

785016

ACC 10000/145/331

20905/c/4/D

ARCHIVES OF EX-DUCE

June 1944 - July 1945

785016

NOTATION OF CATALOGING

(Do not detach from file)

This file item, or portions thereof as indicated below, has been described for inclusion in Departmental Records Branch Subject Catalog:

10000/145/331

Mussolini's signature

(micro #2060)

DATE

1 Nov 55

CATALOGER

J. Bowen

AGAZ FORM 470

B.O. 3.2.1.1 REPLACES TAGO FORM 01352, 1 FEB 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED.

110

To : Director.

The query which came up yesterday about Mussolini records is concerned with the Archivio Ordinario.

These archives are now a responsibility of the Archivio del Regno, but are physically located in the Viminale in rooms which the Presidente del Consiglio wishes to use for his own archives. Before effecting any transfer of the Archivio Ordinario, officials concerned have felt it necessary to have A.C.'s permission in view of the intelligence significance of the archives. Apparently the Chief Commissioner has been approached verbally on this point.

I visited the Archivio Ordinario yesterday with the Commissary of State Archives and other officials concerned.

In view of Mr. David's report on the Archivio Ordinario, and possible intelligence repercussions, I thought it well to suggest that the proposal to remove the archives (and the request for permission to do so) should be put on paper. This will probably take the form of a letter from the Presidente to the Chief Commissioner, and will explain the need for the move.

We shall no doubt be asked to write the reply to this letter. I suggest that, when we do so, we authorize the transfer to the Archivio Ordinario on the following conditions:-

1. that suitable premises are found to house these archives and shelving provided.
2. that the transfer is made under the direction of the Commissary of State Archives, and carried out in such a way that large sections of the archive do not become inaccessible, and remain orated, for long periods.
3. following from 2 above, that the transfer is not a hasty process, but done slowly and scientifically.

2128

HE Bell

Archives Officer.

18 Sept. 45

Seen by
G. W. P.
Held.

785016

20 LUG 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
LOMBARDIA REGION
APO 394

20111

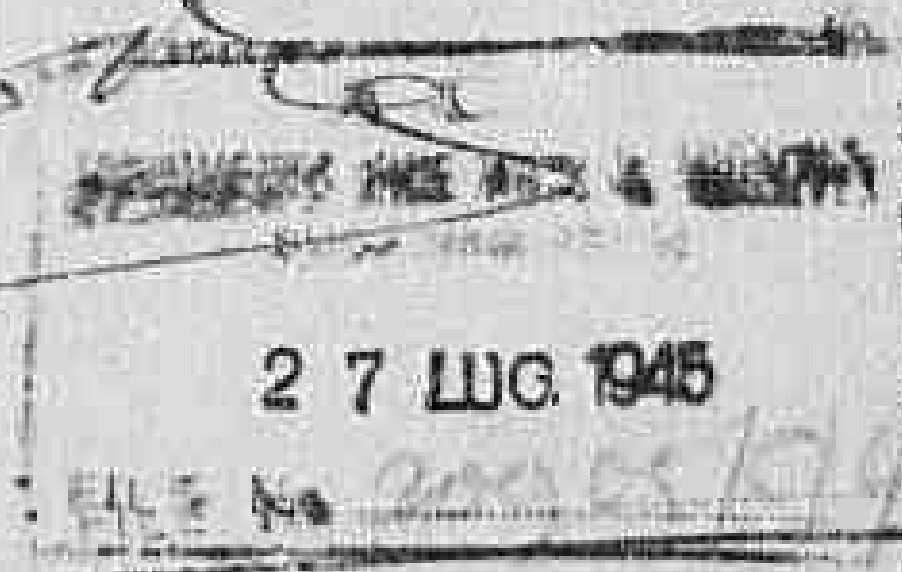
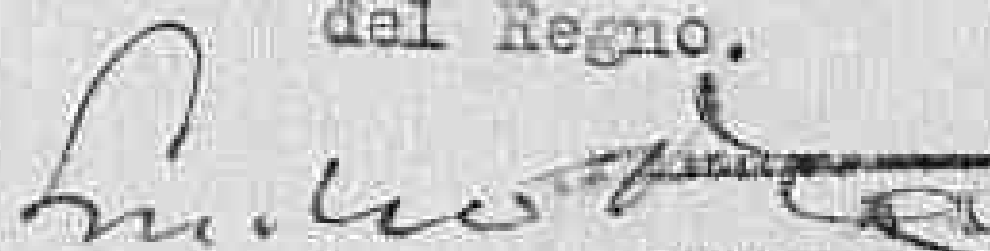
20 July 1945

