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5<sup>TH</sup> ARMY-MFAA - Vol II

Jan. - AUG. 1945

20164/1F44 - 5th ARMY ( Part TWO - Jan. 45 - )

NO. 1

MINUTE SHEET

Date TO:

1487

20464/MFAA - 5th ARMY ( part ONE -

1468

3 AGO 1945

*Ok [unclear]* 3 Aug 45.  
To: HQ Allied Commission.  
MFAA Subcommittee.

May the attached copy reports  
please be forwarded as address.  
Copy for you be forwarded  
under separate cover.

*J. Melli T/S*  
MFAA clerk  
AMG 5th Army.

2843

Subject of Letters : Final Report on Art Deposits  
San Leonardo and Campo Tures.

207/9 ; dd 1 Aug ; /s/ Keller

Headquarters AMG 5 Army Apo 394

To : 1st. Lt. F. Hartt  
Dir. Gen'l of Fine Arts, Ital. Gov't

( Two copies received by this office.

*ed/ENW 12 Aug*

A C
DOCUMENTS FILE ARTS & ARCHIVES
10 AGO 1945
FILE No. 24464

*on 2004/4*

*10 Aug 45*

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1 AGO 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

1 August 1945

SUBJECT: Final Report on Art Deposits  
San Leonardo and Campo Tures.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

1. Early in May 1945 at San Leonardo and Campo Tures large deposits of Art treasures from the Florentine Galleries were found by elements of the 88th and 85th Divisions. Guards were immediately placed on them and since that time they have continued to be protected by American Military personnel. The 100th Chemical, the 527th F.A. and the 75th F.A., as well as the Divisional Guards have taken turns on the precious Deposits.

2. It appears that if the Germans had won this war, these world known objects would have continued their journey into Germany and Austria. Hitler was building what was to be the greatest Art Gallery in the world in memory of his mother at Linz. He coveted certain things from our own United States Galleries. 2842

3. A conservative estimate of these deposits in the Tyrol was put at \$500,000,000.00 by Supt. Rossi of the Galleries of Florence. At San Leonardo there are among many others, great works by Rubens, the Minerva and Antaeus by Botticelli, Perugino, Andred del Sarto dubbed the "perfect painter" by Robert Browning, Peter Breughel, Van Dyck, Bellini, Lucas Cranach, Tintoretto - all great and masterly examples. At Campo Tures in addition to paintings by some of these men and Raphael, Veronese and Solario, one of Leonardo da Vinci's best pupils among many others, are the Bacchus of old Michelangelo and the St. George of Donatello. For people who are interested, the places are filled with incomparable, unique riches of the hand, mind and soul of Renaissance Italy.

RECEIVED THE ARMY AIRCRAFT

4 AGO 1945

FILE No

1 AGO 1945

4. The Germans brought them uncrated, wrapped only in blankets and resting on straw in open trucks from Florence and environs. At Merano several truck loads were rained on. Other truck loads remained 5 days in the big square at Bolzano during Allied aerial bombardments of the nearby Railroad Station there. Many of the pictures suffered damage in transit, and some of it is serious.

5. As of 10th July 1945 the 5th Army had done the following:

a) Maintain a fine Guard day and night at the two places,

b) 109 heavy crates were built at San Leonardo and professional packers under 5th Army and Italian supervision have done a great job of preparing the things for the journey,

c) At Campo Tures 46 crates of objects were built and the packing was done by experts from Milan in the same manner as at San Leonardo.

d) With 5th Army officers, Supt. Rossi<sup>203</sup> the Florentine Galleries has checked each object, has a check list of what is in each numbered crate at both places. Photographs and written records of the damage incurred under German handling have been made. Lt. Zipser, APS, took movies as well as stills. T/5 Bernholz, A.M.G. 5th Army Photographer, has a complete photographic record at both deposits.

e) In possession of HQ A.M.G. 5th Army there is a letter written by Comm. Poggi, Supt. of Florence, Pistoia and Arezzo, asking that 5th Army bring the treasure back to Florence. A letter from the Director General of Fine Arts in Italy, Sig. Bianchi Bandinelli, contains a similar request. With full knowledge that 5th Army will transport these things to Florence with the greatest care, the Italian officials have inserted a clause to the effect that any damage occurring in the whole affair shall be termed an "Act of God".

5. This will undoubtedly be one of the richest loads ever carried by a Railroad train in history, if not the richest. 5th Army Transportation is laying on the boxcars and making the arrangements in collaboration with

A.M.G. 5th Army. The Office of the Provost Marshal has been told of the need of a guard. There will be about 19 Railroad cars. The trip to Florence will take about 40 hours from Bolzano where the train is to be made up. Several 5th Army trucks including a wrecker and crane will load at San Leonardo and Campo Tures. The train will pull into the Campo di Marte Station in Florence and the works will be transported by truck to the Pitti Palace, selected as the proper place by Poggi.

6. Lt. Colonel E. Holmgreen has agreed to be train commander. Two other officers and an EM from HQ AMG will accompany the train all the way, and will supervise the loading and unloading at both ends.

7. To date every conceivable angle has been covered by HQ A.M.G. 5th Army and it is hoped that with good fortune this world famous heritage of the race may reach its proper destination safe and sound.

8. The trucks will commence loading on Monday, 16th July. 5th Army Transport says the train can start from Bolzano probably 18th July in the morning and arrive in Florence 19th July in the evening.

9. In fact, 16th July loading began at San Leonardo and Campo Tures simultaneously. Major Arthur R. Schmidt of the 630 AAA AW Bn, MPs had arrived the previous day with 60 MPs and four officers: Lts. Brown, Duffie, Griesiciwicz and Molinari. Lt. Colonel Mc Bratney, P.C. Bolzano Province, added another to his long list of helpful suggestions and deeds in offering the rear of the Provincial HQ and the basement thereof for the men to pass the night. The undersigned wishes to state here that Lt. Col. Mc Bratney has been most cooperative all through this tedious and dragged out affair, and has consistently backed up the writer, been indulgent about the unavoidable delays, offered assistance at every turn. Furthermore in the job of paying the workmen and for the materials, he has put his own Finance Officer at the disposal of AMG 5th Army and has thereby facilitated things enormously. Thanks are hereby rendered him for invaluable and most efficient aid.



10. Six trucks from 5th Army, 235th QM TC 3376 and an "A" frame started the work of loading in the two places, three trucks at San Leonardo and three trucks and the "A" frame at Campo Tures. Lt. Fred Hartt, AC of the US, was in charge at the San Leonardo deposit, and the undersigned and Dr. Rossi of the Florentine Galleries bossed the job at Campo Tures. The job in the former place was easier, for all the works were paintings and there was nothing heavy. Nicolussi, professional packer from Trento Art Galleries of the Italian State, superintended the transport and loading with Lt. Hartt. The things were taken by truck to the Railroad Station at Merano. Constant guards were kept on the works at all times, MPs riding the trucks in transit. The job of clearing out this deposit was accomplished on 18th July 1945. 2839

11. At Campo Tures it was found that the "A" frame was not heavy enough to lift the very weighty pieces of sculpture. Major Schmidt offered to try to find a wrecker which he succeeded in doing - from the 338th Engineers PBS. With this and the very efficient work of the two Sgts. running it, Palin and Carroll, the work went along fast and on 19th July the loading was done, without incident, though with much nerve tension at times on the part of those directing. Special RR cars were hauled from Brunico to take certain pieces that were too large to fit in the ordinary RR freight cars of German and Italian type. Fortunately the weather held throughout both loading in the Alto Adige and the unloading at Florence, so that the fear of rain damage was absolutely eliminated. Such rain damage as the pictures in exhibit took place during the German handling of these things. No piece, either at Campo Tures or at San Leonardo was dropped or manhandled in any way. On the trip to Florence no jarring or incident detrimental to the things occurred, nor was there any incident there which might have damaged any single one of the works of Art. It can be safely said and sworn to by witnesses that the American Military personnel in charge of this priceless collection treated it as carefully as possible from the time it was discovered in the two places until it was turned over to the Italian authorities in Florence. The Italians were in on the deal from the beginning and nothing was kept from them during any stage of the proceeding. Their advice was sought at all times. The only decisions taken by those responsible had to do with the MODE of transport, and



acquiescence was gotten in writing even for this from Comm. Poggi, the top Italian authority. According to Lt. Hartt, the Italians had complete confidence in the Americans all along and understood that the American idea was diametrically opposed to the German: there was never any secrecy; the things were expertly packed by Italians; the motivating force was the RETURN of Florence's Art Treasures to Florence; top priority was obtained for the trip back to Tuscany; a more than adequate guard was kept at all times; high American Military authority was concerned in restoring these things to the Italians, not in collecting them for their own pleasure and use. In the words of the Director of the Fine Arts Section of AC, this was the final and crowning act through an arduous campaign of protecting for Italian works of Art and was indicative of the point of view of the Allied Forces in Italy. The instrument was A.M.G. 5th Army backed up by numerous outfits in 5th Army and PBS.

2838  
12. While the loading was going on regular calls were paid MRS 5th Army and train schedules were adjusted to the time of loading completion. Capts. Harrison, Propacki and Huddleston were most cooperative. The countless details involved were resolved in order by the undersigned and his helpers. Lt. Colonel Holmgreen who was to be the train commander, had arrived and with him and Lt. Hartt assisted by all the rest, the final details were worked out. 20th July the cars from Merano and from Brunico were made up into one train in Bolzano. There were 13 cargo cars, 6 guard cars, a kitchen car, a passenger and office car and a flat car carrying two jeeps. The guard cars were spotted through the train. Capt. Victor Rust produced 50 CO2 Fire Extinguishers. This was a remarkable feat of timing and travel. The 5th Army Commander's private plane was put at his disposal to go to Livorno and get them. This he did and the extinguishers arrived at the proper time in the Alto Adige. Capt. Rust must be highly commended for producing in a short time in the most efficient manner. He also took care of the problem of getting them back to Livorno from Florence. Thanks for the work of all the officers and men have been written - those outside A.M.G. 5th Army HQ. The undersigned wishes here to express thanks to those in the HQ: Brig. General E. E. Hume, Colonel Sutherland (no longer with the HQ), Lt. Colonel Michie, Lt. Colonel Holmgreen, Lt. Colonel Toscani, Capt. Brownyard, Capt. Rust. All officers and

men at HQ A.M.G. 5th Army had an interest in this move and all should know that it is very much appreciated by the undersigned. On the British side Major Hayne helped at many points and this is acknowledged with thanks.

13. 20th July 1945 the train left Bolzano Station pulled by an electric engine. There was a long stop at Trento because there was no relief train crew there. An Italian Inspector of Railways accompanied the train in addition to the Military Personnel, the 60 MPs, 5 MP Officers, Lt. Colonel Holmgreen, Capt. Keller and Dr. Rossi of the Galleries of Florence. The delay was irritating so that the undersigned made a speech to the Inspector, and told him if there was going to be palaver at every stop we would put an MP with drawn automatic at the back of the engineer and treat him in the true SS manner. There were no stops of any length for a while. Lt. Colonel Holmgreen continually checked the train and guard, and the MPs dropped off at every stop as soon as it came to a halt. At longer stops all ate "C" rations and drank lemonade. Lt. Colonel Holmgreen rode the engine for a while. A change was made to Steam at Trento and later to Diesel. Train crews were fed ancient "C" rations and worked well throughout. The crossing of the Po River was uneventful. The only hitch came South of Bologna. Here a train ahead carrying a large crane got stuck in the first long tunnel and an engine from Monzuno had to be gotten to pull it out. The crane had pulled down some wires from the ceiling of the excavation. For the rest of the trip there was nothing to do but go through the routine until 1600 hrs. <sup>21 July 1945</sup> when the train pulled into the Campo di Marte Station in Florence, making 22 hours exact from Bolzano. Main stops were Trento 1905 hrs., outside Verona 1135 hrs., Bologna 0600 hrs and Florence 1400 hrs. Saturday 21st July 1945.

2837

*Trucks* 14. Unloading began almost immediately and 12 trucks <sup>loads</sup> furnished by PBS, were unloaded the first day. 22nd July a token 6 trucks were loaded; Italian and American flags decorated the first of these as well as a huge sign on either side of it with the 5th Army insigna, saying "Florentine Works of Art return from the Alto Adige to their proper home" in Italian. They were parked before the Palazzo Vecchio and 3,000 Florentines heard General Hume, in a short speech, eloquently turn the Art Treasure over to the Mayor of Florence, Sig. Pieraccini, who responded in a

moving talk on the part of the Florentines. A spontaneous ovation was given the General by weeping and emotionally touched citizens. It was a complete tribute to General Hume and the 5th Army and was memorable in the extreme. A good banquet followed with an oration by Minister Ruini of Reconstruction and a reply in Italian by the General.

15. At 2000 Hours 22nd July the last case of sculpture was expertly unloaded by Pvt. Hamilton and his wrecker of PBS at the Bargello Museum and this ended the story.

16. Arrangements have been made by the undersigned and Lt. Paquette, Finance Office Bolzano Province to pay all bills arising out of this movement. It appears now that this will be accomplished quickly.

17. Lt. Hartt, Tuscany Region Fine Arts Officer deserves all the credit coming to him for the Florence end of this deal and for his work in the Alto Adige. With the undersigned he worked in perfect harmony and the facts speak for themselves in the accomplishment of this most delicate transfer. Lt. Colonel De Wald and Lt. Colonel Perkins of A.C. lent a hand and encouraged and had confidence in the officers who did all the work on the deposits. The whole affair required teamwork. In all, 10 different outfits of 5th Army and PBS, plus the Italians had to be gotten together and their work coordinated for the movement. For the guard which had been on the things from early in May appreciation must be expressed. First the 88th and 85th Divisions. Others came from the 527th F.A. and the 75th F.A. and the 100th Chemical Co. They were all efficient and nothing was harmed or lost during their tours of duty. Major James Long and Driver Pfc. Ray Spizziri were the first to come upon the San Leonardo Deposit as representatives of AMG with the Division, so that Major Long's was the first report on it to HQ AMG 5th Army. The 342nd Regt., 88th Division handled a number of guard problems with the undersigned. Similar problems were gone over with Colonel English of the 339th Regt. Inf. 85th Division as long as they were in the Campo Tures area.



18. A special word must be said for T/5 Charles Bernholz the undersigned's driver and right-hand man throughout. He was efficient and interested and alert at all times and was invaluable to the undersigned in this job as he has been since November 1944 in all MFAA work to the present date.

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt, AUS  
MFAA Officer  
AMG Fifth Army

Copy to: Executive Officer,  
AMG 5th Army.

HQ A.C., MFAA Subcommittee.

R.C., Venezia Region, MFAA Officer (Major W.T. Newton).

1st Lt. Fred Hartt (through HQ A.C., MFAA S/C).

Director General of Fine Arts, Italian Govt.,  
(through HQ A.C., MFAA Subcommittee).



2 AGO 1945

207/9

1st Ind.

DK/TJM/jm

HQ AMG 5TH ARMY, APO 464, US ARMY, 2 Aug 45.

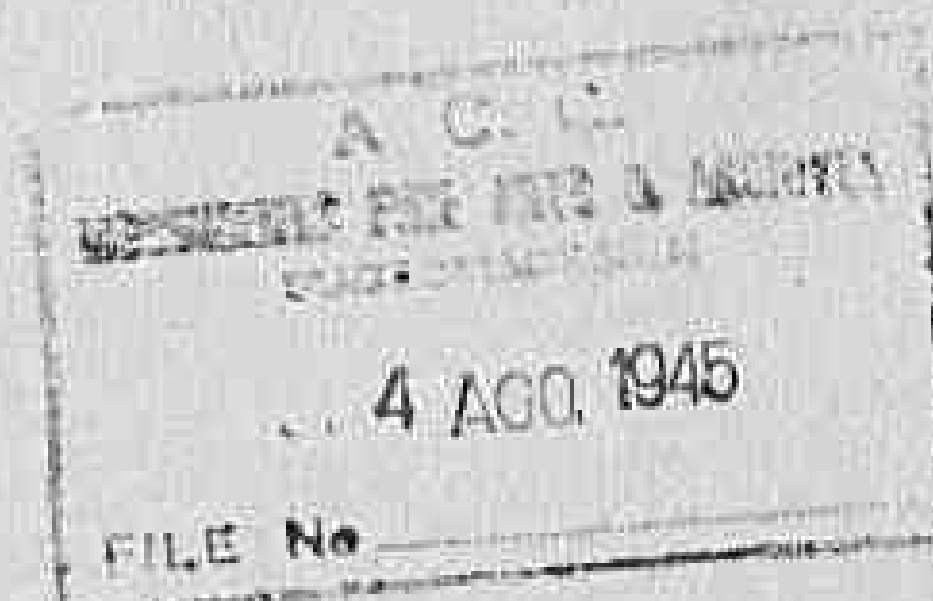
TO: HQ Allied Commission,  
MFAA Subcommittee.

1. Forwarded for your information.

For the Commanding General:

THOMAS J. MICHIE,  
Lt. Colonel, A.C.,  
Executive Officer.

2834



COPY/xf

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

6 July 1945

SUBJECT : MFAA Reports.

TO : SCAO Fifth Army.

Payment for Materials and Labor.

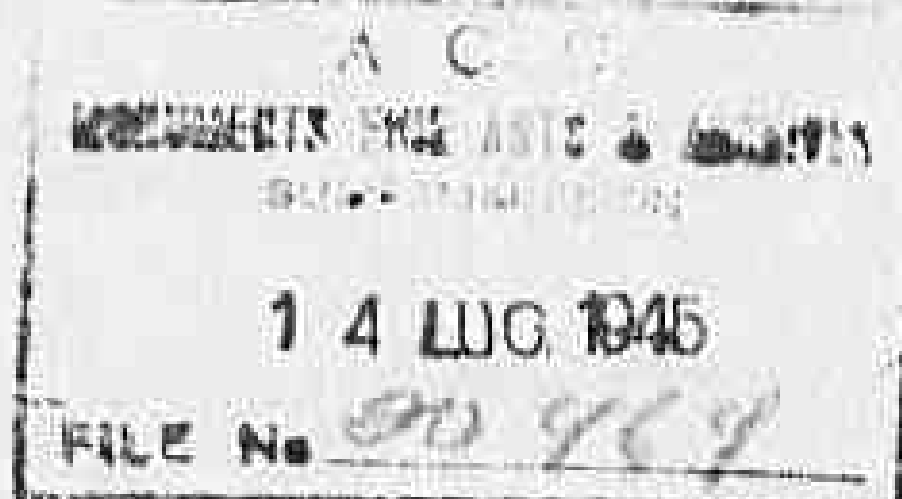
1. The bills for the packing, and the crates, at San Leonardo amounting to 56,387 lire was given to Lt. Paquette, Prov. Fin. Officer by the undersigned 3 July 1945. He will get the money and the undersigned will give it to the proper people.

This quick attention to the bills is much appreciated. It is understood that there will be no bills from Campo Tures deposit, as the materials came from German dumps and the labor will be paid by the Supt. of Monuments in Milan.

Pictures at Colle Isarco

2. 4 July 1945 undersigned went to Colle Isarco to see some pictures in the Palace Hotel there. The information came from August Gröbner, part owner of this place. About Nov. 1944 seven large pictures were left in the dining hall of the hotel by a group from the Gestapo. They probably came from Verona which was the HQ of the Gestapo Chief in Italy, Gen. HARSTER. The stuff was brought by enlisted men with Italian drivers and was not crated. It is possible that the pictures may have been loaded at any point along the route. In addition to the seven pictures there are 12 pieces of frames which indicates that 3 pictures are missing from this group. List follows:

1. Flower piece 3 by 5ft. 18th. cent.
2. " " " " " " identical in size and frame.
3. Battle scene, horizon in middle, 4 by 6, 18 or 19 cent.
4. Camp scene, identical in size as 3, by the same hand, horizon same.
5. Woman pouring from a pitcher into cup held by man, camels on left, female figures small in mid-distance on right. Sort of Roman allegory. About 3 by 5ft.
6. Classic idyllic scene, flying cupids, love scene in center, about 3 by 5ft.
7. Concert scene, 18th. cent. sort of like Caravaggio, heavy chiaroscuro, well painted, black shadowy background, about 4 by 6ft. This is the best of the lot.



T/5 Bernholz took pictures of the most significant and these will be sent to Supt. Gazzola at Verona for identification. There was another picture marked "GUIDO RENI" on the back, a head of an old man, which when cleaned might be one. All the paintings had suffered from paint peeling off and from holes and dents; two are unframed. This is a group of pictures of secondary importance, but they are definitely worth tracing down.

b. The GG.FF of Colle Isarco has a group of 9 bronze pictures in low relief of several secular and religious subjects that were found crated in a private house in the town. They are not of any interest artistically, but they may be worth something to somebody. The case will be referred to Supt. Rusconi at Trento. Undersigned feels it necessary to trace down all these hints, for some of the really important losses may appear yet.

#### Pictures at Merano.

3. In a warehouse run by AMG, whose agent is Mr. KOLOS of the International Red Cross, several pictures were seen by the undersigned 5 July 1945. One, a small portrait of French school 18th. cent. is good. Another of the same school is poor. There are two large paintings of no account. They will be wrapped up and sent to Trento Monuments Supt. There is a Mr. Rückert connected with this outfit who will inform undersigned of any art finds, as he wanders about looking for German dumps of all sorts of things.

#### Rugs, Castle Dorensberg.

2832

4. The often mentioned rugs in this place have found their owner in all probability. GUGLIELMI of Milan is a dealer and through an inquiry on the part of Maj. RUSPOLI of the Italian Air Force it was found that the Germans had taken 300 rugs from his place in Milan, Guglielmi is a Jew. He has sent lists and will come himself to look at the rugs in Castle Dorensberg and if he can prove ownership will take them away. Maj. Ruspoli sees no reason to doubt that they are his, as he checked a tab on one of them with Guglielmi and it tallied properly. Guglielmi will come to Bolzano and go with the undersigned to the Castle to look at them.

#### CIC Dump.

5. Joe Longo of CIC turned the keys of a dump of his over to the undersigned. There are 39 crates of assorted silver, stamps, Jewish religious pieces, crockery, furs and the like. Undersigned has made a careful list of the contents of the crates with T/5 Bernholz. Such addresses as there are on the crates have been noted down. An SS uniform in one of the crates tells its own story. The things will be taken to the Trento Supt. and a list of the crates sent to the Director General of Fine Arts at Rome as well as to the Controller of Private property.

The silver ware is worth a lot of money.

General.

6. Undersigned has the note that Capt. Roger King, Monuments Officer 3rd. INF. wishes to come to Bolzano to coordinate things. The writer will be very glad to see him. T/5 Bernholz will take this report to Salo today. Undersigned will be very appreciative of any information on the contemplated move of pictures to Florence, which can be given to Bernholz, who will return to Bolzano 7 July.

/s/ Deane Keller,

/t/ DEANE KELLER? Capt.  
MFAA Officer.

Copies to:  
Exec. Officer  
HQ ALCOM MFAA  
MFAA Officer Venezia  
File

2831



COPY/xf

SCAO. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMC FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

30 June 1945

SUBJECT : MFAA Report.

TO : SCAO Fifth Army.

RECEIVED THE ARTS & MUSEUM  
SPECIAL COLLECTION

10 JUL 1945

FILE No

PARK HOTEL "RAID"

1. 27 June undersigned told Lt. Col. McBratney, PC, the story recounted in a report to SCAO Fifth Army 26 June 1945. He was immediately in accord with the writer and together a visit was made to S-3, 88 Div. and preparations were made with the 349th Inf. 3rd. Bn. at Merano to make a raid and search of the premises of the Park Hotel there, now a German War Hospital.

b. Accordingly, 28 June the writer and T/5 Bernholz appeared at nine in the morning at 349th. GP in Merano and were met by Lt. Charles Murphy and 12 em fully armed, and an interpreter, PFC Brandar. Undersigned explained what had to be done and a plan for guarding all exits and the elevators in the hotel was made. The writer also talked with Capt. Huebner, the Bn. physician so that he would know what was going on in a Hospital that was under his jurisdiction.

c. In column of twos we walked to the place, somewhat to the astonishment of the natives, and very much to that of the Germans in the hospital when we arrived. They seemed to scurry in all directions and the undercurrent there was aptly described by one of the sgts. as "Plenty screwy around here". The guards were placed and one of the krauts was told off as guide and the writer and Lt. Murphy and Bernholz went immediately to the top floor, which was the fifth. Every room was looked at, some in detail. It seemed certain to all that there were some malingerers on this floor and on the fourth. The Germans seemed anxious to show everything, but nothing out of order was found, and this, according to Lt. Murphy was normal, as he has conducted a number of similar raids before. The same performance was gone through on all the floors of the hotel and the basement.

d. The undersigned found the pictures that he had been told about, but none of them are worth anything. They are large landscapes in a rather poor contemporary attempt at realism.

3rd floor: picture 4 by 2 1/2 ft., dated 1940 by Eugen Oskot

2nd floor: " 4 by 5 ft. French scene by OTTO

1st floor: " 4 by 5 ft. River Boats by VICKEND-INGER 1936

Main ward: " 3 by 4 ft. Modern Italian Landscape.

None of these had ever been seen before by Mrs Panzer, the owner of the hotel and they had been brought in crates by the Germans and unpacked just before the Americans came to Merano.

20464  
SCAO. 1945

e. The woman Strobel, mentioned in para.2,b. in the report of 26 June was seen and all her stuff was searched. She had nothing but food and tobacco in large quantities, all either German or Italian. She is a bad egg. She laughingly told some of the Krauts that we had missed a wine cellar in our search of the Hospital, which is not true. Her case should be investigated.

f. The ANNEX to the hospital was also searched, but nothing found- no pictures other than many of Hitler, no liquor.

g. Though the results were negative in terms of any important finds it seems to have been a good thing to give it all the once over and let the Germans know we are watching them. The only way to do a thorough job would be to evacuate all the Germans from the place and go through baggage one at a time. This is impossible. There are many frightfully wounded Germans there now.

#### COLLE ISARCO

2. Undersigned went there 29 June on a tip that there were pictures from Central Italy in the Gröbner Hotel. This Hotel is destroyed. The Germans placed a time bomb in it and killed one American boy and wounded 25 others early in May. The writer interviewed Frau Gröbner, but she knew nothing of pictures. Her husband was away. He and the man in charge of cleaning up the ruins have been asked to send a report to the undersigned. The latter was interviewed at Vipiteno by the undersigned. Name is PERINI. It is difficult in these parts to know who is telling the truth. Herr Gröbner is a German and is reported by some to be a Nazi in feeling and by others not. Undersigned is coming to the belief that a stronger approach with a hint of a threat in it would work better than the polite and smooth manner so far adopted. The SS troops had five trucks parked in the Piazza at Colle Isarco two days before the Americans came, loaded with crates, some of which contained cameras, goods, etc.

The fact of it is that the Germans are not telling a thing unless they are sweated for it. This may be natural enough, but it is not an attitude that helps us recover stolen Italian property.

#### GENERAL

2829

3. a. A letter has been received from Guglielmi, rug dealer in Milan about a lot of rugs the Germans took away from him. They may be the ones at Castle Dorensberg. Lt. Col. Thompson, Deputy PC Bolzano will inform G-4 Fifth Army. Guglielmi will probably come to Castle Dorensberg with the undersigned to identify the rugs. The pictures and Archives there will be packed by Niccolussi of Trento and taken to Trento next week.

b. Maj. Reidemeister was picked up at San Leonardo 27 June by an outfit from 349th. Inf. on undersigned request. He is at Caserma degli Alpini in Merano now. Such documents as he had left were of no value, though by one of his companions Dr. Wuemans, trying to exculpate the Germans for all this tragedy is interesting and enraging. Undersigned will go to Merano and see what is the next move on Reidemeister from Lt. Siebers who is the American

officer in charge at the PW cage there. None of the Germans are left at San Leonardo now. Reidemeister's car, WH 1705700, Lancia is in the 349th. Inf. Bn. Motor Pool being overhauled now. This car has been requested by the undersigned for Supt. Rusconi of the Trento Superintendency and it is hoped that it may be forthcoming. It was not in very good shape when picked up. It is urgently hoped that Rusconi may get it, as he has no transport and must get around his area.

