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ARCHIVES POLICY- MR SHIPMAN'S REPORTS E

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MAY- NOV. 1944

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ARCHIVES - POLICY.

MR SIMPSON'S

REPORTS etc.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives

20905/A/1/MPAA

13 November 1944

Subject: Report on Activities of Archives
Specialists Assigned to AC.

To : Director, MPAA Subcommission.

During the past few days that I have been in ROME I have endeavored to obtain a firsthand account of how the R.F.A.A. officers who specialize in the handling of archives and records problems in Italy and more particularly in ROME have met the problems which confronted them and plan to meet future problems. In addition to my talks with you I have had a series of conferences with Captains Brooke and McCain. Fortunately I was able to obtain an account from Captain Ellis of his work in Northern Italy when he passed through ROME several days ago.

In the course of these past few days I have conferred with Enrico Rocco, Commissario of the State Archives, Perdini and Flores, Presidente del Consiglio, visited the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini in the Ministry of Interior, Archivio di Stato e del Regno in Palazzo della Scienze, Archivio delle Supermarine and the Istituto di Patologia del Libro. I have also talked with Maj. Coventry and Capt. Zerkoff G-2, Advanced, A.P.H.Q., Capt. Krueger, J.I.C.A., Lt. Col. Fisher, G-2 Rome Allied Area Command, and several other officers who need not be mentioned here.

As a result of these conferences and visits I made the following observations:

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As a result of these conferences and visits I made the following observations:

1. Beyond a shadow of doubt the assignment of specialists to aid the preservation and rescue of archives and records has proved timely and fortunate. Incidents occurred where, if it were not for the presence of an archivist, important administrative records might have been destroyed or lost through lack of appreciation of their value. This was demonstrated for instance in the case of the Archives of the Ministry of Corporations, which I visited, now taken over by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor.

2. The question as to what should be done in instances where civilian refugees occupy a records building was asked

P 3.

It does not seem advisable for MFA & A to devise an elaborate system of passes permits for access to Repositories handed over to them by G2. It will be the

MFA and A (a) to ensure that the Repositories are not used for any unsuitable purpose

(b) having done so, to get them working again under their own Italian administration as quickly as possible, with normal means of access.

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one so, to get them working again under their own Italian officials
by as possible, with normal means of access.

Report of F W Shipman.

P. 2/ Safeguarding Modern Archives. A crucial point is the handing over of custody by G2 to ACC. Further discussions will be necessary to avoid confusion & to nail the responsibility in the proper quarter. It may be necessary for HFA & A (Archivists) to provide a list of Archives containing buildings & their priority.

P. 5/ American repair technique. Possibly the experience of the Repair Dept. at the Public Record office (s.g. in dealing with medieval documents) might be of use to the Italian Archivists. Also certain of the printed leaflets of the British Records Association - (? Translations).

P. 5/ Notarial Archives. It is ~~extremely~~ rare to find deposits of these Archives earlier than the 14th century.

P. 7/ Pay of Archivists at Palermo. The shipman has been misinformed (information from Lt. Coll and also file AT190T/8276/DA/FA&M, State Archives, Salaries).

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WTS

18/12/44.

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me. Common sense would dictate that every precaution should be taken to assure against the destruction of important records - guards might be assigned to police the inhabitants and the records might in some instances be moved to one section of the building and access to it prohibited. Only in the cases of ultimate military necessity or where another satisfactory shelter can be found would it be proper to remove the occupants. Certainly no one should just be put out on the street on the general principle of protecting records.

3. Captain McGinn, it is planned, will go to the Fifth Army Headquarters and work in close cooperation with G-2. Advanced to continue in the forward areas the methods tried in the past of protecting records of intelligence and administrative value from improper handling and unnecessary damage or loss. This work should be considered as a definite aid to G-2, A.M.G. and the Italian Government. He will also concern himself with ancient records of cultural or historical importance. In his work he will cooperate with Enilio Re and members of the Sub-Commission.

4. Captain Brooke, who is to continue his work in ROME, where the central archives and ministries administrative heads are, will be in a position to pass valuable information on to Captain McGinn and Major Bell and others of the Sub-Commission, and remain liaison for the central government in matters relating to Italian archives for the Sub-Commission.

5. Presumably Maj. Bell, who is coming to Italy to fill the vacancy created by Captain Ellis' departure, will be indoctrinated in ROME by the Sub-Commission and then sent out to the field.

6. There seems to be no need of additional rules and instructions in Italy, that is needed is continuous propa-

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5. Presumably Major Bell, who is coming to Italy to fill the vacancy created by Captain Ellis' departure, will be indoctrinated in ROME by the Sub-Commission and then sent out to the field.

6. There seems to be no need of additional rules and instructions in Italy. What is needed is continuous propaganda in behalf of records. When their true value is explained in a common sense manner, it seems that most intelligent officers are willing to cooperate. There will be instances where some one with or without rank will rebel at being curbed in carrying out the destruction of records etc. and if the situation is one which requires it, a strong stand should be taken to overcome such rebellion. This was necessary in ROME on occasion, but the material that was rescued was of more than sufficient value to justify the action. I have talked with both Italian officials and Allied officers and find they are grateful for the protection that has been given the records. Only the Sub-Commission could have done it.

- 3 -

7. The transportation situation is acute with the archivists who can hardly function without a car. This is not peculiar to them alone. It is my intention to continue with others to try to get help in this matter. However, no promise of good results can be safely made.

8. The problem of having sufficient rank among the American officers is general also. To be more effective the archivist should be of field grade. I shall reiterate this fact in reporting on my mission.

9. My conclusions are that with the means at hand the Sub-Commission has done a good job in preserving its-
lian archives and that the archives officers have more than justified their appointment.

F.W.S.
FRED W. SHIPMAN
Archives Advisor to the
War Department.

*Statement by Mr. Frederick W. Shipman
Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.*

The Allied Commission has provided through the Sub-Commission on of Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives for the safety and protection of Italian Archives. Specialist officers have been appointed with experience in the National Archives at Washington and the Public Record Office, London, whose work was initiated by Mr. Fred W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park and Mr. Hilary Jenkinson, Secretary of the Public Record Office, each of whom have paid 2 visits to Italy in the course of this year.

The organization set up provides for the safeguarding of all ~~original~~ collections of documents, not only for precious manuscripts of historical importance but for current records, administrative, legal and the like, the preservation of which may be of vital importance in the restoration of normal life.

Special attention has been given to the listing of repositories and the locating of displaced material with a view to providing for its safety through normal military channels. Where damage has been incurred advice has been provided as to the necessary first aid measures and the machinery set in motion for the repair of buildings, the finding of ^{stages} labour to rescue documents from under ruins or whatever other steps may be necessary. Through this summer and autumn one officer has worked regularly with the 5th and 8th Armies entering Cities in the early steps of occupation. Another officer based on Rome has worked closely with the Central Italian Archive Service co-ordinating general arrangements for the control of records and the personnel in charge of them.

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Collaboration has been close between the officers of the Sub-Commission and the Vatican for the protection of Ecclesiastical Archives.

Reports of damage to date should be of encouragement to Scholars,

In this field by far the greatest loss has been the deliberate burning by the Germans in September 1943 of the most valuable part of the Naples Archives but this is happily an isolated instance of wanton destruction. In the heavily fought-over country between Cassino and

Rome the Archives of the Abbey and priceless MSS from ~~the~~^{other} centres were safely transferred to the Vatican but there was much work to be done on the mass of material remaining in badly damaged buildings. In Umbria and Marche repositories have suffered lightly. The very important archives of the Tuscan Cities, Florence, Pisa, Siena, Livorno and Luc-ca have provided many problems but the Archives have in each case escaped ~~any~~ severe damage. At Pisa the State Archive building was heavily mined and booby-trapped and at Florence the building was blasted by the demolitions on the Arno. From Siena the Germans stole certain beautifully bound mediaeval records which were found in the place of hiding to which they had been moved outside the city, but this is the only serious loss known through looting.

Among the Italians there is appreciation of the importance of this work and co-operation has been good. A leading official has pointed out that in the present circumstances, without the Sub-Commission, little effective care could be provided. It is realised that as a result of allied efforts losses have been reduced and that something approaching a complete survey of Italian archives is being built up of future interest equally to scholars and administrators.

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*Sub-Commission
under 1950 Agreement.*

*Particularly in areas still under
direct military Government or where
severe disorganisation & normal
civilian life has occurred. ~~At present~~
to be the only authority*

13 November 1984.

To: M.F.A.

Ref attached.

The answer written by Capt Groth
has been forwarded direct to
Mr. Shipman.

Will you please advise him accordingly.

It is considered advisable that all such
Correspondence ^{should continue to be} ~~is submitted~~
submitted to this Section before
transmission.

A. S. Gipp

18 Aug. 46.479

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION

15 August 44

Dear Mr. Shipman,

Thank you for your letter of the 27 July. McCain has not yet turned up, but he is expected at any time; naturally I shall be only too happy to co-operate and I am confident that there will be useful specialist work for him to perform on the Modern Side, particularly when we get further north.

My experience in Rome has been that there should be an Archivist attached to the special Intelligence Force that enters any large town- (at least where important contemporary records are likely to be found). The procedure worked out by yourself and Jenkinson at Naples is admirable, but the following difficulties are likely to occur:

- 1) Lack of guards (in Rome there were over 700 "targets").
- 2) The pass system can only be strictly enforced for the first few days of occupation. Even so there were complaints in Rome of unnecessary interruption of civilian life.
- 3) Intelligence officers and other agents are apt to consider documents only from their personal angle and the central Register is admittedly imperfect. Fortunately only a small quantity of Archival material has been removed "ex situ".
- 4) The special Intelligence Force is automatically dissolved when its work is completed. In Rome this occurred on about the 10th day of Allied occupation. Responsibility for the custody of Archives was therefore handed over to routine G2 channels at just the moment when there was the greatest pressure to liberate buildings for the use of Allied Units.
- 5) The initial searching for documents is a cursory affair. Naturally the net is cast very wide and retains a mass of useful material from the strictly military point of view. But in Rome I found that nothing had been done to identify or guard the enormous "Archivio Ordinario" of Mussolini, while in the Palazzo Venezia, papers of very considerable importance simply went unnoticed, possibly owing to the excitement of harranging the crowd from the balcony and arresting the extremely efficient 'economo' who was bravely resisting souvenir hunting.

I wish I could send you my reports for June and July but there are censorship difficulties owing to the inevitable mentioning of Allied Units and their occupation of certain premises. Here are a few salient points in note form.

- 1) There has been a large scale evacuation policy by all the Ministries to the north of Italy during the last year or so. Prime Minister Bonomi has sent out an important circular demanding detailed statements as to the Archives remaining in Rome and the whereabouts of those that have been moved. It has been one of my primary concerns to get this going and to coordinate the results both with Intelligence agents and M.F.A.A. officers in the field.
- 2) There has not been great loss or dispersal of Archives due to allied occupation. On the other hand it was only the presence of an archivist in Rome which saved a mass of contemporary Ministerial Records from destruction (removal in lorries for salvage). After the fuss I made in this instance it was gratifying when after the return of the Italian Government to Rome, these very Archives were asked for and their importance (from the point of view of restoring life to the community) emphasized.
- 3) The Soprintendente of the Archivio del Regno and Archivio di Stato at Rome, Comm. Dott. Emilio Re is a first-class man. Fortunately he never held the Fascist party "Tessera" and so there has been no difficulty in co-operating with him, which I have most closely from the very first day. Together we have planned every move. Now he has also been appointed head of the "Ufficio Centrale dell'Archivio di Stato" in the Ministry of Interior, so the machinery for "getting something done" should be smooth.
- 4) A circular has been sent out by the Acting Chief Commissioner, A.C.C., of a Memorandum I drafted headed "Mishandling of Italian documents". This called attention to the various rules governing the removal of documents. I took the opportunity also to drag in our old friend A.A.I. Inst. N°10 para.11. I find it is still necessary over and over again to emphasize that M.F.A.A. are vitally concerned with modern documents. Incidentally I have had a lot of backing up over all this from Major Ward Perkins, who with Major Dewald naturally rather preoccupied, has taken a special interest in Archive work.
- 5) I have worked closely with the Vatican; Cardinal Mercati, Director of the Papal Archives and Library, has been most helpful. At his instigation, the Secretary of State, Cardinal Maglione, has sent a letter to the Bishops of all war-damaged dioceses, which is the method they prefer to the suggested circular which you discussed at Naples. This is being followed up by personal visits from a member of the staff of the Archivio Vaticano, a Prof. Battelli. The latter has accompanied myself and Comm. Re

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on various tours of inspection and I think this is a good way of working, as transport remains a problem for all concerned.
6) Ellis remains with the 8th Army and while doing invaluable "Fine Arts" work he is able to pay special attention to Archives in the forward areas: he was here last week to discuss immediate problems with me.

