITE - 11 September 1944 -

PIANI ALLEATI PER RECUPERARE IL BOTTINO FINANZIARIO FATTO DAI TEDESCHI

Washington, 10 Settembre 1944 (NNU) - Secondo l'Agenzia Reuter, i membri dell'Ufficio Americano per le Relazioni economiche con l'Estero e funzionari del Ministero Americano delle Finanze si recheranno fra breve a Londra per conferire con i capi dei governi europei sulle misure che dovranno essere elaborate per recuperare il bottino finanziario fatto dai nazisti nei paesi occupati.

Sempre secondo la Reuter, si ritiene che i membri del partito nazional-socialista tedesco, per loro uso personale, abbiano nascosto, o investito con complicate manovre finanziarie quasi un miliardo di dollari.

Il compito che dovrà svolgere la missione americana di esperti sarà quello di scoprire queste manovre e questi nascondigli. Essa sarebbe in possesso di una lista completa di valori e di proprietà immobiliari appartenenti ai capi nazisti e fascisti.

La missione si recherà a Stoccolma, Lisbona, Zurigo ed Ankara e, più tardi, visiterà anche la quasi totalità delle capitali sud-americane.

Sono già state prese le misure per mettere il fermo sul commercio di tutte le nazioni estere che destino sospetto, fintanto che dopo la guerra, non ne saranno stati chiaramente accertati i proprietari.

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 11 September 1944

BOMBERS SUPPORT 5TH ARMY

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, September 10 -

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The attacks, carried out with fragmentation and high explosive bombs, were directed against enemy installations in the town of Maresca eight miles northwest of Pistoia, and at the edge of the mountain gap through which Highway 66 runs.

+ + + + + +

Other medium bombers struck three bridges north of Bologna and also at Fiorenzuola, northwest of Parma.

Strategic air force heavy bombers today hit two refineries in the Vienna area, and shipping and harbor installations in Trieste harbor.

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(PRO)

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Capt. C-11.

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20381/MFAA

UM News Service - BASIC NEWS - 11 September 1944

RIMINI AREA SHELLED FROM SEA

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, September 10 - The British gunboats URCHIN and APHIS yesterday bombarded enemy batteries, ammunition dumps and road and rail junctions in the Rimini area with excellent results, it was announced here this afternoon. Despite heavy return fire, the ships suffered neither casualties nor damage.

(PRO) 2889

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 11 September 1944 -

ADVANCED AFHQ, ITALY , September 10 -

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Fighter-bombers attacked bridges, roads, rail lines and yards, rolling stock, motor transport and supply dumps. Both medium bombers and fighter-bombers attacked enemy strong-points and other close-support targets near Rimini.

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Bad weather prevented heavy bomber operations during daylight hours. Last night medium and heavy bombers attacked the wharf at Ravenna.

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(PRO)

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AMIO, PWB. R. M. REPORT No. 80 - September 9 - 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy 491 M. 2100 Sept.8

Enemy Air Terror Taking a New Form

Trieste: Enemy terror attacks have taken a new form. After the strafing of passenger trains, of buses and of men and women in the fields, Anglo-American air forces in the past few days have started terrorizing the population in the city with bursts of machine-gun fire. On Wednesday this barbaric form of wagingwar was carried out against the population of Udine, and today it was Trieste's turn. The new criminal system of pirates of the air caused deep resentment against the Anglo-Americans among the Trieste population.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Un News Service, BASIC NWS - 8 September 1944 -

GERMANS ATTEMPT TO SELL ITALIAN PAINTING

ROME, September 7 - Informations has reached the Italian Government here that the Germans are attempting in Sweden, to sell "La Parabola del Cieco", a painting by Bruegel, taken as loot from the National Museum of Naples, it was stated today.

The Italian representative in Sweden has been instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to inform the Swedish Government that the painting is the property of the Italian Government, and that its sale would be considered invalid.

(UNN)

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 8 September 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, September 7 -

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Last night, medium and heavy bombers attacked rail yards at Bologna.

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(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT - No. 78 - 7 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - m.491 - 20,00
September 7 -

Lying Enemy Propaganda Denounced

Enemy propaganda said that the Germans, during the evacuation of Fano, mined the churches in the city. The news was given out by Reuter's and has no truth in it. During the war, as it affected Italy's central and southern regions, German troops meticulously gave priority to the respect for cultural and artistic monuments, and especially for churches, even before military considerations. The evacuations of Rome, and later of Siena and Florence, confirmed in a very clear manner the loyal and chivalrous behavior of the German Command. On the other hand, the many churches destroyed the violated cemeteries, the bombed monuments, damaged works of art and the barbarity of the Anglo-Americans, who made of murder and devastation a battle standard.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 7 September 1944

8th ATTACKS AT RIMINI

With 8th Army, September 6 -

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A UNN correspondent had a grand-stand view of the onslaught on Rimini. Explosives of every sort were rained on the German positions and fortifications. From the ground, from the sea, and from the air, the enemy was pounded.