4. Nothing new has been heard from Fifth Army on the Transport of the San Leonardo and Campo Tures Deposits by the undersigned. Unless higher authority intervenes, as suggested by the undersigned the things will go by rail and that means a wait of another week or so, from this date.

/s/ Deane Keller,  
/t/ DEANE KELLER, Capt.  
MFAA Officer  
AMG Fifth Army

Copies To:  
Exec Officer  
MFAA Officer Venezia  
HQ ALCOM MFAA  
PC Bolzano  
File

2828



1 4 8 4

26 JUN 1945

COPY/jm

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

26 June 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

A C C
AMERICAN FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION
10 JUN 1945
FILE No.

Major RUSPOLI.

1. 26 June 1945 Major Ruspoli came to the writer's office with a letter of introduction from General Hume. He was advised of the lost works of Art situation and given an introduction to Comm. Nazari in Merano who may be able to help him. Undersigned is much interested in this case, for it is typical of what is going on in these parts as the following story will reveal. (The Major is Italian, looking for looted family possessions, Art, etc.).

Works of Art at Park Hotel, Merano.

2827

2. 25 June undersigned received word from the Supt. at Trento that there were some pictures, probably belonging to Italians, in the Park Hotel in Merano, which now for some time has been a German War hospital. The word came from Mrs. PANZER who was Proprietress of the Hotel in the old days before the war, and still owns it. Mrs. Panzer is an ardent anti-Nazi. Her story as recounted to the writer is this: There were four crates in the Hotel. Just before the Americans came, in a great hurry the Germans sent for a carpenter, had him open the crates and hang the pictures on the walls in the hallways near the main elevators on the first, second and third floors. The fourth picture was placed on the first floor near the third room on the left. It seems evident that the Germans wanted it to seem that the things had always been there and were the property of the Hotel, not theirs. Still another case was hidden by the Germans in Mrs. Panzer's own part of the Hotel in her private storeroom, under protest from her. This is apparently still there.

b. OTHER FACTORS: There is still a woman who worked for Mrs. Panzer 15 years who is very German. She tried to get rid of her in October 1944. The Germans said they would give her a job as an accountant, which she had been at the Hotel. They did not give her a job, yet she stayed on and is still there.

26 JUN 1945



now. Further she and a man name of SIMON or CIMON, who has been picked up by American Military authorities, perhaps as a spy, were very thick and she saw him often. Mrs. Panzer thinks she may be a spy. In any case she is hostile to Mrs. Panzer, and very close to the Germans.

c. Mrs. Panzer believes, but says she can not prove it, that there are high ranking German officers on the fourth floor who are perfectly well and feign illness with bandages and getting into bed when an American inspection is to come off.

d. She further states there are three elevators, one a baggage elevator in the Hotel. The Electric one and the baggage one go to the fourth floor and the "water" elevator goes only to the second floor. She believes the German stall the baggage on between floors with stuff on it they do not want seen during an inspection. Her suggestion is that if a raid is staged it will be most important to go directly to the fourth floor and have a look, and there the element of surprise is most important.

e. There are a number of exists at the rear of the Hotel used by the Germans and all these should be watched and guarded as well as the three elevators during any proposed raid. Also the Annex should be guarded, and it should be examined. It lies just back of the main building.

f. Mrs. Panzer says on 1 July 1945 all Italian personnel at the Hotel are to be fired by the Germans. Most of them have worked for her a long time and they are her only means of knowing what is going on and of her knowing what is happening to her possessions. She says the Germans are selling her stuff. She is willing to pay them herself if she can keep them on.

g. The Germans cut several extra exists at the back of the Hotel, one through a private enclosed space belonging to Mrs. Panzer.

h. THE ABOVE IS MRS. PANZER'S STORY, the facts as stated to the undersigned. There seems to be little doubt of her bitter hatred of the Germans. She is a Swedish woman. Her husband is reported to have been shot and at the same time to have been burned alive in the Brenner Pass. He seems to have had Fascist tendencies at some time, but to have spent time in a German concentration camp too. Mrs. Panzer is seeking a separation from him. The son was an anti-Nazi and escaped joining the Hitler youth organization. Recently the daughter, age about 24, was offered a TITIAN (?) by a woman who says she bought it from a German Officer. The price put by her to

Miss Panzer is Lire 500,000, which is very little if the picture is authentic. This too must be investigated.

i. Mrs. Panzer says the Germans have been tough with her, and, though she wants things investigated, she fears consequences afterwards and would like her name left out of it all. She says they helped many Italian soldiers and officers to escape the Germans and in many ways served the cause of Free Italy.

j. She says the peasants as a whole are helping the Germans and want to bring food to them via her house, so that they do not have to pass the American guard at the entrance at the Hotel. Says the peasants have arms aplenty, and when they held the "election" in Merano a few years ago Merano went "wild" for the Nazis and still feel that way.

k. FINALLY, the above account was all familiar to Mrs. Scudder who is in on this, knows Mrs. Panzer and mutual friends and is now working for Col. Fiske who is at the ex-Embassy of the Germans and Japs at Merano—the Praterhof. She remarked that she was glad something might be done about all this.

2825

#### NEW DEPOSITS.

3. Undersigned has found out about two other new deposits in the last few days: one at Colle Isarco where there are supposed to be some large pictures from Florence and another at Rio di Pusteria in Castelletto Korborg. These will be investigated. SS Troops are reputed to have taken the things to the Grobner di Colle (or Grand) Hotel at Colle Isarco. Major RUSPOLI, above mentioned, says he is missing 50 pictures from his family collection. The writer has asked for a complete list of all his losses, pictures, linen, silver, etc. They have the Talleyrand-Ruspoli crest on them, and the pictures are marked RUSPOLI on the back.

#### PICTURES AT CC.RR. CASERMA, MADERNO. (Lago di Garda)

4. 21 June, Lt. Colonel BYE, SPSO, AMG 5th Army, asked undersigned to look at a group of 8 pictures brought in by the CC.RR. from the home of a peasant near Maderno. This was done and none of them except a 1683 VAN MEULEN are of much account. The writer advised Lt. SUMMA of the CC.RR. 5th Army to tell Lt. Col. Bye to have them sent to the Supt. of Monuments at

Brescia for safe keeping and for finding out whom they belong to.

5. Capt. Beaumont of the 349th Inf., 88th Div., 3rd Bn. at Merano will see to it that Major REIDEMEISTER, another German officer and two EMS German will be picked up and sent to the Caserma degli Alpini, a transit PW camp in Merano. Lt. Siebers in charge, will tell undersigned the final destination of the two officers. The Major is wanted for more questioning on Monuments things. His car, Lancia, WH 1705700, will be impounded at the Hippodrome in Merano. It is urgently needed by Supt. RUSCONI at Trento and it is hoped that he r get it one way or another.

/s/ Deane Keller.

/t/ DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:

Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army.  
HQ A.C., M.P.A.A. S/C.  
B.C., Venezia Region for M.P.A.A. Officer.  
File.



22 JUL 1945

COPY

HEADQUARTERS  
AMC FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

June 22 1945

SUBJECT: Movement of Deposits.

TO : SCAC Fifth Army.

CAMPO TURES

1. a. Undersigned went to Campo Tures 22 June 1945. There is at Campo Tures a small Railroad Station from which an electric train, or pair of cars, runs to Brunico five times a day. There are two sidings for freight cars. The station master says there would be room enough for ten cars on the sidings and this is the calculated number necessary for the stuff in the deposit here. The Castle Neumelans where the things now are, guarded again by an outfit from the 88th. Div. under Capt. Browning, is about two hundred yards from the station. There are ample loading facilities, plenty of room for trucks, etc.

b. Undersigned then went to Brunico and interviewed the Station Master there, Gabriele Mercatali a good man and much interested in the works of art at Campo Tures. He will put on such extra trips as are necessary to bring the freight cars from Campo Tures to Brunico and will supply RA guards in addition to the American ones if needed. Only two freight cars at a time can come to Brunico, as the electric train from Campo Tures hasn't enough power to drag more at a time. There is ample siding at Brunico and plenty of space for everything needed in the transport. There is no doubt of the interest of this man, he is disposed to help whatever the plan may be from Fifth Army Transportation HQ.

c. As far as this deposit is concerned, if the above suggested plan is put into effect, there will be necessary only two or three trucks and a wrecker with a crane to lift the heavy sculpture, for the whole loading and unloading job at the train.

SAN LEONARDO

2823

2. a. 23 June undersigned went to San Leonardo and Merano. At Merano the station master, Ezio Maltoni, was interviewed as to possibilities of loading, room for trucks and sidings and he was as cooperative as the other man. He offered to supervise the putting in order of his best cars and in all ways put himself at the disposal of the officers organizing this convoy. There is ample space for all manœuvres connected with the convoy at Merano. Trains run four times a day to Bolzano.

22 JUL 1945

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1 JUL 1945

FILE NO. 20464

Maltoni said he would see that there was siding enough at Bolzano for thirty freight cars by pulling out to Merano that number if necessary. Since one of the crates measures 2.55 metres on the short side, and all pictures must travel upright, a special car had to be found in the yard at Merano to receive such. This car is good, as it is built to carry fine furniture and works of art--padded sides and ceiling. If there is any difficulty in getting any of the crates aboard there will be flat cars available. In this case plenty of heavy tarpaulins will be needed against the rain, or a special roofing must be built over these crates.

#### GENERAL

3. It is understood that none of the above is final in any way, but is a reconnaissance done at the suggestion of Capt. Richert, Fifth Army Transportation Officer. MRS in Bolzano will be consulted also, but with the same idea in mind--merely to try and get as much of the picture as is possible on the spot.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

4. a. In the discussion as to the means of transportation with Comm. POGGI in Florence, it was found that he preferred Trucks to the Railroad. Part of this preference came from the fact that he was not sure of arrangements in the latter mode. As the situation clarifies it is felt that some of his objection will disappear. However, before it is finally determined to carry the things by rail, his acquiescence must be obtained.

b. The undersigned discussed the truck situation thoroughly with Lt. Col. Toscani and with his deputy at Fifth Army Transportation, Capt. Richert, and is pretty well convinced of the great difficulties involved in truck transportation as against rail. Further it may be said that the writer is anxious to fit in with the great complication of maneuvers of the Transport Office if it involves no harm to the precious load he is attempting to get back to Florence. Also the undersigned's personal opinion is that the works of art will arrive safely barring "Forza Maggiore" just as well one way or the other. But the decision cannot be made by the undersigned for obvious reasons and seems to him best made by a combination of minds headed by Gen. Hume.

c. If trucks are insisted upon, high authority will be necessary to give the order.

ROUTES OF THE TRAINS

5. In case the things go by rail the idea will be to send the cars from Campo Tures to Brunico and from there to Bolzano to meet the cars coming from Merano, make one train of them and hitch them to whatever else is going south. This again is the only way the undersigned has it figured. The writer has no experience in these things.

In Florence six 6 by 6 trucks can handle the unloading, according to Comm. POGGI. Capt. Richert he can get the six trucks from army or from PBS. Labor will be found at Florence.

Three trucks at San Leonardo can do the job of transport to Merano, and two trucks or possibly three plus a wrecker can do the job at Campo Tures.

A flat car to carry the undersigned's jeep would be desirable so that transportation would not be lacking in Florence. May be necessary anyhow to carry a few of the large size pictures.

PACKING

6. Nicolussi at San Leonardo has done a fine job, as have Gemelli and Barzaghi at Campo Tures. Undersigned arranged with Lt. Gustiniani of the Motor Pool to get the latter two back to Milan 22 June 1945. Nicolusso will finish the last the last crates possible to pack on 25 June 1945. That leaves seven unpacked because there is not space to do it and the crates will not pass the door if they were packed inside. Undersigned refused to let them transport the pictures into an adjacent garage to do this, for at night a vehicle is parked there and the hazard is too great. The seven will be packed the day the trucks come to pick up the stuff. The things will be brought to the garage and packed there, where the crates will be today. It is best to leave all the things together in the case and not confuse the excellent guard, now under Cpl. Vanda, 75th. FA.

Undersigned stopped to see Comm. Nazari of the CLN at Merano and Ing. Pasi there. Both have been most helpful in getting supplies for the packing and have evinced a great interest in the whole business.

/s/ Deane Keller  
/t/ DEANE KELLER, Capt.  
MFAA Officer

Copies to:  
Exec. Officer  
MFAA Tuscany  
" Venezia  
" Alcom  
File

2821



C O P Y/rf

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

10 June 1945

SUBJECT : MFAA Report.

TO : SCAO Fifth Army.

Deposits at San Leonardo and Campo Tures.

1. a. 9 June Lt. Hartt and Sig. Rossi, Supt. of the Florentine Galleries, went to Campo Tures and immediately began the work of checking the collection there, so that the packing can commence. They will be through the work of checking 10 June in all probability and then will proceed to San Leonardo for the same reason.

b. Packing at Campo Tures will take a week according to Gemelli, the chief packer. It is believed the same time will be necessary at San Leonardo. The undersigned made this agreement with Sig. Rossi, whose responsibility this whole affair is, under Comm. Foggi at Florence: The agreement is that Sig. Rossi is satisfied to let Gemelli pack the things after they have been checked by Rossi and Lt. Hartt, as to what they are and into which crate each object is going. Rossi says, it will be got in writing, that he is willing to let Gemelli pack without him actually watching the procedure. This agreement will save time and allow Rossi and Lt. Hartt to go to San Leonardo and do their job there.

c. Undersigned accompanied Rossi and Lt. Hartt to Campo Tures and found all in order, Capt Wendell and Lt. Staley in charge an excellent guard from the 100th. Chemical. These officers have been very helpful in getting materials for the workmen and have taken a real interest and have facilitated the job in many ways.

d. Undersigned has asked Gemelli to make a square foot estimate of the space required by all the crates in this place, so that a more precise estimate of the number of trucks required may be had. An estimate from an EM who has handled equipment in six by sixes will also be gotten. Such an estimate is very difficult to make, for there is no uniformity in size in all the crates.

e. 11 June undersigned will go to San Leonardo to review the situation with Nicolussi and to prepare the way for Lt. Hartt and Rossi.

DORNSBERG

2820

2. a. Lt. Hartt, if he can spare the time from Tuscany

DOCUMENTS FOR ARTS & ARCHIVES SUGGESTED
22 JUN 1945
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might help in getting the stuff from Castle Dorensberg back to Trento- the rugs and pictures. Undersigned is fully occupied with the two big deposits above described. This removal from Dorensberg presents difficulties, for a truck cannot approach within 100 yards of the Castle. It means much labor to transport the rugs from the castle, danger from showers, and the trip to Trento will be four hours. The things are better where they are for the moment until proper arrangements can be made. The transfer should not be made with a lick and a promise. It is too bad that attention cannot be given all these things more rapidly, but it is believed by the undersigned that if we do it "by the numbers" the end result will be safety for the stuff and all angles figured. Another officer to help in this problem would be useful.

b. There is also the dump of seven cases at Laces, under American guard as is Dorensberg. There is mystery as to what these things are, as Mayr who is Director of Galleries at this time in Bolzano, says all the things under his superintendency are known to be safe in various scattered deposits which he has indicated to us, but he does NOT mention these seven cases, six of which are marked Bolzano and one Trento. This means that probably the cases should be opened in situ and contents examined.

3. 9 June undersigned went with Mr. Luongo of the CIC to look at several cases of the stuff they had picked up at Merano and Vipiteno. These consisted in some Jewish vestments and silver and glassware, as well as a very large collection of postage stamps, evidently part of a professional's collection. The collection of stuff will be gone over again and probably be removed to Trento Museum until the proper owners can be found through the Italian Superintendency of Monuments. A receipt will be gotten from Rusconi there and a copy sent to Sig. Bianchi Bandinelli, Director General at Rome.

4. Rusconi published in the papers and spoke over the radio about the art deposits at San Leonardo and Campo Tures without permission. The undersigned with Lt. Col. Perkins and Lt. Hartt had decided only to announce that the things were safe and being cared for by Allied Military Personnel. Rusconi will be warned. He did not publish a call for information from citizens who knew of Art Object Deposits, with permission from the undersigned and Maj. Davis, FC Trento. In the field it is hard to make the Italians realize that AMG is the source for all things.

5. 10 June Lt. Col. DeVald and W/Cdr Cooper left Bolzano for HQ Fifth Army AMG. They have done a fine piece of work and the culpability of the Germans in terms of stolen and misplaced art objects will reach a solution under them with the interviewing of a few key men Wolff, Langsdorff, and Hofer in particular. It is

hoped that Fifth Army can assist in finding the resting places of these chief culprits. Undersigned has turned over all documents he has found on these things to Lt. Col. DeWald. Others were taken to HQ MFAA AG by Lt. Col. Perkins some time ago. There remains in the undersigned's possession a lot of "War Against ART" propaganda, put out by the Germans which will be brought back to AMG HQ.

6. Undersigned will return to HQ AMG Fifth Army 12 June with the convoy plan for criticism and advise.

/s/ Deane Keller

/t/ DEANE KELLER . . Capt.  
MFAA Officer  
AMG Fifth Army.

Copies to:

Exec Officer  
HQ AG MFAA  
MFAA Reg. Venezia  
MFAA Reg. Toscana  
File

2818



ANG 5 Army

GIU, 1945

8 June 1945

SUBJECT: MFAA Report  
TO: SCAG 5 ARMY

Deposit at Campo Tures

1. Thirty six crates have been built for the pictures and other works of art here. The packers are ready to put the things in the crates and finish the job. It is hoped that Lt. Hartt and Sig. Rossi from the Galleries of Florence get up immediately. Undersigned asked for them for 3 June in a letter to Lt. Hartt. According to a telegram received by the undersigned he was due yesterday. This officer has sent word to Col. Sutherland asking him to hurry Lt. Hartt up here, by W/Cdr. Cooper who is going to 5 Army today. No packing can be done until they arrive. The work was done much faster than had been anticipated at this deposit, so that both places are now ready for packing, the 109 crates at San Leonardo having been finished up yesterday.

The need for Lt. Hartt and Sig. Rossi is this: they have the list of all the works of art. All objects packed up must be carefully scrutinized as they go into the crates and each crate must be carefully marked as to precise content. Further, the private collections must be segregated from the rest and so marked. It is absolutely essential that an authorized person from the Florentine Galleries see the things as they are packed and give his OK. The whole procedure must be documented with photographs.

2317  
A separate plan for the convoy to Florence will be submitted by the undersigned in person to Gen. Hume and Col. Sutherland for criticism and suggestion in a few days. It is believed the work of packing will require five days, and that contrary to what we supposed two weeks ago, both deposits will be ready to transport to Florence at the same time. At the moment, and after consultation with W/Cdr. Cooper in Bolzano, the undersigned inclines towards making one trip. This means a convoy of about fifty trucks.

SO AS NOT TO LOSE WHAT THERE IS OF VALUE IN THE ABOVE A NEW PAGE WILL NOT BE BEGUN: LT! COL! DEWALD JUST CAME INTO THIS OFFICE AND HARTT AND W/CDR COOPER WILL RETURN TO BOLZANO TONIGHT, 14:00 hrs.

SIEBEN HÜNER

2. A call had been put out to bring in Siebenhüner, Hydenreich's civilian helper at the German Institute in Florence and the man who was in charge of war damage repairs for the Germans. He came in 8 June and brought with him a complete writeup of his work in this field, which is now in the hands of Lt. Col. DEWALD. A hasty scanning of the material indicates that the Germans did some things pretty carefully, but not al

of art here. The packers are ready to put the things in the crates and finish the job. It is hoped that Lt. Hartt and Sig. Rousi from the Galleries of Florence get up immediately. Undersigned asked for them for 3 June in a letter to Lt. Hartt. According to a telegram received by the undersigned he was due yesterday. This officer has sent word to Col. Sutherland asking him to hurry Lt. Hartt up here, by W/Cdr. Cooper who is going to 5 Army today. No packing can be done until they arrive. The work was done much faster than had been anticipated at this deposit, so that both places are now ready for packing, the 109 crates at San Leonardo having been finished up yesterday.

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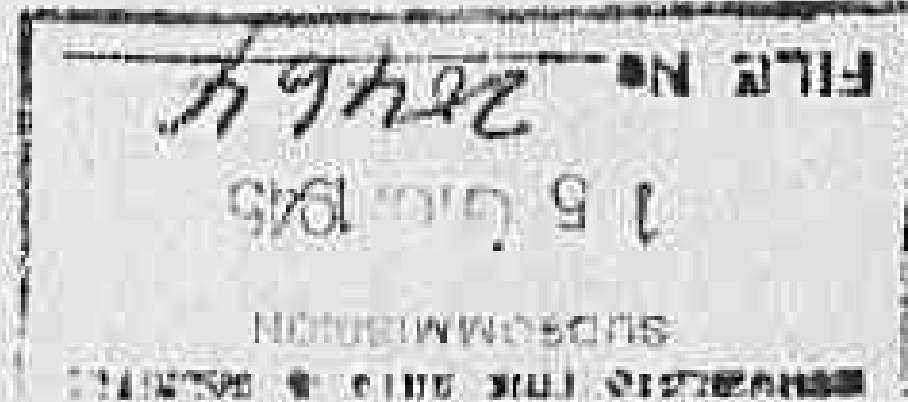
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SO AS NOT TO LOSE WHAT THERE IS OF VALUE IN THE ABOVE A NEW PAGE WILL NOT BE BEGUN: LT! COL! DENALD JUST CAME INTO THIS OFFICE AND HARTT AND W/CDR COOPER WILL RETURN TO BOLZANO TONIGHT---14:00 hrs.

SIEBEN HÜMER

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This bird worked with Vené, deposed Florentine Monuments man, says the Partisans destroyed the records of the OT German at Covara, and in the destruction many of his photos and records disappeared too. He has possessions at Florence and says his position is not clear, which is true. The undersigned told him to wait it out at Covara until further notice. Undersigned wonders what the ultimate disposal of German civilians will be, as Prof. Bruhns in Merano is also anxious; he wants a job!



HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

40. 4. 13 MAG. 1945  
MFAA 8/C  
DK/jm

207/9

13 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report on Ludwig H. HEYDENREICH.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

1. While at Milan undersigned did some questioning in a tactful manner it is believed, which resulted in the finding of the number 2 man on the German Fine Arts Commission in Italy, the counter part of the MFAA of the Allied Commission. His name is Ludwig H. Heydenreich.

2. Heydenreich's history is this briefly:- Born 23rd March 1903 at Lypsa. Graduate of Hamburg University, Germany, 1928, where he studied Fine Arts with Prof. Panofsky, now at Princeton, USA. Fellowship 1928 - 34 at Germanic Institute at Florence 1934 - 37. Lecturer at Hamburg University 1937 - 43 at the University of Berlin. 1943 he was made Director of the Germanic Institute of Fine Arts in Florence.

Scattered notes on him by his own declaration: Never a member of Nazi Party, causing him difficulties. A friend of Bernhard Berenson (he has a recent letter from this man). He knows Branchi Bandinelli very well, the man who will be the new Director General of Fine Arts in Italy. He knows many Italian Superintendents well. Tried to get a CIN tessera. Knows a lot of partisans well. The Racial Law was not adhered to at the Germanic Institute under him. Protected Berenson's Villa against German occupation. 2316

3. The German set-up is briefly as follows:-

a. The German Monuments Commission was not as good as the Allies. They had fewer men, no regular transport, put up protective signs only on request, were completely out of touch with the German Coercing Division and elements of the SS. They had a booklet printed and published in April 1945. Nothing before. Another report will enlarge on this.

b. Count Metternich, former Director of Arts in

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES

- 1 -

13 MAG.

16 MAY 1945

FILE No.



the Rhineland, was the head of the whole Commission for France, Belgium, Holland and Italy. Count Metternich was in uniform - administrative Colonel.

c. After 8th Sept. 1943 a special commission was formed for Italy headed by Col. Langsdorf under Metternich. Langsdorf was an SS. Colonel on M.G. Staff, first under Gen. Toussaint, who enjoyed a good reputation with the Italians, and then under Wolff who did not. Langsdorf had been adjutant for Herr Frick, Commissioner for Bohemia and councillor for the Ministry of the Interior. Langsdorf at the end in March and April was doing all sorts of other jobs for Wolff, who had his HQ in Verona. Apparently a thorough Nazi and unreliable.

d. First in Nov. 1943 in Italy was Count Metternich's adjutant Major Von Tieschowits who was to see about German Institutes in Italy, especially in Rome. Major Evers came with him to be in charge of Fine Arts in Rome. Tieschowits is said to have been the intermediary between the Hermann Goering Division and the Vatican in the transport of the stuff from Cassino by the former. Major Evers was in on the deal, but never examined the cases at Cassino, and found some empty ones when they arrived at the Vatican.

e. Langsdorf was an archaeologist and knows little of Italian Art. Heydenreich was in Florence. Langsdorf called him in as chief adviser. Tieschowits also asked his aid. He was never in uniform. He was advisor to the Wehrmacht on Art things. He was made chief of the Tuscan Div. by Langsdorf. This was so, but undersigned has in his possession a German "Off Limits" sign signed by Heydenreich over Kesselring's printed signature. He had supervisory powers apparently. The sign was found in Lazio.

f. Langsdorf worked out of Verona, always the HQ of German M.G. He was at Florence a large part of the time.

4. Langsdorf and Heydenreich signed the important "Off Limits" signs. The Germans never put them or protective signs on churches. They put up signs at the suggestion of the Italian Superintendency. The number put up is very small when compared with those placed by the British and Americans. Finally the Italian Fascists put some up. This according to Heydenreich was done to ape the Germans, sort of shame into this. Undersigned has a sign with a facsimile

of Grassiani's signature, with a true signature of Langedorf. Mussolini had once said:- "Italy has too much Art and too few babies". This undoubtedly had influence on the Republican attitude of indifference to the Artistic Patrimony. The Fascists were harder to handle than the Germans in Fine Arts matters. It took an order from Mussolini, on the pretext of many Italians to clear a motor pool of the Fascist Black Brigade from the square at Arezzo before the church of S. Francesco, containing the Piero della Francesca.

5. The following German Military helped out a lot on Fine Arts matters:-

General Singer (a Division General).

Marshall Vietinghof (successor to Kesselring and a member of Niemoller's Church, a very religious man).

Colonel Von Schweinitz (sort of Special Service Officer who pointed things of interest and value out to the Wehrmacht).

Colonel Von Schweinitz did good work in Venice and Bologna in keeping stuff of value under protection.

6. The Archives of the German Fine Arts Commission for Italy were taken November 1944 to:-

Oberandorf (Aminn) Oberbayern, Brenner Line between Fufstein and Rosenheim. Villa of Prof. Von Bissing (Egyptologist).

This is very important. A signal was sent to Rome for AFHQ 14th May 1945. If found much of the job of recovery of Art for Italy will be facilitated.

7. a. It is most important to find Prof. Reide-  
meister (Major of the Admin. Staff) former Director of the Kaiser Friedrich Museum (Oriental stuff), Berlin, was the personal adjutant of Col. Langedorf. A signal was sent to A.C. for AFHQ. He directed the transfer of the stuff, now in the newspaper headlines, found by American troops in the Alto Adige; Langedorf helped. The stuff from Tuscany deposited was taken there because the first project was considered too dangerous - to take it up the Po Valley to the great Lombard Deposit at Isola Bella. Allied planes were strafing and bombing the hell out of that road. The war came to Florence, making the City unsafe. Therefore the

2814

which is doubtful. Major Mc Donald is willing to help in any way. Sgt. SWIEBLE, Kraut, who is at the same Caserma should also be sweated out. Major Long, CAC, 88th Division, says a Major Robb, Kraut, took stuff from Dorensberg 16th May 1945, the day before undersigned's visit, and the same stuff was seen by Mr. Rock Ferris, PRO, AMG 5th Army.

Moving Deposit at S. Leonardo and Campo Tures.

8. a. There must be a wrecker with a crane to lift the heavy stuff.

b. Red flags and "Dangerous Cargo" signs might be used on the trucks to insure safety.

c. The day Germans took stuff from Merano to the jail at S. Leonardo it was raining. The trucks were open and old, the pictures were covered with a few blankets and resting on loose straw. U.S. Army, it is hoped, will do a bang up job just the opposite of this. Zampetti saw them leave Merano in the above described state.