I am afraid this letter is an ⁱⁿadequate affair. So much has happened since you were here that it is difficult to paint a precise picture. Perhaps you could write again for further information on any particular point. I would be delighted to supply it.

Yours sincerely

W. Brooks

F.H. Brooks, Capt. R.R.C.
Archivist
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Division,
A.M.G. Region IV

P.S. You ask about various places in the south. Salerno ended in a belated triumph for the Archivists; Benevento, Foggia etc; have been attended to but remain somewhat unsatisfactory. I doubt whether M.F.A.A. will ever be able to spare the personnel for further visits; I look rather to the Italians themselves doing something under pressure from their Government; with Emilio De la Ministry of the Interior, it might be possible.

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The National Archives
The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Hyde Park, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

July 27, 1944

Capt. T. H. Brooke
% MFA Subcommittee, ACC
APO 394, New York, N.Y.

Dear Brooke:

About ten days ago I received a letter from Mr. Jenkinson in which he told me of what you and he had done since I last saw you. I have also seen a copy of his report to Sir Leonard Woolley. You certainly have accomplished a great deal and have done much to make me feel that the work there is of the greatest importance. This willingness to work to save fragments from the debris that nothing be lost is in no small measure responsible for whatever progress your country and mine have made in the past.

condition of the material

I was particularly interested to learn that you are meeting with success in handling the problem of ecclesiastical records. Both Monsignors Carroll and Pottino have been very cooperative which is to their everlasting credit. I do hope that the MFA was able to comply with the request of Monsignor Carroll for printing the survey forms. By this time you have no doubt read my reports, but if you haven't you most certainly should, because on my tour I followed most of the things which Mr. Jenkinson had started and I particularly mentioned the situation in Benevento, Foggia, Bari, Potenza and Salerno. Somebody, and I think it is you, should contact the archivists in those places to make sure that their needs have been taken care of, or that they have done what they ought to have done. I was particularly distressed with the archives in Salerno; also with the attitude of the provincial commissioner Nichols in Potenza.

You know I have been anxious to have the staff of archivists on the MFA augmented and that the U.S. government be represented in this work. I believe by now that Capt. McCain (USA) has been assigned to the subcommittee. McCain is imaginative and energetic and I am sure that you will find him stimulating company. I hope that you both can work out a program whereby your work will be complementary.

Have you been able to enlist the aid of the Signal Corps for pictures of archives repositories? I think this would be very helpful in bringing the story home to London and Washington. I will be particularly anxious to hear what your experience has been in carrying out the procedures drafted by Major Cave, Mr. Jenkinson and myself. Would you be so kind as to write me from time to time or send a duplicate copy of your most significant reports that I may keep posted

785016

Capt. T.H. Brooke

July 27, 1944

on the latest developments. I enjoyed meeting you and I look forward with pleasure to seeing you at some future date. Good luck!

Sincerely,

Fred W. Shipman

Fred W. Shipman
Director

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NNN No.

785016

Date: 7 Aug 45
File: 20905/M/3
Item: -

SEE FILE # 20905-S /MFAA (Item #: -)
for the following document:

DOCUMENT, Nature of (letter, clipping, etc.): letter (copy)

SUBJECT : Archival problems

FROM : ACC

TO : G-5, AFHQ

REF. NO. : 20905/MFAA

DATE: 7 Aug 44

ENCLOSURES: 473

Remarks: _____

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1st Ind

Admin Sec HQ APO APO 304; 23 Aug 64.

TO : AFHQ. (6-7).

- 1 The report referred to above is returned to you with the comments of the Director of the Sub-Commission concerned.
- 2 I agree with him that it would be better in the future to advise visitors of this category to discuss fully their intentions and recommendations with the chiefs of the sections they are commenting on.

FOR THE ACTING CHIEF OF BUREAU:

Ext: 23
CMB/ls

G.R. HANSEN Brig.
V.P. ADAMS SGT.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

HDF/ps

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 459081, ext. 442 & 664; 473480)

20905/AFAA

26 August 1944

Subject: Report of Mr. Fred. W. Shigman as Archival Advisor to ACC.

To : V.P., Adm. Sec., ACC.

1. For purpose of record and because I consider some of the comments therein mischievous in effect if not in intent, I would like to comment on certain passages which in my opinion give a very misleading impression both of the work of the AFAA Subcommission and of its reception of Mr. Shigman on the occasion of his visit.
2. The difficulties raised by the 'British Major Ward Perkins' were in fact an expression of the views of the Subcommission of which I am Director. Mr. Shigman unfortunately did not make any attempt to discuss the problems of archives in this theatre with this Subcommission until the eve of his departure. At this time I was elsewhere and Major Ward Perkins, my Deputy, acted on my behalf.
3. The objections raised were not objections on principle by ourselves but a frank statement of the problems of ceiling and establishment by which, in common with ACC in general, this Subcommission is bound. Major Ward Perkins suggested as a positive proposal the attachment of a civilian archivist. In the event the doubts raised proved well-founded, and I believe Mr. Shigman has in fact had considerable difficulty in overcoming the establishment restrictions.
4. Major Ward Perkins' statement that it didn't seem to him to matter much whether the archive-specialists were all British or all American was perhaps ill-advised. I consider however that the question of nationality is in itself of very slight importance in relation to very more important factors, and the record of cooperation within this Subcommission is one of complete harmony. We are working as a Subcommission, not as two related bodies.
5. The definition of the interests of the British archivists as primarily with historical records at the expense of modern administrative documents makes strange reading. One of the two archives officers at present working with the Subcommission has devoted his time completely and solely to G-2 liaison and the protection of modern documents. In this work he has had every help that the Subcommission could give.

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6. Since Mr. Shigman has been so frank in his comments, I would like to express regret that he did not earlier find time to discuss his recommendations with myself. The advice and views of visiting experts are welcome and helpful but it is our experience that the practical value of their advice is in direct proportion to the trouble they take to discover the precise conditions under which AOC in general and the HFAA Subcommission in particular is working and the peculiar problems by which it is faced.

HERBERT F. DE WILD
Major, Spec. Res.
Director.

Report of Fred W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, as Temporary Archives Adviser to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the

Allied Control Commission

A. Summary of Report

SUMMARY

Attached is my report as temporary archives adviser to the MFA Subcommittee of the ACC. A summary of my findings and recommendations is as follows:

1. The purpose of my mission was to render aid in the protection and preservation of Italian archives and records, which include modern administrative records of government and private organizations, such as Church records and archives, as well as the older archives of historical and cultural value only. The United States Government is interested in these archives for the following reasons:

- a. To acquire from them information of value in planning military operations. This is a function of C-2 Intelligence.
- b. To have available for the Allied Military Government and the Italian Government those records and archives that are essential to the current administration and reconstruction of Italy. These include government and private records, deeds, wills, registers of births, marriages, deaths, technical, financial, and political records, etc.
- c. To safeguard that portion of the history of our civilization and culture which is recorded in the archival patrimony of Italy. This includes church, family and state archives dating from the Middle Ages. It is a mistake, however, to assume that all old records are of historical interest only. Legal records in the Notarial Archives, for instance, date back centuries and are necessary in establishing property rights.

These archives and records described under b. and c. require the long-

preservation of Italian records and private organizations, such as Church records and archives, as well as the older archives of historical and cultural values only. The United States Government is interested in these archives for the following reasons:

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These archives and records described under b. and c. require the long-term protection and first aid for which the MFA was originally organized. When G-2 has finished its task of exploiting those under a., these too become the concern of MFA.

2. The greatest danger to records occurs in the first days after the fighting has ceased. Then the Intelligence agent seizes documents, the troops are billeted in records buildings, and the populace pillages. To reduce the damage and loss of records to a minimum, the following steps were taken:

- a. Procedures were adopted by G-2 (Advanced Intelligence) to establish a central control over the exploitation of documents of operational value. This includes protection of important buildings during the fighting and until G-2 has completed its work on them; a system of passes for the exclusive use of Intelligence agents, and a document room to and through which all seized records must pass for recording. An essential part of these procedures is to microfilm records on the spot in order to insure against loss of material and that all interested parties may have access to them.

- b. For those classes of materials of value in which Intelligence

(b)

has not interest, it was agreed that the ACC would apply the same principle of protection at the earliest possible moment.

3. Two British captains were appointed as archivists attached to the MFA Subcommittee, while I was in Naples. There was no American archivist, but Col. Norman E. Pike, Deputy Commissioner of the ACC, approved the appointment of an American civilian or military archivist for duty with the Subcommittee. At this writing I am not certain that such a person has been appointed. Objections were raised by the British Major and Perkins of the MFA to such an arrangement. He said it was not necessary that there be an American archivist as well as British, that the table of organization was filled. His approach to the subject is that archives are of cultural interest exclusively, which is an erroneous concept. The British have interested themselves particularly in ancient documents. No Americans are interested in old and modern records but are emphasizing our interest in modern records of importance to the conduct of current and future affairs. It is important that an American archivist be appointed, and that he have liaison with Advanced Intelligence. He will be able to move about and concern himself generally with the execution of protective measures for valuable documents. He will also bring what aid the ACC can give to archivists in need of assistance.

4. Little more than has been done can be done for the archives of Southern Italy until after the war. Emphasis should be placed on keeping to a minimum the unnecessary loss and destruction of archives in areas yet to be occupied.

5. In going beyond the first aid treatment to records, the ACC should adopt a policy of compelling the Italians to put their National Archives and other administrative material in usable condition.

6. Archives of purely historical and cultural value should be finally rehabilitated by the Italians at their own expense. The Allies should avoid any commitments to do such work for them.

7. Ecclesiastical records are the responsibility of the Roman Catholic Church. They should be treated in the same manner as Italian cultural materials. The Church is neutral and would not accept instruction on this matter, but might expect a great deal of assistance.

8. Wherever we can aid by giving information on the modern methods of treating archives, such information should be made available to the Italian government archivists.

4. Little more than has been done can be done for the archives of Southern Italy until after the war. Emphasis should be placed on keeping to a minimum the unnecessary loss and destruction of archives in areas yet to be occupied.

5. In going beyond the first aid treatment to records, the AOC should adopt a policy of compelling the Italians to put their Notarial Archives and other administrative material in usable condition.

6. Archives of purely historical and cultural value should be finally rehabilitated by the Italians at their own expense. The Allies should avoid any commitments to do such work for them.

7. Ecclesiastical records are the responsibility of the Roman Catholic Church. They should be treated in the same manner as Italian cultural materials. The Church is neutral and would accept instruction on this matter, but might expect a great deal of assistance.

8. Wherever we can aid by giving information on the modern methods of treating archives, such information should be made available to the Italian Government archivists.