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(UNN)

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 78 - 7 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491-0800 - Sept.6

Enemy Terror Raids

An enemy terror air raid was carried out against Primo Vercellese. The chosen target of the barbarous attacks was the convent of the Dominican nuns, which was seriously damaged. Other private buildings were struck and many nuns were killed or injured.

~~The chief of the province accompanied by the Federal Secretary and the Chief of Police visited the bombed areas and dis-~~
~~tributed the number of 20,000 lire to the nuns who are refugees~~
~~from Genoa~~

Alba, in the province of Cuneo, has also been bombed. Many casualties were caused, some of them fatal. Bra was bombed and Machine-gunned. The population of the town suffered losses. Last night, incendiaries and explosives were dropped by enemy aircraft over San Pietro Mosezzo. Yesterday morning, enemy air formations flew over the town of Novara and bombs were dropped on Trecate and Gagliato. Anti-aircraft batteries effectively routed the attacking formations.

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20381/MFAA

UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 7 September 1944

MEDITERRANEAN

Advance AFHQ, September 6 -

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Coastal aircraft attacked shipping in the Gulf of Genoa.

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Last night, our bombers attacked the rail yards at Ferrara.

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(PRO)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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MF NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 6 September 1944

HISTORIC MONUMENTS SUFFER LITTLE DAMAGE

LONDON, September 5 - The historic monuments of Italy suffered little damage during the Allied advance between June 6 and July 18, according to a British War Office report issued yesterday.

Of the major towns and cities through which the Allied armies passed while driving the Germans northward, the following were found to be virtually intact: Assisi, Orvieto, Spoleto, Rieti, Montepulciano, Chieti, and Tuscania.

In Siena, two churches described as of "no artistic merit" were wrecked.

Of the 49 listed historical monuments only two - the 13th century bridge, Ponte San Giovanni, in Perugia, and the 16th century bridge at Bastia, were blown up by the Germans.

Viterbo suffered considerable damage, as did Zoccoli. Part of the cloister of the church of the Trinità was destroyed as well as all but apse of San Francesco. San Giovanni, in Zoccoli, was razed with the exception of the facade with its flying buttress. Other churches, theaters, and palaces in Zoccoli were either destroyed or damaged.

Cortona, Chiusin and Tarquinia, all of them towns with many artistic buildings, escaped almost without damage, and that easily repairable.

(PWB)

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UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 6 September 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, September 5

Mediterranean Allied Air Force:

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Medium and heavy bombers last night attacked rail yards at Ravenna.

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(PRO)

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 77 - 6 September 1944

TRANSOCEAN in English September 5

Air Raids on Northern Italy

Turin: Genoa was bombed by Allied planes on Monday afternoon. There were many casualties, "Stampa" reports. Places round Turin were also subjected to numerous air raids on Monday. The suburb of Carmagnola was raided eight times in the course of the day. At Villafranca bombs killed three and wounded twelve persons while there were two dead at Avigliano. The provincial towns of Asti and Vercelli were also bombed again.

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 77 - 6 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491 - 2000
5 September 1944

Mantua attacked again by Allied Bombers

Mantua was subjected yesterday to another massive air raid; heavy calibre bombs were dropped on the residential quarters of the town; The Filippine Church was totally destryed. The population remained firm and calm during the raid and casualties were very slight. There were only four dead and five wounded. The dead were all found under the debris of the asylum for the poor. All services functioned normally.

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UN NEWS SERVICE - BASIC NEWS - 6 September 1944

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, September 5 -

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At least 10 bridges were knocked out during the day. One the Ferrara rail bridge, was hit by heavy bombers for the sixth time in less than two weeks.

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Liberators bombed the Avisio viaduct, five miles north of Trento and the rail yards north and south of the town . In other attacks, Liberators pounded the Latisana rail bridge on the Trieste-Venice line, and the Casarsa bridge on the Udine-Treviso line, with good concentrations reported.

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Outstanding results on at least eight of the nine difficult road and rail targets within an 80-mile radius of Milan attacked yesterday by the Tactical Air Force were confirmed by bomb strike photographs revealing many direct hits and damaging concentrations on almost all the objectives.
Yesterday's other tactical targets included transportation lines and bridges in the Alessandria-Florence Florence-Genow areas, in the Faenza-Florence line and a nearby road, pontoon bridges south of Mantova, barges in the areas of Parma, Pavia, and Cremona.