*151 illegible*  
*for 14*  
 DEANE KELLER,  
 Capt., AUS.,  
 M.F.A.A. Officer,  
 A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
 Executive Officer,  
 AMG 5th Army.  
 P.O., Bolzano Province.  
 MFAA Officer, Venezia Region.  
 C/S, 88TH Division.  
 C/S, 85th Division.  
 HQ A.C., MFAA S/C.

2813



COPY : jm

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

18 MAY 1945

117

SUBJECT: MPAA Report

TO : SCAO 5 Army

18 May 1945

A. C. C.

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
SUBMISSION

2 JUN 1945

FILE No.

20464

Removal of San Lorenzo and Campo Tures Deposits  
to Florence.

1.a. The situation as of the moment is about this: the 88th Division will be informed today by Major Long, CAO, as to the possibility of their moving the works of art back to Florence. If they are not interested in the job the matter of transport will be taken up through <sup>other</sup> channels. This is for the San Leonardo group. The 85th will be contacted in the same manner. The idea is that they are guarding the things and if they want to finish the job it seems proper to ask them first.

b. 17 May undersigned went to Merano to see Comm. Nazari who is the head of the CIN for all this northern region, about Merano. He has had materials lined up for some time and is anxious to get going on the job. He was informed that a specialist in packing, Sig. Nicolusi of Trento, will come up to supervise the work. Possibly the Director of Galleries at Trento, Sig. Rusconi will come also. Major Long says there will be no need of passes for these men. Undersigned will go to Trento this afternoon to make the final arrangements with Sig. Rusconi and it is hoped that the job of packing the pictures may begin immediately. This is a complicated affair to arrange, but it is the top job at the moment.

c. Comm. Nazari is much concerned about the collection to go back and it is sure that much help can be gotten from him. He is a shining example of interest in his Patria as a whole and not just that part in which he was born.

d. Undersigned must stay on the spot here to make the necessary arrangements; Cpl. Bernholz will take this report with him and if there are instructions from AMG HQ he will bring them back with him. Bolzano seems the best place for HQ for this Section now.

18 MAY 1945

Merano and Castle Dorensberg.

2.a. Undersigned investigated the situation in the Val Venosta particularly at Maturno where the Castle Dorensberg is situated. On 17 May 1945 Comm. Nazari accompanied him along with an Austrian Jew, by the name of Erich Waktor, who had been in a German SS prison camp and whose whole family had been murdered by the Nazis. He is on the committee of Liberations staff for the recovery of materials of all kinds stolen by the Germans. On arrival at the castle which should have contained 53 pictures of first class value it was found that Capt. Mc Abee of Co. I 349th Inf. with a squad of men had just arrived in the courtyard. Their mission was to guard the stuff at the castle and to search the countryside for loot. The Germans were still there one of them being a Lt. Moller of the SS, a typical strongarm boy of about thirty with a prizefighter's nose. With the Italians and Capt. Mc Abee who was very cooperative when he found out the undersigned's mission a tour of the castle was made. Of the 53 pictures that were supposed to be there a careful search netted 6; There had been the night previous a Major Robb, German with a truck, and he took the stuff. This information comes from Major Long. The people on the spot had no knowledge of who it was. Mr. Rock Ferris, PRO, AMG 5th Army had been in the castle that day and had seen the large collection of pictures. Comm. Nazari knew that they had been taken and seemed irritated that there had not been guards from X Allied sources before.

2811

b. In addition to the missing pictures a large number of fine rugs are gone. There should have been 252 of them. A count was not made but the number seen could not have exceeded 100. Only 1 of the 30 watercolour paintings supposed to be there was seen. In addition to works of art there are hundreds of bales of wool, silk, towels, clothing, underwear, raincoat material, typewriters, German Army material, some flour and a host of other things. It is evident that much of it had been removed. Several bales were found by Capt. Mc Abee's men in a nearby farmhouse. There were four GG.FF. in civilian clothes who claimed to know the whereabouts of the larger part of the stuff parked around the countryside in villas and farmhouses.

c. There is decidedly an element of danger in the searching for there are many Germans in the Valley and very few civilians. Many of the Germans are in civilian clothes

and according to the G.G.F.F. men are heavily armed. Further the Podesta of Naturno is a Nazi named Platzkumer and he had caused a lot of trouble with propaganda against the Allies on the radio and in talks. Capt. Mc Abee is systematically cleaning out the Nazi pockets and they are not a docile lot at all. One had to be shot in the last few days for not obeying an order. At Dorensberg eight of them were ordered to pack up while undersigned was there, their packs were gone through and a lot of stuff from the deposit thrown aside by grinning GIs. It is quite evident what the GI thinks of the Kraut, though good humor and thoughtfulness appeared in allowing an 18 year old kraut to keep a pilfered sweater, for " he might need it ". The person that must be kept in touch with is Lt. Moller who will know many things about the collection if questioned in the right manner. Capt. Mc Abee was anxious to get them away and no occasion was permitted for questioning at this time. Moller will be in a PW Cage near Merano.

d. A sign of the International Red Cross was on the door. Undersigned was told by Capt. Zappula of the Italian regular Army and a collaborator with the CLN that they used these signs for want of anything else a couple weeks ago in an attempt to protect the contents of the castle. This whole subject will bear investigation.

2310

3. After inspection at Castle Dorensberg undersigned went with Capt. Zappula and Waktor to the office of the vice-Sindaco of Naturno, Sig. Dal Bosco. He is well informed on the story and thinks through channels of his own he can find out where things have been taken. He is working with the four G.G.F.F. men and in a few days believes he will have some of the answers. They are all very insistent that Platzkumer must go immediately. They said that we were the x first Americans who had stopped in the valley. It is undoubtedly true that things are not right in Val Venosta and there is tension in the air. Castle Juval another place for deposits mostly of furniture, is about emptied of its contents except for the SS there. Castle Naturno Alto is full of merchandise, but no works of art. SS officers there too. The exploration of these places will be completed by Capt. Mc Abee shortly. In the neighborhood the hunt is on and it is hoped that on a return there in a couple days some news of the alleged two Rembrandts and the Bourbon-Parma Tapestry may be had.

4. Inasmuch as the name of Major Rath, German, had turned up as the man responsible for all the stolen goods in the valley, and former commander of the concentration camp at



Merano, undersigned went there with Waktor and through the kindness of Major Mc Donald of 349th Inf. now in charge, interviewed Major Rath. The important thing to get from him was a list which he had said he had a short while ago of all the German loot in the Val Venosta. The interview amounted to nothing, as Rath was fuzzy in his answers. The list was not forthcoming. Rath says Gen. Wolff is the amn who had the list. This information will be followed up. From it some sort of check can be made on all 8 of the listed places in the Valley where the Germans admit they deposited materials. Sgt. Wirbele who was the non-com in charge at Castle Doronsberg was also questioned, but he seemed to know nothing of the Rembrandts or other works of Art in these last days. He affirmed that there should be 53 of them. Comm. Nazari saw the bulk of them at the Castle on 6 May 1945.

5. General.

There are many other places, notably Vipiteno that must be investigated. The whole region is full of loot and it is a complicated proposition to solve, if it ever is.

6. Palace of the Duke of Pistoia.- Bolzano.

The place was inspected 18 May with Major Long, who has all along shown a fine interest in the work of this Section. Nothing of interest outside some good engravings, one by Peranesi, was found. The 88th Div. is making a thorough search for stuff and undersigned will be informed if anything important turns up. To date no routine inspections of monuments has been possible in view of the higher priority of the stolen goods. At Merano and at Bolzano severe damage has been made to several fine churches and then Duomo at the latter place is in bad shape.

/s/ Deane Keller.

2809

/t/ DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
MPAA Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

.Y /rf

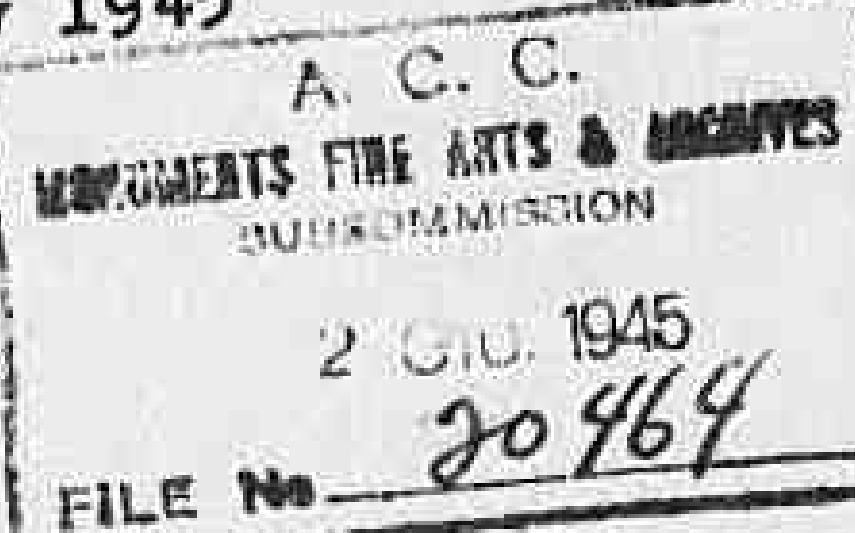
16 MAY 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
AFO 464 U.S. ARMY

16 May 1945

## MEMORANDUM;

To: Colonel Arthur E. Sutherland.  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.



Dear

Perhaps I should write you a regular report in the proper form, but inasmuch as I have a German typewriter and no secretary, I'd better try it all by myself; so, please excuse width of margins, form and all the rest in the interest of getting an important message to you and General Hume.

You or David Mynors will already have some word of the situation from Lt. Col. Ward Perkins who was to have stopped in on you yesterday. I got up here in Bolzano on the 13th of May and went with Hartt and Lt. Col. P. to Campa Tures the next day. We talked with Col. Langsdorff and Maj. Evers two leading characters in the German story, the former being THE boss of all the Kunstschutz (Fine Arts) for the Germans in Italy. I saw all the stuff there. In as much as it is Hartt's job to count the things and take careful note of the condition of the sculptures and paintings we shall await his detailed account. He brought Rossi who is Supt. of the Florentine Galleries with him. There was no trouble in getting in, though it took a bit of earnest talking on my part, for the CD 85th Div. Sgt. of the Guard was very much on the ball and realized he has something pretty hot under his thumb. I had stopped at Regt. HQ and they had called ahead to Campa Tures saying we were coming.

The Campa Tures stuff is in large part sculpture in crates and is housed in the Castle Neumalans. Langsdorff is living there now. There are some pictures that will need crating, but for the most part the collection is ready to move back to its proper home, which is Florence. The 85th Div. is much interested and I am sure a better guard than theirs could not be had.

## San Leonardo

I went to this place on the 15th of May with Hartt and Rossi. The 88th Div. is guarding this in the same manner referred to in the above para. à propos of the 85th Div. This deposit is made up entirely of unboxed pictures from the Florentine Galleries. Whereas some damaged has accrued to the few pictures in the Campa Tures deposit, much is evident in the San Leonardo collection. An notable example is the sky

18 MAR 1945

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in a landscape by Peter Paul Rubens; probably from rubbing it in transport two large spots have been rubbed off entirely, and to set it to rights you would have to invoke the spirits of the master himself. Many of the pictures have more or less serious scratches on them and many have suffered from exposure to the elements. Mould and damp damage are in evidence. Most of the trouble came from the fact that then the pictures were transported without being crated or protected by more than a blanket and straw in open trucks of doubtful strength and sturdiness! We have photographs taken at the instance of Col. Langsdorf, as he appears in one of them, of the pictures being unloaded, the trucks and the general situation, to substantiate any claim we might make as to the carelessness of the transfer from Toscana to the Tyrol. The Jail at San Leonardo is a pretty clean as these places go, but is a bit damp. The sun shines on the building directly from the south and this is not to good. Pictures on wood panels and on canvas have to be treated like delicate children. They cannot stand extremes! I left a set of instructions for the Sgt. of the Guard, and for him to pass on to his successor! These I left also with Maj. Knox of the 349th. Inf. Bn. C who under Col. Henderson of the Regt. is in charge of these things. Maj. Knox was much interested and was glad to get the instructions and asked if there was anything else we wanted; told me to come to him if there was and he would see that it was done. The Maj. has HQ on the edge of Merano. He was told that we appreciated his care and that we were more than satisfied with his arrangements and his guard. He expects to remain in the HQ about two weeks. Maj. Reidemeister showed up on the visit, but there was little for him to do for us this time and he was told to sit tight until called for!

2807  
This brings up the matter of all the Germans who were on the enemy Fine Arts job. I have been to the City Command in Bolzano several times to enquire of the ultimate disposal of the tribe. Col. Langsdorf may be SS and if so he will disappear soon. I have put in a strong bid for information on the disposal of this one, as he will be useful to us in the future in settling many problems. If he is SS there is know Knowing where he will wind up. The rest are likely to be in PW cages somewhere between Bologna and the P/O. Maj. Frye of the Bolzano City Command has been very accomodating and I suspect will help me as much as he can to keep me informed on this whole subject. We have talked at length with them, and I talked with Heydenreich at Blevio, but what we want is an expert cross examiner to get to the root of some of the larger alleged crimes of the Germans in this field! I am in hopes of getting Wing Commander Dickie before we get through. A project for centering all the problems in the Fine Arts section at Milan has been discussed and seems feasible.



3 -

Disposal of the works of Art in the two Deposits.

I am absolutely sure that the very highest Military Authority in Italy will be interested in seeing that these pictures and sculptures, Known to the whole world, will be brought back to Florence. As far as the Fine Art section in AMG 5th ARMY is concerned this is the biggest undertaking of all in the campaign with the possible exception of the Army's interest in the protection of the frescoes at the Camposanto in Pisa. It is impossible to estimate the importance of the arrival under Allied Military protection of these things in Florence.

I, Hartt and Rossi have made up the following tentative plan for your information. There will be a lot of packing to do at San Leonardo and some at Campa Tures. The committee of the CLN at Merano has already offered to help with materials and workmen; this is a very fine gesture on their part which merits recognition. We contacted Sig. Nicolussi, assistant to the Director of Monuments at Trento, Sig. Rusconi, today in the absence of Rusconi, and he is ready to direct the work of packing. Rossi knows him and has confidence in his ability to do the job right. Nicolussi has packed exhibitions of Italian Masters that have gone abroad and knows his job apparently. Also there is Sig. Zampetti, transferred to Modena under the Fascist Republican regime, who was inspector of monuments for Trento and Bolzano. I saw him in Bologna and again at Modena and he should come up here as soon as possible to assist. It is hoped he may be given a pass and start on his way soon. Hartt will talk to you or David about this I believe. The idea is to put all the responsibility for packing and transporting on the Italians, and so they must be the boss of all operations under the watchful eye of some Fine Arts officer.

It is calculated that a maximum number of 12(twelve) two and a half ton trucks will take care of the San Leonardo deposit. A maximum of forty will handle the Campa Tures stuff. These are round numbers and may be changed. So as not to make any waste it is suggested that the transfer of the things be done in two installments. Twenty trucks be sent the first time and after they are loaded a precise calculation of how many will be needed can be made.

There is no reason why the first twenty trucks cannot be laid on almost immediately, as the sculptures are already packed; these are at Campa Tures. The pictures at this deposit will have to be packed, as will of course the whole deposit at San Leonardo. For the first convoy as for the second careful arrangements as to personnel must be made. We will need an officer in charge of the vehicles, rationing of the men and the convoy guards system whatever it will. Also one Fine Arts Officer, Dr. Rossi or some representative from the Florentine Galleries and a Sgt. of the Guard with six men. Each truck

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should have a driver and his relief. the truck should have adequate covering against weather. It is hoped that all personnel except Dr. Rossi and maybe a specialist assistant or assistants from the Florentine Galleries, be military personnel from the Fifth Army. It is possible that the trucks and men may be got from the 88th and 85th Divisions, as representatives of the outfits which are guarding the treasures now. This might not be feasible of course. The Italian Superintendency has unbounded enthusiasm for the American GI here, as it had for the British soldiers encountered at Arceno by me last summer. In any case I think it would be a good thing to ask the Divisional Commanders if they were interested, for they have gone to great pains to do a perfect job of protection for these things. Also I want to say a word of thanks to Lt. Col. Wray, SCAO of 4 Corps for his help in all this work, and to Maj. Long, CAO with 88th Div. for his interest.

We have estimated that the journey to Florence will take three days. It is about 500 Kms. One overnight stop must be made probably south of Verona. A place must be found for the trucks. It has been suggested that we might put them somewhere near the AMG 5 Army camp in the region. The next stop so as not to arrive in Florence at night might be in the vicinity of Pratolino. The reconnaissance here can be done by Lt. Hartt.

The convoy will have to proceed at leisurely pace. Pictures of the age of these should not travel much anyhow. That is why we decided to try to make it all in one journey and not stop at Bologna, unpack and take stock. We are not assured as yet that everything the Germans say is in the crates is really there. This should be the last travelling that this great collection of Italians ever does.

General

I have in my possession the office documents of Maj. <sup>2865</sup>Reidmeister and of Col. Langsdorf, with the exception of one folder on personnel that Lt. Col. Perkins, AC, left with him for his use in making up a detailed account of all the Kunstschutz personnel in Italy. I shall hope to pick this up in a day or two at Campa Tures!

I have enough to do here to keep me busy for some time. I wonder about what is going on on the west side at Milan and Genoa. I am making the choice here for myself in the hope of getting these things back to Florence. I am guessing I'll be back for a day at the camp around the 19th or 20th unless I hear from you to the contrary. I hope you will explain to Gen. Hume that this is for him through you and seemed the easiest way for me to do it. Also I believe that some sort of a ceremony, lead by the General and anyone else he thinks should be there, take place in presenting these works of Art back to the Florentines. Remember how crowded the Piazza della Signoria was when they put up Michelangelo's David? You don't and neither do I, but that's the idea.

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This is about half the story to date; the rest can wait. Who says the Fine Arts Officer has nothing to do?

Truly Yours,

2804



3. Follows an interview with RUSCONI, Supt. of Trento and Bolzano

8 June Rusconi came to see undersigned in Bolzano.

a. A very fine painting by MAGNASSO, great Italian of the 17-18 centuries, belonging to Barone SALVADORI of Trento, was bought for the Casa Bruna of Munich (Draunhaus?) by the husband of Principessa Infalida di Savoia. The buyer is Principe d'Assia. He bought stuff for GÖERING. This one went for 20,000 lire; its real value on an honest market would be many times that. Investigation of this Prince and his helpers seems called for. The picture is in Germany.

b. Museum of Bolzano. MAYR, a bad egg, is still nominal Director. When the fear of war came to Bolzano, MAYR saved all the German stuff in the library and let the Italian stuff alone. Some of the latter is lost as result of bombing. Rusconi wants Dr. Rasmo, an inspector of his back from Germany. ~~He wants Dr. Rasmo, an inspector of his back from Germany.~~ The CLN of this commune has nominated a certain Pontara for the job, but the CLN, however good in other lines, has made a mistake, for Pontara is not competent. Rusconi wants a man name of BREITENBERG, who is vice-sindaco and good. He wants MAYR for questioning, which shall be done for him. Undersigned told him that the CLN had exceeded its authority here, for Lt. Col. McBratney and his staff alone can make appointments. Rusconi wants his architect MARTELLI back from Germany. He does not suggest as yet how this man and Dr. Rasmo will be found and returned.

c. Rusconi wants his deposits back and is worried about guards. He was told that the Italians must think of returning things not of the first priority. Allies can not do everything alone. The most important things from his competency are guarded at Campo Tures and at Laces, by American soldiers. Also at Dorensberg Castle.

2803

d. At the Merano Museum the Nazi, Dr. Prünster, is still in charge. Rusconi wants him out and either an old surgeon from the Merano Gen. Hospital (he could not remember his name) or ERMINIO MATTEDI, Preside del Liceo di Merano, put in his place, favoring the latter.

d. At Sluderno there is a fine armor collection belonging to Count Oswald TRAPP, who is in Innsbruck now. Capt. Croft-Murray knows about him. He also should be brought back for questioning about things taken from Italy—a good guy apparently. He should have some important photographs.

e. Rusconi thinks RINGLER who has been interviewed by W/Cdr COOPER and others, should be sent back to his job at Innsbruck. Undersigned agrees, for from what he knows of the situation in Germany and Austria any trustworthy and helpful man there would be of the greatest use to that NFPA section.

f. Rusconi was told that the question of financing NFPA projects in this area is a Regional one and that all such should be referred to

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f. Rusconi was told that the question of financing NFPA projects in this area is a Regional one and that all such should be referred to Maj. NEWTON at Reg. HQ, Padova. Rusconi says he gets 70 lira a day and the street cleaners get 200 and he is going to buy a broom next week and make some money.

g. Rusconi is very much concerned with getting on with a few urgent repair jobs, as the summer season lasts only until Oct. and the rains begin. For this and other reasons it is hoped that Maj. Newton or Capt. Marriott can find time to come to Trento and Bolzano, etc., and look the stuff over and help him out. Undersigned will be glad to assist when other more urgent matters are settled--the edeposits.

ANG 5 ARMY

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h. The Library of Trento is missing some MSS taken by HUFER who was a henchman of HOFER'S. These MSS had to do with the Alto Adige and are of value and must be traced if possible. Also the Librarian was a Fascist and is now in prison. Sig. Giulio Benedetto IMERT, an Italian, is highly recommended for the job by Rusconi.

i. There are a number of smaller things like teaching the Divisione POLIGORE the Fine Arts Program, so they do not enter and take possession of places that are monumental in character. Undersigned will suggest to the Commander that he get some signs over his signature to put up in addition to the ones already placed by the undersigned. The Genio Civile as usual has no thought for the Artistic Patrimony and were caught shoveling up fragments of the Duomo of Polzano today, contrary to the signs placed by the undersigned and TRANSLATED into Italian. Rusconi wants to have a small show of the sketches stolen in various places by the late Maj. Carita of the SS Italian. If Maj. Davis agrees, it will be done and no harm come of.

j. The 15 cases of things from the Risorgimento Museum of Trento will be brought back and left at Trento when the big convoy heads for Florence.

4. Undersigned regrets the number and the length of his reports of late, but believes that the detail may be of use and it better be put down while it is hot.

Copies to

Exec. Officer

HQ AC MFAA section

MFAA Officer VENEZIA

(extra copies to be made by T5 Mellis)

File

*Ernest Keller*

Ernest Keller, Capt.

MFA Officer

ANG 5 Army

2802



AMG 5 Army

7 AU. 1945  
7 June 1945

SUBJECT: MEAA Report  
TO: SCAO 5 Army

Interrogation of German Monuments Personnel

1.a. 5 June in the evening W/Cdr. Cooper from SHAEP arrived in Bolzano to meet Lt. Col. DeWald, chief of the MEAA section AC, and go with him to question the Germans in this region who were responsible for the Italian works of art brought here by them. The same morning Lt. Col. DeWald had taken off for Verona and Padova, having waited several days in Milan for the W/Cdr. and a couple more in Bolzano. No messages arrived in Bolzano from AC or anywhere else explaining the movements of the W/Cdr. He on his part was not sure where Lt. Col. DeWald was. The night of 5 June undersigned talked with Lt. Col. Holmgreen at AMG 5 Army HQ and the latter said he would try to get Venezia Region and head off Lt. Col. DeWald and get him back to Bolzano. 6 June undersigned talked with Col. Sutherland and he said he would try to reach him at Padova and get him over to Bolzano. If Lt. Col. DeWald does not come to Bolzano 7 June, the W/Cdr. will return to AMG HQ 5 Army in the undersigned's transportation, as he had to send his own back to Milan with Sig. BIANCHI-BANDINELLI who is Director General of Fine Arts in Italy under the Ministry of Education. The latter came over to see the deposit at S. Leonardo and to visit certain of his supts.

b. At AMG HQ 5 Army it is hoped by the undersigned that the W/Cdr may be given transportation to go to Bologna or to Modena on this same interrogation business which is of the first importance. He was sent to Milan by air and has none of his own. W/Cdr. Cooper has gone 7 June to Campo Tures alone in the undersigned's transportation to try to find Maj. Evers, German, there. Undersigned's own work, depending on the vehicle, is tied up two days if Lt. Col. DeWald does not arrive. Under the circumstances this appeared to the undersigned as the only feasible solution to a complicated situation in which he played no rôle but that of bystander.

2. As to the persons interrogated by W/Cdr. Cooper, who has been doing this sort of thing for three years in the British Royal Air Force The following were seen: Maj. Reidemeister at S. Leonardo. He is judged a slick article by all Allied Fine Arts Officers. Nothing much was gotten from him except that he passed the buck to Gen. Wolff on all important questions concerning the removal of the Florentine works of Art. Mr. Neumanns of the German Embassy Staff was there too, but he knows nothing. At Merano Dr. Bruhns was seen and more or less of a blank resulted here too. With all the Germans, civilian and military, there seem to be precise limitations as to their knowledge. None seem to have been in on the doings of the SS or the Herman Goert

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10-3

FILE NO.



b. It seems to get ever clearer that the Germans had designs on all the stuff. Linz is not far away and the valleys into which the stuff was taken are not "closed ones" as the Germans try to explain. This area was considered part of Germany anyhow. They were in a jam for transport and gas at the end in the process of transporting the things and the plans were poorly laid. This is just a brief summary of things. W/Cdr. Cooper will make a full report on his findings. The reports and documents of the Germans are at Rome or in the hands of Lt. Col. Dewald. Undersigned turned over the last of the reports from Langsdorff's baggage to Lt. Col. Dewald 5 June. Much may be expected in clarifying things from interviews with SS Col. Langsdorff and SS Gen. Wolff. It is hoped very seriously that 5 Army may help in locating these two for the Fine Arts Commission. SS Maj. Rath already referred to, in other reports is no longer at Merano. Caserma degli Alpini, as of 6 June. Perhaps he could be traced through Wolff. Rath had to do with the ruins and pictures at Castle Dorensberg.

OCT 11 1990

4. a. It is found that 109 crates will be necessary to pack up this collection. They will be built by 9 June and ready to receive the pictures. Undersigned went to CLN HQ at Merano 6 June and saw Engineer Pasi, who, on request of the undersigned, has sent up to S. Leonardo the nails, paper, and corrugated paper needed in the packing. The bills for all the work at this deposit will be handed to Lt. Paquette of Dolzano Prov. and through him circulated to the Intendenza delle Finanze and wherever else they should go. The labor and materials will be itemized.

should go. The labor and materials will be furnished by the Government. It is believed that ten trucks, six by sixes, will do the job. A reconnaissance must be done by the undersigned or Lt. Hartman as to where the trucks can be parked for the night near Verona and in the environs of Florence. It is not believed <sup>28th</sup>adv for them to travel at night.

C. Lt. Harat was asked for by the undersigned for 3 June to travel at night.



1515  
the responsibility of the German people. It is a long trip with cans, in letting the Florentine pictures out on a long trip with out proper crating and packing. This should be explained by him. Further, he knew the stuff was in the Alto Adige all during the winter of '44 and '45 and hedged on the question. This he should be questioned on. He was unwilling to take into consideration the advice of other people of the Superintendency.

b. It seems to get ever clearer that the Germans had designs on all the stuff. Linz is not far away and the valleys into which the stuff was taken are not "closed ones" as the Germans try to explain. This area was considered part of Germany anyhow. They were in a jam for transport and gas at the end in the process of transporting the things and the plans were poorly laid. This is just a brief summary of things. W/Cdr. Cooper will make a full report on his findings. The reports and documents of the Germans are at Rome or in the hands of Lt. Col. DeWald. Undersigned turned over the last of the reports from Langsdorff's baggage to Lt. Col. DeWald 5 June. Much may be expected in clarifying things from interviews with SS Col. Langsdorff and SS Gen. Wolff. It is hoped very seriously that 5 Army may help in locating these two for the Fine Arts Commission. SS Maj. Rath already referred to, in other reports is no longer at Merano, Caserma degli Alpini, as of 6 June. Perhaps he could be traced through Wolff. Rath had to do with the rugs and pictures at Castle Dorensberg.