9. Survey of Italian Archives: Arrangements have been made for the present archivists attached to the IMA to gather information on the condition of Italian archives and to get a record of the important losses. The Church authorities are doing the same for their records, and have been requested to inform the IMA of the results of their survey. This would provide a good deal of useful information to scholars. A survey of modern records will be necessary for Italy in order to locate many places of evidence to reestablish rights of citizens.

10. It is recommended that the lessons learned from experience in the Mediterranean theater be applied to the European theater also.

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Report of Fred W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, as Temporary Archives Adviser to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the Allied Control Commission.

B. Report

Introduction:

This is a report of a mission I undertook to Italy at the invitation of the Civil Division of the War Department to perform special and temporary duty as archives adviser to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the Allied Control Commission. Copies of my travel orders, dated March 9 and 10, 1944, are attached. These orders were issued in response to the request of the Allied Commander in Chief of October 31, 1943 (Mat. 70 CM-1n18614).

I left Washington on March 17, 1944 and on March 30 reported to the Military Government Section of the Allied Force Headquarters where I presented my credentials. I carried with me a letter of introduction to Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, Commanding General, U.S. Forces, North African Theater of Operations, which I delivered in person the same day. Gen. Devers discussed the mission with me and gave instructions that every assistance should be afforded me. He also gave me a letter of introduction to Lt. Gen. Sir Frank M. Mason Macfarlane, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission in Naples, requesting that I be assisted in carrying out my mission. On Gen. Devers' orders, Lt. Roland Segalini, MGS, AFHQ, was assigned to accompany me on the mission in the theater and to aid me in my work. As I do not know the Italian language, Lt. Segalini acted as my interpreter while in Italy. I consulted with Lt. Colonel Parkman and Fairman of the Military Government Section in regard to the scope of the mission and was directed to contact Maj. De Wald, Chief of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the Allied Control Commission on arriving in Naples. I spent four days conferring with Gen. Roderick and Col. Sloane

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Spofford on May 8, and left Algiers on May 9 for Washington, where I arrived on May 14.

Definition of the Archives Project in Italy:

The terms "archives" and "documents" are not always understood in the same way by those who use them. From the beginning of my trip, I found that the meaning of these terms has led to confusion and misunderstanding. For the purpose of this report, let me define "archives" as follows: Pieces of writing (manuscript or typescript) which have come together by a natural process in the transactions of public or private business. Archives are the originally records of a public or private agency - what we ordinarily consider files of an office. Books and other publications in general are not archives though some may be filed with the archives and are part of them.

The military services sometimes go beyond this conception and include in the category of "documents" anything in a physical form which conveys information and include such things as papers of all kinds, maps, notebooks, printed books, magazines, newspapers, photographs, ration cards, regimental markings on uniforms and manufacturers' number plates from weapons or vehicles.

Archivists in Italy readily understood the purpose of my mission, for every Province has its provincial archives and most towns their local archives. Some examples of these institutions are:

R. Archivio di Stato e Archivio Centrale del Regno:

The Royal State Archives and Central Archives of the Kingdom at Rome. The current records are retained in the office files of each Ministry.

R. Archivio di Stato:

Modern archives of the provinces, usually including deposits of family, monastic and other archives of the locality.

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Archivio Notarile:

Found in each Province and generally in special buildings annexed to courts. Organized under the Ministry of Justice.

Ecclesiastical Archives:

The archives of Italy are under the State and form an important part of the national and local governments. They do not have to be "discovered".

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This same situation prevails in every other European country, and as in Italy, each has its national, state and local archives.

The Mission Defines:

The intention in the original request for an archivist was for someone to collect books for leading libraries in the country, that is, to do the same kind of work that Manuel Sanchez is now doing in Italy for the Library of Congress. Therefore, when the Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library appeared at AFHQ, he was a first regarded as a collector with the intention of building up the collections of a selected institution. At AFHQ, I explained the interpretation that I and others in Washington who were concerned with the selection of the temporary archives adviser had made of the request. As a result of the several conference I had there with Gen. Devers and others, my mission was defined as: (1) working in close cooperation with the Army and Navy Intelligence services, to make a survey of the present and projected methods for the preservation and utilization by all concerned of current administrative records and archives of local and national governmental agencies found in the area of occupation; and (2) on the basis of this survey, to recommend techniques and procedures to be employed in preserving and making available to the ACC records necessary to the continued administration and future reconstruction of the area.

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G-2 and the Records Problem:

The importance of certain records in military operations is fully appreciated by the Army and Navy Intelligence services. However, from experience in the early days of the occupation of Italy, G-2 knew that an improved system of control over captured enemy records was necessary in order to give Intelligence agents an opportunity to examine all records early in the period of occupation. The earlier experience had also taught that special consideration should be given to the pro-

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Aside from the destruction caused by direct hits, the greatest damage to records has occurred during the period of the fighting and within the first two or three days of occupation. On some occasions, records have been damaged or destroyed by troops who have been billeted in a records building or have been pillaged by the populace of an occupied area. In the past, when no adequate controls existed, important records have sometimes been carried away by overzealous Intelligence agents. It was for these reasons, when I reported to Gen. Devers and the Military Government Section of AFHQ, that I emphasized my

concern with this aspect of the whole problem.

On instructions from Gen. Devers, I conferred with Gen. Roderick of Army Intelligence at AFHQ. He called into our conference Maj. Sloane of G-2, who had worked out what arrangements were then in effect for handling and preserving certain captured enemy documents of military value. He reviewed the plans which had been tentatively drawn up for the next anticipated military operation. At the conclusion of our conference, I was instructed to contact Maj. R.J. Cave, G-2 (Advance Intelligence) in Naples, and to assist him in any way I could to refine the plans we had discussed. In response to a cable which he had received from Gen. Roderick, Maj. Cave contacted me when I reached Naples and invited me to confer with him and his group at G-2 (Advance Intelligence).

The representative of the British Government to the MPA Subcommittee, Mr. Hilary Jenkinson, was already in Naples when I arrived there. He had anticipated the possibility of discussing these problems with Maj. Cave and my arrival made for the opportunity. The three of us conferred intermittently over a period of fifteen days. At the end of that time we had developed what seemed to all of us a satisfactory procedure for the protection of records in which G-2 was interested. The plan was referred to AFHQ where it was approved. It provided for a central control for the exploitation and protection of documents for Intelligence purposes. An important requirement for carrying out this procedure is an adequate supply of microfilm equipment and photographic paper.

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Microphotography:

The quickest and most efficient method of reproducing documents is by microphotography, but there is not enough microfilm equipment in the field to give the rapid service that G-2 agents require. This is one of the reasons agents have occasionally seized documents and hurried them off to their home offices without giving all other interested parties an opportunity to see them.

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Before leaving Washington I had conferred with Vice Admiral Butler, Administrative Officer of the Navy Department, Capt. Pence, Officer in charge of Occupied Areas Section, and others at the Navy Department and was informed that the Navy Department had more than enough microfilm equipment in North Africa for its own needs. They agreed on the importance of using microphotography in the field and indicated they would be glad to have all the services use the Navy's microfilm units. At the request of the Navy Department, I called on Capt. Bachman, head of the ONI unit, when I was in Algiers to discuss this matter with him. He took the position that everything was being done to his satisfaction and emphasized that his units could

not undertake to microfilm libraries. I explained that I was interested in manuscripts and typewritten documents, not printed materials. He stated that Naval Intelligence units are satisfied with their present working arrangements with the British Admiralty and the American Army. In fact, I gathered the impression that they considered my visit a criticism of their work. I made it plain that the Navy Department had asked me to call on them to see if there was any way in which I could be of assistance and that I was merely going to report that all was well with the Navy. I advised them also to refer to my visit in their official reports.

Contrary to the impression I had received in Washington, the Naval Intelligence units in Italy did not consider it their job to go very far inland with the armies. The plans of Army Intelligence groups do include those for continued advance inland. They want microfilm units of their own to give them better control over the flow of captured documents. A documents section has been established at each advance base to which all captured enemy documents must be sent where agents of Allied governments may examine the files to determine what materials they want. The section will set up controls over the documents as they come in, register them and make them available to others. With the microfilm equipment, G-2 will be able to supply film copies of any desired documents. In the few cases where film copies would not be satisfactory, prints can be made from the film. It is estimated that no more than 200 prints would have to be made daily during the few weeks in which G-2 would be working in any given area. G-2 must be able to supply copies by microphotography or else the system they have developed for control over manuscripts will break down. On occasions in the past, film sent to Washington for enlargement by G-2 at AFHQ has not been returned to the theater for three or four months. Maj. Cave has put in his request for adequate equipment. Since returning to Washington I have inquired about the possibility of obtaining the equipment and have sent what information I have been able to get to Maj. Gen. Clayton Bissell, Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2, for the attention of Col. R.C. Jacobs, Jr.

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+ This same point was raised by G-2 agents in Naples. When they understood, however, that my interest was in manuscript records, they concurred that the material with which I was concerned constituted no more than ten percent of what they were packing and sending to their superiors.

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The ACC and the Records Problem:

After Mr. Jenkinson and I completed our arrangements with G-2 for the protection of records of interest to them, we turned our attention to records of historical interest and current administrative value to the communities. Provision was made for G-2 to turn over the control of certain records depositories to the ACC when Intelligence had completed its work on them. This was done so that at no time would the records be without protection. At our request, Maj. Cave made known to Brig. Lush, Executive Commissioner of the ACC, the procedures adopted by Advanced Intelligence for the protection of records. On April 15, Mr. Jenkinson and I sent a memorandum to Brig. Lush recommending that as many of the proposals as were practicable also be adopted by the ACC.

The plan outlined and recommended to the ACC was: (1) to determine in advance where there were record depositories of historical or administrative importance; (2) to place them under guard as soon as possible after troops had occupied an area; (3) to issue passes to those authorized to enter and leave a building; and (4) to register any records taken out of a depository, giving the date and by whom taken. In addition to these first safeguards, the AAI Administrative Order No. 10, of March 30, 1944 forbade the removal or dispersal of collections of papers wherever found. This was issued to prevent possible depredations by troops or the civilian population. On April 17, the personal assistant to the Executive Commissioner, on the latter's instructions, sent a reply to Mr. Jenkinson and me stating that everything possible would be done to safeguard the archives on the basis of our recommendation.

The Appointment of an Archivist to the MPA Subcommittee:
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Among the duties assigned to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the ACC is the protection and salvage of Italian archives. The membership of this Subcommittee prior to the visit of Mr. Jenkinson and myself did not

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Among the duties assigned to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Subcommittee of the ACC is the protection and salvage of Italian archives. The membership of this Subcommittee prior to the visit of Mr. Jenkinson and myself did not include a specially trained or experienced archivist. The Subcommittee was organized for the preservation of cultural objects and emphasizes the protection of archaeological remains, monuments, fine arts and museum materials generally. It has given consideration to the protection of libraries, but archives have not received much attention. This is understandable because the idea of the Subcommittee was the product of the minds of museum experts. I do not know who was actually responsible for the Subcommittee's adding the term, "archives", to its title, but Mr. Jenkinson insists he was the first to bring the omission of the subject to light and to effect its recognition.

The suggestion for appointing trained American and British archivists had been made in cables that brought Mr. Jenkinson and me to Italy. By the time I arrived in Naples, Mr. Jenkinson had effected the appointment of two British captains

as archivists attached to the Subcommittee.