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(PRO)

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 77 - 6 September 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - M.491.6 - 23.00
September 5/44

Monuments Damaged in Central Italy

Reuter's has issued a report on damage sustained by artistic monuments in central Italy, during the fighting of the past few months. The churches of St. Francis and St. John at Viterbo are listed as destroyed. The fourteenth century church of St. Peter at Radicofani is stated to have been severaly damaged, and the bell-tower is in danger of collapse. Heavy damage was suffered by the cathedrals of Terni and Alatri.

According to the British news agency these and other destructions can be regarded as modest considering the fierceness of the fighting. Enemy propaganda in this way is passing on to history these sad facts which must be added to the immense destruction caused by air raids. This is another evidence of the disgusting cynicism inspiring Anglo-Saxon methods of waging war.

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UN News Service BASIC NEWS - 5 September 1944

CLARK VISITS PUSA

Pisa, September 4 - Lieut. General Mark W. Clark yesterday visited this historic city liberated by his 5th Army troops, who had saved the famous Leaning Tower from destruction, a United Nations News reporter wrote today.

General Clark personally inspected damage done by German artillery. The 881-year-old cathedral showed the marks of two mortar hits, both light, and one of its three bronze doors had what looked like a bullet hole. All six of the city's ancient bridges were blown up, the railroad station in the south section was completely destroyed and the north drive along the River Arno, on which most of the city's hotels and shops are located, was extensively mined.

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(UNN)

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UN News Service - BASIC NEWS - 5 September 1944

M.A.A.F. HARRIES GERMANS IN ITALY

Advance AFHQ, September 4 --

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The toll of enemy rolling stock was heaviest in the Turin area and westward to the French frontier, where German forces are nervously buttressing the Alpine defenses against a possible threat by 7th Army troops now overrunning nearly all southern France. More than 400 railway cars were destroyed in the border area, while 126 were smashed in the Turin-Alessandria district. In attacks on the Adriatic coast, a 30 car ammunition train was blown up by Spitfires.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT N.76 - 5 September 1944 20381/MFAA

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO In Italian to Italy - 0700 September 4/44

Enemy Air Raids

During the month of August, enemy air forces carried out 558 bombing operations and 220 machine-gun operations over Republican territory. Two hundred and fifty Anglo-Amerixan bombers, in one wave alone, during the night of the 25th of August, dropped many bombs on the residential quarters of the town of Ravenna. Nearly all the public buildings were destroyed, amongst which were the Cathedral, the Church of San Francesco, the Church of San Domenico and the Galla Placidia mausoleum. The number of fatal casualties is very high.

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UNI News Service - BASIC NEWS - 5 September 1944

Rail Bridges in North Italy Attacked

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY - September 4 - Both heavy and medium bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force combined today to deliver a series of crippling blows against road and rail lines in northern Italy.

While up to 500 Flying Fortress and Liberators attacked rail bridges and marshalling yards on the Brenner Pass route from Germany, and the Latisana and Casarsa bridges in northeastern Italy, a record number of Mitchell medium bombers struck at nine bridges in the Milan area, hitting aight of the targets in simultaneous attacks.

One information of Fortresses bombed enemy submarines moored in Genoa harbor.

(PRO)

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. EPORT No. 76 - 5 Settember 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO In Italian to Italy - 491 Meters - 2000
3 September 1944

Salvating of Artistic Masterpieces

Speaking of the safeguarding of... the so-called Minister for Public Instruction of thz Bonomi Government has addressed a circular letter to all the superintendens of Art and Monuments, setting forth measures to be adopted to revever artistic masterpieces. So far as this goes, the Minister has carried out his duty, but in order to prove that he is a faithful servant of the Anglo-Saxons, Professor De Ruggero decred it necessary to thank all eminent Abglo-American scholars, who in the wake of the fighting troops, limited so far as was in their power, the latter's work of destruction.... That this provision is part of a vast organisation for an even vaster system of protection provided for by Roosevelt and Churchill ever since the begining of the war. It would be interesting to know what orders would have been given to enemy pilots, if this organization had not existed.

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AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 76 - 5 SEPTEMBER 1944

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 491 Meters - 2000
3 September 1944

Ravenna bombed

During the night of August 25, Ravenna was heavily raided; enemy bombers caused very severe damage to the city and the residential quarters have been almost totally destroyed. Two hundred and fifty enemy bombers during a single fight dropped many thousands of bombs over the city. Before the bombing, the city was lit by flares. Almost all the public buildings were destroyed, among which were the Cathedral, the Church of St. Francis, the Church of San Domenico, the church of San Simon, the Civil Hospital was also partially destroyed. The appropriate authorities immediately took steps to rescue the victims and put out the fires.