#### S. LEONARDO

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b. It is believed that ten trucks, six by sixes, will do the job. A reconnaissance must be done by the undersigned or Lt. Rath as to where the trucks can be parked for the night near Verona and in the environs of Florence. It is not believed advised for them to travel at night.

c. Lt. Rath was asked for by the undersigned for 3 June and he is momentarily expected. When he comes with Sig. Rossi, Supt. of the Florentine Galleries, he will go direct to S. Leonardo do to supervise the packing. The guard here is from the 527th FA in charge of Capt. Autrey at Merano. Cpl. Braid is in charge on the spot.

Director General Bianchi-Bandinelli

5. aThe Director General gave the stamp of approval to the work being done on the deposits. The question of responsibility for any harm in transit to Florence for these things must be settled in the following manner according to the opinion of the undersigned: A statement signed by Poggi, relieving the Allies of all responsibility in case of accident, making any such event an "Act of God" as was done in the case of Cosimo dei Medici, when he was brought back to Florence from Poggio a Caiano. The Director General repeatedly remarked that he was glad it was not his responsibility. The undersigned has done all in his power to see that things go right and all angles are thought of, but he is unwilling to assume responsibility for accidents on his own part in transit or on the part of the 5th Army. May it be repeated that all-most of all the Italians want the stuff back. The Allies are taking on the work of arrangements and are furnishing the plan and the transport. The rest is up to good fortune. The undersigned has so far made no commitments and would appreciate any advice on these matters that the SCAG 5 Army would like to give him.

b. About the Bonocossi-Contini collection at Campo Tures. The idea to bring all the things in the two deposits back to the Uffizi Gallery was approved by the Director General. He is particularly interested in the above mentioned collection, as Contini has an unsavory reputation. Under the Ministry of Giuseppe Pottai, one time Fascist Minister of Education under which the Director General-ship of Fine Arts falls, Contini did a lot of illicit buying of Italian masterpieces. There is a law in Italy governing the purchase of certain works of art, the criterion being age, quality, etc., and in general in and around the criterion that any wellknown picture or work of art, though privately owned, is part the possession of the state. Pottai monkeyed with this law and made it possible for Contini to get some things that rightfully he should not have. Bianchi-Bandinelli, the Dir. Gen., wants all this collection gone over from this standpoint. The Allies need not be concerned with this internal mixup, but with the approval of the Director General, it seems best to return this Contini group of things along with the rest. Contini was a friend of Reichs Marshal Hermann Goering.

2799

General

6. When things regarding the deposits permit, the undersigned will start a hunt with TS Bernholz in the Val Venosta for lost stuff. Some Castles have been looked at, but there others to investigate. There are cases of valuables belonging to museums in this section that the Italians can handle alone. Rasconi, Capt. at Trento now has a car and will get around. It is impossible for the Pine Arts Officers to do something about all the demands made every day. The undersigned will



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HQ MFAH

Jean Keller

Jean Keller, Capt.

MFAA Officer

G-5 5 Army



AMP 5 ARMY

SUBJECT: MEMA Report  
TO: SCAG SARRY

5 June 1945

Deposit at San Leonardo

1. a. 21 June 1945 undersigned went to Merano to see Comm. Mazari who is helping with the supply of materials needed in packing in this deposit. He was not there, but a list of essentials was given his wife who is a very alert and intelligent woman. She will give the list to Dr. Policari, an assistant of Mazari's in the CML of Merano. The materials are available at Merano and the CML will send them up to Sig. Nicolussi who is in charge at the deposit.

b. 1 Btry 527th FA is now guarding the deposit. It is under the command of Capt. Paul Autrey who is stationed at the CP in the Schlosslabers Hotel at Merano.

c. Lt. Haritt and Sig. Rossi from the Florentine Galleries are expected momentarily. They will proceed to San Leonardo for the checking and packing immediately.

Private Collections at the two main deposits.

2. It is understood by all concerned that the pictures and works of art belonging to private parties at both Campo Tures and San Leonardo, will be handled together with the State possessions in the two places and the distribution of the things will be made by the Tuscan Superintendent, Comm. Poggi on arrival in Florence.

Campo Tures Deposit

3. Lt. Col. DeWald inspected this place 3 June 1945 and found the 100th Chemical guard under the command of Lt. Staley, who had relieved Capt. Leseane. The question of materials came up and it is believed that there will be no trouble about them. Lt. Staley has offered fullest cooperation in getting them and has offered a truck if necessary. The packers Gemelli and Barzaghi are on the job. They fixure 15 days for building crates and packing. The undersigned is awaiting an order permitting him to release such materials as are needed for this work. *May no the necessary 2798*

Castle Porenzberg

4. a. This place near Naturno was seen again 4 June 1945. It has been deemed advisable to transport the rugs there to the Supt. at Trento in care of Rasconi, the Supt. of Monuments for Bolzano, Trento, and Belluno. A count was made and it was found that there are 215 rugs. Capt. Autrey above mentioned as being in command of the guards on 5th staff in this district needs a regular release from 5 Army to let them go. It will be appreciated by the undersigned if this permit can be made out by AMP 5 Army and sent up to Bolzano.

It was also noted that the pictures at this place were made

list to Mr. Polcard, an assistant of Mazari's in the CNL of Merano. The materials are available at Merano and the CNL will send them up to Sig. Nicolussi who is in charge at the deposit.

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#### Castle Moresberg

4. a. This place near Retorno was seen again 4 June 1945. It has been deemed advisable to transport the things there to the Supt. at Trento in care of Rusconi, the Supt. of Monumente for Bolzano, Trento, and Belluno. A count was made and it was found that there are 215 bags. Capt. Autrey above mentioned as being in command of the guards on staff in this district needs a regular release from 5 Army to let them go. It will be appreciated by the undersigned if this permit can be made out by AMG 5 Army and sent up to Bolzano.

b. A thorough examination of the pictures at this place was made by Lt. Col. DeWald and the undersigned. There are 51 pictures. They are not of the first importance, but they are of value--the most part French of the late 17th and 18th centuries. They will need packing before they can be transported. It is believed best to have one of the packers from the big deposits come down to this place when he can and pack these and take them to Trento also for safe keeping until the rightful owners are found. It seems that the collection is one belonging to the Duke of Parma. There is a vast pile of boxes of archives with much stuff relating to this family in it. If it is the possession of the Duke of Parma it may be part of the holdings of the Royal House of Parma. *6 JUL 1945*

EXHIBITS FOR ARTS & MEMORIALS  
15 JUL 1945  
FILE NO. 2946

The Italians are aware of this collection. The natives of Matano mention many other pictures that ought to be here including two Rembrandts. No trace of these has yet been found. Capt. Zeppula and the CG:FF in the district say that a systematic search through the Valley might uncover some things. This will be done by the undersigned as soon as other duties of a higher priority have been brought to a conclusion. Sgt. Brucker, 527th FA is in charge of the guard.

c. The Italian Supts. themselves could do a lot of this work if given transport. Undersigned has already notified Maj. Davis of Trento Prov. of the need for a car on the part of Supt. Rusconi. The long range policy up here should be to let the Italians do most of the work outside that of international character, which 5 Army is undertaking. Without transport they can not do it.

Laces Deposit.

5. 4 June 1945 this place was visited, by Lt. Col. Dewald and the undersigned. In the little church at the entrance of town there is a deposit of seven large crates of works of art from Bolzano and Trento. Six of these are from Bolzano and one from Trento. This deposit was known by the undersigned. The crates are in good shape and there is an American guard here, 527th FA under the above mentioned Capt. Antrey. Along with the seven crates are hundreds of pairs of new leather shoes- all over the church. The Supt. Rusconi will be informed of the condition of the works of art and some arrangement possibly with the CHL will be made to take it back to Bolzano or Trento, probably the latter, as the Bolzano Museum is in no condition to receive the crates, being severely damaged from bombing.

General

6. It may be remarked that there is plenty to do in this section and the distances are great. The undersigned is trying to make a considered adjudication of what is most important and giving most of his attention to that. Things of less import must wait. When Lt. E. Hartt arrives he will be given some of the work if he is not completely occupied in checking the pictures as they are packed up.

Copies to:

Exec. Officer, ANG 5 Army

HQ AC MFAA Section

Res. Comm. Venezia (attn MFAA Officer)

*Deane Keller*

Deane Keller, Capt.

MFAA Officer

ANG 5 Army

2797



1521

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Copies to:

Exec. Officer, ANG 5 ARMY

HQ AC MPAA Section

Reg. Comm. Venezia (attn MPAA Officer) ✓

*Deane Keller*  
Deane Keller, Capt.  
MPAA Officer  
ANG 5 ARMY

2797

1522

COPY 1

HEADQUARTERS  
 ARMC FIFTH ARMY  
 APO 464 U.S. ARMY

207/9

SUBJECT: MFAA Report  
 TO : SOAC FIFTH ARMY

Deposit at San Leonardo

3 June 1945

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
 SUBCOMMISSION

10 June 1945

FILE No.

20969

a.

1. 2nd. June this deposit of Florentine Art visited with Lt. Col. E.T. DeWald. Sixty six(66) crates have been built to date and it is found that One hundred and six(106) will be necessary to crate adequately all the pictures. Sig. Nicolussi, who is in charge, first calculated fewer. In as much as this work of crating must be done in the very best manner, he must have his head and be allowed to do it in his way, although it delays things another four or five days. The undersigned had hired another carpenter, making three on the job plus Nicolussi, but this third took off after two days of work, holding things up this much. Nicolussi figures about four days for the packing of the pictures in the crates.

b. As has been reported previously, Lt. Hartt of the Region of Tuscany with a representative of the Florentine Galleries, probably Rossi, is due today or tomorrow. When they arrive they will go to San Leonardo and the job of packing will commence, so that some time may be saved by building crates and packing the pictures simultaneously. The pictures must be packed under Rossi's supervision and they must be checked off on his list as they go in crates.

c. As to the guard over the pictures. 2nd June Lt. Shields 337th. P.A. was in command with a group of four enlisted men, all 349th. Inf. He did not know when he was to be relieved, although he expected to be at any moment. The undersigned asked Lt. Col. DeWald to stop at the CP of the 3rd. En. Inf. 88th. Div. in Merano and enquire as to the relief. This he did and he was told that the 75th. PA B Battery was relieving this day in the afternoon, 2nd. June 1945. The undersigned meanwhile remained at San Leonardo expecting to see the relief when it came. While waiting, about 1400 hrs., an enlisted man came along in a jeep and reported the crash of a four motored bomber about seven miles up the road toward Vipiteno. Undersigned dug up a civilian doctor, a man named Romed Ebner, explained the situation, and sent him with T/5 Bernholz, this officer's driver. T/5 Bernholz did a good job of organizing a base first aid station at a farm house near the scene of the accident and reports that Doctor Ebner did a very good job on four of the airmen who were able to walk down the mountainside. The Army medical team with ambulance arrived in short order and it is hoped that no lives were

(2)

lost. It is believed that the air outfit was from the 49th. Bomber Group. Dr. Ebner lived up to the best traditions of his calling.

d. At 1730hrs. undersigned went to Merano and checked with the 3rd. Bn. 349th. Inf., talking with Capt. Belmont there. The Capt. said that Capt. Loop will be in charge of the Merano area and the post in the neighborhood, including San Leonardo. He affirmed that the 75th. PA were taking over the guard there. The undersigned restated, perhaps unnecessarily, the fact that the guard must be American at this place. He was assured that all was in order before leaving the CP.

#### Bolzano Monuments

2. Signs have been posted on monuments in Bolzano which have been bombed and where a danger of removal of architectural features from the rubble piles might take place.

#### Merano, etc.

3. 3rd. June undersigned will go to Merano to give a list of material needed in packing at San Leonardo to Comm. Nazeri of the GIN. Also some information will be had on the loot in Val Venosta. 4th. June arrangements will be made to remove the rugs from Castle Dorensberg to the Trento Supt. for checking and safekeeping. This seems to be the best solution for this problem. Gen. Kendall has been informed of the contemplated move.

#### Lt. Col. DeWald

4. a. Lt. Col. DeWald interviewed Maj. Reidemeister of the German Fine Arts Commission 2nd. June. Also he talked with Prof. Bruhns of the same at Merano. The presence of Lt. Cooper of the OSS is awaited, he is a professional at interrogation and it is hoped will "sweat" the Germans in detail as to many problems connected with the transport of Italian Art into the Tyrol and other parts.

b. Lt. Col. DeWald has gone to Campo Tures 3rd. June to see the deposit and to enquire of the needs of the packers Gemelli and Parzaghi there. It is hoped that the arrangements made with Capt. Lesesne, in charge there with the 100th. Chemical Bn. will be sufficient to release such materials as necessary. If they are not, the undersigned will report it to AMG Fifth Army HQ. Arrangements on 1st. June were made by the undersigned with the Exec. Officer at AMG HQ for orders to be out permitting him to get materials from an OT German dump at Chienes released by the army. The materials required are paper, excelsior, nails and corrugated cardboard. Lumber will be found at Campo Tures.

#### Deposits (Other angles)

2795

5. It is understood by the undersigned that payment for personnel among the Italians and for materials will be cleared



(3)

through Lt. Paquette. Finance Officer of Bolzano Prov.  
This is to be for the work at both deposits.

6. 1st. June the need of a guard for the convoy to  
Florence was discussed with the Exec. Officer, and it is  
believed that this will be arranged at Fifth Army AMG HQ  
along with the transporting trucks, which will be supplied  
by Lt. Col. F.E. Toscani.

Copies to:

Deane Keller. Capt.  
MPAA Officer AMG Fifth Army.

Exec. Officer.

HQ MPAA AC.

Reg. Comm. Tuscany, For the MPAA officer.

P.C. Bolzano, " " " "

Reg. Comm. Venezia " " " "

2794

30 MAG. 1945

ANG 5 ARMY

30 May 1945

SUBJECT : MFAA Report

TO: SCAG 5 ARMY

1. a. Undersigned 25 May 1945 gave permits to two Italian Monument Superintendents-Rusconi of Trento and Morossi of Pavia, plus two expert packers from Milan to go to Campo Tures and begin crating works of art there. They were not allowed to go to Campo Tures 26 May undersigned went to Regt. CP at Lago di Raies and found from Col. English of the 339th Infantry that from Div. HQ had come an order for Competent Orders for all concerned, including the undersigned to enter Campo Tures and get on the job. Col. English informed 85th Div. HQ that undersigned was at the Regt. CP. Col. English agreed that it was not necessary for this officer to go to the Div. CP, but that it would be better to return to 5 Army CP for the Competent Orders. Accordingly this was done 27th May, and with the efficient cooperation of Capt. Rust at ANG 5 Army HQ (forward) the thing was initiated. The undersigned is still waiting for the orders and nothing has been done at the deposit. 29th May undersigned returned to Bolzano to explain the situation to the packers from Milan who are waiting in this town. 30 May undersigned sent T/5 Bernholz, his driver, to 5 Army HQ for the orders.

b. The work at San Leonardo was organized in the same manner at the beginning, and, striking no snags, is practically done. As has been previously reported by the undersigned, Lt. Hartt has been alerted to come up here with a Florentine Supt. on 1 or 2 June to list the works as they are packed in the newly made crates. This deposit will be ready to take back to Florence in about five days if everything goes smoothly.

c. IMPORTANT 88th Div. Guard at San Leonardo must be relieved in a couple of days, as they are pulling out. Could this information be passed to the proper authorities at 5 Army and a relieving detail be arranged for and sent up? It is believed that this can be arranged better by the proper authorities at 5 Army HQ than by the undersigned here in Bolzano. If all goes well the detail will not be ~~2793~~ on the job.

2. The undersigned offers the above facts in para 1. as to way the progress at Campo Tures has been at a standstill. Once initiated, the work should not take too long there.

James Keller

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c. IMPORTANT  
The 58th Div. Guard at San Leonardo must be relieved in a couple of days, as they are pulling out. Could this information be passed to the proper authorities at 5 Army and a relieving detail be arranged for and sent up? It is believed that this can be arranged better by the proper authorities at 5 Army HQ than by the undersigned here in Bolzano. If all goes well the detail will not be on the job,

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Copies to:

Exec. Officer

MFPA sub-com HQ AC

MFPA Officer Venezia

File

Leona Keller, Capt.  
MFPA Officer, MG 5 Army  
RECEIVED FBI INT 3 MAY 1945  
SUBMISSION

10 JUL 1945

FILE NO.

24642

30 MAY 1945



29 MAR 1945

2

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DK/jm

207/24-25

29 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Reports.

TO: Regional Commissioners, Lombardy Region  
Liguria "  
(for Regional M.F.A.A. Officers).

1. Since so much needs attention in the Venezia Region this officer has not been able to return to Milan or go to Geneva. It is hoped a visit may be made fairly soon.

2. Meanwhile no reports have come in from either Lombardy or Liguria to the S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army. It is hoped they are on the way. All reports are needed at this HQ to complete the record and they will be appreciated as soon as possible.

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer,  
AMG 5th Army.  
HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MPAA S/C).

2792

A C C.
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ANTIQUES
SUBCOMMISSION
2 JUN 1945
FILE No 26464

29 MAR 1945

25 MAG. 1945

AMF 5 ARMY

25 May 1945

Subject: MPAA Report  
To: SCAG, 5 ARMY

A. C. C.
RECEIVED FOR INFO & ACTION
SUBMISSION
10 JUN 1945
FILE No 30464

Deposits: General Situation at Campa Tures and San Leonardo.

1. The undersigned has been chiefly concerned over getting the crates for the deposits at Campa Tures and San Leonardo built. The situation at the latter is good. By now some twenty of the necessary seventy (70) odd crates are built. Three carpenters and a specialist, Sig. Niccolucci from Trento, are on the job. They have all the materials they need and the work ought to be done in another week. Most days and Sundays interfere to some extent with the progress. The CIN under the leadership of Comandatore Nazari of Merano have been very helpful in terms of supplies and in other ways and it is hoped that the Florentines give proper appreciation to the committee and its leader in the course of time.
2. In as much as Sig. Rusconi and Sig. Moruzzi, Supts. respectively of Monuments at Trento and Genoa, are today at Campa Tures and will report in to the undersigned later in the day, see below for the situation there. The two packers from Milan have arrived through the good offices of Col. Poletti, Lt. Col. Perkins of the subcom for Fine Arts in Rome, and Lt. Cott, officer for Lombardy and will get to work on the things to be crated there at Castle Neumelans in Campa Tures.

Transport for the Deposits back to Florence.

2. Undersigned went back to 5 Army HQ and discussed the situation with Col. Sutherland, Brig. Unjohn and Capt. Brownyard. As a result of the discussions, a letter was sent to Lt. Col. Frank Toscani who is in charge of truck transport at that HQ explaining the whole problem and tipping him off that a request for the proper sort of truck was imminent. Much emphasis was placed on this "EMPHASIS", as the Germans had poor, open transport and the things not only got wet at Merano, but were stalled for five days in the large square in Bolzano for lack of gasoline. It was suggested also by the undersigned that in all probability some higher echelon would be interested in this transportation of a priceless cargo. A letter explaining this was dispatched to Col. Sutherland 25 May 1945. It is difficult at this time to set a date for the transportation of the things, but the guess is that in about ten days the first convoy could get under way. It had been decided by Lt. Haritt and the undersigned that two convoys would be better than one, as 40 trucks seem necessary.

2791

3. Whereabouts of German Monuments Personnel

a. SS Col. Langsdorff was taken to a PW cage in the neighborhood of Belluno some six days ago. His secretary, Miss Heller, was at Campa Tures four days ago. She, being German Military, may be in a PW cage herself by now. Undersigned was told by Capt., Mohr at Campa Tures that the Germans were going to be moved out of town soon; this was 21 May.

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b. The general impression of all the officers with whom undersigned talked as to where the PW cages were to be is this: that they will be on the north side of the PO. But that does not go for SS prisoners.

c. Maj. Heidenmeister was one to leave San Leonardo.

2.5

MAY

1945



-2-

3. Maj Reidemeister was due to leave San Leonardo 23 May 1945, possibly for Lana in the vicinity of Merano, B 6384. On further discussion of him with the Italians it was found that they all agreed that he was a serious man interested in doing what he could for the Arts, and at the end he and Col. Langsdorff were at odds with each other. It has been reported already by the undersigned that Reidemeister has declared he was never a member of the Party. Both Reidemeister and Langsdorff seemed anxious to remain on the two spots until the Anglo-Americans had got the works of Art back to Florence. Lt. Leinberger at San Leonardo was sending Reidemeister to a PW cage if he did not go to Lana where the rest of the members of the latter's command are now.

d. It has been a very difficult task to try to keep in touch with the Germans, as they are being moved in thousands now and in a hurry. The importance of finding them again for the Fine Arts Commission has been expressed to all Military Commanders in the localities.

e. As far as is known the Civilian German personnel has been left alone.

#### 4. AFS Record at San Leonardo

Lt. Zipser of the Army Pictorial Service took an exhaustive movie record of the deposit at San Leonardo, including the personnel military, in charge. Many pictures that had been damaged were photographed both with the movie camera and with the stills. This will furnish excellent documentation for the future. The functions of the 5 Army Fine Arts Officer and those of the AG were carefully explained to the Lt., so that he could get a fair picture of the American organization. He was told by name who had charge of what in the whole business at San Leonardo, Florence and in Rome.

#### 5. Documents in the possession of SS Gen. Wolff

It is suggested that AG NFAA make a request to the proper higher authority to examine a document said to be in the possession of SS Gen. Wolff relating to all the loot of the German Command in Val Venosta. In this way some idea of what has been taken, and more important for the NFAA section, what was at Castle Dorensberg according to the German list in terms of works of Art. 52 pictures are supposed to have been there and many fine rugs, already referred to in undersigned reports on this castle near Rattorno. It is quite possible that a lot of stuff may turn up. Meanwhile a search has been going on in the valley under the command of Capt. Macabee of the 349th Inf. Co I. with the aid of four GG:FF Italian.

#### 6. Campa Tures Deposit.

The experts referred to in para 2 were not allowed to go to Campa Tures when they checked in at Brunico with Maj. Minor, 3rd Bn. 339th Inf. He said a new order had come in just today not permitting anyone to go out there. Undersigned will go to Misurina, the 85th Div.

2790

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Copy to MPAA ✓

Exec. Officer, AG 5 ARMY

*Jean Allen, Capt.*

2700

COPY/jm

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

26 MAY 1945

17

26 May 1945

SUBJECT: MFAA Report

TO: SCAO, AMG 5 Army.

A. C. C.	
RECEIVED FOR ARTS & MONUMENTS	
SUBCOMMISSION	
26 MAY 1945	
FILE No.	20464

Deposit at Campo Tures.

1. a. 26th May 1945 undersigned went to the Regt. CP 339th Inf. to find out what the score was about permits to enter and work at the Campo Tures deposit. Permission had been refused Sig. Morassi and Rusconi and the two packers from Milan the day before, even to go to the town. Since the undersigned had worked the deal smoothly at San Leonardo and the workmen have been on the job several days, it was though that the same technique would apply at the other place. It did not.

b. At Lago di Baies, the CP, the undersigned had a talk with the Regimental Commander, Col. English, and the situation clarified. Competent Orders are required in 85th Div. Area for all concerned, from 5th Army. The Division will continue to serve the guard on the deposit, and to see to it that only authorized personnel enter, for an indefinite period. The 100th Chemical Co. is taking over as of tomorrow. This outfit is attached to the Div. now. The responsibility for all else in connection with the place is to be Army's.

c. Consequently the undersigned will return to HQ AMG 5th Army tomorrow and obtain competent orders from Army for the prosecution of the work of packing and crate-building. When the time comes for transporting the stuff the necessary releases will be obtained in the same manner. This has been an unavoidable delay. The 85th Div. is well aware of its responsibility and is taking good care of the precious dump of works of Art.

Supt. of Monuments - Trento - Rusconi.

2. It is learned that Sig. Rusconi swore allegiance to the Fascist party. This information came from Sig. Morassi. By swearing allegiance and remaining friendly with the Art

26 MAY 1945



Superintendents who were not in the party, so says Morassi, Rusconi was able to be a good liaison officer between the two and to work thus both with Bigini, Minister of Education and Anti, the Director of Art things for the Fascists. Rusconi has some enemies for this swearing allegiance. Undersigned is inclined to treat it lightly as of now and to have Rusconi screened as soon as is feasible.

3. The two packers referred to in the first para, Gemelli and Barzaghi - are in Bolzano at the Albergo Grifone awaiting the decision on their going to Campo Tures. Undersigned held them there and will keep them informed.

SS General Wolff's Documents.

4. Undersigned looked up Capt. Reiback, 88th Div. CIC and found that most of Gen. Wolff's documents are at Documentation 5th Army, under care of Lt. Col. Blom. Also mentioned an officer named Cifferele and a Capt. Green there. This is important for the list of missing paintings from Castle Dorensberg, which Wolff is supposed to have had in his possession. ||

5. Rusconi says there were 37 German trucks in all that took the stuff to San Leonardo and Campo Tures. When the crates are made the number will increase at least a quarter making 45 as a round number guess.

2788

/s/ Deane Keller.

/t/ DEANE KELLER, Capt.,  
MFAA Officer.

Copy to: Executive Officer.  
HQ A.C., MFAA S/C.

22 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DE/jm

207/9

22 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

Deposit - San Leonardo.

1. 21st May under the supervision of Nicolussi of the Trento Superintendency of Monuments and Galleries two carpenters, Giuseppe PICHLER and Enrico LADURNER began building crates for the Florentine pictures. With Comm. NAZARI, CLN, Morano, undersigned found materials. Estimated time for building crates is two weeks. There are near 300 pictures to be crated. Eduardo De Lucca, San Leonardo, will furnish the wood. Permits and all information on this deal has been handled by undersigned with Merano CCS, Major Knox and Lt. Colonel Henderson, 349th Inf. 3rd Bn., 88th Division. They are all aware of the work going on and approve. Perhaps a dozen (12) trucks will be needed to pack the cases when made. Specialist packers will go to San Leonardo to pack the pictures when the crates are made. This will be either Zampetti of the Trento Superintendency or some one authorized by the Superintendency of Galleries in Florence. Great emphasis must be put on COVERED TRUCKS for the 3 day return journey, approximately 500 Kms. The guard of the 88th Division at San Leonardo is very fine, Lt. Leinberger there is a fine officer and undersigned is very happy over the developments here.

2. Campo Tures Deposit.

20th May undersigned reported to Colonel English, 339th Inf., 85th Division at Brunico and explained his mission. Col. English is pleased that the stuff will be packed and taken away soon. Reported to Capt. Mohr, K Co., 339th Inf. at Campo Tures. He is informed. Materials will be found there except for waterproof paper. Perhaps Col. English will release this on undersigned's next trip.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
SUPERINTENDENCY

- 1 -

2 MAG. 1945

FILE No.

6 June

20 16 9

The Sindaco De Franceschi was visited and he will help. Expert packers are expected in Trento today and will proceed to Campo Tures immediately. They will carry a written statement by the undersigned to present to Col. English at Brunico and Capt. Mohr at Campo Tures. It is believed that in 9 or 10 days the crates for the pictures there may be made. Also tapestries and crockery. The guard is superior and all is in fine order.

3. It is suggested that through channels the Commanders of 88th and 85th Divisions be asked if they care to furnish trucks, about 20 each to take the stuff to Florence. Their attention and interest is appreciated and their's should be the first choice in restoring these worldwide known works of art to their proper seat in Florence.

#### German Reports and Personnel.

4. a. Reports. Under separate cover reports from various Germans were sent to HQ Allied Commission, MFAA Subcommission. A copy of each report is in undersigned's files, except for the personnel chart made by Col. Langsdorf and his secretary (military) Miss. Heller, all in German.

2786

b. Personnel. Col. Langsdorf is reported in a PW cage near Belluno. Undersigned has made strenuous efforts to hang on to the German personnel in terms of inquiries on all sides - American military - as to where they would be sent. G-1 in both 88th and 85th Divisions have promised to help as they could. The whole thing is not clear; there are many cages, but every effort has been made by undersigned to keep some sort of string on them. CIC has been consulted and they are in the same predicament. Capt. Reidemeister was interned again at San Leonardo 19th May. He may now be at his HQ at Lana. Undersigned's impression improved a little. He declared he was never a party member, a Nazi; was a German and what could he do but join up. He is in the German Army 4 years. His skirts are not clean, it seems sure. The personnel at Campo Tures has probably been taken away to PW cages now. Undersigned will try again to locate them. This will be Dr. Degenhart (probably though, as he is a civilian he may not have been taken), Major Zohel and Major Evers and also Miss. Heller.