This was done at the request of the British War Office. Further, Mr. Jenkinson considered it his responsibility to direct and advise on the work being done by these men. It is also his plan to make periodic trips from London to the theaters for conferences with the archivists. Mr. Jenkinson and I immediately collaborated, exchanged information and agreed upon working plans, part of which are discussed in the preceding pages. The British archivists are mainly concerned with the older archives of historic interest, and it was agreed upon by Mr. Jenkinson and me that where American and British archivists may be working in the same areas, it would be highly desirable that the Americans give special attention to modern records. This places our emphasis on the problem of aiding the Intelligence services and protecting these records vital to the administration of the country. My assignment, like Jenkinson's, was for temporary duty as archives adviser so that when I left the theater it meant that there was no American archivist there to represent the United States government. For very practical reasons, I considered it desirable that arrangements be made for an American archivist to be attached permanently to the MFA Subcommittee. Though the British already have appointed two archivists, the limitations on the number of personnel who could be attached to the Subcommittee made me hesitate to ask for the appointment of more than one archivist at this time. I also felt that this theater was being largely turned over to the British and that American archivists could be used more effectively in areas controlled by the United States or where there is equality of responsibility. We emphasized that the experience of these archivists would be useful in other theaters and it is hoped that arrangements will be made for them to go along with the advance of the armies. Possibly they can leave behind men who have benefited by their presence and who can carry on the work. There is more than enough to be done to take the time and talents of the men thus far requested. 461

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On April 8 I put in writing my recommendation for the
assignment of an American archivist to the Allied Control Commission
and addressed it to Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Commissioner
of the Allied Control Commission. On April 16, Col. Fiske
informed me that the Commissioner approved this recommendation
and that the archivist could be either a civilian or a military
officer. I had no suitable person in mind to recommend.

Therefore, on April 17, I sent a cable through the
Civil Affairs Division to Dr. Solon J. Buck, Archivist of the
United States, asking for suggestions. No one was selected for
this post while I was overseas. On my return to Washington, I
supplied additional information to the Archivist and attempts
were made to locate a civilian to fill the post. The difficulties

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encountered in selecting someone and getting him overseas quickly made it necessary to give up the idea of sending a civilian at this time. Among the army officers then in Italy was Capt. William H. McCain, historian with the Fifth Army. Capt. McCain was formerly employed at the National Archives and later became archivist for the State of Mississippi. He was recommended for the post of American archivist on the MPA Sub-Commission in a letter dated May 30, 1944 from Dr. Buck to Maj. Gen. J.H. Hilldring, Chief of the Civil Affairs Division. On June 5, I was informed by Col. Kedes of the Civil Affairs Division that Capt. McCain was available.

Work of the American Archivist:

As the result of our conferences, I concluded that the work of the American archivist should be as follows:

1. To collaborate with G-2 in protecting archives and records from the moment our troops occupy an area; to be available to give professional assistance to prevent unnecessary loss or destruction of records; to maintain first hand information on the fate of records important to the continued administration of a locality; and to encourage the use of microphotography as a means of supplying copies of important documents.
2. To bring assistance to important archives and records endangered by exposure or pillage through the ACC, such as obtaining guards for buildings, transporting records from unsafe quarters, aiding in getting materials to board up broken windows and assisting Italian archivists to secure the necessary personnel.
3. To make a survey of important local and national archives in the areas occupied by our forces; to learn what records have been damaged or the location of the evacuated records. This can be done in one of two ways: (a) actual visits to records repositories and (b) ...

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4. To organize an information file so that any person or organization depending upon manuscripts, books or police records of civil administrators, registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths, deeds to real estate, wills, etc. may locate the records if they still exist. This information will be exceedingly important later to those responsible for the administration of UNRRA. Other classes of records of historical interest should also be included.

5. It should be emphasized that beyond giving advice and first aid assistance on the care of damaged Italian records (see paragraph 2 above) no suggestions or recommendations should be made that would commit the United Nations to responsibility for the preservation or rehabilitation of Italian records not essential to the war effort.

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Ecclesiastical Archives:

No one would ever overlook the importance of the Roman Catholic Church archives in Italy. However, as they are out of the realm of government and have a particular status of their own, they should be handled as a special subject. Church archives, among other things, contain registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths. They also contain a great deal of secret information on people and organizations, but it is presumed these records are protected under international law. In the problem of establishing identities and proving property rights, the Church will be able to supply much helpful information, should it choose to do so. I need not expand on the historical importance of these archives.

Every Province and commune has its Church archives. Mr. Jenkinson and I conferred with the Rt. Reverend Monsignor Walter B. Carroll, representative of the Vatican in the area, and asked for his advice and cooperation in obtaining data on the fate of Church archives. We also told him to what extent the ACC would be ready to assist Church archives, as it does government archives. I asked him if he thought that the Church authorities would be willing to conduct a survey of their archives and let the results be known to the ACC. Mgr. Carroll was very much interested in the subject and promised to do everything in his power to help. He warned, however, that there might be some skepticism as to our reason for wanting the information, since the Italians had been exposed to Fascism, then the Gestapo and now the Allied government. He wanted a written request for the work to be done, with the assurance it was not intended to injure anyone. This request we wrote for him on April 15. I believe the Church survey is under way. Mgr. Carroll divulged that most of the important Church archives had been evacuated. However, it is a known fact that some have been damaged, and he was certain that any help that might be extended would be greatly appreciated. I was aware that on this subject I should be careful not to commit the ACC or the government of the United States in any way.

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I considered the Church situation in Italy so delicate that it would be the better part of discretion not seek out Church authorities generally for information. I made one inquiry only on my tour of Italian archives. That was at Bari where I visited Cardinal Vendemia at the Church of S. Nicola. Because he was busy, our interview was short, but he wanted me to return for further discussion. I did not return because his one question was, "What are you Anglo-American going to do about paying for all the Church property you have destroyed?" My interpreter assured him that I had no authority to answer that question, nor anything to do with the subject.

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Condition of Italian Archives:

On my tour of Southern Italy and visit to Messina, Catania and Palermo in Sicily, I saw some Italian archives that had been bombed, but which were already being restored through the aid of the ACC and the Italian government. Others had been bombed and neglected. I also saw some which had miraculously escaped any damage whatsoever. I found energetic and loyal archivists, who stayed at their posts. Some were not energetic and did nothing to help their institutions. I heard of others who ran away. Some were fascists and some were not.

In general, the archives are getting aid in proportion to the energy put forth by their heads and the cooperation they can receive from the ACC or the Italian government. Of course, local conditions, such as the availability of supplies for building repairs and the labor situation, determine somewhat the progress of restorations.

It is my recommendation that after first aids have been given to archives, the Italians should be made responsible for their own archives as one of the burdens of war. Any aid or assistance we can give should be charged to the Italian government in the same manner as relief in general is to be paid for. We should insist that the administrative records, both public and private, be given first consideration because they are needed in the everyday life of a community, and we should emphasize that while we will do what we can to prevent loss or destruction of cultural materials, their ultimate restoration and organization should be a post-war project of the Italians.

Guides and Manuals Compiled for Use in the European War Zone:

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Guides and Manuals Compiled for Use in the European War Zone:

The National Archives and the Office of Foreign Economic Administration have issued processed lists of the most important record groups in those parts of Europe which are, or are likely to be, occupied by our forces. They are not complete, but describe and generally give the location of the records or where they should be. The lists have been used in part for locating cultural objects to be spared, if possible, by our bombardiers. Intelligence units seeking further information on the spot also requested the lists, and in response to my cable of April 19, copies were apparently sent to them. The British have not published any such lists, but one of the first things Mr. Jenkins did when he reached Naples was to begin to compile a rather full classified list of Italian archival repositories of chiefly older records. He was somewhat surprised to learn of the existence of some of the Italian lists mentioned above and used them. While it is desirable to bring

together all the lists of cultural objects and institutions, the lists of archival establishments are of special interest to certain groups and should also be distributed to them as separates. Otherwise, separate lists must be compiled from the composite ones, which is doing over what has already been done. Lists arranged by regions, like those now being issued by the ACC, are also helpful and places can be referred to more easily that way.

While in Naples, arrangements were made for the duplication of a list of suggestions on first aid to damaged records. It was a translation into the Italian of a portion of a leaflet compiled by Mr. Jenkinson during the war for use in England. In addition, a section of the AAI Administrative Order No. 10 of March 30, 1944 was inserted which reads as follows:

"In the case of written papers and books it is to be noted that even those which do not appear to be ancient may be of great importance, not only historically but as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war.

Casual destruction or dispersal of such collections, wherever found, will not be permitted."

Because the greatest danger to records is from uninformed troops, another leaflet was prepared for distribution among them, which put forth in simple and direct language the fact records are important, in the war effort and should not be unnecessarily damaged or destroyed.

Visit to Italian Archival Repositories:

In order to get the information I needed on the condition of the Italian archives I visited archival repositories in almost every provincial capital of Occupied Italy. It was my purpose to learn firsthand the extent of the influence of the war on these institutions, whether the records of the buildings they are in were damaged, how much was lost, how much was being done to repair the buildings and salvage damaged archives, what

may be of great importance, not only as containing information necessary for the practical purposes of the war. Casual destruction or dispersal of such collections, wherever found, will not be permitted."

Because the greatest danger to records is from uninformed troops, another leaflet was prepared for distribution among them, which put forth in simple and direct language the facts records are important, in the war effort and should not be unnecessarily damaged or destroyed.

Visit to Italian Archival Repositories:

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Before starting, I planned my itinerary and had the Regional Commissioners of the AGC notified of my coming visit and the purpose of my proposed visit. I reported and discussed my

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mission with each Regional Commissioner and told him how I found things in his area. Hilary Jenkinson, prior to my survey, had made a visit to many of the same places I visited. Shortly before I started out, he went on a second tour of other places in the company of Capt. Brooke, one of the newly appointed archivists to the MPA Subcommission.

I was the first American to make such a survey. We in America had no firsthand knowledge of the conditions which existed and naturally could not give useful advice and assistance. A by-product of my tour was that of bringing a little encouragement to those to whom I talked, as my presence was an indication the United States Government was interested in them. Any steps that can be taken to help improve the average Italian's opinion of Americans are worth the effort.

The archives I visited with the exception of Notarial Archives and some provincial archives which contain deposits of the modern period were also mainly of historical interest. Most institutions contained records that dated back to the 11th or 12th centuries. This was especially true of Notarial Archives. However, archives know no date limit and many records concerning ownership of property on which there is still active litigation goes back through the centuries.

The following report of my survey contains occasional supplementary observations made by Mr. Jenkinson on his tour. The account is arranged alphabetically by the names of the towns I visited.

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AVELLINO

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1806 to date:

On the third floor of an undamaged building. Arrived here shortly after two in the afternoon and consequently found the Archives closed. Went to the building, a moderately old one with the usual courtyard, and looked up to the third story where I saw over the door, a sign, "Archivio di Stato". A guard told me the archives had not been damaged in the bombing, although one section of the city had been demolished. Decided not to stay over till the next morning to go inland, since I was outward appearances, I was convinced the guard was right.

Date visited: April 13, 1944.

PART

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch):

The archivist of the Archivio Provinciale di Stato, Pasquale di Neri, said that the national archives were transferred to Valenmano where they are safe.

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

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

Archivio Comunale (City Archives):

Not damaged.

Archivio di San Nicola (Archives of the Church of St. Nicola) c. 1600 to date:

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The provincial archives at Bari were begun in 1858 and run to 1951; the very ancient records were stored at Pitonto where they are safe; the modern administrative records were not moved, but also are safe. The archives building was legally requisitioned, and one hundred British troops were billeted here. The archivist, Pasquale di Bari, said the troops were well behaved and were under strict orders to use care. Their presence naturally hindered the archivists in their work. For instance, a first aid station was set up in a room, 20' x 20', the walls of which were lined with records. However, the archivist was permitted to come into the room to get records and he had no real complaints. Certain sections had been boarded off by the troops to shut off the main quarters. Inflamatory stores were there and when Jernigan had visited the place a month before, he had been assured by a Sergeant Major that some other place in the building would be found for the troops. This had not been done by the time I made my visit.