Received from Captain William D. McCain,
Regional Archivist, Lombardia Region, the follow-
ing manuscripts which had been taken from Villa
Feltrinelli, the former residence of Benito Musso-
lini:

1. "Elenco dei Mobili, Utensili e Materiali
Vari Esistenti nella Villa del Conte Antonio Fel-
trinelli di Cargnano (San Faustino). Dati in Con-
segna alla Segreteria del Duce. 5 Ago. 1944."
Pp. 15.
2. "Relazione sulla Visita ai Reparti Aerei
Atlantici Tedeschi." Pp. 58.
3. Two sets of plans and estimates entitled
"Ricovero Antiaereo Rocca delle Caminate." Plans
and estimates by Mario Gai, Roma, October and
December, 1943.
4. Small autograph book: "Al Duce. Repubblica
Argentina. Mayo de 1936." 34 pp. of signatures.

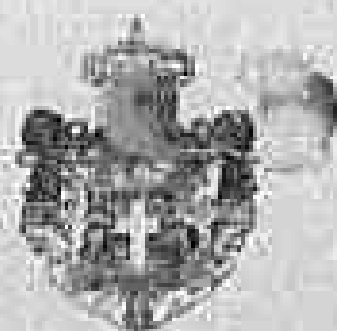
2127

Emilio Re
Commissario agli Archivi
del Regno.



20 LUG 1945

785016



Ministero dell'Interno

UFFICIO CENTRALE DEGLI ARCHIVI DEL REGNO

Divisione 71688 Sec
 Prot. N. 8945.2 Allegato

Roma 16 LUG 1945

Al la Sottocommissione
 Monumenti, Belle Arti e Ar-
 chivi A.C. - V. Vittorio Ve-
 neto - R O M A

Responsabile del
Sec Sec N°

OGGETTO Carteggio Crispi Damiani. -

Questo Ministero ringrazia vivamente dell'in-
 vio del carteggio Francesco Crispi - Abele Damiani
 (253 lettere) rinvenuto fra le carte della Segrete-
 ria di Mussolini a Gargnano sul Garda, e ha l'onore
 di comunicare d'averlo già trasmesso, per la conser-
 vazione, in data 12 corr. mese, alla Direzione dello
 Archivio del Regno (Roma) dove da tempo, è stata for-
 mata una cospicua collezione di documenti, di varia
 provenienza relativa a Francesco Crispi.

PEL MINISTRO



2126

18 LUG 1945

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

785016

5 LUG 1945

2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489084, ext. 442 & 254; 478400)

20905/C/1/3/AFMA

5 July 1945

Commissary for the Archives of the
Kingdom - Ministry of the Interior -

XXXX

Subject: Transmittal of Archival
Material.

As already reported in conversations with this office, there were sent here for our disposal, early in May of this year, an organized collection of letters reported found among "papers from the Secretariat of Benito Mussolini". While no precise information as to the circumstances of their discovery is available, it is reasonably sure that they came from the environs of Villa Paltrinelli, GALLARATE (Prov. Varese).

This collection of 255 letters, which consists mainly of a carteggio between Francesco Cusi and A. Deiana, is now passed in turn to you for your disposal, as earlier agreed.

The letters are arranged in numbered cover-envelopes running from 1 to 277, but in this series the following 24 serials are missing: 1, 5, 19, 26, 30, 142, 153, 156-171, 237. No information is presently available as to the whereabouts of the missing letters.

2125

Signed

HERBERT T. DE WALT
Lt. Col., Spec. Res.
Director.

Copy to:
Archives Officer, LOMBARDIA Reg.
(ref. 20905/C/1/3/AFMA of 17 May 45)
File 20905/C/1

5 LUG 1945

785016

R E S T R I C T E D

Mt FA 19 MAG 1945

HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP
G-5 SECTION
APO 777

RAP/mjm 1945

Ref: G-5/7/20.1

19 May 1945

SUBJECT: Archives.

TO: Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission,
Headquarters, Allied Commission. ✓

1. Your 20905/C/4/3/MTAA, dated 17 May 45, subject as above, refers.
2. It is assumed that the action part of your letter will be undertaken by Capt W.D. McCAIN, who has been furnished with the inventory of documents.
3. Unfortunately I can add nothing further to the information already given you, which was to the effect that these documents were taken at the same time as the Duoe. Where the letters reposed prior to his capture I have no idea.

Robert A. Persell
ROBERT A. PERSSELL
Lt Colonel, GSC
for A.C. of S., G-5

2121

A C C.
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION
21 MAY 1945
FILE No 20905/C/4/D

19 MAG. 1945

785016

17 MAG

2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

ETDM/ps

APO 394

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

20905/C/4/G/MFAA

17 May 1945

Subject: Archives.