All that could have been done to keep these people, within military limits, is believed to have been done. The woods were full of Krauts, however, and it is a good thing to get them behind the bars. Dr. Schmidt may also be gone.

5. SS. CARITA' collection (Italian).  
Capt. Reibach called in on undersigned 19th May 1945 to see a truckful of paintings gathered in with Carità's other stuff. This is the Carità of the Longa Deposit, a bad actor now dead - shot a few days ago. The collection has a few good things - Sega, Fattori, Baldini. The rest is junk. Undersigned took it off Capt. Reibach's (CIC 88th Division) hands and gave it to Rusconi, Superintendent at Trento, carried there by Capt. Marriott. They were glad to get it and will make proper disposition of the stuff to Florence where they believe most of it belongs.

6. No new word on Castle DORENSBERG Deposit of 53 pictures. Capt. Mc Abbe is still there and they are continuing the hunt. Undersigned talked again on this with Comm. Nazari at Merano, who is a good man and very helpful. All are much concerned about this loss, already reported on by undersigned.

7. Important.

a. Can a request be put through channels for the undersigned to revisit the Palazzo of the Duke of Pistoia, SS. General Wolff's former HQ.? Undersigned is not permitted to go there now by the 88th Divisional Command. The reason for going: it is believed that there is more loot of an artistic nature there and the building should be gone over from top to bottom. 2785

b. Can the documents of SS. General Wolff be gone over by the undersigned or a member of HQ A.C., MFAA Subcommission to try to find a list of objects looted and stored at Dorensberg Castle, and at various other places in Val Venosta? The list should contain 53 paintings plus two Membranets, and maybe more. This list should also serve the Property Control Division in checking the hundreds of bales of dry foods and other things looted from South Italy, now in Val Venosta. Major RATH at Merano, now held with Major Mc Donald of American Command at the Caserma degli Alpini, should be sweated for a list or information. Rath says Gen. Wolff has the only complete list.

stuff was taken principally to Campo Tures and San Leonardo north of Bolzano. This zone was always considered German, the Italian Generals' command ended south of Trento. The Italian Superintendency feared and doubted this move. Heydenreich was in the north when Florence became an operational zone, as he was in civvies. Reidemeister may be in Merano now, and Major Evers may be at Campo Tures or S. Leonardo.

b. Prof. Ringler may also be there. He was called by Col. Langedorf from Innsbruck to be Supt. in the Bolzano area. He should have complete check lists of the deposits. Langedorf sent lists to the following:-

Ringler  
 n Ayti - (Supt. under Bigini, Republican Minister of Education. Ayti is said to be condemned to death).  
Mussolini - (Langedorf always kept him informed).

8. As to SS Troops and Herman Goering Division. They were things apart and Heydenreich knew little of their doings. Langedorf's honesty has often been questioned. It is to be remembered he was an SS too.

9. a. Lately Cardinal Schuster of Milan called in the Superintendents and told them he would supply trucks to transport the stuff to Switzerland. It was too late.

b. Prof. Lippe, a Swiss, wrote an article praising Heydenreich's work in Italy during the war and that of the Allied Commission. He wanted to form a commission, international in scope, to transport the stuff to Switzerland until the war was over.

10. There was never a Fascist Monuments Military Commission for protection of the Arts. Two pictures were taken from Villa Loeser, Florence, by General Von Riechthoven destined for Bologna but last heard of in Styria, Austria. Books from the famous Querianini Library of Brescia were being sold a month ago by kids in the streets of Brescia.

11. At Kochendorf (near Heilbronn) in Germany, near Stuttgart is a deposit from the Institutes (German) in Italy. In the deposits is the largest collection of photographs of

Italian Art in the world - 300 boxes, plus 600 cases of valuable books. Signal sent to A.C. for AFHQ 11th May 1945. It had been established with the Vatican that all German Institutes in Italy would be under their protection. Then the order came from Hitler to Kesselring to return all possessions to Germany about the time of General Clark's arrival in Naples. German savants had persuaded Hitler to have this done. Heydenreich knew nothing of the burning of books in Naples or Rome.

12. This is a brief resumé of a two hour conversation with Heydenreich at Blevio, about 30 Kms. from Milan on lake Como. He is there with his wife and boy at the Villa of Count Calvi - Villa Calvi. Undersigned informed Capt. Garcia, Asst. Executive Officer IV Corps, of the importance of this man. Lt. Cott, Regional Fine Arts Officer for Lombardy was also informed and will take proper security steps. Undersigned advised Capt. Garcia that the highest possible screening authority should examine Heydenreich. He suggested Major Crystal of CIO. Heydenreich gave undersigned his German Pass signed by Langedorf and the German Commanding General. It is proposed by Lt. Col. Perkins, MFAA Deputy Director, HQ A.C., that Lt. Col. De Wald get in touch immediately with him. Heydenreich is disposed to offer his services in the interest of the Arts. He was to have seen Lt. Cott on the 12th May 1945. 2783

13. Undersigned believed most of what Heydenreich said, as some of it could be confirmed from previous knowledge. What he did not say is another matter. He should be questioned by an expert in cross-examination and a fine arts specialist such as Lt. Col. De Wald. All statements in this report are recordings of fact as heard from Heydenreich. No personal comment appears except in para 13.

*W.S. Mayne*  
may

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.C. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
Executive Officer,  
AMC 5th Army.  
SCAO, AMC IV Corps.  
MFAA Officer, Lombardy Region.



15391

61679

HQ. 13 MAG. 1945  
H/FAH s/c.  
EX/jm (146)

HEADQUARTERS  
AMC FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

207/8D

13 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Deposit at Longa.

TO: S.C.A.G., AMC 5th Army.

(G1679, Prov. Vicenza)

1. Longa Deposit, seen 12th May 1945. Reported by Lt. Col. Wray, SCAD II Corps - 33 cases of treasure. Three have been opened on 30 April by Germans and stuff removed. The rest is tapestry, crockery, silver, beautiful house furnishings. The other 30 cases are firmly closed and contents not known. Deposit, found at Longa in the house of Don Marco Gasparini, who had cared for it at the risk of his life. Now the deposit is safe in the Seminary Palace, Vicenza in the care of the Bishop - Monsignore Carlo Linato.

2. Two crates are said by Don Marco to have been opened and contents stolen by the Germans.

3. Two addresses are noted on the crates:-

a) Comm. Gustavo Padua  
Via Gaeta, 2 - Roma.

2782

or

Canto dei Nelli, 9 - Florence.

b) Barone Giorgio Enrico Levi  
(No address)

4. There is purported to be stuff from Synagogues of Florence and Padua and things from Uffizi. Only three crates look like pictures.

A C C.  
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
SUBCOMMISSION  
16 MAY 1945  
FILE No 20464

13 MAG. 1945

5. These are the important facts:- The stuff is safe, signs protect it at the Seminary. They are awaiting the next move. The Bishop has the responsibility. Under-signed will make a longer report as there is a good story connected with all of this stuff at Longa - much credit due to 88th Division II Corps, the Vicenza Provincial Team, CIC at Vicenza, the Partisans and Don Marco of Longa.

*AB Wayne*  
F. DEANE KRILLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army.  
S.C.A.C., AMG II Corps.  
M.F.A.A., Venice Region.  
P.O., Vicenza Province.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DK/jm

12 May 1945

207/9

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.O.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

EMILIA.1. Pidenza.

- a. The Roman Bridge is gone.
- b. The two pinnacles of the early church - the Cathedral have been hit, just the upper conical parts, which can easily be repaired. The damage was done 13th May 1944. The canonica was badly hit. There are in the rear walls of the Cathedral several splits which will need attention, but which do not appear to be serious.
- c. The Roman walls are ruins of ancient days.
- d. A 500 lb. bomb lit in front of the Palazzo Comunale, but did no more than blast damage to the Palace - windows out, etc.

2. Firenzuola d'Arda. - No damage.

2780

PIACENZA.

3. a. The worst damage was the loss of a Leonardo fresco in the ex-convent of S. Agostino, which has been of late an Artillery Caserma.
- b. S. Giovanni in Canale. Has been hit, not bad. Reconstruction has already started.
- c. The Gothic Church of the Carmine, not listed, was hit in cloisters and apse - repairable.
- d. The 14th Century church of the Cappuccini was hit.
- e. The Equestrian Statues in Piazza Cavalli are in safety, taken from the pedestals before the war got near.

16 MAY 1945  
FILE No 20864

12 MAY 1945



f. Palazzo Malviani was hit.

g. A bomb landed 100 yards from the Cathedral but did no damage. The Cathedral library was taken away 15 April 1945 and is safe.

h. Things from the Ricci-Oddi Gallery, mostly modern as well as other stuff are now in the following deposits:

- 1) Castel di Trave
- 2) Gazzola di Piacenza
- 3) Semino (rugs)

i. Count Emilio Nazzari Rosca, nephew of the Cardinal of Bologna, is Honorary Inspector, Librarian and Archivist of the Comune.

#### LOMBARDIA.

2779

#### MILAN.

4. a. Undersigned arrived 5th May 1945 expecting to find Lt. Cott, the Regional Officer. Orders had not been out for him to come to Milan. Undersigned informed Colonel Walker, SCAO IV Corps of the urgent necessity of his presence at the earliest moment in Milan. This urgency was repeated to Capt. Garcia, Asst. Executive Officer, to Col. Walker on successive days. It is believed that Lt. Cott will arrive today, 9th May. In the absence of the Regional Officer, undersigned has taken preliminary steps to set up the MFAA organization in Milan. Care has been taken not to make too many decisions which might conflict with the wishes of Lt. Cott, who will be the permanent officer in Lombardy. The absence of a MFAA Officer in Milan has necessarily limited the activities of the undersigned in other parts of 5th Army Area.

b. After reporting to Col. Walker in person and and to Lt. Col. Herzhenson, SCAO Milan City, contact was made 6th May with Prof. Pacchioni and the whole situation gone over with him. Dott. Chierici, Supt. of Monuments was in Pavia and was not seen until 7th May. Dott. De Grassi, Supt. of Antiquities appeared 7th May also, as did Miss. Buonanna Schellenbred, Supt. of Libraries. Mr. Lang, who had worked with Heydenreich and Col. Langsdorf, was seen, as well as Prof. Morassi, Supt. of Monuments at Genoa. The latter had seen

Lt. Col. Gardner on the job in his city. Undersigned was informed that Capt. Enthoven had arrived in Turin and that Supt. Art was there with him, so that all areas at the moment were covered. Before leaving for Milan 5th May, information had reached undersigned that troops had found deposits of Art at Capo Tures and San Leonardo, north of Merano. Major Hayne, Administrative Officer at AMG 5th Army Rear promised to send a cable to Lt. Hartt, MPAA Officers Tuscany, about these, asking him to go up there as much stuff from Tuscany was reported in the deposit. Inasmuch as undersigned was out of touch with either Major Newton, MPAA Officer with 8th Army or Capt. Marriott, Regional Officer Venezia, a cable or telephone call was also made by Major Hayne to HQ A.C., MPAA S/C for Lt. Col. J.B. Ward Perkins to come up and help cover the ground; it is hoped that he will have arrived to take care of Vicenza and Verona and other parts of eastern 5th Army Area, and in Veneto.

c. Situation as regards personnel. Under the auspices of the CINAI, the following men have done a fine job of taking care of the moveable objects of Art in North Italy. The work consisted in putting these things in safe places, moving them from one deposit to another - safer, and generally fighting off attempts of the Republican Government and the Germans to assume control over them and run the risk of losing sight of them. So far as is known today all objects are under their control. List of names as follows:-

Prof. Paschioni	-	<u>Milan</u>
Sig. Morassi	-	<u>Genoa</u>
Sig. Baroni	-	<u>Castello Sforzesco, Milan.</u>
Dott. Artu	-	<u>Turin</u>
Sig. Forlati	-	<u>Veneto</u>

Chierici also helped but since his political past is not too clear, and was not to this group, his name was not included.

In addition to these is Dr. Gottfried Lang who served with the German Fine Arts personnel. He is very highly spoken of by all the Italians and apparently has rendered fine service in caring for the Italian artistic heritage. Undersigned has made arrangements with CIC and FSS for screening him and the other Italians in Milan with whom this Section will have to do. CIC did not have any of their names on their lists of suspects. Heydenreich is in Italy, said to be near Como at Belvio. He should be contacted at the earliest moment and will be when time allows. All of course want

permits to travel in their areas. Some change is contemplated by higher authority regarding passes at IV Corps HQ. Anti is reported to have been condemned to death. His whereabouts and that of Bigini, Republican Minister of Education, is not known.

d. Offices. Prof. Pacchioni suggested Palazzo Clerici for the Fine Arts Officer's HQ. At present it is occupied by Social Democrats. This should be cleared up, as the Palace is a monumental one, adapted for Fine Arts use, but not for politics. Undersigned suggested the situation to Lt. Col. Kershenson and he said he would approach the head of the party tactfully. Prof. Pacchioni will also do a little something, and it is hoped that the Palace may be cleared soon and a new and satisfactory building found for the Social Democrats. The final choice of an office will be in the hands of Lt. Cott. This possibility seems good, but undersigned will not make a final decision. Dott. de Grassi, Antiquities, is without an office and wants one in this Palace. All the Italian personnel are for it and say they could have exhibitions and concerts here and make it a fine center of culture. Until this is decided a room will be cleared out in the Brera Gallery, Via Brera 28, for the AMG Fine Arts representative. The Fascists used Palazzo Clerici against the wishes of Chierici and Pacchioni. Prof. Pacchioni will go to Cardinal Schuster of Milan about this.

2777

DEPOSITS.

5. a. 42 places where works of Art have been deposited have been listed by Prof. Pacchioni. The larger part of these things are known to be safe. Visits to them will be a first priority. Most of the stuff comes from Galleries, Libraries and Churches in N. Italy. The list will be left with Lt. Cott. Dr. Arp at Turin, there Supt. of Monuments, as well as the rest are extremely anxious about the things at Isola Barromea. The King's Coin collection is at Bolzano in the House of the Duca di Pistoia; so it was announced on the radio for Allied and Nazi-Fascists consumption alike. This brings up Steiner, an Italian, chosen by Mussolini to be in charge of the Royal Holdings in Italy. Steiner helped put this collection in the House at Bolzano, but his reputation is bad for he is known to have sold things belonging to the Royal House. Pacchioni denounced him and was for this denounced himself by Mussolini. The interrupted trial of



Steiner (whose whereabouts now is not known) is to be taken up at Monza immediately and Pacchioni must go there this week to testify.

b. It must be said that Milan is the crossroads of practically all the information on Deposits, lost and stolen stuff. Only at Venice will there be other information. Transport, gas and the rest rendered Milan the best place to center the moving of Deposits from the Regions of Emilia, Lombardia, Piemonte, Liguria and Toscana. It would seem prudent to give Lt. Cott some help at the earliest moment in untangling this whole knotty problem of what is where. There is much information to be gotten with time. Undersigned has started proceedings to clarify the position of Heydenreich, his assistant who was met this day, Clementz Heselhaus, who is in Milan and who is well regarded by the Italians, and the above-mentioned Dr. Lang. The Italians are apparently not completely informed on Heydenreich. They were surprised to hear that undersigned had seen his signature on a German "Off Limits" sign at Valmontone in the summer of 1944, one stamped with Kesselring's name. He must be handled carefully with full accord with the Public Safety Officers of the Army, Corps and Region. With all of this going on undersigned may find it advisable to remain in Milan until Lt. Cott arrives. If he could have been in Milan as Lt. Col. Gardner was in Genoa and Capt. Enthoven in Torino, this work could have gone on much more rapidly and much more ground covered by the undersigned.

c. Ringler was Director of Ling Museum. About 20th April Dr. Lipps, a Swiss, came to see Heydenreich with the idea of forming a commission for the preservation of Italian Art in Italy. Idea was to persuade Germans to leave it in Italy.

2776

#### 6. MILAN CITY DESTRUCTION.

a. The days of the greatest destruction in Milan were 13, 14 and 16th August 1943. Practically all the damage to monuments occurred in these days. Milan burned for a week after these raids as water was scarce. According to the Italians Milan looked like an Inferno at this time. Other raids did damage but these were the big ones. The general picture is pretty bad. Most moveable objects were saved and it is hoped will be found safe in the various deposits. Notices were posted 6th May by undersigned

relative to the type of trouble involved. Off Limits or not to be requisitioned, without consultation with MFAA Officers are the following; the list has been given both to Lt. Col. Hershenson, SCAO (Milan City and Capt. Roberts Real Estate and Requisitions:

- 1) Ambrosiana Library
- 2) Brera Museum
- 3) Castello Sforzesco
- 4) Palazzo Giuriconsulti
- 5) Palazzo Trivulzio
- 6) Palazzo Clerici (desired for Fine Arts Office)
- 7) Palazzo Bagatti-Valsecchi
- 8) Conservatory of Music
- 9) University of Milan
- 10) Catholic University
- 11) A guard was recommended for the Ospedale Maggiore plus the "Off Limits" sign.

The following is a brief description of chief damage.

b. Santa Maria delle Grazie. Bomb hit of August 1943 in the cloister destroyed the right wall of the refectory facing Leonardo's Last Supper. The roof was hit and collapsed when the wall fell. The painting had been sandbagged for protection, plus wood planks and iron scaffolding. It's 2775 fate is not known. The roof is nearing completion and the wall has been reconstructed. Until there is no danger from the elements, or danger from what is left of the vaults, which is little, the painting will not be uncovered. There may be some scaling off of the surface of the fresco by Montorfano on the opposite wall gives any indication. Here the figures, supposedly by Leonardo of the Ludovico Sforza family have scaled off leaving only the rough sinopia drawing. The cloister is in bad shape and small damage has been done the church itself.

c. The Cathedral. Scattered bomb fragment damage and glass shattered.

d. Sant'Ambrogio. Serious damage. Work of reconstruction undertaken by Supt. Chierici. Tiepolo's destroyed and Bramante cloister about gone.

e. San Pietro in Gessate is a semi-ruin, though facade, walls and part of roof are standing. Reconstruction going on here too.

f. San Fedele was destroyed.

g. San Lorenzo. Was hit in back on outside. Repairs in progress. Church OK inside as are Roman columns in fore court.

h. Ospedale Maggiore. Gothic-Renaissance building by Filarete is down by nearly 1/2, a vast scene of interior destruction. Famous parts of the facade, particularly the central part remain. Prof. Pacchioni says they will not know where to begin in making repairs.

i. The Poldi-Pezzoli Museum is a shell-gutted.

j. The Castello Sforzesco has suffered severe damage. The Civic Library reports losses in the bombing.

k. The Brera Gallery was damaged severely. Provisorial roofs have been erected, but most of it will have to be rebuilt. Pictures away and safe as are the books of the Library. 200,000 books had been taken to a deposit. Needed back at the earliest moment.

l. The Ambrosiana suffered severe damage from burning after the bombing. Best books had been removed. However, there were some losses. The catalogues of both Brera and Ambrosiana are away in safety. The librarian wants them back at the earliest moment. Most of the books are at Pontida. The catalogue of the Brera is at Carimate, near Centa.

m. The Teatro alla Scala is gutted and in very bad condition. Reconstruction has been begun.

n. Palazzo Borromeo is burned out - gutted. Lombard fresco in bad shape.

o. Teatro Fildrammatico was burned out, but has been largely restored now.

p. Palazzo Gallarati-Scotti - burned out and gutted, but the fresco by Tiepolo was removed and is safe.

q. Light damage to the following:-

- S. Alessandro
- S. Babila (old parts are OK)
- S. Eustorgio
- S. Giorgio al Palazzo
- S. Maria della Passione
- S. Maria presso S. Celso
- S. Maurizio



- S. Nazaro Maggiore
- S. Paolo
- S. Satiro (Bramante part is OK)
- S. Sebastiano
- S. Sepolcro
- S. Simpliciano

#### Palaces

Archbishop's  
 Omenom  
 Giuriconsulti

- r. Bad damage to the following:-

Palazzo Archinto destroyed with Tiepolo  
 Reale - gone (furnishings saved)  
 Serbelloni - destroyed.

s. The Archives question will bear looking into. Undersigned has had little time for this but fears that there may be trouble with the Ospedale Maggiore ones and the State Archives, as the former suffered severe damage, and the latter bad also. Notarial Archives are all right.

- t. To sum up work of reconstruction in progress:-

S. Maria delle Grazie  
 S. Ambrogio  
 S. Pietro in Gessate  
 Ospedale Maggiore  
 Palazzo Umanitaria (not mentioned in list)  
 S. Gottardo (cupola and side were hit)

Undersigned has seen Chierici only a moment and has no opinion of him but this, which is not too good.

#### PAVIA.

7. a. There is no trouble here at all in the City. It escaped the war. However, the old Medieval covered bridge was severely damaged and the Genio Civile of Pavia, true to form, wants to tear the rest of it down and build a modern bridge. Undersigned gave non-demolition signs to Chierici to place on the bridge. This situation will bear investigation. The bridge is called the Ponte Coperto. The Germans took wooden parts of roof and skeleton beams.
- b. The Certosa of Pavia is intact.

TORINO.

8. a. 8th May undersigned went to Torino and found Capt. Enthoven and Supt. Aru on the job. Major problems of requisition, etc. may not exist as few troops appear there. Capt. Enthoven had made a look around and will report fully. With Capt. Enthoven and Supt. Aru notices were made out for all the monuments of Torino.

b. Worst damage. The Three Star University Library was bombed and burned. No books had been removed, none to speak of. The result is the loss of 200,000 volumes of the 400,000 in this great library - a great loss.

Piazza S. Carlo is a 17th - 18th century square. Bombs gutted and ruined most of the rich palaces surrounding it, the Pilarmonica included.

Church of the Carmine, 18th century, was badly hit.

c. Supt. Aru and colleagues of Piedmont formed under CIL auspices a commission with full powers on the protection of monuments and deposits in the region. He noted twice that he was the President of this club. They did a good job, independently of the Ministry in Rome.

d. As far as Aru knows, all moveable stuff is OK. He is worried about the King's coin collection, above noted.

9. SAN LAZZARO.

Collegio Alberoni is intact. The Priest thanks the Allies for this "after having thanked the Madonna and God". The Germans took some furnishings from their Villa Veano. Consider themselves very lucky.

*AS Wayne 2772*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.W.G. Fifth Army.

## Copy to:

Executive Officer,  
AMG 5th Army.  
MFAA Officer, Lombardy Region.  
MFAA Officer, Piedmont Region.  
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region.  
S.C.A.O., AMG IV Corps.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

AES/jm

13 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Reports.

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

Herewith submitted for your information  
three reports.

For the Commanding General:

*AES.j.*  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Colonel, C.A.C.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

2771

Incl: 3.



6 MAG. 1943

Q Q P Y

Milan, 6 May 1945

Chief Damage  
at Milan

Only 5 of 27 churches of MILAN listed as national monuments have not been damaged.

Of the 27:-

1. Cathedral scattered bomb fragment damage and glass shattered.

2. Sant'Ambrogio, 3 star church begun in the 1st. century suffered severe damage.

3. Santa Maria delle Grazie. Bomb hits in cloister destroyed wall in and roof of refectory, where Leonardo's Last Supper was painted on the end wall. Perhaps the most famous wall-painting in the world painted in 1494-97. On the opposite wall the figures of Ludovico Sforza and family, possibly by Leonardo, are about gone. The Last Supper is still scaffolding. Its fate is not known. It will not be uncovered until the roof and walls and vault around it are completely repaired. The bombs fell in this place in mid-August 1943.

4. San Fedele was destroyed.

5. San Pietro in Gessate is a semi-ruin, tough facade and walls are standing.

Of palaces and other buildings.

1. Ospedale Maggiore - the Great Hospital extending in length over two city blocks, a gothic-renaissance building by Pirlarete has suffered very severe damage and may be said to be 1/3 destroyed. Professor Pacchioni, Superintendent of Galleries in MILAN says they will not know where to begin in making repairs. Famous parts of the facade remain however, particularly, the central part.

2. The famous Poldi-Pezzoli Museum is just a shell - gutted.

3. The Castello Sforzesco, ancient seat of the Sforza rulers of MILAN is badly damaged.

4. In bad condition are also the Brera Gallery and the Ambrosiana Library. However, the large part of the great collection of books, pictures, archives and sculptures of the Milanese have

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2770

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Of palaces and other buildings.

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2. The famous Poldi-Pezzoli Museum is just a shell - gutted.

3. The Castello Sforzesco, ancient seat of the Sforza rulers of MILAN is badly damaged.

4. In bad condition are also the Brera Gallery and the Ambrosiana Library. However, the large part of the great collection of books, pictures, archives and sculptures of the Milanese have been long since put in safety by the Superintendents. The work in particularly of 5 men in North Italy has resulted in freedom from destruction of the greater part of the movable art treasures in this region. The men worked in collaboration with the O.L.N. They are Superintendents Pacchioni, Morassi, Baroni, Aru and Porlati, representing the regions of continental Italy.

5. The famous La Scala Operahouse is gutted and ruined - open to the air.

(signed) DEANE KELLER, Capt.

AMG 5 Army

6 MAR. 1943

\* covered, heavily sandbagged and welled and supported with steel  
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5 MAG. 1945

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- 6 MAG. 1945

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FOR INFORMATION ONLY

**RESTRICTED**Consider advisable Lieutenant Colonel WARD PERKINS visit Army  
Area. Advise Ets.DistAction - MFA & A  
Info - A/President  
Chief Commissioner  
CA Sec  
File 2  
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**RESTRICTED**

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5 MAG. 1945



HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

HQ 3 MAG. 1945

AF AA, S/C.

2  
DK/jm

207/9

3 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.P.A.A. Report - Vicenza.

TO: S.O.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

VICENZA.

1. The general situation here is very bad. Many buildings and frescoes of the first importance have been hit and damage is great. There is frankly among the people a sort of wonderment as to why this place was so severely bombed. Undersigned is recording a fact here, not a personal feeling.

X 2. The Duomo. All that remains are the facade and apse. All the rest is a huge rubble pile. All 16th and 17th Century pictures in Oratorio were destroyed. Supt. was away in Venice and could do nothing, they say. Building was bombed several times. Oratorio destroyed. Montagna and D'Altomo frescoes gone. Bombing of 18 March 1945. Renaissance Palace.

2768

X 3. S. Gaetano. 17th Century Church is totally destroyed.

X 4. Basilica Palladiana. The roof was burned either from fire bombs or hot bomb fragments. It can be repaired. The Vicentini exaggerate the damage. One column is fragmented. Roof looks bad, but undersigned feels it can be put back to it's normal appearance.

X 5. Palazzo del Municipio (Palazzo Scamozzi). Roof is in bad shape. Burned. The Architect was Scamozzi, pupil of Palladio. The fire here practically ruined the frescoes of Carpioni, 17th Century, and stucchi.

6. Palazzo del Monte di Pietà. Fragmented facade. Pieces have been picked up and repairs can be made.

- 1 -

20464  
3 MAG. 1945

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

5 MAY 1945

FILE No. 2-129/3/19

- X 7. Palazzo del Trissino. 1540 by Palladio. Mostly destroyed - some small parts of facade remain. Grave. Elements have been collected for safety.
- X 8. Palazzo Braschi-Brunello. Three fourths of the facade has fallen. Beam supports have shored up toppling walls inside. Roofs are so supported. All in bad shape. Gothic-Venetian.
- X 9. Palazzo Cordellina. Neo-classic palace. Roof and ceiling frescoes by Cignarelli are gone. Damaged in air raid of 28th February 1945.
10. Palazzo Chiericati. Hurt very lightly. Tiepolo painting is in Venice. Collections OK.
- X 11. Palazzo da Schio (Ca d'Oro). All gone inside. Loggia - most beautiful part on upper left of facade is gone. The Portal is all right and the rest of the facade is repairable. A great loss the Loggia. Pieces collected.
- X 12. Palazzo Thiene. Wiped out of existence. Frescoes by Scolari are all gone. A 16th century palace. Not repairable.
- X 13. Palazzo Valmarana. 18th Century. Gutted. All Tiepolo frescoes a miserable pile of rubble. Work of son remains on side walls under sky. Burned out. Happened 18th March 1945.
14. Palazzo Valmarana by Palladio can be repaired. Facade is all right.
15. Villa Valmarana. 2 Km. out of the City, was hit, but the Tiepolos are all right as they had been taken to Venice, probably to the Ducal Palace where so many things from the Region are.
16. Palazzo Banca Commerciale. 16th Century, just before Palladio, is not bad and can be repaired.
- X 17. Palazzo Caldogno. Badly hit. Pictures by Pittoni, Maffei, Carpioni are destroyed. They were not taken away for lack of transport. Some private pictures and public ones were put in safety. Practically flat. 1560 palace.