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Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 4 September 1944 -

MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY - Sept. 3

Other medium bombers attacked railroad bridges in the central Po valley, while fighter-bombers attacked pontoon bridges over the Po, roads in the area between Modena and Rimini, and shipping off the northwest coast of Italy.

.....

Last night our bombers attacked the rail yards at Ferrara.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20381/MFAA

UN News Service "BASIC NEWS" - 3 September 1944

LIBERATED ITALY

TRIBUTE TO ALLIES

ROME, September 2 - Guido de Ruggiero, Minister of Public Education, today recalled that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill long ago outlined provisions for the protection and safeguarding of artistic monuments.

In a circular issued today to superintendents of historic monuments, he paid tribute to the invaluable work rendered by American and British scholars who, in the wake of the Allied Armies take immediate measures for the safeguarding of damaged historic monuments from further destruction and for the collecting of art works which had to be placed in hiding places beyond the reach of German vandalism.

Minister de Ruggiero emphasized the need for continued collaboration between Italian and Allied authorities for the protection of cultural monuments.

(UNN)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ITALY
Ravenna

Air Attacks: On Ravenna—

K13. *Italian Home Service*, 3.9.44 (20.00). On the night of August 25th Ravenna was subjected to a severe air raid, causing extensive damage to the city and almost completely destroying the residential quarters. (See *Digest* 1541, 1.9, K7.) A wave of 250 bombers dropped several thousands of medium and heavy bombs in addition to incendiaries. Before the attack, the city was illuminated by hundreds of flares. Almost all the public buildings were destroyed, including the Cathedral, the Churches of San Francesco, San Domenico, San Giovanni Battista, San Vittore and the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia. The Municipal Hospital was partially destroyed. The authorities immediately started fire-fighting operations and the rescue of victims.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 75 - 3 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 0800 - 2 September -

Padua Raided Again

Formations of Anglo-American bombers flew over Padua and the surrounding districts yesterday, dropping many bombs. Many houses were hit and a fair number of casualties were caused, some of them fatal, amongst the civilian population. At Plevara Pisana, a bomb which was in an open field was buried by another bomb which fell on top of it.

The number of dead resulting from the terror raid on Cuneo total thirty-four.

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Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 2 September I944.

M.A.A.F. DESTROYS I57 PLANES ON GROUND - ADVANCE AFHQ, September I -

Other Allied air attacks in Italy included targets near Vicenza and Treviso, and the Mira rail bridge, five miles north of Venice. The Ercoto rail line, 50 miles northeast of Genoa, was also attacked, with both approaches probably cut. Rail lines north and east of Padua were hammered, as well as those in the Venice area, and at Ponte Bello, west of Lake Veneta.

In Coastal operations, the Allied air force attacked four E-boats, claimed hits and reportedly sunk an F-boat in the Gulf of Genoa. Shipping and other coastal targets were attacked at Porto Fino, in the Setri Levante harbor and at Savona.

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AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT. No. 74 - 2 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - m. 491 - 2300 - Sept. 1

Victims in Cuneo.

It is learned that after the last Allied terror raid over Cuneo, the number of dead has risen to thirt-four, among whom were seven nuns working in a hospital. Several people were also injured.

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Un News Service, BASIC NEWS, 2 September 1944.

FERRARA RAILWAY YARDS HIT BY NIGHT BOMBERS - ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY, September 1

The railway yards at Ferrara, main road junction for enemy supplies and communication to the Goth Line, were attacked last night by RAF Wellingtons, Liberators, and Halifaxes.

Explosions and fires were reported following an excellent concentration of bombs on the target.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, R.M. REPORT No. 74 - 2 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - m. 49I - 2300 - Sept. I-Padua Bombed.

Anglo-American bomber formations flew over the town of Padua and the vicinity, dropping a considerable number of bombs, Several buildings were hit, and there were many casualties, both killed and wounded

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R.M. REPORT No. 74 - 2 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy m. 491 2000 September 1

Air Raid on Genoa

As a result of a recent air raid carried out against the city of Genoa, the house of Giuseppe Mazzini was damaged by a bomb. The blast of this bomb destroyed the apartment where Mazzini was born. A number of books, masteripieces and precious authographs were buried underneath the rubble.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ, PWB, R. M. REPORT No. 74 - 2 September 1944 -

REPUBLICAN FASCIST RADIO in Italian to Italy - 480 m. - 1300 - 1 Sept.

Recovery of Art Treasures.

The British Radio announces that certain important art collections have been recovered, amongst which there is a painting by Michelangelo; and that this collection is now under the custody of the Allies. As these art collections are gradually identified they are placed under the supervision of the Anglo-American. This item of news, which has been given out by Reuter's needs no comment.

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