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Archivio Comunale (City Archives):

Not damaged.

Archivio di San Nicola (Archives of the Church of St. Nicola) c. 1600 to date:

The Church of S. Nicola had been bombed, but the most valuable portions of its archives had been removed to Castel del Monte. Talked with Mgr. Vandesia who asked what the Anglo-Americans were going to do about church property that had been destroyed. I assured him we had no authority to speak on this subject. Went to the rooms over the altar and saw early records in a disreputable condition. These could easily have been cleaned and moved to a more suitable location. I noted this and went on.

Date visited April 21, 1944

BSK:WJF:EO

Archivio Notarile (Notarial Archives) 1200 to date:

Includes court records, wills, deeds, records of births, marriages and deaths for the ninety communes of the Province of Benevento. The building had been so completely demolished by bombing that only the walls of two rooms, one upon the other, remained. The archivist had fled and a practicing attorney, with the aid of a laborer, salvaged what records he could. He moved them in a pushcart and stored them

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in a stable nearby, half of which was occupied by a family. Next, he set up wooden shelves in the two rooms still standing in the rubble and started to arrange and classify the volumes and put them on the shelves. He estimated that he was able to save sixty per cent of the archives; this does not mean that all of those saved are in good condition. Under an AMI proclamation of last year, the transfer of movable property was forbidden. While I was at home onto, the provisions of this proclamation were rescinded and the attorney expected a wave of legal activity from the thirty communes of the Province. He had appealed to the provincial commissioner several months before for aid in obtaining a safe place for the records. His request was for space in an undamaged building housing the Minor Archives of the Tribunal. The provincial commissioner, Major Armstrong (British) has instructed the Prefect to arrange for the housing of these records as requested, or if necessary, to place them in the Prefettura. He was assured this would be done. It was not done, however, and the space in the building originally requested was used for storage of wine casks by a local vintner. I brought this to the attention of Major Armstrong who assured me that he would use coercive measures to make the Prefect provide suitable quarters for the archives. This is a good example of the energetic Italian taking the initiative and trying to get things done, but being thwarted by the AGI's lack of authority and the attitude of the Italian Prefect, whose position is such that he has little influence and exerts little energy.

Archivio Storico Provinciale (Historical Archives of the Province):

In the Museo del Duomo, an old monastery (c.1400) which was turned into a historical museum in 1928 by Prof. Alfredo Zano, and attached to the local college. The building was not damaged.

The Minor Archives of the Tribunal, 1801 to date:

Includes records of seizures. Not damaged.

Date visited: April 18-19, 1944.

CAPUA

Archivio Comunale (City Archives):

That part of the Municipal Building, where these were housed, was destroyed by bombing. Mr. Jenkinson visited, and suggested to custodian that some documents might be found among the ruins and that a list of

the archives. This is a good example of the energetic Italian taking the initiative and trying to get things done, but being thwarted by the ACC's lack of authority and the attitude of the Italian Prefect, whose position is such that he has little influence and exerts little energy.

Archivio Storico Provinciale (Historical Archives of the Province):

In the Museo del Sannio, an old monastery (c.1400) which was turned into a historical museum in 1928 by Prof. Alfredo Zazo, and attached to the local college. The building was not damaged.

The Minor Archives of the Tribunal, 1801 to date:

Includes records of seizures. Not damaged.

Date visited: April 15-19, 1944

CAPUA

Archivio Comunale (City Archives):

That part of the Municipal Building, where these were housed, was destroyed by bombing. Mr. Jamieson visited, and suggested to custodian that some documents might be found among the ruins and that a look-out should be kept for them. There were in fact fragmentary indications.

Registrazionale:

Visited and was informed by the R.2. Riformatore that Cathedral Archives (presumably both Archivio Vescovile and Capitolare) were safe, having been moved by him to the Seminario. I pointed out that some Registers (presumably part of the Archivio Parrocchiale) were still lying in the ruins of the Cathedral and he promised to attend to this.

CASERTA

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives):

Not visited; reported safe.

Archivio del Palazzo Reale:

Safe and in reasonably good condition. The custodian reports no trouble.

Note: I did not go either Capua or Caserta, but Mr. Jamieson reported the above

CATANIA

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch):

The building was hit by bombs, but there was no fire. It is receiving temporary repairs now. No losses were experienced since the most important records had been evacuated to Frecastradi and S. Giovanni di Galermo. The archivist, Cav. Paolo di Giorgio, took me on a tour of the building and was very much interested to hear how Americans handled their archives problems. They have been replacing wooden shelving in the building with steel since about 1932, but the war has temporarily put a stop to this program. Eventually, they hope to replace all wooden shelving. The archivist said at present they are performing about 500 services a month for officials and an equal number for private citizens.

Date visited: May 1, 1944

COSSENZA

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1342 to date:

The archives date from 14th century, the earliest being the Notarial Archives, 1342 to date. The archivist recently discovered that the early volumes were bound with parchment and upon examination, they were found to be Royal Bibles, briefs and royal decrees from Naples of the 14th and 15th centuries. These documents are now being listed and deciphered preparatory to having them published. In the archives are also records of the French Commission during the French occupation. The archives are in the Prefettura building. The building itself had not been damaged, but the windows in several of the big rooms had been broken. The archivist sent a request to the provincial commissioner, Col. Nichols, for aid in getting the windows replaced. The commissioner told me he had requested window glass to repair broken windows throughout the town and the request was approved. He sent trucks to Salerno to get the glass and the trucks were sent back empty. The officer in charge was told that all window glass was being sent to Naples. One day's output at Salerno would fill all of Cosenza's needs, I was told.

Date visited: April 27, 1944

FOSSA

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1400 to date:

The archives consist of 7,222 vols., 1400 to date, and are administrative. They are in the Palazzo Provinciale and there is a subsection about the archives. I was advised that the

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Archives, 1582 to date. The archivist recently discovered that the early volumes were bound with parchment and upon examination, they were found to be Papal Bulls, briefs and royal decrees from Naples of the 14th and 15th centuries. These documents are now being listed and deciphered preparatory to having them published. In the archives are also records of the French Commission during the French occupation. The archives are in the Prefettura building. The building itself had not been damaged, but the windows in several of the big rooms had been broken. The archivist sent a request to the provincial commissioner, Col. Nichols, for aid in getting the windows replaced. The commissioner told me he had requested window glass to repair broken windows throughout the town and the request was approved. He sent trucks to Salerno to get the glass and the trucks were sent back empty. The officer in charge was told that all window glass was being sent to Naples. One day's output at Salerno would fill all of Cosenza's needs, I was told.

Date visited: April 27, 1944

FOGGIA

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1400 to date:

The archives consist of 7,222 vols., 1400 to date, and are administrative. They are in the Palazzo Provinciale and there is a subsection at Lucera. On making inquiry about the archives, I was advised that the archivist, Giuseppe Vozza, was ten miles away at Lucera. I drove out to see him. He told me that on Aug. 19, 1943, the archives at Foggia were badly damaged by bombing and some of the records were destroyed. The archivist had the remaining records placed under seal as soon as the fighting stopped. Since Nov. 1943, he has been trying to get help, and was told to apply to the Italian Minister of the Interior who instructed him to make an inventory of the damage. On April 15 he submitted his report with a request for 30,000 lire. He has a building at Lucera which contained a section of the Foggia archives originally and in which there is enough space for the salvaged materials from Foggia. He also had the personnel who are now working without pay. All he wants is transport to get the records from Foggia to Lucera, 10 miles away.

Archivio della Dogana delle Pecore (Archives of the Sheep Toll Office) 1200 to date:

Shepherds have been coming to the Foggia plains from Abruzzi for centuries and a law of 1200 placed a tax on each head of sheep. The records are in the Palazzo Provinciale. They contain much litigation and are exceedingly valuable. Sig. Vozza reported that one third of this collection has been destroyed.

Date visited: April 20, 1944

LEONE

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Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives) 1100-1870:

The archives include the complete record of the Norman invasion. The building, a former monastery four or five hundred years old, was not damaged and is in good condition. The archivist is Sig. Dott. Cavaliere Cota. As a measure of precaution, the older records had been moved to S. Cesario, but they are now being moved back.

Ecclesiastical:

There was no damage reported to the archives of the Cathedral.

Date visited: April 22, 1944

LIQUERA

Archivio Notarile (Notarial Archives):

The archives are located in the Prefettura. They were not damaged. See entry under FOUILA.

Date visited: April 20, 1944

MATERA

Archivio Notarile (Notarial Archives)

The archives are in the Palazzo del Tribunale. The building was not damaged and the archives are safe. Visited the town on a Sunday, and the archivist was not available. The same thing happened to Mr. Jenkinson on his tour. However, I talked with the provincial commissioner, Col. McCaffrey, and was satisfied that nothing need be done.

Date visited: April 23, 1944

MESSINA

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives):

I passed through Messina on Sunday and the archives were not open. I had been told at Reggio di Calabria that they had suffered only slight damage. Since I was certain that Mr. Jenkinson must have stopped here on his trip, I chose to go on to Catania. The record shows, however, that the central archives building was not seriously damaged.

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Date visited: April 30, 1944

NAPLES

R. Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives) 8th Cen. to date:

Here were collected the most precious series of documents coming from the various archives in the south of Italy. They are housed in an old convent of SS Severino e Sadio in the center of the city. The building is a series of rectangles with beautiful courtyards between. The rooms are very spacious. The shelves that hold the records are generally standing against the walls and the centers of the rooms are clear. Some of the rooms are filled with stack shelving. Only slight damage was done to the building.

The great tragedy that befell these archives came in part through precautionary measures. By order of the Ministry of the Interior, the most valuable historical documents, about 30,000 vols. and 50,000 parchment, packed in 856 cases, were transferred by Count Filangieri, superintendent of the Royal State Archives, to the Montesano Villa near San Paolo Belaito, 30 kilometers from Naples. They were discovered through chance and burned by a squad of German soldiers seeking food. In his report on the destruction of these archives, Count Filangieri said, "The extent of the disaster is enormous. And their destruction has created an immense void in the historical sources of European civilization, a void which nothing will ever be able to fill. Among the most precious documents lost are the series of 378 registers of the Anjou Chancery (1265-1435), which was one of the most valuable historical sources of the Middle Ages; the registers of the Aragon Chancery, the manuscripts, codices, autograph, collections, and original treaties of the Kingdom of Naples, and famous political trials; and the greater part of the archives of the Royal House of Bourbon, of the Farnese House, of the Royal Summary Court, of the Collateral Council, of the Royal Chamber of Santa Chiara, of the Secretariat of the Viceroys, of the Superior Chancery, of the Council of Sicily, of the Ministries of the Presidency and of Foreign Affairs of Bourbon, of the Order of Malta, of the Feudal Commission, of the Ancient Treasury, of the Conservatory Court of the Nobility, of the most ancient notaries, has been destroyed."

Fausto Nicolini, one of the Inspectors General of the Archives of Italy, told me that among the archives destroyed were original Benjamin Franklin letters to the court of the King of Naples.

Count Filangieri is superintendent of archives for Southern Italy, and Mr. Jenkinson, Capt. Brooke and I visited him. The conversation was carried on in French between Jenkinson and the Count. I understand but do not speak French. We all managed to understand each other and arrangements were made for the archivists of the INA to keep regular contact

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Count Pilangieri is superintendent of archives for Southern Italy, and Mr. Jenkinson, Capt. Brooks and I visited him. The conversation was carried on in French between Jenkinson and the Count. I understand but do not speak French. We all managed to understand each other and arrangements were made for the archivists of the NSA to keep regular contact with Count Mangieri regarding problems of the archives of Southern Italy.