2767

18. All Archives are OK. Best are in Venice.

19. Deposits. All other moveable objects not mentioned above are in Venice and believed safe. This means archives, books, incunabulae, Pergamene, rare books, probably in the Ducal Palace there. Prof. Moschini and Supt. Forlatti are there. Dr. Lehman, German, has a good reputation with the Italian Supt. He was in civilian clothes. No word of Tuscan stuff. Lehman had HQ in Bergamo and visited around. He should be contacted if possible. No looting in Vicenza. Things were moved from Vicenza beginning four years ago. Plans were changed a number of times.

X 20. Palazzo Gedi. Burned and gutted. Fresco of School of Cignaroli is destroyed.

X 21. Tribunale. 17th century Palace by Matteo da Montecchio, follower of Palladio, has NE corner down.

X 22. Wings of Lion on the two pillars similar to the ones in Riva Schiavoni Piazza San Marco, Venice, are gone.

X 23. Palazzo Gallini. Roof gone, gutted, burned. 16th Century. Hit 18th March 1945.

X 24. Teatro Eretenco. Built in 1682. Nothing left.

X 25. Casa Turazi. Venetian-Gothic. Bad, shaking from bomb hit to side.

X 26. Archbishop's Palace. Looks like Cassino. Ragged walls are standing, rest gone. 2786

27. Loggia Ieng. Damaged. Can be repaired. Rubble all over the place.

28. There were 12 bombings altogether, the worst were on 14th May 1944 and 18 March 1945. Germans put up "Off Limits" signs only on request.

29. Palazzo Porto degli Agricoltori. Frescoes damaged. Picture here is pretty bad.

X 30. Church S. Maria della Scala. This Renaissance church is severely damaged.



X 31. Casa Bertani. Destroyed. Renaissance Architec-  
ture.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army.  
MFAA Officer, Venezia Region.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

3 MAG. 1945

DK/jm

207/9

3rd May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report - Verona - Mantova.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

← VERONA.

1. a. On 21 April 1945 signs to post were given Supt. Gazzola. Due to urgent need of haste in visiting large cities MFAA Officer could not take time to post all of them. 1st May on second Verona inspection it was found that all had not been posted. Undersigned explained very firmly and here it is a matter of record that AMG 5th Army took no responsibility for what harm may have occurred, if any, in this time. If the Supt. cared so little it was no fault of the Allies.

b. A letter signed personally by Kesselring ordered that the Ponte Pietra and the Ponte Castelvecchio (degli Scaligeri) would not be blown. Undersigned has a copy of this letter.

c. Undersigned has two of the German and Fascist Republican "Off Limits" signs; the former signed personally by Col. Langsdorf.

2764

← MANTOVA.

2. The damage in Mantova is slight with the exception of the Church of San Francesco. This is Supt. Gazzola's territory along with Verona and Cremona.

3. San Francesco. The Facade is about all right as is the Campanile. The Chapels on the right facing the church are standing. All the rest is a rubble heap with frescoes of ancient vintage crumbled and gone. 14th Century Church. There was a Fascist Republican arsenal right adjacent. Damage from bombs. This will be a tremendous undertaking in terms of repairs.

4. San Maurizio, a late church, is entirely gone.

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5. San Leonardo is badly damaged.
6. S. Maria di Gradaro - light damage.
7. Palazzo Canossa - light damage.
8. S. Simone, a late Church, is in bad shape - 3/4 destroyed.
9. Royal Virgilian society is slightly damaged.
10. "Off Limits" signs were placed on the following:

Palazzo Sordi  
 Palazzo Cavriani  
 Ducal Palace  
 Villa Ermo a Montanara (deposit)  
 Palazzo del Tè  
 State Archives Building.

11. Ducal Palace. Some glass shattering - a bomb fell 50 meters from the old Castle. The sandbag protection over the Mantegna frescoes in the Sala degli Sposi must come off immediately. Leandro Ozzola, whom undersigned saw, will do this immediately as the weight is too much for the structure of the ceiling. Germans parked vehicles in arcades here at the last.

2763

12. Palazzo del Tè. All in perfect shape. Put off limits. Giulio Romano frescoes as fresh as a daisy.

13. Deposits. Moveable objects, pictures, etc., of Mantova are safe. They are in part at Isolo Borromeo; some stuff was sent at Anti's command to the Brera in Milan. Ozzola seems not to have known that Anti is avowed Fascist. Situation here a little obscure and will bear investigation. Heydenreich and Langsdorf never came to Mantova so far as Ozzola knows.

*Deane Kelley*

DEANE KELIER,  
 Capt., AUS.,  
 M.F.A.A. Officer,  
 AMG 5th Army.

Copy to:  
 Executive Officer,  
 AMG Fifth Army.  
 MFAA Officer, Lombardia Region.



1580

3 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
 ANG FIFTH ARMY  
 APO 464 US ARMY

DE/jm

3 May 1945

207/9

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report - Verona.

TO: S.O.A.O., ANG 5th Army.

General.

1. The situation in general is pretty bad. Sixteen of some twenty churches of artistic value have been hit. Undersigned will visit Verona again and see all the damage. Some was seen and the rest comes from Supt. Gazzola. He was at Villa Rissardi, Negher, 15 - 20 Kms. out of Verona, where his office had been transferred with the records for safety's sake. He was not in town when undersigned arrived 28th April 1945. Avenue is in the country too. Care of Monuments in this City is not too good. Rubble piles, with valuable fragments, are still lying around. Undersigned's opinion of Gazzola is not too good. He has been told to get on the job in certain language.

2. a. The Ponte Pietra is practically a ruin. The Roman part is gone.

b. Ponte Castelvecchio is gone. Both were blown over protest of the Archbishop and Gazzola and other people. Kesselring had forbidden this over his own signature.

3. Cathedral. Cloister and Chapter Library, Mecca of scholars all over the world was hit and reduced to rubble. Mons. Turini has done a great job of recovering the books. This is a serious loss.

4. SS. Apostoli. In the demolition of the bridges the facade was injured beyond that caused by bombing.

5. S. Bernardino. In bad shape.

6. S. Eufemia. Light damage.

7. S. Verno Maggiore. Cloister and sacristy are in bad

REPOUSEY'S FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
 SUBSCRIPTION

5 MAR 1945

FILE No.

3 MAG. 1945

8. S. Giorgio Maggiore. Light damage - repairable.  
Veronese picture of Martyrdom of St. George is away and safe.

X 9. S. Giovanni in Valle. Grave damage.

10. S. Maria in Organo )  
    S. Lorenzo ) light damage.  
    SS. Nazaro e Celso )

X 11. S. Paolo. Severe damage.

12. S. Stefano )  
    S. Tomasso Cantuerense ) light damage.

X 13. SS. Trinità. Grave damage.

14. S. Zeno Maggiore. Windows out - rest is safe.  
Triptych of Mantegna is safe.

15. Palace of Archbishop. Slight damage.

X 16. Palazzo Canonici. Chapter library and Archives  
destroyed. Most valuable things were removed.

17. Palace of Prefettura. Glass damage, but the  
Academy of Science and Literature suffered severe damage.

X 18. Municipio of Barbieri. In bad shape. 2761

19. Palazzo Bevilacqua )  
    Guastaverza ) light damage.  
    Orti )  
    Casa Mazzanti )

X 20. Palazzo Canossa. Very bad damage from bombing.  
The Tiepolo fresco suffered some from this and was out of  
existence in the demolition of the Ponte Castelvecchio.

21. Palazzo Lisca. Bad fire and bomb damage.

X 22. Palazzo Giusti and Park. Destroyed in large part.

X 23. Palazzo Miniscalchi. Bad damage.

24. Castelvecchio. Bombed in one corner - large  
rubble piles.

- X 25. San Sebastiano. No longer exists.
- X 26. Civic Museum. Bad damage to building. Things had been removed and are safe.
- X 27. Communal Library, Archives, etc. - a lot of damage. Buildings safe.

28. Arena. Two hits, but not much damage.

X 29. Porta dei Leoni. - Destroyed.

X 30. Arch of the Gavi. - Destroyed.

X 31. Porta Palio. - Severe damage.

X 32. Teatro Filarmonico. Destroyed; collection safe.

33. Walls of the Scaligeri. Damaged.

X 34. Church Filippini. Severe damage.

35. General. Undersigned is much concerned over rubble piles and informed Lt. Col. Mickie, SOAO of City, and Major Blackwell, P.O. Verona, Major Stevenson, CAO Verona, of their importance. The report on Verona was given at the morning meeting 30 April clearly and precisely emphasizing the need for vigilance on the part of all concerned, for Verona <sup>27/3/44</sup> "had it" severely and needs care. It is hoped Forlani and Capt. Marriott can get on the scene quickly to help Gazzola. Gazzola says major part of moveable patrimony is safe. Anti wanted to move it north. Gazzola thinks Tuscan stuff is in Trentino near Cavoura.

### 36. Deposits

#### → In Church Anastasia.

- 1) Pictures and statues from Verona Churches.
- 2) Arena - Roman. Larger part of pictures, books, archives, etc. The Germans did not know of this deposit. Apparently they were searching for valuables at the end.
- 3) Castelvechio - Pictures.



- 4) Cloister of the Duomo. Chapter Library.
- 5) Palazzo Forti. Pictures from Churches of Verona.
- 6) Crypt of S. Zeno. Statues.
- 7) To Venice - Ducal Palace. Books and Pictures.
- 8) Villa Rizzardi at Neghar. Pictures and Archives of the Superintendency.

NEGHR

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army.  
M.P.A.A. Officer, Veneto.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DK/jm

207/9

3 May 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.O.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

BRESCIA.

1. Visited 1st May 1945. The general situation at Brescia is good. However, two major losses have been sustained in the Church of S. Maria dei Miracoli and the large and very fine Salvadego Palace. Undersigned made contact with Dott. Baroncelli, who is the Librarian of the Querini Library and is in charge of Monuments here. With him all damage in the City was carefully noted and the appropriate signs chosen, signed, stamped and put up.

2. Erbusco Deposit. All pictures, books and works of Art in this deposit are safe and in good condition.

3. New Cathedral. Sustained light damage from bomb fragments.

4. S. Afra. Damage is very serious, entailing almost complete destruction of this Church. This from bombing. There was a German Command very close by.

2758

5. S. Alessandro. Windows out.

6. S. Francesco. Rather severely hit. The tower and the apse sustained the damage. Can be repaired.

7. S. Maria dei Miracoli. Here the roof is gone over the larger part of this Renaissance Church. The framework of the architecture remains and it is thought that with time it can be reconstructed. All the fragments, down to match stick size, have been saved and neatly piled up. The very fine mid-Renaissance facade, and portal especially, were walled up and are safe. These are the best parts of

3 MAG. 1945

5 June 1945  
FILE No. 20764

this Church. The Sagristy was destroyed.

8. Broletto Palace. Light damage.

9. Martinengo Palace. Light damage.

10. Palazzo Averoldi (not in book). Partly destroyed but repairable.

X 11. San Marco. Totally destroyed. Not of great importance.

X 12. Provaglio Palace. Direct bomb hit - destroyed.

X 13. Palazzo Ragnoli (also 38 Via Dante, Pal. Calzaviella). This place is at least half gone - roof, walls and inside.

X 14. Palazzo Salvadego (Martinengo alla Fabbrica). The facade is standing in part but the roof is gone and the building is in bad shape inside. Some of the Moretto frescoes had been removed by the canvas glue method and are safe. Others are gone. The remaking of this great Renaissance Palace will be a terrific job.

15. The Picture Gallery Tosio and contents are safe. Also the Museum of Christian Art and contents.

X 16. Ateneo. Badly bombed. Some books were destroyed, best are at Erbusco. Many harmed books have been cared for.

X 17. Queriniiana Library. This was badly hurt. 40,000 books were buried under the rubble, but 30,000 of them have already been pulled out and saved.

18. Fountain in Piazza del Duomo. The statues are safe at Erbusco.

19. Tuscan Deposits. Lehman is the man who will know most of these according to Baroncelli, also Reidemeister. Both these men were in Brescia at different times. Baroncelli thinks <sup>they</sup> are at Merano or near in the Alto adige. Prof. Pacchioni in Milan may have information. Fascist propaganda said our soldiers used the Primavera of Botticelli for a bed. The Fascists were less careful in protecting monuments than the Germans, who were careful about requisitions, etc.

a the  
deposits



Major Evers, German, also came to Brescia on Monuments stuff.

20. Desenzano del Garda.

- a. The Roman Villa with fine mosaics is all right.
- b. The Castle was hit a couple of times, not seriously.
- c. The Church is intact.

21. Lonato. Cathedral intact.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
AMG Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army.  
MFAA Officer, Lombardia Region.

(ca.) 1 May 45

ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

FILE No. ~~20464~~

194

TO :

These jottings by Capt. Kellh were  
never copied. They were ultimately displaced  
by formal reports.

B. L. Peebles S/Sgt  
4C Mr. AA SK.

2755

20464

ca. 1 May 45

the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided  
the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing not suitable for photographing.

FROM

STACE NTOZA

S. Agostino - fresco d' Lomazzo - destroyed in  
cloister. Palazzo Buffat - destroyed in  
sent back to P. some time ago  
S. Giov. in Canale hit - not bad -  
Ch. Carmine & Capponcini hit - hit.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

(Sender's complete address above)

Deposit - Torrecchiara  
all is OK - Ben Thun 4 yrs -

Ch: S. Teresa - destroyed  
Palace Pilotta - 50% destroyed - Many  
archives remain - some under rubble  
ARCHIVE DEPOSITS at most of best stuff had been removed  
to Torrecchiara Deposit

- 1 CH of Carmine
- 2 Mondicelli Bagin
- 3 Gaione 8 km from Parma

70,000 books lost at Pilotta in bombing -  
Some may be recovered under rubble.

Banca Commerciale d' Italia Deposit -  
all OK - Some stuff has been returned to  
owners - north - No word of Ferrara  
stuff yet -

Stuff from Tarant. there - jewelry, money, etc.  
Castel Fontanelle OK - Parmigianino picture  
Correggio OK in Parma + Torrecchiara

CH. Mad. della Steccata bad hit -  
Palazzo del giardino bad hit, fresco saved -  
S. Giov. Evangelista hit - not bad -

Deposit Bole Borromeo - stuff from Modena -  
Parma, etc. - Cap. Maggiore - OK, etc. etc.

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE  
ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY  
V...-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE  
ADDRESS AT TOP?

20464



Transfer to  
Pat Paracchini  
V 25541.

SEE  
INSTRUCTION  
NO. 5

V...— MAIL

TO:

Lt. Col. DeWald —

HERE —

— FOLD

— FOLD

HERE —

V-Mail service provides a most rapid means of communication. If addressed to a place where photographing service is not available the original letter will be dispatched by the most expeditious means.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Write the entire message plainly on the other side within marginal lines.
- (2) Print the name and address in the two spaces provided. Addresses of members of the Armed Forces should show full name, complete military or naval address, including grade or rank, serial number, unit to which assigned or attached and army post office in care of the appropriate postmaster or appropriate fleet post office.
- (3) Fold, seal, and deposit in any post office letter drop or street letter box.
- (4) Enclosures must not be placed in this envelope.
- (5) V-Mail letters may be sent free of postage by members of the Armed Forces. When sent by others postage must be prepaid at domestic rates (3c ordinary mail, 6c if domestic air mail service is desired when mailed in the U. S.)

☆ GPO 16-20343-1

P. 5 ARMY

28 Apr. 1945

28 APR. 1945

SUBJECT: MFAA REPORT PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA, PIACENZA

TO: S.C.A.O. 5 ARMY

1) Undersigned wishes to apologize P.C. Parma for not having called at this HQ on visit to Parma. This was an omission, unintentional, which undersigned hopes may be excused.

#### PARMA general

2) Generally the city is in good shape. R.R. Station and vicinity are badly banged up. Snipers about wiped out. Reception by the people of the Allied was hard to gauge in the morning, but seemed more cheerful by the night fall. Electricity and water plants are functioning. A propos the following may be stated: A certain German of the name of JUNKER who was an aide to the German M.P.O. in the city, apparently a Spec. Service man without rank is said by several people, among them Dott. QUINTAVALLE, Director of Galleries, to have been responsible for the fact that more bridges were not blown, the public utilities also. As regards the Fine Arts he was most helpful in safe guarding and steering Germans and Republicans away from entering, looting, or transporting away for safe keeping. Dott. Quintavalle was insistent on the help Junker gave. The German was taken prisoner by the Allies within the last few days. Much credit must be given Quintavalle for his care in keeping his competence in Parma and the Deposits in good order. He had much trouble preventing ANTI from having his things taken to Isola Borromea in Lago Maggiore. ANTI is confirmed as a Fascist Republican by him: though a deep scholar Anti probably let ambition for high posts get the best of him.

#### THE DEPOSITS

3) -a: TORRECHIARA

All important things from the Galleries of Parma were taken here beginning 4 years ago. Minister of Education Biggini and Anti gave an order that all these things be taken to Lago Maggiore 24 June 1944. This was prevented by Quintavalle. The Germans hardly knew of Torrechiara and what was there. The chief threat was always from the Fascist Republicans. No movable work of art, nor the books, have suffered in this deposit and nothing has been lost or stolen. Books from Modena, Bologna here too.

-b: Badia= Mostly books from Modena are all right.

-c: Isola Borromea = there is undoubtedly stuff, confirmed by Parma authorities here from Lombardy and Piedmont.

-d: Archiven Deposits

1) at Gaione 8 km. from Parma

2) " Monticelli Bagni

3) Ch. of the Carmine in Parma.

None of the deposits have suffered.

Angelò Piccaro, via Valter Branchi, 14, Parma, is now in charge, as Prof. Giov. DREI is beyond the Po. They are awaiting him. He is not

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-e): Banca Commerciale d'Italia= The Parma deposit here is in the city in the Centro Contabile. As far as is known there is stuff from Ferrara. This needs investigation. There are jewels, coins from Taranto. Much wealth from all ones Italy was sent here, as it is a unique safe-deposit vault, only one of its kind in all Italy. Most of deposits from N. Italy have been returned. Min. Bottai had things sent here. The Pres. of the Bank is Giuseppe Allegri and a vice pres. is COSULICH of the famous family, who speaks perfect English.

no 464

28 APR. 1945



-f: Vigolino= 39,000 scientific books from the Univ. of Parma. Some damaged by Mongols with the Germans. Some microscopes taken from Univ. Most of books are all right here.

-g: Quintavalle confirms that Tuscan stuff is in the Trentino.

#### 4) CASTLE PILOTTA

Bombed by allied 13 May 1944. All important stuff had been removed; much in the way of archives remains undamaged, and much lies under the rubble. Here or in other places the appropriate signs have been posted. The new system seems to date to cover most of the exigencies and the Italians are pleased with to Army's interest. The Farnese Theater, one of the most famous in Europe is badly hurt, but can with care be reconstructed. Very bad damage. About half the huge palace is down. Fascists posted signs Opera dei liberatori= Anglo-Americans all over it. Germans photographed it 21, 22 Apr. Germans used it as a motor pool ricovero. Two Graeco-Roman Statues are buried under the floor of a court and a pile of sand heaped up above them. This was done by the custodian. The rubble must be work of ones carefully for books and archives. Some picking over by civilians has taken place already.

Undersigned talked with chief of libraries Dott. Masi. Best books are at Torrechiara. 70,000 books estimated lost in bombing; 15,000 at Torrechiara; there were 350,000 in all at this Castle Pilotta in normal times. Many books are scattered about Parma in places of safety, taken away before, and after the bombing of the Palace.

5) CH. LA STECCATA = Bad hit; can be repaired.

6) BAPTISTRY = suffered a little from blast.

7) CATHEDRAL AND CORREGGIOS safe

8) S. FRANCESCO DEL PRATO minor hits.

9) S. GIOV. EVANGELISTA minor damage.

10) PALAZZO DEL GIARDINO bad hit, but CARRACCI frescoes saved **27.52**

11) PALAZZO DELL'UNIVERSITA' one small hit. All OK except for book situation stated above at Vigolino. Normal enrollment 2,500 students 38 professors. Now cut away down; students mostly girls. Functioned through 25 Apr. 1945. Rector Ruggiero Bertelli fled a few days ago. He is believed a Fascist Republican. Now, as he is an M.D. he is said to be ministering to a band of partisans.

Undersigned's opinion is that he is a Fascist Republican. Pro-Rettore Giorgio Valle is on the job. All but 8 professors are in Parma as are most of the lectures. 20% of the student normal enrollment were in attendance up to 25 Apr. 1945.

12) CONVENT OF S. PAUL = Should have had 2 stars for ceiling of Cherubs by Correggio. This ceiling is undamaged.

1573

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- 12) CONVENT OF S. PAUL= Should have had 2 stars for ceiling of Cherubs by Correggio. This ceiling is undamaged.
- 13) FONTANELLIATO  
Castle with Parmigianino frescoes is all right.
- 14) REGGIO EMILIA  
From a quick look no damage at all. This confirmed by various Italians. No looting to speak of.
- 15) PIACENZA.  
From reports of 10 days ago, nothing but the frescow of Lomazzo in the cloister of S. Agostino has been damaged.

Deposits from here at Torrechiara were sent back by Quintavalle 9 Sept. 1944. Contact to make here is Architect Prof. Berlozza in name of Quintavalle. He is at Via Scala Brini 45 or at Chiavenna Landi di Corte Maggiore in Prov. di Piacenza.

(signed E.C.M.)

for Deane Keller, Capt.

M.F.A.A. Officer

A M G 5 Army

AP0/ 2/64

Distribution:

- 1 Exec. Officer
- 2 Director HQ A.C. MFAA
- 3 MFAA Officer Emilia
- 4 P C Parma
- 5 File for DK

2751



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785016

26 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMC FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DK/jm

207/9

26 April 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report - Bologna and Modena.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMC 5th Army.

BOLOGNA.

1. a. Bologna entered 2130 hours 21st April 1945 in blackout, burning houses and mines being exploded by engineers on the way into the southern part of the City. First Notice placed on San Petronio at 10 this night by undersigned.

b. General Situation. Last minute arrangements were made with Lt. Col. Holmgren, SCAC Bologna City, who has been all the way, not only aware of, but keenly interested in the Fine Arts Section's successful working-out of a big problem in this City. He permitted Capt. Croft-Murray with Inspector Gnudi to enter with the first convoy. Major Bell, Archivist, was granted the same permission, so the preliminary plan for handling the work of the section worked out as intended some months ago.

c. Destruction in and around Bologna. Within the inner City damage is relatively small. Outside this inner ring, especially in the region of the R.R. Station there is enormous destruction - as bad as any seen to date. Though the Germans had little or nothing in the center of Bologna in the way of Headquarters, it must be said that the bombing by the Allies was accurate and that warnings as to rich cultural areas were taken into account and a minimum of harm was done from the air. It is again an affirmation of the attempt even in the operational stages of the Allies to spare monuments which belong to the Italians and the world at large. Fate, or whatever you call it, willed that the most cherished monument of the Bolognese, the Anatomical Amphitheater of the old University of Bologna should be wiped out of existence, and that the Church of S. Francesco should be seriously damaged. The general picture, however, reveals destruction at a minimum.

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS SECTION  
BUREAU OF THE ARMY

29 APR 1945

FILE No. 20464

26 APR. 1945

d. Deposits of pictures, etc., at Marsabotto, Minerbio, Dozza and Giuglia were cleaned out by the Italians any where from three to six months ago, so that the stuff placed in these communities for safe keeping is all in good condition in locations within the inner limits of Bologna City. Books from the Archiginnasio and the new University which had been taken to Casaglia, Villa Celdini, for preservation were brought back to Bologna when Casaglia was bombed. The books can be returned to near their former appearance with care. The Deposit at Torrechiera is still in doubt as to its safety. Some stuff from the 4 deposits mentioned in the first sentence of this para is at Milan, Turin, Modena or suburbs. There may be things from Liceo Musicale at Casaglia.

e. Attitude of Italian NFPA Officials. Undersigned met them all and found them on the job, no recriminations, all anxious to proceed with work of reconstruction already begun. Nobody was sitting on the rubble piles crying his eyes out. Appreciation of the appearance of 3 officers was marked and whenever Notices were posted around the City a crowd gathered and smiled its acknowledgement of the act and interest. Fine Arts officials among the Italians told undersigned they had to beg for such Notices from the Germans. The "Off Limit" sign for the Wehrmacht at the Collegio di Spagna was a hand printed job on tracing paper on request. Superintendents of Modena and Ravenna are anxious to get to their own towns for work.

2. Inspection of Palaces, etc. with future requisitioning in prospect.

a. Capt. Croft-Murray and Inspector Gnudi went right to work and covered 22 palaces 22nd April putting certain rooms, valuables, etc. off limits and posting Notice No. 1 on most of them. This was changed after consultation, on further buildings, to the use of No. 3 plus a Categorical "Off Limits" sign on parts of places which are not to be entered by any military personnel. This work was continued the next two days and was completed by Capt. Croft-Murray and Major Bell 24th April, and the list handed to Lt. Col. Holmgren for the City Command under Lt. Col. Elam and Major Wallin. It is thought that this procedure will prevent major requisition problems for the moment and hopefully for the future.

b. Undersigned took over the absolute off limit places, of which there were finally 19 chosen in consultations between officers and the Italians in charge. They are as follows:-

Casa Carducci  
Accademia Filarmónica  
Casa Rossini  
Archiginnasio  
Archivio di Stato  
Museo Civico  
Liceo Musicale  
Palazzo dell'Università  
Superintendency of Libraries  
Museo Geologico  
Museo della Mineralogia  
Superintendency of Archives  
Accademia delle Belle Arti  
Superintendency of Monuments  
Superintendency of Antiquities  
Palazzina della Viola  
Collegio di Spagna (Spanish Consulate)  
Istituto Rizzoli  
Archivio di Stato

There may be more plus all churches of course.

As of 24th April the larger part of these places had been posted. Previous to 21 April notice of these places plus the necessity of examining the Palaces was given undersigned by Lt. Col. Holmgren and the information was supplied him in lists of Capt. Croft-Murray and Gnudi. It may be remarked again that Lt. Col. Holmgren has allowed this Section a free hand in taking care of their work before and after the taking of Bologna, and has supported it to the hilt. 27/9

### 3. Follows Description of individual Monuments.

#### ARCHIGINNASIO.

a. The Anatomical Amphitheatre, built entirely of wood, adorned with wood carving and fine wood statuary was wiped out of existence by Allied bombs 29 January 1944. Nothing remains of this second story room. The pieces were picked up immediately by those in charge. Nothing larger than a match stick seems to have remained of the



carved ceiling. Some portrait statues are fragmented slightly and some badly. The famous flayed figures of Lelli, 16th century sculptor and anatomist, are fortunately mostly intact. The legs suffered most. These can be stuck and doweled together again. Undersigned saw the piles of pieces in the basement. In the spring of 1944 the Lelli statues were taken to Casaglia for safe keeping, but were returned to Bologna when this place in turn was bombed. This theater was in a sense the heart and soul of Bologna. It is hoped that AMG can help set it to rights again giving aid and succour in a material sense. Here the practical study of anatomy in Europe had its beginnings and such names as Malpighi, Mundinus, and William Harvey are intimately connected with the place.

b. Below the Theatre was the Chapel of the Doctors, Capella di S. Maria dei Bulgari. This is mostly gone. To the left of the Chapel was the Doctor's Library which remains, frescoes and all under the open sky. To the right of the Chapel the Agrarian Library is in the same state. Books have been removed to the Archivio di Stato and some have been cleaned and doctored already from water and fire damage.

c. The Arcaded Loggia surrounding the court is completely down, flat on the Theatre side. Pieces are neatly collected with a view to using each usable fragment in reconstruction. Fine frescoes by Cesi have been removed from the walls of the Bulgari Chapel by the canvas-glue method to prevent deterioration. Other frescoes by the school of Caracci have been protected with canvas and glue. Several piers and arches have already been reconstructed. Work commenced under professional guidance of Archivist Gabelli and Inspector of Monuments Barbacci. Work of cleaning up began in the Archiginnasio almost immediately after the bombing in 1944 and work of reconstruction began in January 1945. The Germans promised aid in materials and transport but never made good. Many of them entered the place and took photographs.

d. The books had been packed and put in cases in the basement of the Archiginnasio. Major Bell will make a fuller report on Libraries and Books. In general at Bologna the books and Archives are intact. Some damage and looting has occurred with State Archives. All the legal books in

././.