To : G-5 Section, HQ. 15 Army Group, attn. Lt.Col. Persell.

1. Reference is made to your G-5/7/20.1 of 7 May 45, and also acknowledgement of receipt therewith of the case of letters, which correspond to inventory sent.

2. After discussion with Comm. Emilio Re, Commissario degli Archivi del Regno, it appears that the letters in question have no small historical value, many of them having been written by the Italian statesman Francesco Crispi. Comm. Re will gladly receive them for eventual disposal to the proper Government authority. Meanwhile this office would be grateful for any further particulars as to the finding of this correspondence. Such facts might help in tracing the (relatively few) letters missing from the collection. In particular can it be confirmed that the letters were found in the Villa Feltrinelli, GARGNANO (Prov. Brescia), where Mussolini had his residence until near the end. This is the conjecture made by Comm. Re.

3. A copy of this letter is being to Capt. W.D. McCain, Archives Officer, LOMBARDIA Region, who recently visited Villa Feltrinelli as well as other Fascist HQs. and offices at GARGNANO and SALO'.

ERNEST T. DE WILD
2nd Lt., Spec. Res.
Director.

Copy to:

Capt. W.D. McCain, Archives Officer
LOMBARDIA Region (with copy of
ref. letter and inventory)

17 MAG

785016

RESTRICTED

7 MAY 1945

HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP
G-5 SECTION
APO 777

RAP/mlh

Ref: G-5/7/20.1

7 May 1945

SUBJECT: Archives.

TO: Monuments and Fine Arts Sub-Commission,
HQ Allied Commission.

1. Forwarded herewith is a small case which contains a number of interesting letters which have no value to G-2 Section of this Headquarters. I am forwarding the case to you because it was found among the collection of papers from the Secretariat of Benito Mussolini.

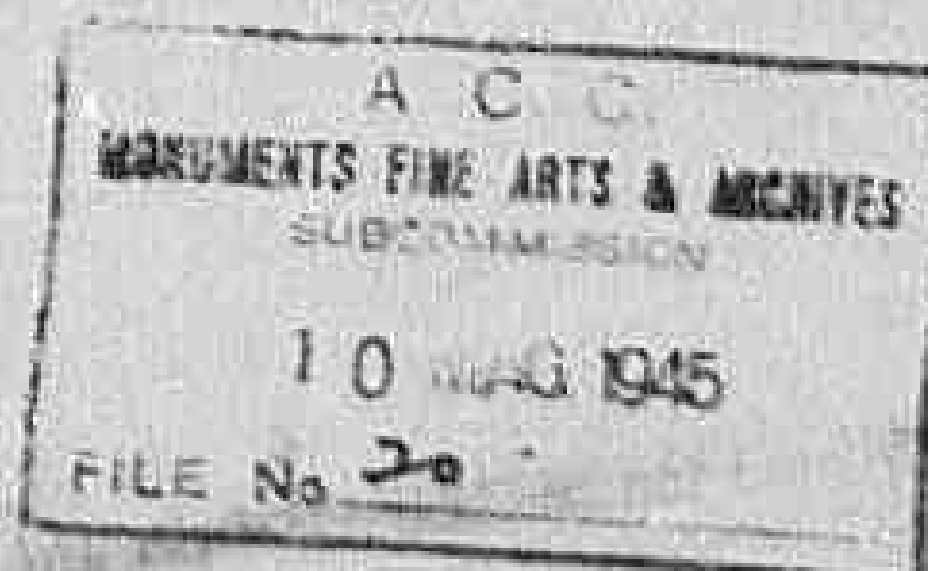
2. No attempt has been made to assess the contents of the case, but is considered you might be interested in disposing of the contents of the case.

Robert A. Persell

ROBERT A. PERSSELL
Lt. Col., G.S.C.
for A. C. of S., G-5

Incl: List of Numbered Letters and Missing Letters.

2122



7 MAY 1945

LIST OF NUMBERED LETTERS

2 - 4
 6 - 18
 20 - 25
 27 - 37
 39 - 141
 143 - 152
 154 - 155
 172 - 236
 238 - 277

TOTAL = 253

MISSING NUMBERS

1
 5
 19
 26
 38
 142
 153
 156 - 171
 237

7	277
6	24
1	
14	713

TOTAL = 24

2121

785016

CecO

15 LUG 1945

L. J. J.
2

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
LOMBARDIA REGION
APO 394

20113

13 July 1945

Subject: Records Pertaining to Benito Mussolini.

To: Director, Subcommittee for Monuments,
Fine Arts and Archives.

1. Attached is an account pertaining to the papers of one Benito Mussolini. Major Bell and Dr. Re probably would be interested in having this information. The account appeared in the Corriere d'Informazione, Milano, Martedì 10 luglio 1945, p. 1.