Archivio Storico della Città di Napoli (Historical Archives of the City of Naples) 1200-1860:

Eighty percent of the archives had been evacuated to Castel Nuovo.

Neither the castle nor the archives building was hit, and the archives are in good condition.

Archivio Notarile (Notarial Archives) 1500-1944:

Includes Notarial Archives and Minor Archives of the Tribunal. Vols. 1-7498 include materials to 1940. 500 additional vols. will be needed for the period, 1944-1944. The archivist is Giuseppe Ando'. The building is an old monastery, over one thousand years old, and has withstood earthquakes and bombings. It has one hundred and thirty-two rooms built in a series of rectangles, with courtyards between. In 1864 it became the repository for the Notarial Archives. The archivist and his assistant, men in their middle forties, assured me that no bombs had hit the building, but damage had occurred through concussion. I went through the building and found walls

and windows broken and shelves with old volumes on them nearly falling down. In some places there were piles of volumes on the floor, exposed to the elements. No attempt had been made by the archivist to improve the condition of the records or to pick them up. The AGC had sent an engineer to repair the building and I learned from him that he could do nothing until the books were moved from each room. The rooms were small enough that the archivist could have had them cleared. I asked him why he had not done it and gave him the chance to make an excuse. He said he needed laborers. I told him to report to the AGC and also suggested that he could do a great deal himself to bring order out of chaos. In talking with Fausto Nicolini, Inspector of archives, I recounted this experience. He put up his hands and said, "After the last war, we had veterans as archivists. Next we had fascists. We hope for something better now that you Americans are here."

Date visited: April 14-15, 1944.

OSTUNI

Reclassification:

Visited the Cathedral in passing and, in the absence of the Chancellor and Archivist, was assured by a member of the Chapter that all was well. Saw the A. Parrochiale in the Society.

Note: I did not go to Grotto, but Mr. Jenkinson reported the above.

PHLEMO

R. Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives):

The director, Egidio Bertolo, was unable to run to town from his country estate while I was there, and I was shown about by his assistant, Prof. Antonio Calabrese, archivist. The building is a 15th century curia and its foundation is said to be of Arab origin. As in Ostuni, they had begun to install steel equipment here in 1934, because, they said, the termites were eating away the wooden shelves. Some of the steel equipment was hit by bombs, and was twisted into a mass of wreckage. Some rooms in which there were archives had no artificial light and the archivist said they could only be used on sunny days. I was shown piles of charred bundles of old documents. The archivist said that everything possible had been saved, but these were beyond repair. I told him I felt certain that with modern repair methods, much of what he thought was gone could be saved. He agreed to my suggestion to put all such material aside - they have ample space - even until after the war and see what might be done to secure aid in restoring these records. Interestingly, the Notarial Archives, which date from 1287, are on paper, not parchment. The building is now being repaired through the AGC by the Italian Government. No money is available for the

Note: I did not go to Ostuni, but Mr. Jamieson reported the above.

PALERMO

R. Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives):

The director, Egilio Gentile, was unable to see to town from his country estate while I was there, but I was shown about by his assistant, Prof. Antonio Calabrese, archivist. The building is a 15th century convent and its foundation is said to be of Arab origin. As in Catania, they had begun to install steel equipment here in 1932, because, they said, the steel equipment terminals were eating away the wooden shelves. Some of the steel equipment was hit by bombs, and was twisted into a mass of wreckage. Some rooms in which there were archives had no artificial light and the archivist said they could only be used on sunny days. I was shown piles of charred bundles of old documents. The archivist said that everything possible had been saved, but these were beyond repair. I told him I felt certain that with modern repair methods, much of what he thought was gone could be saved. He agreed to my suggestion to put all such material aside - they later ample space - even until after the war and see what might be done to secure aid in restoring these records. Interestingly, the Notarial Archives, which date from 1287, are on paper, not parchment. The building is now being repaired through the AGO by the Italian government. No money is available for the repair of documents or pay of archivists, however. This is an understandable hardship and the archivist does not know how long he can depend upon his staff. Services now amount to one or two a week; formerly, they amounted to 20,000 a year. We visited the Casoria building on the waterfront, which was badly bombed. The superintendent of the archives had his office here, and stated the valuable archives that had been stored here were fortunately evacuated to Calabrese in the Catania district. The archivist gave me a copy of a publication of the Palermo State Archives in the war years, 1940-1944, which told the condition of the archives throughout Sicily.

Date visited: May 3, 1944

POTENZA

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives) 1300 to date:

Administrative archives of provincial authorities. Located in the Palazzo Biblioteca, the windows of which were broken by bomb concussion. The Germans plundered the records and later, American troops were billeted in the building. On his visit to Potenza on March 27, Mr. Jamieson

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reported the condition of the building to the provincial commissioner, Maj. Nichols (Brit.) who advised him by letter on March 28 that the windows had been boarded up. My visit to Potenza on April 24 was unexpected. The provincial commissioner told me that he had just happened to learn the day before that the windows of the building had not been boarded up. He went on to say that now the war weather had arrived and the problem was not so urgent, it could wait until Fall for solution. I talked with Sign. Tommaso Pedio who, because of his knowledge of the archives, had been asked by the provincial authorities to do what he could. He was not a member of the staff. Sign. Pedio told me that the Prefect had refused to wall up window spaces with stone because it would spoil the appearance of the building. It should be pointed out that Potenza is in an isolated location and it is difficult to obtain lumber and supplies generally. I talked with the provincial commissioner and he suggested that tin sheets fashioned from ration cans might be used to cover the window spaces. I urged him to try something. Allowing for difficulties in obtaining materials, I am definitely of the opinion that the AOC authorities at Potenza were not interested in the problem of Italian archives. Meanwhile the work of registering and filing documents is being carried on by Sign. Pedio.

Date visited: April 24, 1944

REGGIO DI CALABRIA

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1400 to date:

The archives include the Notarial Archives dating from 15th century and the provincial and central administration archives from the 18th century. I visited these archives and talked with the archivist, Sign. Dato. The town of Reggio was destroyed by earthquake in 1908 and has been rebuilt. The archives are in a modern building across from the Prefettura. The records were not damaged.

Date visited: April 28, 1944

SALERNO

R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1400-1900:

The archives cover the period 1400-1900. One collection of Protocols, 1364-1700, consists of 52,000 volumes. The most valuable portion of these archives was moved to Cava, five miles away, but is now being returned. The records are housed in a modern building, the collections are in good

Date visited: April 24, 1944

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Date visited: April 28, 1944

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R. Sezione di Archivio di Stato (Royal State Archives Branch) 1100-1900:

The archives cover the period 1100-1900. One collection of Protocols, 1364-1700, consists of 52,000 volumes. The most valuable portion of these archives was moved to Cava, five miles away, but is now being returned. The records are housed in a modern building, the collections are in good order and have not been damaged. The archivist said the Italians generally feel that when the Americans go back home, they will take valuable Italian records with them. I tried to assure him that this was not the case, and that one of the purposes of my visit was to help them to keep their records intact.

Archivio Notarile (Notarial Archives):

Located in the office of the Prefect. The building is modern and the archives are stored on steel shelves in the several rooms. The building was not damaged by bombing. However, gasoline is stored in one of the rooms, while in another are piles of paper, excelsior and a cook stove with a fire in it. British troops are also quartered in two of the rooms. The archivist of the Archivio di Stato told me that the archivist in charge of the Notarial Archives is not very ambitious and is not taking advantage of the opportunity that has been given him to transfer the more valuable archives from their present location to rooms used by the Archivio di Stato.

Date visited: April 25, 1944

Notes: I did not go to Toronto or Tauri, but Mr. Jenkinson reported the following:

TABUTO

Archivio Provinciale di Stato (Provincial Archives):

There is not a Section of the Archivio di Stato here but I was informed at the offices of the Province that nothing was wrong in regard to their modern archives. I was also given to understand the same in regard to the Comune.

Eccllesiastical:

I saw an official of the Cathedral and was informed that the Archives there were all right.

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MDAALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/Jjr

G-5: 313.3-1

10 August 1944

SUBJECT: Forwarding of Report.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission
APO 394

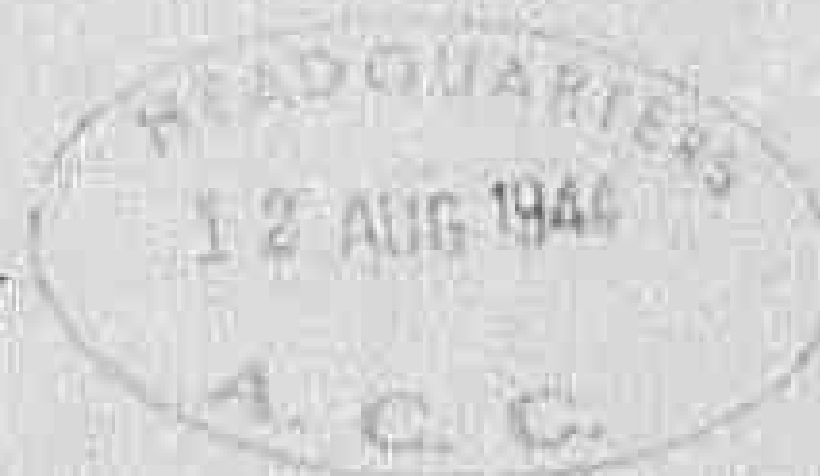
1. Reference is made to MGS 313.3 of 11 May which forwarded a copy of the report of Mr. Shipman as Archival Advisor to ACC.

2. Since his return to the United States Mr. Shipman has put the report of his mission into final shape and a copy has been supplied here for information.

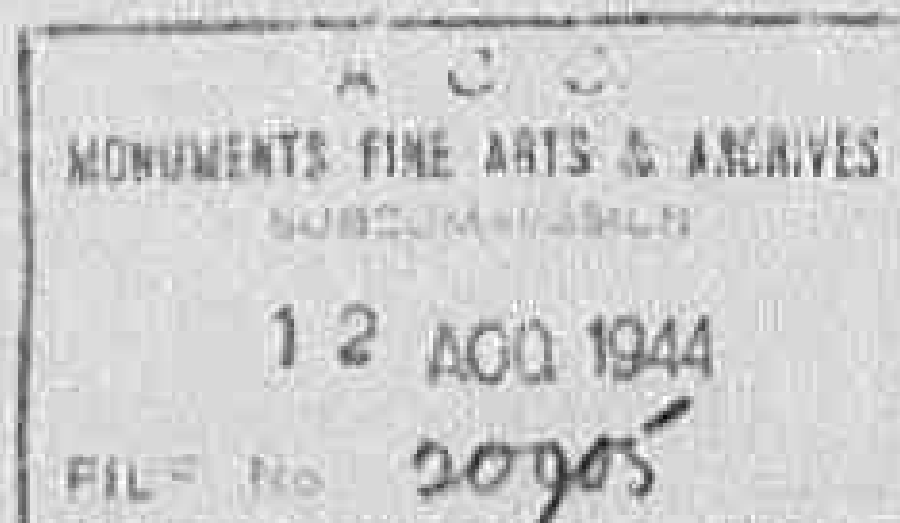
3. The copy referred to in 2 above is enclosed for perusal and ultimate return to this Section.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN
Major.

Incl:
as above

448

*8 in a
further
copy.*

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION

2 August 44

Subject: Archival Problems - Mr. Shipman's report.
To: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Sub-Commission, A.C.C.

(a) The determination in advance as to where there are
archives of importance.

1. The "Brief Memorandum and list of Italian
Archives" compiled by Mr. Hilary Jenkinson and Capt. Brooke,
contains the names of more than 1500 places of deposit.
This is in use by M.F.A.&A. officers in the Field, by the
S.C.A.C.s of 5th and 8th Armies, and has been circulated
to all Regional and Provincial Commissioners. The Sub-
Commission have accumulated supplementary information,
which is passed to the appropriate authorities where ne-
cessary.