English placed in a Villa outside the city, which was a German Divisional CP and occupied only by German officers, were used page by page for lack of "carta da decenza". The German and Italian books were spared defecation.

e. Some of the ancient cement and stone floors at the Archiginnasio, housing vast book collections, are cracked and considered unsafe. This will bear looking into; partially the result of the earthquake in 1929, aggravated by the bomb explosions in the adjacent theater.

4. Church LA SANTA. The terra cotta portal is all right. The frescoes of Franceschini have been saved in part by the Superintendency. The Cupola which had been hit has been jacked up and strengthened. Pretty serious damage.

5. S. FRANCESCO. This church was bombed twice - 24 July and 25 September 1943 by Allied bombers. It's a fine church; the cornerstone was laid in 1237, ten years after the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Four bombs burst on the roof on the half of the church toward the facade and one burst outside the portal. The result is complete obliteration of the roof at the front, though the cracked facade is ~~is~~ standing. Four piers of the three naved Church Sivere destroyed and have been rebuilt with the accompanying arches. Vaults of course are down. The Chapel of S. Bernardino is also minus its vault. The fine altar and credos were removed for safety as was a wooden crucifix, treasure, etc. The altar end of the church is all right. This first three naved Gothic cathedral will be a big job to repair. The priest says he needs plenty of quattrini and he is right. Sfolleti, cows, horses, donkeys, pigs, chickens, hay, straw, rubble and fragments neatly <sup>2748</sup> piled are the companions of a group of Guardia di Finanza living in the cloister. The Fascist Republicans printed on the outside of the church in large letters "Opera dei Liberatori", and it is still there.

6. The church of the Servi has been hit. Several other churches are damaged, but the Superintendents say not seriously. Capt. Croft-Murray will fill in the gaps in this hasty report.

7. Collegio di Spagna. The German "Off Limits" sign on tracing paper read in effect: No member of the Wehrmacht may enter the premises. This is the Consulate of Spain.

8. Palazzo Mercanzia. Prominently placed near the leaning tower of Bologna, its Gothic facade was half shattered by the premeditated exploding of an American dud bomb by the Germans to widen the street for the passage of vehicles. Prof. Barbacci and assistants collected the pieces, one pier is already reconstructed and he says he can make it as good as it ever was. Looks as if he was right.

9. Tomb of Rolandino. This was hit, but the pieces of the Sarcophagus are large enough to enable them to put it together again.

10. Civic Museum. Some window shattering; all the contents of the Museum were placed in the basement and are all right.

11. A call on Pro-Rettore Felice Battaglia of the University of Bologna was made by undersigned. Assurance on various University properties was given. The Universities functioned  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the normal strength up to 2 weeks ago. Half the faculty, Professori Ordinari and Libera Docenti were working.

12. One or two observations. Undersigned wishes to express thanks for help and consideration to SCAO 5th Army, Lt. Col. Wray II Corps, Lt. Col. Holmgren of Bologna City. The Press Correspondents showed much interest in MPAA matters along with the other work of AMG 5th Army. The Italians involved in the Fine Arts are alert and have driven and have accomplished a lot of work on their own.

#### MODENA.

13. a. 23rd April 1945 undersigned and driver Cpl. Bernholz went to Modena. The trip was rather brief, for as we proceeded into the center of town, streets and sidewalks lined with cheering smiling, flower-throwing people, machine guns and small arms fire was heard. Many of the people ran for cover. An infantry Lt. in a jeep came rapidly down the street and shouted to us that it was getting real hot further on and we'd best turn around. Apparently enemy snipers. The jeep was parked a short time around the corner and information on damage to the city asked of several citizens. The conclusion reached are about the same as those given by the Inspector of Galleries for

././.



Modena, now at Bologna. Dr. Zampetti who had been there last Thursday. The short view undersigned had of Modena fits with the following conclusions:

Damaged.

1. Cathedral - slight - contents safe.
2. S. Domenico - bad.
3. S. Vincenzo - destroyed.
4. Palazzo della Congregazione di Carità. Collection is safe.
5. Palazzo del Collegio S. Carlo - hit, but collection is safe.
6. Palazzo Reale - hit but not bad.
7. Palazzo Arcivescovado - hit.
8. Palazzina del Giardino Pubblico, destroyed.
9. Galleria Campori - badly hit.
10. State Archives - Germans burned some in making fires. Some are at Monantola in deposit.

25th April Capt. Croft-Murray will visit Modena for a better inspection.

PARMA.

14. The Palace of Pilotta has suffered hits from information received at Bologna.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUB.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

2746

Copy to:  
SCAO, Bologna City.  
P.C., Bologna Prov.  
R.C., Emilia Region.  
MFAA Officer, Emilia Reg.

1st Ind.

HQ, AMG 5th Army, APO 464.

27 April 1945

TO: HQ Allied Commission,  
(for W.F.A.A. Subcommittee).

1. Herewith report for your information.

For the Commanding General:

*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.*  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.;  
Colonel, C.A.C.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

2745

21 APR. 1945

A.C.  
for MFAA S/C.HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 454 US ARMY

OK/jm

207/9

21 April 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.C.A.O., AMG 5th Army.

CARRARA.

1. Carrara was inspected 18 April 1945. Though the city had been subjected to bombardment for several days and still is being sporadically shelled, it has not suffered except in a few instances, such as the hospital - severely. Roughly the comparison of the amount of destruction between Pisa and Lucca holds for Massa and Carrara.

2. Duomo. The Cathedral (S. Andrea) was hit the night of 11 April 1945. There is a hole in the roof towards the facade on the left side facing the altar. There are several minor hits on the outside and one half way up the Campanile. There is a very fine church of the Lucca-Pisa style of early architecture. The interior is intact. The Genio Civile of Carrara with aid from the partisans has already begun restoration. The rubble pile has been removed from the church floor and plans for covering the hole in the roof laid. This is early and the Italians have really got after this one.

2744

3. Church of the Carmine. 17th Century Church. Campanile has been hit and some further damage has occurred.

4. S. Francesco. A few hits on facade, not serious.

5. Castello Malaspina.

a) This place has sustained at least five shell hits. The damage is slight however. Windows have been shattered, some roof damage.

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
SUBCOMMISSION

25 APR 1945

FILE No. 20 464

21 APR. 1945



b) It was occupied by the Germans. The Custodian says neither they nor civilians have looted at all here.

c) Such collections as they had were taken away from this Academy of Fine Arts and put in school buildings and the like. Some damage by fire and water has been sustained by these. Most of the collections have been brought back to the Castello Malaspina and are there now.

d) 11th April the place was occupied by the 442nd Infantry (Nisei). Their occupation has been exemplary, nothing has been taken or disturbed but one bicycle, which may be returned. A soldier rode off on it. There are many pictures on the walls and statues and various items around. Looks like a normal school of Fine Arts except for soldiers, some of them sleeping on the floor. There is a lot of good furniture (modern) in the great hall, piano and all the fixings. Undersigned talked with several officers, explained his business which they understood, and posted Sign No. 3. One of the officers remarked they expected no trouble unless they got shells from the sea - with a smile. The 442nd Inf. are a very clean, neat occupying unit. The place is the Regt. C.P. at the moment.

5. Casa di Emanuele Bifetti. The house amounts to nothing, but the facade is an astonishingly good 14th Century job. Very surprising to find it in the little narrow street. It has not been hit or damaged, though the roof in back has a hole in it and the upper floors are uninhabitable. Repairs are being made.

7. Luna Museum (Museo Lunense). The Carrarese call it the Luni Museum. It took a half hour to find out what and where this was. The Museum was made up of things excavated at Luna on the shore near Carrara. Many years ago, before the war, the contents of the Museum were taken to La Spezia, where they are supposed to be now. 2743

8. Undersigned was told that all Archives and Document collections were intact.

MASSA.

9. The Duomo (S. Francesco). The church has been made over a number of times. It is late Renaissance in style. The roof has 6 holes in it not of great size. Repairs to the roof will be rather extensive, as it has been scaled off in large chunks by the shelling. The Priest is unique, for, as he pointed out the damage he did not complain, asked for nothing, and said repairs would be easy. The picture called a Pinturicchio Madonna and child, may very well be authentic. It is good. Also a Triptych alongside is a good thing on wood of the 14-15th century. Nothing was done to protect these pictures. They were never removed from the church. The Crucifix of Pietro Tacca, according to the Priest was removed and put in safety.

*Frederic Brown and Kapl*  
DEANE KULLER,  
1st Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer.  
MPAA Officer, Tuscany Region.

1st Ind.

AES/jm

Hq, AMG 5th Army, APO 464.

22 April 45

TO: HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MFAA Subcommittee).

1. Herewith MFAA Report forwarded for your information.

For the Commanding General:

*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.*  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Lt. Colonel, C.A.C.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

2741



17 APR. 1945

1st Ind.

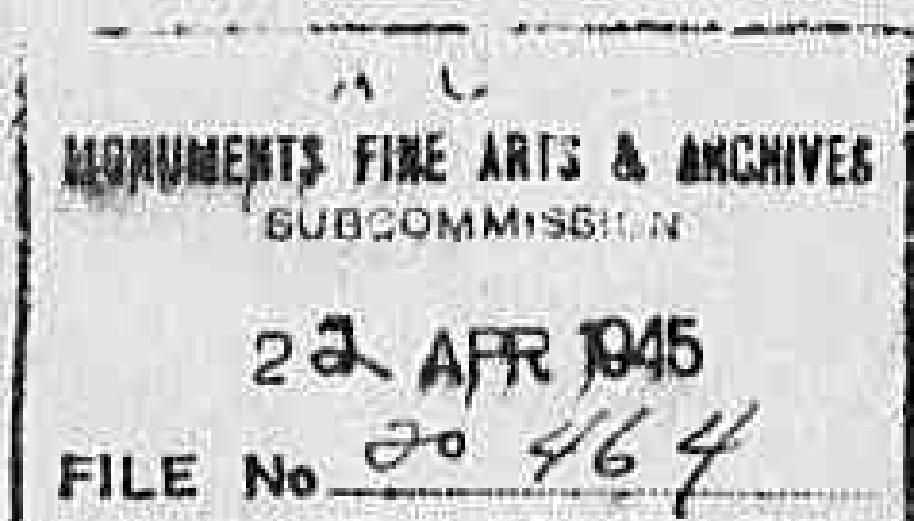
Hq, AMG 5th Army, APO 464.

17 April 1945

TO: HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MFAA Subcommission).

1. Herewith report submitted for your information.

For the Commanding General:



*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.* 2740  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Lt. Colonel, C.A.C.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

17 APR. 1945

16 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
 AMG FIFTH ARMY  
 APO 464 US ARMY.

DK/jm

207/9

16 April 1945

SUBJECT: M.P.A.A. Report.

TO: S.C.A.G., AMG 5th Army.

← MASSA.

1. 13th April 1945 Massa was visited by undersigned. Massa has been badly banged up by shells and bombs from both American and German sides. Practically every building in town has been hit. The shelling by the Germans has quieted down, but has not ceased. The town has been thoroughly sacked.

2. LA ROCCA.

Also called the Malaspina palace, La Rocca perched on the top of the hill back of the town has been hit a number of times. It is an ancient fortress-palace built in, around and alongside natural rock caves. 15th Sept. 1944 when the Germans ordered Massa evacuated, most of the prisoners were taken to Carrara and Parma. Then the Germans occupied La Rocca and when they left they took mattresses, etc., all things of value. The place is in the usual filthy disorderly state. The damage, in sum, to the outside of the fortress is not serious. This particular one is more important than many other Rocche inasmuch as it plays a very important and characteristic part in the appearance of this Apuanian Commune.

3. MALASPINA PALACE. (The Palazzo del Governo).

a; This late Renaissance Palace has been hit by shells many times in the last few days over and about the damage done before. On the north side the wall has been fragmented at intervals of 10 feet or less all over. Mouldings chipped, modillions knocked off, cornices shattered and broken. Shells and bombs have come through the roof. On the south side a block buster exploded 15 feet from the wall and the blast effect blew in all doors and windows. There are a number of duds in the palace, the largest a 500 pound bomb rests on a window sill on the ground floor. Much German

and Italian ammunition lies about and one room about 10 x 20 feet and piled 3 feet deep there lies weapons of all kinds, apparently shooting irons of all ages and vintages, called in by the Germans. A bomb disposal unit will be notified, perhaps has been by now.

b. The Palace can certainly be repaired if not subjected to further serious damage. Undersigned was met by Capt. J. Sapone (A), 92nd Sig. Co., who was occupying with his troops. They had cleaned up the east side of the Palace. They had been preceded by a Regimental CP in their occupation. Before the 92nd Sig. Co. came in, using the Court for their motor pool, Italian civilians had entered and apparently messed things up and had pillaged considerably. Capt. Sapone caught two with large bags of spoil and made them drop it and get out. Undersigned saw their collection, comprised of all sorts of gadgets. The Capt. was much concerned about the Archives, books and records in the Palace and welcomed assistance. He had blocked off doors and windows leading to the offices of the Government. The conduct of an officer as exemplified by Capt. Sapone in respect to the treatment of an important building by himself and his men could not be improved upon.

c. Capt. Sapone's concern for the state of the Archives, books and papers was well taken. Almost without exception, the floor of each office was piled with miscellaneous papers and documents. Records of the Province and Communes thereof are in bad disorder. Typical are those relating to tuberculosis. Several rooms containing them are in great confusion. Moving picture film has been unrolled and strewn about by the yard; records are dirty and underfoot, boxes of case histories are thrown on the floor. In the great hall a very fine collection of medical books are piled up in the center in foxhole architecture. The Penal records seem to be in order; some of the Provincial Government records have been tampered with. Shell and bomb hits have spread confusion among the great shelves of archives up under the roof. The Engineering records are in bad condition. In the Lawyer's private room there is a good listing of all Fascist Lawyers practicing in Massa. Undersigned noted a few grenades lying on shelves. No records antedating 1860 were seen.

2738



d. Undersigned made strong representations to all concerned that something must be done as soon as possible to restore order to these quantities of important papers. There were no Italian officials in town on the visit but the Partisans, whose chief knew little about Massa. Undersigned talked to several of them who were natives and they promised to give the collection attention. The AMG officers will do all possible to guard the stuff and get the proper people to attend to the records. Undersigned will go back there shortly. A Guard will be posted as soon as possible. Only 6 G.C.A.R. were taken into Massa and none could be spared for this place.

e. A large amount of medicines was discovered and this information was passed on to Mrs. T. Potter of AHC who will get it. Sera, mostly paratyphoid, disinfectants, etc.

f. Notices type No. 3 were posted as well as many plain "Off Limits" signs.

4. DUOMO. The Duomo has been hit many times, large holes in the roof. This is a late Renaissance style edifica.

5. SAN FRANCESCO. The church of San Francesco has been hit. Examination of damage will be made in a day or two.

#### CARRARA.

6. Four days ago Carrara was an undamaged city. Since then the extent of damage may be gauged by the fact that the Hospital has been hit 50 times. Undersigned was not allowed in town and it would probably have been a useless trip, as the shelling is still severe as of 15 April 1945. Undersigned hopes to get there in a day or two. Troops have occupied the Castello Malaspina.

*Deane Keller* 2737

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
Executive Officer,  
P.C., Apuania.  
M.P.A.A. Officer, Tuscany Region.  
Capt. Sapone, 92nd Sig. Co.

1591

11 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DZ/jm

207/9

11 April 1945

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO: S.C.A.G., AMG 5th Army.

174

BARGA.

1. Undersigned has been informed from several sources that works of art, notably works of the Della Robbia terracotta type, had suffered recently from shelling and were lying around in fragments, open to the weather, neglected. This is the gossip.

2. 10th April, undersigned made a thorough inspection of Barga's monumental possessions and found them in practically the same condition as they had been on the previous visit; report Ref 207/9 dated 7 February 1945.

a) The Cathedral. On the north side it has been hit several more times by mortar fire. The result is some exterior damage to the stones hit and the dislodging of one on the inside of the wall. No new holes in the roof or walls were noted. The Pulpit, 13th Century and very fine, has been boarded up. This will help prevent chipping from shell fragments. Statue of St. Cristofano is untouched. No repairs to the roof have been started because of battle conditions. Debris in church has not been cleared. 2736

b) Church and Convent of St. Francis. There has been no damage whatsoever to the Della Robbia pieces and no further harm to church and convent since 7 February 1945, thus giving the lie to the malicious gossip indicated in para 1. Monsignore P. Carlo Orlandi, also a Military Chaplain in this war and in the last, says that the Mordini family of Barga have removed two Della Robbia statues from the Chapel dedicated to their family and he fears they may be sold and not returned to the church. He has instigated

././.

11 APR. 1945

20469

manoeuvres to get them back. He and the Sindaco believe that the wall back of the altar over which the best of the Della Robbias is placed should be strengthened by sandbags. AMG IV Corps and CAO Capt. D'Amico have no objection to the accomplishment of this work if the Italians wish it. Sandbags are to be had in Florence. Inasmuch as the church and convent rest on the side of Barga hill sloping away from the German line and are in this manner partially protected, undersigned does not feel that this work is urgent. However, the whole region is and has been under heavy shell fire for a long time and damage may occur. It seems a little late now to make a great fuss over a work that could have been done by the Superintendency a long time ago if they had then deemed the monuments as important as at least one of them does now. MFAA Section has kept itself well informed all along on this front line town through visits, CAO's and Red Cross personnel's information. 11th April, undersigned <sup>photo</sup> and <sup>graph</sup> watched the shelling of a farm house across the valley, which had been entered the night before by a German Patrol.

c) Mrs. Jane Elliott Maneschi, born of English parents in Foligno, married to Dr. Maneschi, both sfollati from Florence, has two pictures which seem to be important. One is probably by Peene, 17th century French, and the other may be a painting done by Peter Paul Rubens on his study tour of north Italy in his teens. Both paintings are in need of cleaning. Her idea is to give them to Florence, have them cleaned and sell them to some American. They are documented by Fortunato Giulio Painsi, styled an expert on painting in Florence, and by Luporini, Deputy Superintendent of Fine Arts for the Province of Lucca, Livorno, Pisa and Apuania. She wants the whole deal kept secret from the Superintendency of Monuments in Italy, professing little faith in the honesty of this body or any other body of Italians. Undersigned advised that nothing could be done now and that she could take up the matter, when the war had passed on, with the MFAA officer for Tuscany Region if she wished. She had requested specialist attention on her pictures from CAO Capt. D'Amico and this she received with no commitments made by anybody.

2735

3. New requests for Protected Monuments Booklets Nos. 5, 6 and 7 from Corps have been filled. Prompt attention in sending the No. 7 Booklets and Atlases from HQ A.C., MFAA S/C is much appreciated.



4. Many new pictures have been taken with an eye to reconstructing stories connected with initial appearance of damaged monuments and the care and restoration thereof by MFAA Section in 5th Army Area. It is understood that the bulk of the work of restoration during the last few months has been in the hands of the Regional and Provincial officers, who have been given a free hand by the undersigned in Army Area in the interests of getting the job done and eliminating the confusion of too many bosses. The same support has been given the archivists. The work has been ably and well done by them all with the encouragement and whole-hearted backing of the chief of the MFAA Sub-Commission of A.C., his Deputy and other officers and enlisted men.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer,  
AMG 5th Army.  
R.C., Tuscany Region.

2734

9 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 US ARMY

DK/jm

207/13

9 March 1945

SUBJECT: Names and addresses of 5th Army Engineer  
(Real Estate) Officers.

TO : See distribution.

1. Undersigned sent names and addresses of all MFAA Officer in 5th Army Area now, and conjectured 5th Army future areas, to 5th Army Engineers (Real Estate) as per arrangement made with Capt. Price, 5th Army (Rear) G-4 (Ops).

2. Names and addresses enclosed herewith are those of the officers concerned, in 5th Army Engineers (Real Estate Section) who will have to do with requisitions and the like.

For the Commanding General:

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Distribution:

Lt. Col. De Wald )  
Major Paul Gardner ) HQ Allied Commission,  
Lt. Perry Cott ) (for MFAA S/C).

2733

Capt. Pinsent, MFAA Officer, AMG Florence City.  
Lt. F. Hartt, MFAA Officer, Toscana Region.  
Capt. R. Enthoven, MFAA Officer, Toscana Region.  
Capt. Croft-Murray, MFAA Officer, HQ Emilia Region.

20464

9 MAR 1945

C O P Y/jmC O P Y

ENGINEER HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH ARMY  
REAL ESTATE SECTION  
A. P. O. 464, U.S. ARMY

22 February 1945.

Subject: Real Estate Zones of Operations

To:: Captain Deane Keller, M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army, A.P.O. 464, U.S. Army.

1. The following information is given in response to request expressed in Paragraph No. 3, letter, your Headquarters, "Location of M.F.A.A. Officers", dated 15 February 1945.

2. Army Real Estate is controlled from ZONES I, II and III. Personnel and locations are as follows:-

- a. ZONE I - From Inter-Army boundary to 64 easting; Officer in Charge, 1st Lt. R. Chase; Location, Fifth Army Headquarters, Rear, Army Real Estate Office.
- b. ZONE II - From 64 easting to 35 easting; Officer in Charge, 1st Lt. Richard Fitzgerald; Location, Terme Administration Building, Headquarters City Command Section, Montecatini.
- c. ZONE III - From 35 easting to coast; Officer in Charge, 1st Lt. Grant King; Location, AMG Provincial Headquarters, Lucca.

For the Army Engineer:

2732

/s/ R.H. Steckroth

/t/ R. H. STECKROTH,  
Captain, C.E.,  
Army Real Estate  
Engineer.



4 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DK/jm

207/9

4 March 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO : B.C.A.C., AMG 5th Army.

(Prov. Bologna)

1. a. Lizzano in Belvedere visited 28 February 1945. This is on the scene of the recent 10th Mountain Division advance combined with that of the B.E.F. The town is filled with soldiers but no problem presents itself, as the only thing of note from Monuments angle is the ancient Campanile of the old Church.

b. The Tower was built in the time of Charlemagne. For years the Church with it had been abandoned and services had been held in the Chapel of the Sisters in town. Thirty years ago the ruins of the Church, Romanesque in style, were torn down as it was thought they constituted a peril to the citizenry. A new, gaudy architectural blight was erected alongside, but the ancient Campanile still serves for the ringing of the bells. A jagged hole cut by the monks on the SE side of the Tower gives access to the bells. The Tower has settled and has now quite a lean to the NE. Though entirely untouched by the war it is thought that a supporting structure to insure no further lean and possible fall, is desirable. Two shells have recently penetrated the dome of the new church.

2731

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.C. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer,  
HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MPAA S/C).  
MPAA Officer, Emilia Region.

A. C. C.	
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES	
SUBCOMMISSION	
6 MAR 1945	
FILE No	20464

4 MAR 1945

143

27 FEB. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DK/jm

27 February 1945.

207/8

SUBJECT: Church of Osta.

TO : CAO, Castel del Rio.

1. Reference your M.F.A.f./15 dated 20 February 1945, just received.

2. Undersigned agrees with you that demolition of weakened modern belfrey should be made. Before proceeding may it be suggested that leading local people be sounded out as to their feelings in the matter, and if they agree to the demolition a signed statement to that effect be gotten from them and sent to undersigned to this HQ.

3. Your continued interest in the Monuments Section is appreciated.

By Command of Brigadier General HUME:

2730

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Executive Officer,  
AMG 5th Army.  
HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MFAA S/C).  
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region.

A. C. C.  
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIV.  
SUBCOMMISSION

- 2 MAR 1945

FILE No

20964

27 FEB. 1945

24 FEB 1945 FILE No 20464
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HEADQUARTERS  
 5TH ARMY  
 APO 464 U.S. ARMY

17 FEB 1945  
*File Arch*  
 (145)  
 DE/jm

207/9

17 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Moving of Statue of Cosimo I dei Medici from  
 Poggio a Caiano to Piazza della Signoria, Florence.

TO : S.C.A.O., 5TH ARMY.

1. Cosimo I of the Medici, successor to the old line of the Medici family, Grand Duke of Tuscany, was memorialized in bronze by Giovanni Bologna (Gianbologna a Belgian) in 1594. The statue is an equestrian and has for centuries been part of the hallowed scene sacred to the hearts of the Florentines which is called Piazza della Signoria. Before the war the statue was removed to the grounds of the Villa Medici at Poggio a Caiano for safe keeping. It was transported on an ordinary cart drawn by 4 oxen and the whole undertaking required 15 hours.

2. The 10th February Capt. Enthoven, Florence Province called undersigned, telling him that the Italian Superintendent of Monuments, Commendatore Poggi, was anxious to get the statue of Cosimo back to Florence before the railroad bridge near Rifredi, N.W. of Florence, was completed. The horse alone standing on a truck would not pass under the bridge when it was completed, thereby making the direct Route 66 impossible for the transportation, and necessitating a lot of trouble in the future in bringing "home" the statue, weighing 8 tons, by a devious route. A time limit of 9 days was given for completion of the bridge. 2729

3. Undersigned consulted Major Hayne, Administrative Officer at AMG HQ, 5th Army and through his interest the 477th Ord. Evac. Co., now attached to 5th Army, sent Lt. H.T. Jeans and Lt. Wangerness to consult undersigned on the job. Information was furnished them and they went to Poggio a Caiano to look over the proposition 14 February 1945. ~~This they did and~~ returned to the office of the undersigned in the afternoon. Their plan was as follows:- Take a 10 ton wrecker, tank trailer and a 6 x 6 truck to Poggio a

17 FEB 1945  
 20464



Gaians 16 February 1945 at 0800 hours. Lt. Jeans to have his own crew of American soldiers. He wanted in addition 8 Italian laborers. His project was to put the figure in the 6 x 6 and the horse on the tank trailer, both by the crane of the 10 ton wrecker. Both parts of the statue had been lying in cradles on the ground since brought from Florence.

4. On 14th February 1945 undersigned contacted Capt. Enthoven and through him Supt. Rossi of the Galleries of Florence, and an expert cover in the employ of the Superintendency of Monuments at the Uffizi. At a meeting of the four it was agreed that all responsibility for damage in moving the statue should rest with the Superintendency. This was assumed by Rossi, except in transit. Undersigned then said he would cancel the whole deal. Rossi objected and it was finally determined that if trouble occurred in transit it would be termed "forza maggiore" or, "an act of God" and no one would be held responsible. Capt. Enthoven has the statement. It was agreed that since the responsibility was Italian, the cover was entitled to move the horse on the trailer in his own way, not Lt. Jeans's.

5. 15th February Lt. Jeans called undersigned and said it would be necessary to demolish six feet of a wall at the back of the Villa Medici, Roggio a Gaians, to permit passage of the vehicles. A signed statement allowing this was obtained from <sup>Comm</sup> Loggi and is in the possession of the undersigned.

2728

6. 15th February through Lt. Col. Eys and Capt. Dunstan, Public Safety, AMG HQ, 5th Army, Capt. Scott of Florence City Public Safety was called and informed of the proposition. He promised an M.P. escort from the main traffic circle near the Cascine to Piazza della Signoria. Lt. Col. Michie, SOAG Florence City was informed of the project and approved when assured that the Superintendency wanted it and saw no harm in bringing this important statue back to the City. A letter will be written the Supt. by the undersigned advising adequate air raid protection for the horse which is placed now in the Loggia dei Lanzi.