William D. McCain

William D. McCain
Capt., GAC
Regional Archivist,
Lombardia Region.

2120

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
17 LUG 1945
FILE No. 20905/C/4/d

15 LUG 1945

MUSSOLINI "Esperto"
in fatto di Tradimenti

Una cartella di documenti per
tentare di scagionarsi dall'ac-
cusa di aver voluto la guerra

Corno 9 luglio.

Sulla cattura e sulla esecuzione di Musso-
lini e degli ex-gerarchi molto è stato scritto
e detto in questi ultimi tempi. Con tutto ciò
ci sono particolari di notevole interesse che
non sono stati ancora portati a conoscenza del
pubblico.

Quando fu fermata la macchina su cui si
trovavano Claretta Petacci e il fratello, questi
esibì un passaporto diplomatico spacciandosi per
console spagnolo. Gli fu rivolta in spagnolo la
domanda: "Habla espanol usted?" Il Petacci non
rispose e soltanto in seguito ad altre domande
nella stessa lingua egli disse di non conoscere
lo spagnolo. Poichè gli si fece rilevare l'-
assurdità che un console spagnolo non conoscesse
la propria lingua egli rispose: "Sono nato in
Spagna ma ho sempre vissuto in Italia." Gli fu
intimato di scendere, al che egli obiettò:
"Scendere io? Badate a voi piuttosto. Io sono
molto amico dell'ambasciatore inglese a Roma
Sir Norton e vi farò fucilare."

Questa minaccia troncò il colloquio. In
quel momento i patrioti non avevano nè tempo nè
voglia di ascoltare le buffonate del Petacci.
Gli occupanti la macchina furono allora tra-
sferiti nella sede del municipio dove poco dopo
giunse anche Mussolini. Egli si scagliò contro
i Tedeschi tacciandoli di tradimento. Disse:
"In fatto di tradimento io sono molto esperto.
Con questo i Tedeschi restano bollati eterna-
mente nella storia. E pensare che mi avevano
promesso ventimila uomini e un nugolo di aereo-

2119

plani perchè potessi aprirmi un varco sino alla frontiera tedesca." Parlando, Mussolini teneva una cartella di pelle comperata due giorni prima a Milano per diecimila lire c'era ancora attaccato il cartellino del prezzo) in cui dovevano, a suo dire, trovarsi i documenti che avrebbero dovuto scagionarlo dinanzi agli Italiani e a tutto il mondo, dall'accusa di avere voluto questa guerra.

"Io ho fatto di tutto—disse—per far desistere Hitler dallo scatenare il conflitto e qui ci sono le prove." Pure un'altra cartella teneva l'ex-duce. In questa c'erano due fogli di carta con incollati ritagli di giornali alleati e neutrali che pronosticavano quale sarebbe stato il trattamento della Svizzera nei confronti dei criminali di guerra. Tali ritagli recavano postille, sottolineature, grandi punti esclamativi e interrogativi in matita rossa e blu.

Corriere d'Informazione, Milano, Anno 1,
No. 43, Martedì 10 luglio 1945, P. 1.

785016

28 JUV.

1945

CONF

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
INHERENTS, FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES DIVISION
LOMBARDIA REGION
APO 394

20113

28 June 1945

Subject: Records Pertaining to Benito Mussolini.
To: Regional Commissioner, Lombard Region.

1. The attached account referring to records pertaining to Benito Mussolini appeared in L'Unita; Organo del Partito Comunista Italiano, Milano, 28 June 1945.

2. Dr. Guido Manganelli and the Regional Archivist are investigating this account and hope to get information in regard to certain records carried by Benito Mussolini when he was captured.

/s/ William D. McCain

/t/ William D. McCain
Capt., GAC.
Regional Archivist,
Lombard Region.

Copies to:
HFAA, Allied Commission,
Regional Archivist, Emilia Region.

2117

20907c/A/d

28 JUV.

1945

COPIA

Le fantastiche versioni dei fatti

di DONCO

Una smentita dei garibaldini

COMO, 27 Giugno.

Il Comando della 52 Brigata Garibaldi ci invia la seguente rettifica che pubblichiamo volentieri.

Si e' notata in questi giorni su numerosi quotidiani italiani una fioritura di notizie sulla cattura di Mussolini e dei suoi accoliti, come quella del ... funghi dopo una notte di temporale. Tali notizie, ricche di particolari piu' o meno morbosi, miranti, piu' che altro, a far colpo sulla pubblica opinione, meritano unaennesima smentita.