2. G2. Advanced Intelligence A.F.H.Q. have in-
formation as to the whereabouts of important Modern Archives
in Northern Italy. The Sub-Commission works closely in
touch with this organisation through the Archives Officer,
Rome Region.

3. The Italian Ministries have supplied infor-
mation as to the whereabouts of such of their Archives as
were carried away to the north by the Germans and Fascists.

4. The Soprintendente of the Archivio del Re-
gno and Archivio di Stato at Rome, Comm. Re, has supplied
the Archives Officer with information as to the whereabouts
of evacuated documents (for instance a proportion of the
Ancient Rome Archives which were sent to a small church at
Orvieto) and steps have been taken to protect these deposits.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION

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To: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
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447

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5. The Archives Officer, through the agency of Comm. Re and others, has accumulated information regarding the secret Archives of Mussolini. This has been passed to G2. Advanced Intelligence A.F.H.Q. and, through the appropriate A.C.O. Department, to the Partisan forces operating in the area.

(b) The placing of Archives under guard at the earliest possible time.

1. Prior to the entry into Rome, elaborate preparations had been made for the immediate guarding of Archives, but the plan could not fully be realized owing to the insufficient supply of troops for this purpose. "S" Force of Advanced Intelligence were working from a list of over 600 "targets". It was also necessary for the civilian personnel of certain offices to recommence their duties without interference. Under these circumstances it was left to the Archives Officer, Rome Region, who arrived in the first hours of the occupation, to arrange for the guarding of Archives that were in special danger, such as the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini, to co-ordinate with the Italian Government for the maintenance of proper custody, and to watch for infringement by Allied personnel of A.A.I. Adm. Instruction No. 10 para. 11 (forbidding the casual destructions or dispersal of Archival material wherever found).

2. In the Field M.F.A.S.A. Officers with the 5th and 8th Armies always give adequate attention to Archives. Where necessary the C.A.O. is asked to post "Off Limits" signs. There have been virtually no reports of damage by troops or civilians.

See Monthly reports for June-July 1945. These reports have been lost. Responsibility rests with a military unit of sufficient authority to

3. Lack of guards have not in any known instance resulted in loss of Archives. The instances of persons having access to buildings where Archives are stored having to be in possession of passes.

1. Rome is a city of innumerable Archive containing buildings (the branches of the 18 central Mini-

stries alone run into hundreds) and it would be impossible to enforce this literally.

2. In the early days of Allied occupation no person was allowed into the main offices of the Ministries and other important repositories without an "S" Force pass.

3. Owing to the return of the Italian Government and the requisitioning of 4 Ministries (Aeronautica, Corporazioni, Cultura Popolare, Africa Italiana) for use by Allied Units these restrictions were relaxed, but at the present time there is still a list of buildings containing Archives, access to which requires a special pass.

4. Both in the requisitioned Ministries and those to which Italian officials have returned, the safety of the Archives has been the concern of the Archives Officer, Rome Region.

(d) The maintenance of a register of all documents removed for any cause.

1. A register is kept by the Documents Section of G2, A.F.H.Q. and all Archives removed for Intelligence purposes pass through this channel.

2. There has recently been a tendency for ⁴⁴⁵ Allied Administrative Units (E-g Sub-Commissions of A.C.C.) to remove documents without complying with the correct procedure. An order putting a stop to this practice by the Acting Chief Commissioner is under consideration.

(e) Conclusions.

1. The safeguarding of Italian Archives is now primarily a matter of enforcing certain generally established rules and principles.

2. With the liberation of increasing areas the M.F.A.S.A. Staff must rely largely on the efforts of the Italians themselves, E-g to arrange for the salvaging of damaged documents and generally "to put their house in order."

In Lazio and further north there are men very highly trained for this sort of work. The acceptance of the principle of collaboration is essential.

3. The Italian Superintendents and Directors of Archives are not specialists in either ancient or modern documents at the expense of the other. There would be no point in the Sub-Commission admitting such a distinction. The Archives Officer, Rome Region, has constantly emphasised his concern for contemporary material, because in the circumstances there, the emphasis must be laid on the dangers to such collections. Elsewhere it might well be different.

4. The Archival work of the Sub-Commission owes a very great deal to the visits to this theatre by Mr. Shipman from Washington and Mr. Jenkinson from London. These two authorities laid down the lines for action in close agreement; they also provided the necessary 'prestige' for the Subject without which much less could have been effected. The Italians themselves are the first to admit the thoroughness of the plans that were made at Naples.

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T.H. Brooke, Capt. E.R.F.C.
Archivist
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Division,
Region IV, A.M.G.

4

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

GLB/jjr

G-5: 201-McCain, Wm. D (O)

29 July 1944

Subject: Assignment of Archivist.

To : Hq. 2678th Civil Affairs Regt. (CVHD) APO 534
(Attention: Captain D.N. Batson)

1. Request has been made for the assignment of Captain William D. McCain, 0288111, an archivist, to the 2678th Regt. with officer to report to G-1 (American) Hq. ACC for further instructions.

2. It has been agreed by Colonel Gerry that, when orders are issued, Captain McCain is to be placed on T/D with the 2675th Regt.

3. It is therefore requested that such orders be issued upon assignment of officer to your organization.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

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G. L. BURTON
CWC, USA.

Copy to:

G-1 (American), Hq. ACC., APO 394.
(Attention: Major L.W. Stearns).

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. FRED W. SHIPMAN.

Work of the American Archivist:

As the result of our conferences, I concluded that the work of the American archivist should be as follows:

1. To collaborate with G-2 in protecting archives and records from the moment our troops occupy an area; to be available to give professional assistance to prevent unnecessary loss or destruction of records; to maintain first hand information on the fate of records important to the continued administration of a locality; and to encourage the use of microphotography as a means of supplying copies of important documents.
2. To bring assistance to important archives and records endangered by exposure or pillage through the ACC, such as obtaining guards for buildings, transporting records from unsafe quarters, aiding in getting materials to board up broken windows and assisting Italian archivists to secure the necessary personnel.
3. To make a survey of important local and national archives in the areas occupied by our forces; to learn what records have been damaged or the location of the evacuated records. This can be done in one of two ways: (a) actual visits to records repositories; and (b) securing cooperation of officials of the Italian government, Church heads and educators to supply information.
4. To organize an information file so that any person or organization depending upon manuscripts, books or police records of civil administrators, registers of baptism, marriages and deaths, deeds to real estates, wills etc. may locate the records if they still exist. This information will be exceedingly important later to those responsible for the administration of UNRRA. Other classes of records of historical interest should also be included.
5. It should be emphasized that beyond giving advice and first aid assistance on the care of damaged Italian records (see paragraph 2 above) no suggestions or recommendations should be made that would commit the United Nations to responsibility for the preservation or rehabilitation of Italian records not essential to the war effort.

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3

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 313.3-1

28 July 1944

SUBJECT: Archival Problems.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission,
APO 394

1. A letter has been received from General Hildring requesting in view of the special interest of the War Department a report as to what action has been taken on the report made by Mr. Fred W. Shipman following on his visit to Italy.

The letter refers particularly to the following lines of action proposed by the report:

a). The determination in advance as to where there are archives of importance.

b). The placing of archives under guard at the earliest possible time.

c). The insistence on persons having access to buildings where archives are stored having to be in possession of passes.

d). The maintenance of a register of all documents removed for any cause.

e). That the functions in the field of archives be divided with the British officers specializing in the archives of antiquity and the Americans specializing in current administrative documents in the manner suggested in the report.

2. The report should cover the points set out above and in addition the letter from General Hildring calls for a report on the personnel situation affecting the archivists on the ACC staff giving their names, general qualifications and nationalities. The letter also raises specifically the case of Capt William D. McCain who the War Department have recommended as the American Archivist and enquires as to the present position.

HEADQUARTERS
30 JUL 1944
A. C. C.

- 1 -

A. C. C.
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION
30 JUL 1944
FILE No. 20905

785016

3. Would you please submit an appropriate report
(in duplicate) to this Section as soon as possible.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:



T. B. JACKMAN
Major.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORT PREPARED BY MR FRED E SHIPMAN AS ARCHIVAL ADVISOR WAS SENT YOU 11 MAY. UNDER REFERENCE 313.3 THIS INCLUDED RECOMMENDATION THAT AMERICAN ARCHIVIST BE ASSIGNED TO YOU TO WORK WITH CAPTAINS ELLIS AND BROOKS WHO ARE UNIT KING ARCHIVISTS WITH FINE ARTS MONUMENTS AND ARCHIVES SUB COMMISSION. INFORMATION NOW RECEIVED THAT CAPTAIN W D MCCAIN O-286111 RECOMMENDED BY ARCHIVIST OF UNITED STATES AS CAPABLE OF PERFORMING ABOVE DUTIES DO YOU ASKED HIS ASSIGNMENT TO YOU.

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30/June 1944

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S. J. D. W.

RH 4317 *Monuments + Fine Arts.*

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

CMS/EHM/JJR

MGS: 313.3

11 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Forwarding of Report.

TO : HQ ACC Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives
Subcommission

IA
Herewith for your information and retention
a copy of Report of Fred W. Shipman as Archival Advisor
to the ACC.

20905
Incl:
as above.

for *CH M. Spofford* *1/22*
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Section.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

7 May 1944

REPORT OF FRID A. SHIPMAN
AS ARCHIVAL ADVISOR TO THE A.C.C.

On March 30, I reported to Allied Force Headquarters, Military Government Section as archives advisor to the Subcommittee on Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives of the Allied Control Commission. I spent the next four days discussing my mission with General Devers, General Gamwell, General Roderick, Colonel Eleanore, Captain Bachman, (U.S.M.) and other officers at A.F.H.Q. whose functions touched upon the subject of my mission. On April 3, I flew from Algiers to Naples with Lieutenant Roland Segalini who was assigned to arrange my affairs and to aid me in my work. As I do not know the Italian language Lt. Segalini also served as my interpreter.

I reported to Lt. Gen. MacFarlane, Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission on April 4, was misdirected to the office of the Subcommittee and went to Salerno only to return to Naples and report to Major Donald, Chief of the Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives Subcommittee of the A.C.C. on April 5.

While in Naples I contacted Hilary Jenkinson of the Public Record Office, London who had been sent out by the British government for the same reason I had been sent out by the United States Government. Mr. Jenkinson had been in the theater six weeks prior to my arrival. The

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A.P.H.Q. whose functions touched upon the subject of my assignment. On April 3, I flew from Algiers to Naples with Lieutenant Roland Segalini who was assigned to arrange my affairs and to aid me in my work. As I do not know the Italian language Lt. Segalini also served as my interpreter.

I reported to Lt. Gen. MacFarlane, Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission on April 4, was misdirected to the office of the Subcommission and went to Salerno only to return to Naples and report to Major Dewald, Chief of the Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives Subcommission of the A.C.C. on April 5.

While in Naples I contacted Hilary Jenkinson of the Public Record Office, London who had been sent out by the British government for the same reason I had been sent out by the United States Government.

Mr. Jenkinson had been in the theater six weeks prior to my arrival. The presence of representatives of both countries was concrete evidence of the serious interest and of the importance of the subject on which we were sent to advise. Naturally we collaborated and what was done or recommended along general lines of policy were jointly sponsored.

I remained in Naples until April 18 working with A.C.C. and G-2 establishing policy and developing procedures to effect plans put forth by Mr. Jenkinson and me. From that date until May 4, I traveled overland through occupied Italy visiting the archival repositories in each Provincial capital and those of Catania and Palermo in Sicily. I reported back to A.P.H.Q. on May 5. There follows a statement of understandings reached at Naples and recommendations I am making as a result of my findings both in Naples and on my tour of occupied Italy.