7. 16th February 1945 at 0800 hours, Lt. Jeans, his crew and vehicles, undersigned and Cpl. Bernholz - AMG Photographer, Capt. Enthoven and Driver Salvatore who had been

Sent by AMG Motor Pool for the day, the Italian mover and three assistants commenced work at Poggio a Caiano. The wrecker with one shove demolished 6 feet of the wall at the back of the garden and after some first class maneuvering the trailer was shoved into position. The Italian mover took over and with his helpers and the windlass on the wrecker manned by the MGs, rollers were placed under the horse, weighing 5 tons, chains were attached to the cradle built under his belly and inch by inch he was hauled aboard by the wrecker's windlass; ground deep in mud and large puddles of water. The performance was on the primitive side, but was well engineered by the Italian boss in the manner of a Maine back countryman moving a house with pulleys and tackle and a horse for the power. Various primitive axes and jacks were employed. This operation took 3 1/2 hours. The body of Cosimo weighing 2 tons was hoisted by the wrecker's crane in 15 minutes and deposited on its back in the 6 x 6. Lt. Jeans could have hoisted the horse the same way inasmuch as the crane could have hoisted 10 tons to the proper height.

8. a. Mfc. Salvatore was sent to the HQ 61st Co. MPB, part of Major Mc Millan's 630th Bn., to warn them that the trucks bringing the statue were on the way, W/O Coleson in charge. The procession got underway about 1:30 hours. Among the difficulties involved were telegraph and house wires strung across streets too low to allow clearance for the horse. Accordingly a soldier rode the horse from Poggio a Caiano to Florence. Wires had to be cut twice, once at a 2nd Regt. at Poggio a Caiano, which was made right with the unit by Lt. Jeans, and another time at the Loggia dei Lanzi. It is not known what wires these were, except that they were Allied. The chance was taken by the officers in charge to ensure the safe landing of the horse. 2727

B. The drivers of the trucks moved slowly over the 14 miles to Florence and slowed down to a snail's pace over the rough spots in the road. The statue was recognized by many people who lined the sidewalks of the little hamlets of Le Mosche, S. Angelo a Lecore, San Piero, San Donnino on SS leading to Florence. They were very much excited and many asked if Cosimo was returning to Piazza della Signoria. Many "bravos" and exclamations of delight were heard. At the traffic circle the MPB, as were expected, appeared and the

"convoy" now including MPs, two jeeps from AMG 5th Army, the 10 ton wrecker and trailer, the 6 x 6, and Commendatore Poggi in his car which had met the procession 10 miles out of Florence, proceeded along the Lungarno. At the Palazzo it turned into Borgo Ognissanti, the siren of the wrecker and the efficient MPs clearing the way. Cpl. Bernholz also served as traffic director; from Via dei Fossi Oliviani to Piazza S. Maria Novella, thence to via dei Sienesi and Via Carrstani to the Baptistery, the procession gained the Via Caloscioli and arrived in Piazza della Signoria at 1500 hours. Tremendous interest was evinced by the Florentines and "Cosimo" from Poggio a Caiano" was heard many times. To cap the climax the undersigned observed a driver of a carrozza pulled by a horse at a trot, raise his hat and booming from ear to ear say:- "Cosimo, ben tornato!" (Cosimo, we are glad to see you back).

9. Commendatore Poggi wanted the figure of Cosimo in the basement of the Uffizi. Accordingly the crane of the wrecker picked up the figure and suspended in the air he was transported to the proper door and maneuvered in by the UK and Italiane, joining other famous bronzes of Florence in this deposit.

10. It had been decided by Poggi to place the 6 ton horse in the famous loggia dei Lanzi. Lt. Jeanne, proving the soundness of his assertion that the horse could be lifted in place by the crane on his wrecker, had il Cavallo" hoisted in the air, the Sgt. swung the wrecker in place and the heavy weight was handsomely placed in the Loggia. The Italians reinforced the temporary pedestal of brick, tackle was disengaged and the job was done.

2726

11. Commendatore Poggi was immensely pleased with the whole undertaking and wanted to do something for Lt. Jeanne and his crew. The undersigned wishes on his account to express his appreciation of the work of Lt. Jeanne and his men. This statue had been in Piazza della Signoria over three and a half centuries and is known to all Florentines and thousands of other Italians and people all over the world. It was a delicate task and it could not have been done better. The resource and ingenuity for which young Americans are known played a big part in overcoming obstacles. The Sgt. who drove the wrecker is a master at his craft as were all the crew. AMG 5th Army and the City of Florence are grateful



for the success of this mission and hereby again thank Lt. Jeanne, his CO Capt. Greenberg and the 477th Ord. Evac. Co. for their services and the loan of the vehicles.

12. This is a long report on a relatively simple operation, the transport of a statue from one place to another. The implications of such a transport as manifested in the faces of the Italians along the route and in Florence City proper make it on the contrary, a large and important undertaking in terms of giving pleasure to a people who have suffered and in establishing happy relations between these people and their present military governors. A proper understanding of the Italian's love for his "passe" and all that there is of beauty and value in it makes this clear. Witness the tears of the women at Castiglione d'Orcia when their Madonna was to be taken away to Florence for restoration. It was theirs and finally the restorer had to be take himself to Castiglione d'Orcia to do his work and calm their fears. The transport of the statue of Cosimo I by the 5th Army from Poggio a Caiano to its home has been a good thing psychologically.

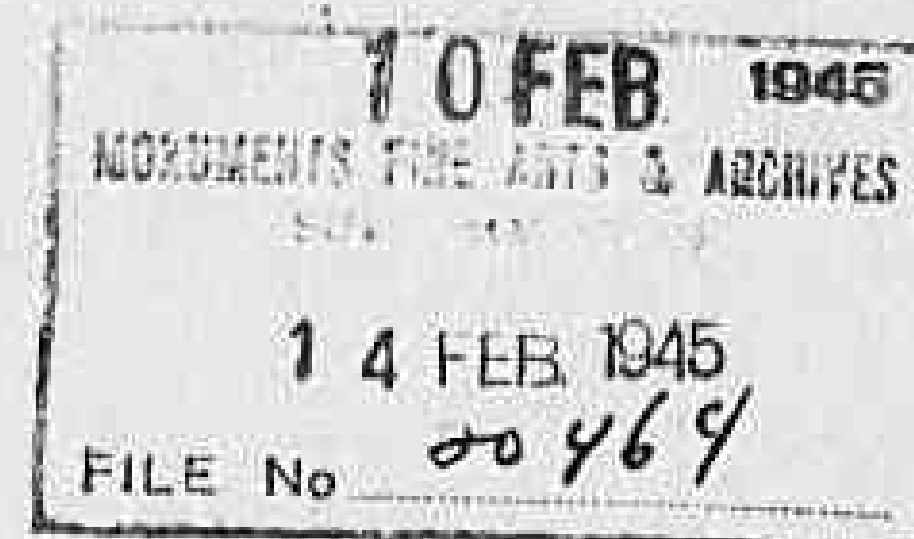
13. Cpl. G. Bernholz made a complete photographic coverage.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.S. Fifth Army.

2725

Copy to: C/S.  
SCAG, Florence City (attn. Capt. Enthoven)  
Lt. Harit.  
Lt. Jeanne, 477th Ord. Evac. Co., APO 454.  
HQ Allied Commission, (for MPAA C/C).

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY



DK/jm

207/9

10 February 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO : Chief Sub-Commission MFAA, HQ Allied Commission.

Barga.

1. 7th February 1945 undersigned made inspection at Barga. Other reports have been turned in on Barga since October by several CAOs and ARC and undersigned. Since Barga has been on the line and once retaken by the Germans, attempts to make a thorough investigation have failed, up to this time. The town in general is in fair shape in its lower portion. That part of it on the hilltop has suffered tremendously from shellfire and is in bad condition.

2. The Church and Convent of St. Francis, are in good shape. Windows are shattered and there is one hole in the roof of the cloister. The church has not suffered and the Della Robbia (apparently school pieces), three of them, are intact.

3. The Conservatorio and residence of the Nuns below the Cathedral has suffered a few hits and walls are shaky here and there. The Della Robbia school piece is intact. 2724

4. The Cathedral. This place has been made over and renovated. The roof has 7 holes in it. No deterioration of the interior is anticipated, as the Cathedral is bare of paintings and objects that might suffer from weather damage. The 13th Century pulpit of the School of Como is entirely unharmed. The ancient statue of S. Cristofano (taken over by the Fascists as their patron Saint) is in perfect condition. The North side of the Cathedral is pitted by shell fragments and machine gun fire. Anti-aircraft bursts, machine gun and tank fire in the valley and across on the next mountain ridge, accompanied the visit of the undersigned and T/5 C. Bernholz.

10 FEB 1945

5. Fine Romanesque Church in valley near Barga is in good shape, protected like an eye in its socket in its small gully. Some of the marble sheathing on the Facade is off. This is one of the better churches of its type. Campanile as it should be. The people of Barga are not done with the operational stages of the war yet.

SERAVEZZA.

6. With CAO Capt. Jefferson this town was visited 6th February 1945. The Germans still look down from Mt. Folgorito on "88 Boulevard" which leads to Seravezza through the destroyed villages of Vallecchia and Corvaia. This center of marble industry is badly banged about and deserted except for a few civilians collecting wood, and a small Municipal staff in the Palazzo Medico by the famous architect, Ammannati.

7. a. Palazzo Medico. This fine simple building has not suffered important hits and is in good shape as a building throughout. It has been sacked and is in filthy condition, slowly being righted by the custodian and a few others.

b. The Trout Fountain of Maria Cristina is intact in the courtyard, a very good simple structure. The trout is a very large one.

c. The Archives are in rather bad shape, many on the floor. The custodian believes some have been taken by civilians or the enemy. He is taking care of them, sorting out, cleaning up the dirty ones and drying out the watersoaked. Little can be done at Seravezza now as the line has not moved and German patrols have appeared near the town recently.

8. The Cathedral, 17th, 18th Century structure has its roof no longer, open to the air over the High Altar. The walls are standing, but the picture is similar to that seen in Littoria Province in summer of 1944. Shell pits everywhere. The Piazza in front is littered with rubble and chips and there are shell holes in it. The Christ statue by Tacchi was removed by the Priest.



9. Stazzema. Not seen, but will be soon. One of the best Romanesque Churches of the region is unhurt according to Capt. Jefferson - Santa Maria Annunziata.

10. Undersigned has continued the policy of leaving all fundamental repairs jobs in Toscana to Lt. Hartt, and has kept in touch with all of those in 5th Army Area. A tremendous amount of work is going on in the Region. The material end is being resolved slowly.

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: SCAO, AMG 5th Army.  
MFAA Officer, Toscana Region.

2 FEB. 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
AWG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DE/jm

207/8

2 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Daily Orders.

TO : Capt. G. Kitchlew, RANCO,  
(Comdg. 20 Indian Field Hygiene Section).

1. Reference your Daily Orders dated 27/1/45 quote: "There are some old fresco paintings in this building. Nobody shall do anything which is liable to damage them. Nailing or writing on the walls is prohibited. Copy to: U.S. Army, Italian Art Preservation Officer."

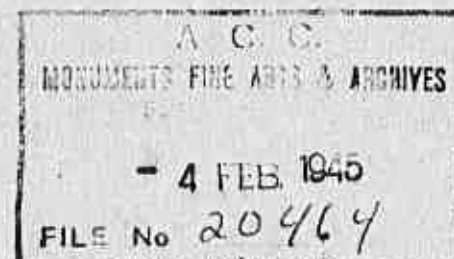
2. Undersigned is most appreciative of your kindness in sending a copy of your Daily Order to this Section and still more so in the attention you have given the frescoes mentioned. Could the name of the building and its location be supplied to this Section? This Section would be grateful for the information.

For the Commanding General:

2721

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: C/S.  
HQ A.C.,  
(for MPAA S/C).





HEADQUARTERS  
AND FIFTH ARMY  
APO 454 U.S. ARMY

257

RECEIVED	257
- 2 FEB 1945	
FILE No	20464

DK/jm

207/9

25 January 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO : SCAD AND 5th Army.

MONTecatini.

1. On request of Major Long., GAO 88th Division of 19th Jan. 1945, visited a collection of pictures in Montecatini belonging to Gilberto Ranieri, an ex-Bersagliere officer. There was some doubt as to whether they were all his. Attributed pictures are, 2 Carreggios, 4 Picasso, Goya, Lorenzo, Lotto, etc.; quality of pictures is good. Undersigned was told Ranieri's name has appeared as owner of certain pictures in Italian catalogues. His wife says the collection was brought to Montecatini three years ago by Ranieri for safe keeping. All information has been turned over to Lt. Fred Haxtt, MPAA Officer for Tuscany, who will investigate with proper Italian authorities. 2720

MONTES DELLE PORNICHE (Monte di Zena).

2. The church of Santa Maria and remains of convent were seen from about 200 yards by undersigned and photographer T/5 Bernholz. The shelling was sufficient to warrant it imprudent to visit in situ. The Campanile has been hit and the west wall is down. The Sindaco of Borgo Pisano, Guerillo Di Giovanni, will send a couple of men up there for a complete report when it is feasible. Plans and lives are endangered in drawing fire. Photographs were taken.

DEPOSIT.

3. Major Long and Lt. Col. Miller, 351st Inf., 88th Division, asked undersigned to visit a spot on Map 1:25,000, Sheet 87, coordinates 923 - 315. The name of the place



as given by Major Long is Casa del Genna. No one of many Italians in the neighborhood had heard of such a place. All said it must be the Casa ~~Zena~~, or Castel Senareello. Undersigned went to Tazzola, interviewed a Captain of the 133th Infantry there, proceeded on foot to Regimental CP near Castel Senareello. At Regt. CP found the Lt. Colonel in command (unfortunately the name escapes) and Major Lipucci. The latter called the commander of Co. "I" who was billeted at the spot indicated by the coordinates. No crates or packed pictures or goods had been found there. Major Lipucci called two other Co. CP's with the same negative result. Undersigned asked all officers interviewed to let SCAG, II Corps know of developments. The Sindaco, Di Giovanni, will also see what he can do in locating the deposit. Undersigned will ask Major Long for further information.

GENERAL.

4. Pictures were taken of several interesting Renaissance Churches at Bolano and Monghidoro and Tazzola. The whole region has suffered terribly from the war and is probably not done with yet.

2719

*Jeane Keller*

JEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.S. Fifth Army.

Copy to: C/S.  
R.C., Emilia Region.  
MFAA Officer, Emilia Reg.  
HQ Allied Commission,  
M.P.A.A. C/S.  
MFAA Officer, Tuscany Region.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DE/jm

207/3

18 January 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO : SOAO AMG 5th Army.

Cardello in Val di Senio.

A.C.	
MONUMENTS FILE 1015 & 1016	
SUBCOMMISSION	
23 GEN 1945	
FILE No	20464

1. a. SOAO XIII Corps, Lt. Col. Donald Smith on 13 Jan. 1945 asked undersigned to go to Cardello and make a report on the Casa Oriani there. This house, not in Protected Monuments Booklet No. 6, was inspected 16 Jan. '45.

b. Cardello lies about 1,000 yards from the line, a kilometer or so out of Casola di Val Senio. The Casa Oriani was hit several times by shells. One pierced the roof and the top floor leaving a hole approximately 5' X 6' in the roof and a smaller one in the top floor through which snow has fallen on part of the library below. Another shell knocked a lot of brick and stone off the SE corner. Windows are shattered generally and varying degrees of lesser damage resulted from other shell hits and shell fragments. Mine areas surrounding the house have been taped off. The Tomb of Alfredo Oriani and the stone terrace, decorated with coats of arms from all the provinces in Italy, are unharmed. Further war damage is possible, as the whole region is under German shell fire and near the front line.

c. The house is pretty badly messed up inside. Some furniture of value remains, other is broken and much is missing in comparing the actual state of things there with the excellent control, a booklet properly illustrating the appearance of the house in peace time published with an appreciation of Oriani by Mussolini as a preface. Hardly any household gadgets remain. Evidences of troop occupation are clear. It is difficult to ascertain who took what. A couple of notices as to billeting in German indicate their presence here. Civilians have surely been in the house and taken things. Then the Allied troops occupied.

././.



Undersigned has seen many similar cases in the past eight months. The opinion of the undersigned is that Italian civilians have looted and sacked much more than anyone has given them credit for and is substantiated on all sides by many CAOs questioned on this subject. If the Germans have taken all credited to them, their number of transport vehicles must be phenomenally high. German organized looting has been done on a large scale. To prevent casual individuals sacking inscriptions such as this, seen at Marradi on the way to Casola are typical: "Wer plündert wird erschossen." (He who plunders will be shot.)

In the light of the above facts it would seem very unreasonable to attribute all the sacking at Casa Oriani to any one group or unit. The concern of Allied unit commanders over care for monuments and possessions of value in Italy is much appreciated by MFAA Section, AMB 5th Army, but it is the opinion of the Chief of the Section that no one should worry too much about Allied culpability until all the returns are in on an individual case.

d. The library of Casa Oriani is a very good one and, though badly mauled, the larger part of it remains. Many books of Alfredo Oriani are said now to be in Bologna and Ravenna. Many of the books at Cardello have been thrown on the floor, one pile of them is frozen stiff in ice and snow on the floor beneath the shell hole in the roof. There is some evidence that a few books were used to light fires in the fire places. The collection consists of the books of Alfredo Oriani, who died in 1911 and those of his son Ugo, who is now with the Fascist Republicans up north. The former's collection is catholic in taste with specialization in literature and political theory plus many duplicates of the "Complete works of Alfredo Oriani". The Ugo Oriani acquisitions are chiefly Fascist, including many works on the "Italian Empire" of Mussolini and the Corporate State. In two closets undersigned found large disorderly piles of old and modern manuscripts, some by Alfredo Oriani, letters, photographs and private papers. Among the letters were ones from Bismarck's son, Capuana the poet, and Minghetti, the agriculturalist. Many of these have historical importance. Most of the photographs had to do with a great Fascist ceremony held at Casa Oriani in 1938 attended by at least one Italian in a very high position. Through CAO Capt. Mackenzie, undersigned turned most of these over to FSS at Casola, as there are many fine pictures of blackshirts of the region in this group.

././.



Undersigned's own examination of the Library was given a good background by Prof. Peppi of Casola who knew Ugo Oriani very well and who had frequented the place in time past. From the evidence, Ugo Oriani went all out as a Fascist and is chiefly responsible, after Mussolini, for the fact that Alfredo Oriani's house became a Fascist shrine.

e. The story of Casa Oriani is briefly this: Alfredo Oriani was a political theorist and a poet. He took much from Francesco Crispi in the moulding of his political philosophy; his notion was that Italy should devote all possible energy to the restoration of her ancient prestige of Imperial and Renaissance times. He died in 1911, and he became a Fascist solely through his posthumous adoption by Mussolini who was searching for a name, big and revered in Italy, upon which he could back his own theories for the future of Italy and thereby give them added weight in the minds of the customers. A Marcia al Cardello was organized, coats of arms from all the Provinces of Italy were sent by the Fascist Prefects to embellish the terrace at Casa Oriani and the Duce visited and signed the guest book "Mussolini" 26 June XVII" (sic). The grave of Alfredo Oriani became the Mecca of blackshirted enthusiasts and Ugo Oriani made the arrangements. 2716

#### Recommendations.

f. Capt. Mackenzie on 17 Jan. 1945 sent Prof. Peppi and two other men from Casola who know books, to put everything in order in two waterproof rooms. All papers will be carefully gone over and piled neatly. Books that are wet will be dried out before a fire and cared for. Capt. Mackenzie is very much interested and will personally see to the proper care of valuable objects, both books and furniture. The house will be put off limits when the contents have been made secure. Photographic record was made.

g. Undersigned's considered opinion is that nothing particularly disastrous to the reputation of Allied Troops has occurred here. It is only natural that the Germans may have done little damage here in the light of its great Fascist importance and amazing that Allied troops didn't destroy it completely.

Casale Val di Senio.

2. a. S. Maria Assunta, a small 17th Century church, was hit several times. The nave is full of refugees and their meager belongings. Undersigned told the Arciprete that when the war passed some help might be given him in repairs by the Allies.

b. The Castle Monte Battaglia is a complete ruin, flattened by Allied and German artillery fire. Locally important.

c. Castle Ceruno, also locally important as a strong point of Papal soldiers centuries ago, is unharmed.

d. Castle at Baffadi and Romanesque church there unharmed.

Palazzuolo.

3. Small medieval building with shields and coats of arms, of great interest, in main square, is unharmed.

4. Falsonio. - In the Romanesque church of this little village, it is reported by civilians coming through the lines that the Germans have a sizable motor pool.

2715

Val di Senio - General.

5. Evidence of the fierceness of the battle in this area appear in all the little villages both in the valley and on the mountain sides; Marradi, Razzuolo, Badia di Tusanna, Crepino, may be mentioned.

*Deane Keller*

DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.F.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: C/S.

HQ Allied Commission,  
(for MFAA Section).  
Civil Affairs Section, AFHQ.  
3CAG, XIII Corps.  
A.O., Emilia Region.  
MFAA Officer, 8th Army.



1613

MFDA S/C, H.A.C.  
4 GEN 1945  
know

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

DK/jm

207/9

4 January 1945.

SUBJECT: M.F.A.A. Report.

TO : SOAO AMG 5th Army.

U.S. ARMY  
ELEMENTS FIRE ARTS & ARCHIVES  
SUBCOMMISSION

10 GEN 1945

FILE No 20464

FIRENZUOLA.

1. Reference "Letter from community of Firenzuola" addressed to Lt. Gen L.K. Truscott forwarded for investigation 28 Dec '44 through G-5 Capt. A.S. Austin, L.R.O. to MFAA Section, AMG 5th Army. This letter complains of the combat troops removing or destroying all that is useful from the debris of this much damaged village. 28114

2. a. Undersigned visited Firenzuola 3 Jan. 1945. The village is well known to have suffered mightily from the ravages of war. There never was anything of the first importance historically or culturally in the place, though as a whole it must have been an attractive little town in peace time. The following is the report made in response to request stated in para 1: Complaint of Sindaco and Committee is that soldiers are burning wooden beams, blinds, window casings and other structures of large and small buildings in Firenzuola. Some rubble is being taken out for use on roads. Undersigned told Sindaco Ceccherini that troops had to be warm, transport for firewood ~~xxxxxxxx~~ was difficult, that all wood structures were replaceable, roads needed mending and that nothing of historical or cultural value was being destroyed. He seemed satisfied and appreciated the interest of the Commanding General.

b. The Sindaco and a committee have in preparation a pianta regolatrice for Firenzuola - a new town plan. Undersigned evinced interest and said he would discuss the whole situation with the ~~Capt.~~ <sup>officer</sup> of Monuments for Toscana, Lt. Hartt, and the Italian superintendent, Poggi. The Genio Civile of Florence is already interested.



d. Undersigned contacted Capt. Cawthorn, the CAO of Firensuola, and explained the situation to him. He agreed with undersigned on the whole business. For security reasons only two pictures were taken in Firensuola. A complete set were taken of the Hospital at Cornachiaia, set up by ARC in a wing of the old Parish church there for civilian use. AMG and the city government of Firensuola are set up in this little hamlet 3 kms. away.

#### BARGA.

3. 1st January 1945 Capt. A. Goodloe, to this time CAO IV Corps, reported that San Francesco had received 11 more hits in the thrusts and counter-thrusts in that region since Christmas Day 1944. The Campanile has been hit, but the damage is not irreparable. Undersigned will visit as soon as feasible. This church has been reported on four times to date.

2713

#### TRAVERSA.

4. a. In visit to CAO Capt. Cawthorn, Firensuola, information was given undersigned by the CAO of a piece of sculpture carefully packed and encased in a wood crate to be found in the yard of Bruno Cianti who lives at 71 Via Bolognese, Traversa, Route 65, next the Post Office. Undersigned found Sig. Cianti and the case as described. The case is about 3' x 4' by 1' of an ancient full round relief sculpture, apparently Romanesque. Madonna and Child and a figure of a saint and a column. Some Byzantine influence, all in marble. The case was marked 'Fragile' and had the number '7' stamped on the midsection slat. It weighs about 400 lbs. and was frozen in the ground. For fear of breaking or damaging it was not disturbed more than necessary to get all possible information on it. Two pictures were taken.

b. The story is the following: In early Sept. 1944 an Italian truck of the Lancia RO type, broke down in front of Cianti's house in Traversa. It was driven by a German and its contents, many crates of varying sizes containing sculptures, were guarded by two armed Fascist Republican soldiers. The stalled truck was hastily unloaded. The driver of the truck offered to pay Cianti to help unload the stuff in another truck which had pulled up in back. The transfer of the crates was accomplished in great haste,

. / . / .

as all were excited and wished to get away. In the confusion one crate was left behind, and this one Cianti put behind his house and is the one in question. All this happened at night and Cianti does not know if there were other trucks loaded similarly passing by, nor does he know of the provenance or destination of this Lancia RO. The license was a German one.

c. A letter describing the crate was sent to Lt. Hartt by Capt. Gawthorn, recently. Undersigned happened to be near Traversa and so took on the investigation himself. Italian officials will be contacted and an attempt will be made to trace the origin of the sculpture in Cianti's backyard. Undersigned took samples of the excelsior and cardboard used in packing and with description and photographs ought to make identification easy.

d. Sig. Cianti would like a letter commending his attention and care in this instance. Undersigned left his name with Cianti who will not give up the crate unless the person calling for it produces a similar signature.

#### REQUISITIONS.

5. a. 29 Dec. 1944 Capt. Price, G-4 (Operations) HQ 5th Army (Rear) telephoned undersigned to say he was re-writing MFAA Section in SAE and would welcome suggestions. Undersigned called on him and later wrote a brief statement of MFAA position regarding protection and requisition of monuments, to wit:-

Signs to be posted to be of three kinds:

2712

- (1) This is an Historical, Educational or Artistic Monument.
- (2) This is an Historical, Educational or Artistic Monument. Before requisitioning MFAA Officer should (must) be consulted.
- (3) This ruined building is an Historical, Educational Monument. If subject to demolition MFAA Officer should (must) be consulted.

All signs to be over the printed name of the Commanding General.

././.



International Out of Bounds signs to be posted at the digression of the MFAA Officer.

The precise wording of above signs has not been determined. Capt. Price is making up his MFAA section of SAE in the light of the above and will send a proof for concurrence or correction or suggestion to undersigned.

b. It was further agreed that undersigned visit and inform all real estate officers of 5th Army Engineers, as to this restating of MFAA position, inasmuch as requisitioning is one of their duties. It will also be the duty of MFAA Officer, AMG 5th Army to keep the Engineer officer informed of his whereabouts and that of any other MFAA officers of the Regions, or those on TD with Army or Region so that consultations may be facilitated.

c. The officers of 5th Army Engineers doing Real Estate work are the following as of this date:

Capt. Stickroth	-	Montecatini
Capt. Turner	-	Florence
Lt. Fitzgerald	-	5th Army (Hear)
Lt. King	-	Lucca.

d. Undersigned appreciates this opportunity extended by G-4 (Operations), of clarifying a knotty and noisome problem and hopes the final solution will make things run smoothly.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS.

2711

6. a. Photographs taken of principle damaged monuments in San Miniato. The Lami family have done some repair work on their palace Grifoni. Supt. (pro-tem) Sanpaolosi is trying to arrange to have an Italian truck take the works of art there deposited back to Pisa.

b. The Deposit of sculpture from the Uffizi Gallery, Florence, at Dicomano thoroughly photographed.



c. At San Gozenzo the apse of the church has been revealed through German demolition of houses built against it. Thus what the Superintendent wished to bring about in peace time but refrained from doing has been accomplished by war means.

*Deane Keller*  
DEANE KELLER,  
Capt., AUS.,  
M.P.A.A. Officer,  
A.M.C. Fifth Army.

Copy to: Chief of Staff.  
Director MFAA Sub-Commission,  
HQ Allied Commission.  
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