Il Comando della 52 Brigata d'assalto garibaldina "Luigi Clerici" che coi suoi uomini e' stato il solo ed autentico protagonista delle memorabili giornate della fine di aprile rettifichera' a tempo opportuno tutta la congerie di notizie ed interviste non autorizzate che si e' andata accavallando in questi giorni fino a giungere alla pubblicazione di un opuscolo (di certo Cotti da Stazzona, Como) che in una cinquantina di pagine romanzate ha citato nomi e fatti senza il consenso del nostro Comando. E poiche' il Comando della 52 e' il solo depositario degli importantissimi documenti, della esatta e controllata cronaca dei fatti, dei verbali firmati dai Comandanti e dai patrioti, delle fotografie raccolte in loco per suo ordine, tiene ferma la smentita, gia' apparsa su queste colonne, in ordine alla fine di "Mussolini e dei suoi".

2116

L'Unita': Organo del Partito Comunista Italiano, Milano, 28
Giugno 1945 (Anno XXII, N. 71).

2 P V

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDIA REGION

APG 394

27 MAY 1945

20114/5/A

27 May 1945

Subject : Inspection of Archives in BRESCIA Province.

To : Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region.

1. Ministero della Cultura Popolare.

The Archives Officer, accompanied by Dr. Emilio Re and Dr. Guido Mangenelli, visited the Villa Amedei, SALO', where offices of the Ministero della Cultura Popolare had been located (see report of May 6). The Public Relations Service of the Fifth Army now occupies the building. No records remain. Some were taken away by Captain B. L. Ciforelli, Documents Section, Fifth Army (see story in Stars and Stripes, 19 May 1945) and some had been taken by the Psychological Warfare Branch (Professors Bates and Costas) to offices on the 4th floor of a building at Via Cesare Cantù 3, MILANO. Some of the publications had been taken by the Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale to the Municipio.

2. Administrative Building of Mussolini.

This building is still guarded by Italians who seem to be under jurisdiction of the 15th Army Group. A more careful inspection verified the fact that the records of "Il Segretario Particolare del Duce" had been in the building. The books and papers that are scattered around the place should be gathered up and placed in a safe repository.

3. Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri.

A more careful inspection of the records in Villa Bettoni disclosed the fact that between 40 and 50 boxes of the records of the Consulta Araldica are in the building. This office was a part of or under the jurisdiction of the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri. The records are of the utmost historical significance to the Italians.

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4. Mostra della Rivoluzione Fascista.

After considerable searching and lengthy conversations with Maurice Lodife (see report of May 2), Dr. Alberto Cesari, Via Cure del Lino 534, and Dr. Folco Zugere, Via Cure del Lino 551, the location of the Mostra della Rivoluzione Fascista, a collection of great historical importance, was discovered. The collection is locked in the Museo Lapidario e d'Arte, Guardia di Finanza, San Bernardino 91, SALO'. The keys are in the possession of a man named Scotti, a member of the Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale, who can be found at the Municipio.

2115

Copies to:

MPAA, Allied Commission,
Archives Officer, Emilia Region.

/s/ William D. McCain
/t/ William D. McCain
Capt., GAO
Archives Officer,
Lombardia Region.

20905/c/4/d
27 MAR 1945

785016

MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EMILIA REGION

6 May 1945

Subject: Inspection of Records of the Italian Government in
CARPIANO and BALO'.

To : Regional Commissioner, Lombardia Region.

1. VILLA FELTRINELLI, CARPIANO

Villa Feltrinelli (BRASGLA 2 Force Target No. 89) was the private residence of Benito Mussolini until he moved to MILANO about three weeks ago. The Archives Officer found the building guarded by troops (commanded by Lt. E.O. Hansen) of the 10th Mountain Division. Capt. Alberti, was present and was requisitioning the building for the use of the Headquarters of the Fifth Army. Both officers stated that Capt. E.L. Ciforelli, Documents Section, Fifth Army, had taken some records from Villa Feltrinelli, but neither officer knew what records or the approximate bulk. A careful search of the building and grounds, including the large air raid shelter revealed some loose manuscripts and books of letters and photographs in the basement of the Villa. Since the building was being requisitioned, the Archives Officer loaded these items into command and reconnaissance car he was using and took them to BRASGLA, where he placed them in the custody of Prof. Ugo Baroneselli, director of the Civica Biblioteca Queriniiana, Via Mazzini 3. Most of the manuscripts were Gabriele d'Annunzio items. No receipts were given or taken.

With the aid of a priest, the Archives Officer found in the home of Sarra Armandi, Via Crocefisso (no house number), some pictures, rugs, furniture, and manuscripts said to belong to Bruno Mussolini and which were recently evacuated from Villa Feltrinelli. The manuscripts were in two wooden cases approximately 12" x 20" x 30" in size. The Archives Officer ordered Armandi to keep the manuscripts safe until he could return for them, explaining that they were property of the Italian government.