The most significant and timely use of public and private records (or archives) is their exploitation for aid in carrying on the war effort. Such records are often indispensable to the continued administration of a community or a business and for protecting the civil rights of deserving people. It is obvious that in time of war military necessity must have first consideration. However experience has shown that more care could be exercised in the first stages after combat in protecting records against unnecessary destruction through pillage, billeting of troops and overzealous searches for records of intelligence value. To reduce the loss of valuable records in future operations through any of these causes (which in turn often adversely affect the intelligence service) Mr. Jenkinson and I conferred with Major R. J. Cave of Advanced G-2. Jointly we recommended definite steps to be taken. These recommendations were submitted by G-2 to A.F.H.Q. where they were approved.

The recommendations were: G-2 is to protect archives in Intelligence centers against populations and troops on same lines as those laid by "B" force for Rome.

Elsewhere, provisions of A.A.I. Administrative Instruction No. 10 provides protection against population and troops.

All activities of Intelligence agencies collecting information should be coordinated by G-2.

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All activities of Intelligence agencies collecting information should be coordinated by G-2.

When safeguarding measures are withdrawn from archives of Intelligence interest, G-2 (Advanced Intelligence) should make necessary arrangements to hand them over to the Allied Control Commission for protection.

Archives of Intelligence interest removed for transmission elsewhere should be carefully recorded and the registers preserved.

Arrangements are recommended whereby the ultimate restoration of displaced archives can be realized.

On April 16 Mr. Jenkinson and I wrote a memorandum to Brigadier Lash, Executive Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission informing

him of the procedures adopted by G-2 Advanced Intelligence to protect archives coming into its custody. Mention was also made of the system of issuing passes and permits to cover the use and removal of records by people ^{having} legitimate interest. We recommended that a similar system be adopted by the A.C.C. in regard to any collections coming under its control. The Personal Assistant to the Executive Commissioner on the latter's instruction sent a reply to Mr. Jenkinson and was stating that everything possible will be done for the safeguarding of archives on the basis of our recommendation.

It was considered desirable to prepare a leaflet which would in a few catch phrases point out the value of records in the conduct of the war. Also, another leaflet should be prepared in Italian - on first aid to records - the do's and don'ts. This was done by translating a portion of a leaflet written by Mr. Jenkinson for use in England.

The National Archives and the Office of Economic Warfare had prepared descriptive lists of leading archival repositories in Italy. Mr. Jenkinson enlarged on this list considerably with special emphasis on the older established historical ^{archives} records. His list is being reproduced for sections of Italy and its proper distribution has been arranged so as to serve as a guide. ⁴³⁵

In the field of cultural records those of the Roman Catholic Church loom large in importance and value in Italy. Here is found not only the history of the administration of the Church in Italy, but registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths - which are so often necessary to the individ-

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In the field of cultural records those of the Roman Catholic Church loom large in importance and value in Italy. Here is found not only the history of the administration of the Church in Italy, but registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths - which are so often necessary to the individual. On April 10, Mr. Jenkinson and I conferred with the Rt. Reverend Monsignor Carroll regarding ecclesiastical records. At his suggestion, on April 15 we wrote him a letter suggesting that steps be taken by the church authorities to conduct a survey on the condition of their records. That this will be done and we shall hear of the results I have little doubt.

Arrangements were made on the basis of my memorandum of April 8 to Col. Flaks to appoint an American archivist to the Subcommission on Fine Arts, Monuments and Archives. A copy of this memorandum is attached.

Inasmuch as Mr. Reeves whom I recommended did not qualify I referred the selection of an appointee to Washington. It might be mentioned here that while I was in Naples two British Captains were appointed to the Subcor-mission as archivists. It is highly desirable that an American also be appointed and that he closely cooperate with G-2 Advanced Intelligence.

If archivists enough ^{were} available I would strongly recommend that they be made to form a special unit. It should be emphasized that an archivist is a records expert and rarely is he an artist as well. Archival work is a recognized profession and should be in the hands of archivists and not treated as an incidental function.

Two additional problems arose in Naples which should be reported upon. One was the care and preservation of the records of the A.C.C. The question was brought to the attention of Mr. Jenkinson by Major Hinkel, chief of the Information Division of the A.C.C. An archives unit for A.C.C. was set up with a British Captain Collins as archivist. An advisory committee on archives within the A.C.C. was formed. It is highly desirable that an American also be appointed to work with these records and I am under the impression Col. Clough intended to see that this is arranged. If it has not been done it should be. The question of ^{the} ~~434~~ ultimate disposition of joint files will have to await decision from the top.

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

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The second question was that of appointing an historian for the A.C.C. Major Hinkel was also much interested in this and he should be supported in it. I know that Col. Clough and Fiske ^{also} appreciate this and on my recommendation have asked Col. Salmon of A.F.H.Q. Historical Section to visit Naples and help in starting the work. As there is an Historical Studies Section in our War Department certain uniformity of method is required in the work and Major Salmon can give invaluable assistance. What should be emphasized is that the archivists or record-keepers of A.C.C. cannot be historians of A.C.C. and perform both jobs successfully. They are two different kinds of work and each requires a man's full time.

On April 18 I left Naples and visited the archives at Avellino, Benevento, Foggia, Lucera, Bari, Lecce, Matera, Potenza, Salerno, Cosenza, Reggio de Calabria, Catania and Palermo. Before leaving Naples I had visited the archives of that city. In the course of my visits I emphasized

the interest of the United States Government in the protection of cultural and administrative material and on several occasions advised archivists against concluding that portions of their records were beyond repair. I did this because in the U.S. we have advanced further than anyone else in the work of restoring and repairing records. It may be possible for Italians in the post war period to obtain proper equipment and apply our methods to restore masses of valuable records. The tour also gave me a first hand account of the actual condition of the Italian records which are of interest to scholars. Also we in America have endeavored to be of assistance by listing important collections to guide our forces and aid in protecting records. We have also prepared monographs for use at home or abroad on the most scientific manner to treat parchments and paper. We are better informed as a result of my tour on just what was or is not useful here in our present work along these lines.

I have stressed the value of Italian archives as aids to Intelligence and in civil administration. This applies largely to the modern records - though by no means not entirely. However I do not want to leave the impression that we are not concerned with those records and archives which are ancient and of cultural value only. The President, men and women of culture and professional groups throughout the United States are vitally interested^{ed} in Italian national and local archives. The President has stressed the fact that where it has been necessary for any reason to remove archives from their proper place every effort should be made to make it possible for their ultimate return. Archives

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The President has stressed the fact that where it has been necessary for any reason to remove archives from their proper place every effort should be made to make it possible for their ultimate return. Archives know no time limit and in large are a written record of the history of a business, a family, a state or a nation -- Isolated they lose much of their meaning and value. Therefore archivists are not collectors of odd items. One basic principle in the administration of archives is not to violate the integrity of an archival group -- which is an accumulation of records naturally coming into being during the transaction of business. Everything possible should be done to keep them intact.

On my tour of Italy I have seen and handled many records that date back to the twelfth century -- Indeed the Notarial archives found in each provincial capital invariably date that far back. They are the court

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records and property rights are based on what is recorded here. Deeds, wills and other legal records up to the present day are in the custody of the "Archivii Notarili."

In Palermo for example are the Treasury records for five centuries and the land and realty records for all of Sicily - 1714 - 1760, Chancery records from 1215 - 1800 - and a record of the Administration of Sicily under the Neapolitan Kings. Throughout Italy are archives which are not only of interest to Italians but also to those interested in the history of our civilization all over the world.

Conclusions and recommendations.

From a reading of the above sections of this report it is evident that much of what I have recommended has either been done or is in the process of being done. We have on paper a procedure which if carried out would accomplish our aim to keep to a minimum the damage to Italian archives for very practical reasons including our concern for them as cultural treasures. Two British Captains have already been appointed archivists and it is agreed that an American should also be appointed. To be useful the archivist must have this field recognized - and not to consider him an all around man in the field of art to which his work is totally unrelated.

I strongly urge that the archivist maintain good liaison with G-4 32 (advanced Intelligence) for it is in the first days after battle that the greatest damage is done to records. With knowledge of record keeping and archival methods he is sure to be of value to G-2.

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In order to carry out the procedures whereby G-2 can control the flow of captured documents it should be equipped with materials to microfilm, develop and print documents. A request for such materials is being sent in by G-2 and I plan to support the request in Washington - I can not promise results.

As a result of my visit to the Italian archival repositories throughout Italy I believe that other than first aid steps such as repairing buildings, supplying glass for windows etc., and seeing to it that the archives are safely stored the big job of restoration of documents will best be postponed as a post-war task at which time modern methods of repair may be available. I do however strongly urge that Notarial Archives and active administrative archives be given as much aid now as possible for they are

used in the daily transactions of business in Italy.

None of this recommendation is meant to overlook the work the Italian archivists can and in many instances are doing. They will no doubt accomplish much on their own initiative - varying in degree. Archivists are generally people of culture and receive small pay. Their work is that of a professional. It would be good policy to see to it that the Italian Government keeps most of these people at their chosen profession and on the payroll. Only products of archival training appreciate the highly specialized training the profession requires over here. Paleography, diplomatics, jurisprudence and history are among the required subjects to be mastered before a candidate becomes archivist. In Palermo I was told the staff of the archives was unable to get any pay. I did not check this - but if it is true archivists will be compelled to seek some paying job elsewhere.

Much has been done by the A.C.C. in Sicily for example to aid the archivists - but generally in southern Italy the recommendations by A.C.C. to the Prefect to provide buildings as in Benevento, or glass as in Potenza have gone by default. Archives are not fully appreciated nor understood by Italian politicians and the subject needs a champion. Italian archivists are seldom aggressive.

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As to the records being granted in this theatre by the Allied forces certain steps have been taken which lead toward the ultimate solution of the problem of their disposition and preservation. I have referred to

the required subjects to be mastered before a candidate becomes archivist. In Palermo I was told the staff of the archives was unable to get any pay. I did not check this - but if it is true archivists will be compelled to seek some paying job elsewhere.

Much has been done by the A.C.C. in Sicily for example to aid the archivists - but generally in southern Italy the recommendations by A.C.C. to the Prefect to provide buildings as in Benevento, or glass as in Potenza have gone by default. Archives are not fully appreciated nor understood by Italian politicians and the subject needs a champion. Italian archivists are seldom aggressive.

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As to the records being created in this theatre by the Allied forces certain steps have been taken which lead toward the ultimate solution of the problem of their disposition and preservation. I have referred to the appointment of an archivist for the A.C.C. One important thing they are doing is classifying documents which need not be permanently preserved thus reducing the bulk of useless materials. Here at Headquarters a beginning has been made in reproducing documents on microfilm for filing purposes. The first job is to see that the records of value are properly filed for preservation. That requires honest cooperation from all. The experience of archivists in Washington has been that it is not John Doe the file clerk who fails to turn in official records - but rather it is Mr. Big the boss who considers he has a certain immunity in this regard by virtue of his position. The custodian of the records should be supported from the top.

Wherever there are joint operations the question of ownership or final disposition of files arises. It can only be settled in one of three ways. First, that one party agree to relinquish all claim to ownership - stipulating it must have full access to the files on demand. Second, to arrange for two separate files and duplicate originals of all specified classes of papers be created and filed. Third, to reproduce the important papers or entire files by microfilm method and one party get the film the other the original.

Presumably the War Department will issue a directive on this subject, but it is one which will confront us some day and for that reason care should be taken now to get a good record.

It is my intention to bring this problem to the attention of the proper authorities in Washington as it is one which involves our Government's activities in many other parts of the world.

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