785016

Officer found the building guarded by troops (commanded by Lt. E.S. Nemes) of the 10th Mountain Division. Capt. Alberti, was present and was requisitioning the building for the use of the Headquarters of the Fifth Army. Both officers stated that Capt. E.L. Ciferelli, Documents Section, Fifth Army, had taken some records from Villa Feltrinelli, but neither officer knew what records or the approximate bulk. A careful search of the building and grounds, including the large air raid shelter revealed some loose manuscripts and books of letters and photographs in the basement of the Villa. Since the building was being requisitioned, the Archives Officer loaded these items into command and reconnaissance car he was using and took them to BANGALA, where he placed them in the custody of Prof. Ugo Baroncelli, director of the Civica Biblioteca Queriniiana, Via Mazzini 3. Most of the manuscripts were Gabriele d'Annunzio items. No receipts were given or taken.

With the aid of a priest, the Archives Officer found in the home of Barra Armando, Via Crescenzio (no house number), some pictures, rugs, furniture, and manuscripts said to belong to Bruno Mussolini and which were recently evacuated from Villa Feltrinelli. The manuscripts were in two wooden cases approximately 12" x 20" x 36" in size. The Archives Officer ordered Armando to keep the manuscripts safe until he could return for them, explaining that they were property of the Italian government.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING OF MUSSOLINI, CAGLIARI

The building used by Mussolini for his administrative offices is located at Viale della Vittoria 16, Gerguano. It was being guarded by troops of the 10th Mountain Division, but they expected to turn it over to Headquarters, Fifth Army during the day. Mr. Peter Gordon, CIG, 10th Mountain Division, who had an office in the building across the street kindly escorted me through the building. He stated that Capt. Ciferelli had removed two or more truck loads of documents from the building. There were a few documents scattered in the various rooms which should have been collected and saved. Packing cases gave evidence that some of the records in the building had been brought from Palazzo Venezia in Rome. No evidence of looting or burning were noted. No one knew whether Mussolini evacuated any of his records when he left for MILANO.

6 MAR 1944

20905/c/4/d

3. VILLA BETTONI, GARRIBANO

Villa Bettoni (Zasacka's Force Target No. 104) is a very large building used by the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri. It was being guarded by troops of the 10th Mountain Division, but was being requisitioned by Headquarters, Fifth Army. An inspection revealed great quantities of records scattered throughout the building. Some were still in place in the Archivio, some were in place in the various offices, and a great amount of records and books were in bundles, suitcases, and large packing cases being prepared for evacuation. Great quantities of records had been burned by officials in numerous stoves and fireplaces in the various offices.

Italians reported that some records were transferred about a month ago to MILANO.

The Archives Officer made an unsuccessful search for Capt. Alberti or any Fifth Army officer who was connected with requisitioning to ask that the archives in Villa Bettoni be collected, stored, and locked before the building was occupied. He then reported the matter to some officials from BRUSOLA. Later he found an official (Maurice Lodife) of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri who was connected with the Partisans and asked him to have the place guarded with Partisans if the American guards were withdrawn and the Villa was left unguarded. Finally the matter was reported to Capt. Hubbard, commander of the BRUSOLA's Force. The Archives Officer will attempt to return to GARRIBANO and take further precautions.

4. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI, MILANO

The various offices of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri are located in and around MILANO in Villa Simonini (BRUSOLA's Force Target No. 54), Villa Martinengo (Target No. 55), Orselina Convent (Target No. 56 and given as Villa Luisa), Villa Vigonessi (Target No. 57), and Villa Santa Maria, GARRIBANO (Apparently a Secret Service Office).

The Archives Officer talked to Maurice Lodife, an employee of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri, who seemed to be responsible for placing guards (Partisans) on the various offices when the German and Italian forces no longer controlled the area. He stated that some records of the Ministry were in MILANO, but should be under the care of Count Belino Rogeri (a Partisan). All offices had been locked and/or guarded and no records had been looted or destroyed. Lodife made periodic inspections and was positive that the situation was under control. He explained that Count Camillo Pallizzari, of GARRIBANO, had been placed in charge of the offices and that the records would be safe.

Lodife stated that an American had arrived on May 2 and

deglì Affari Esteri who was connected with the Partisans and asked him to have the place guarded with Partisans if the American guards were withdrawn and the Villa was left unguarded. Finally the matter was referred to Capt. Hubbard, commander of the MUSEOLA B Force. The Archives Officer will attempt to return to GUICHANO and take further precautions.

4. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI, ROMA

The various offices of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri are located in and around PALAZZO in Villa Mimmo (MUSEOLA B Force Target No. 54), Villa Martinengo (Target No. 55), Orsoline Convent (Target No. 56 and given as Villa Luisa), Villa Vigonza (Target No. 57), and Villa Santa Maria, BARBARO (Apparently a Secret Service Office).

The Archives Officer talked to Maurice Lodife, an employee of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri, who seemed to be responsible for placing guards (Partisans) on the various offices when the German and Italian forces no longer controlled the area. He stated that he has no records of the Partisans in MILANO, but should be under the care of Count Beltrando Rossi (a Partisan). All offices had been locked and guarded and no records had been noted or destroyed. Lodife made periodic inspections and was positive that the situation was under control. He explained that Count Camillo Pellizzari, of GUICHANO, had been placed in charge of the offices and that the records would be safe.

Lodife stated that an OSS officer had arrived on May 2 and over his protests had taken away a truck load of the records of the Ministero degli Affari Esteri. The Archives Officer checked the MUSEOLA B Force files and found that Lt. Lb. A.S. 1004 (Alexander) was not legible). GAC, 207th Regiment, GAC, had signed the receipt for the records. Lodife had refused to give up the records until ordered to do so by Capt. Alberti.

5. MINISTERO DELLA CULTURA, ROMA

Offices of the Ministero della Cultura Popolare were located in Villa Assisi (MUSEOLA B Force Target No. 58). Maurice Lodife assured that the Archives Officer that the Villa was being guarded by Partisans and that the remaining records were safe. Some

of the records had been moved to MIAMO a month ago and a large quantity had been burned recently, but a large quantity remains in the Villa.

WILLIAM J. MCGAIN
Captain, GAC
Archives Officer, LOMBARDIA Reg.

785016

2112

of the records had been moved to MILANO a month ago and a large quantity had been burned recently, but a large quantity remains in the Villa.

WILLIAM D. MCCAIN
Captain, GAC
Archives Officer, LOHARADIA Reg.

2112

785016

2112

- 2 -

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394.

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

20905/MFAA/

19 April 1945

RECEIVED from Lt. Gen. of the Bombing Survey Unit Detachment for
return to the Ministry of Interior the following documents:

1. Daily Reports of the General H.Q. of the Royal Carabinieri.

April, 1943. 14, 15, 18-21, 23-25, 27.
May, 1943. 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 14.
June, 1943. 15-23, 25-27, 29, 30.
July, 1943. 1-22, 24.

2. Promemoria per il Duce.

(a) Reports of a general nature from the various provinces:

October - March, 1942/3. May and June, 1943.

(b) Miscellaneous reports:

November and December, 1942.
January to June, 1943.

2111

T. H. BROOKE
Captain, KRRC
Archives Officer, MFAA S/O.

~~SECRET~~

Restricted

J. J. G. F/L

From:- Bombing Survey Unit Detachment,
c/o, 14 Signals Centre,
R.A.F., C.M.F.

To :- Headquarters, A.M.G., Region IV,
Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Division.

Date:- 6th April, 1945.

Ref :- BSU/S.14.

For the attention of: Captain T. H. Brooke.

The following list of documents obtained from Palazzo Venezia and at present held by this Detachment is submitted for your information.

1. Daily Reports of the General H.Q. of the Royal Carabinieri.

April, 1943. 14, 15, 18-21, 23-25, 27.
May, 1943. 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 14.
June, 1943. 15-23, 25-27, 29, 30.
July, 1943. 1-22, 24.

2. Promemoria per il Duce.

(a) Reports of a general nature from the various provinces:

October - March, 1942/3. May and June, 1943.

(b) Miscellaneous reports:

November and December, 1942.
January to June, 1943.

2110

2. Please acknowledge receipt on enclosed Form 247.

C. J. G. F/L

~ Squadron Leader,
Bombing Survey Unit,
R.A.F. C.M.F.

RESTRICTED

19 April 45

Received from Lt Goar of the
Bombing Survey Unit Detachment for return
to the Ministry of Interior the following
documents :-

785016

2 APR 1945

Ernst
W. N.Subject: - Archives, Rocca Delle Caminate.

RESTRICTED.

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP.

1433/3.

2 Apr 45.
-----VP CA Section, HQ Allied Commission
-----Copy to: - G-5.

Ref your 20905/A/2/MFAA dated Mar 45.

The particulars given in your above-quoted letter have now enabled GSI Eighth Army to trace the letter sent to them by G-2 (I.O.S.S.) on the above subject.

It appears that the letter in question was placed in the wrong file on receipt, with the result that no action was taken when the fall of ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE became imminent.

The error is regretted.



Chas. G. S. C.
Col G-2
Brigadier,
AC of S, G-2.

2109

MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION

4 APR 1945

FILE No. 20905/A/2

2 APR. 1945

785016

CONFIDENTIAL*Confidential*
Excluded
LC
15/10/45~~SECRET~~

24 March 1948

Subject : Memorandum on the Archivio Ordinario and the remaining Secret Archives from the Palazzo Venezia.

To : Assistant Deputy Director

Copy to : Mr. Gaudi, Chief of Document Section

For convenience this Memorandum is sub-divided under the following headings :

1. The Discovery of the Archives.
2. Permission into Investigation.
3. The Custodians.
4. Preliminary Investigation.
5. Archivio Ordinario.
6. Brief Analysis of the Archivio Ordinario.
7. Remaining Secret Archives from the Palazzo Venezia.
8. Their Propeganda and Intelligence Value.
9. Recommendations.
10. Future Finds.

1. THE DISCOVERY OF THE ARCHIVES

Since 1942 the Archivio Ordinario occupies three rooms on the second floor of the Palazzo Venezia. Formerly the Duce's Confidential Archives, comprising the "Confidential Archives proper (archivio riservato) and the Secret Military Archives (archivio militare segreto) were also kept in the same building. They were transferred, however, to the Palazzo Venezia in 1941. After Rome's liberation a small part of these "Secret Archives were found in the Palazzo Venezia - the vast bulk having been carried off to North Africa and re-united with the Archivio Ordinario.

The Archivio Ordinario, it will be recalled, was found some nine months ago, on the 12th June, 1944, by Captain T.E. Brooke, Archives Officer, Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission, A.C., with the help of Comm. Emilio Re, the present Comissario agli Archivi dello Stato. About a month later, they proceeded, with the aid of Col. Hani, a former member of the Duce's Secretariat (later arrested by the Allies) to discover a small selection of the Secret Archives in the Palazzo Venezia.

Both these finds were reported to G-2, Advance Intelligence AFHQ, and were referred to in monthly reports submitted by Capt. Brooke, dated respectively 2nd July and 3rd August 1944. Copies of these were furnished to the Joint Intelligence Collecting Agency (JICA).

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Both these finds were reported to G-2, Advance Intelligence AFHQ, and were referred to in monthly reports submitted by Capt. Brooke, dated respectively 2nd July and 3rd August 1944. Copies of these were furnished to the Joint Intelligence Collecting Agency (JICA).

The secret material found in the Palazzo Venezia was moved by Capt. Brooke, on the authority of G-2, Rome Area Allied Command, towards the end of July 1944, when it was necessary to clean the palace where an international art exhibition was about to be held.

These open and secret archives are in the charge of the Italian Government, subject until recently, to powers of surveillance exercised by the Allies. Such a situation naturally facilitated investigation by Allied personnel anyone wishing to obtain access to the archives had to secure Capt. Brooke's permission. These powers of surveillance were renounced early this month, when the archives reverted to Italian possession subject, of course to the relative provisions of the Armistice.

Note. - Since Mussolini's Confidential Archives (Archivio Riservato) include such "secret" (segreto) material, the word "secret" is from this point used in this report to embrace documents and papers that were classified as "riservato".

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

2.

2. PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE

In view of Mr. Gnudi's absence from Rome, Miss King, his secretary, advised me on Sunday the 11th March, 1945, to get into touch with Capt. F.H. Brooks, as being conversant with the mode of gaining access to the Archivio Ordinario and the Secret Archives.

I visited Capt. Brooks on the following day. He informed me that the Archives having reverted to Italian possession, he would broach the matter with Commendatore Re. I may add here in parenthesis that Capt. Brooks's relations with the Commendatore are not limited to the joint achievement of detecting the archives but have remained cordial and - from the Allied point of view - fruitful ever since.

A meeting was accordingly arranged between Capt. Brooks, Comm. Re and myself, at which the Commendatore handed me a permit without much ado and offered to conduct me over the Archives the next day, which he did. After a cursory survey, I had to return to the task of completing my investigation and report on the functioning of the PVB Daily News File to PID.

On the fifteenth, Capt. Proctor Thomas of PVB arranged an appointment for me for the following day with Marchese Cittadini of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is acting as Liaison Officer between the Italian Government and A.C.I., apprised him of my desire to visit the Archives and of the permit received from Comm. Re. Marchese Cittadini referred the matter to Eccellenza Adalberto Berruti, chief of cabinet to the Minister of the Interior. The Marchese telephonically informed me later in the day that Eccellenza Berruti had expressed his full approval.

3. THE CUSTODIANS

The Archivio Ordinario and the Secret Archives come under the general control of Comm. Re as Commissioner for Archives. They are in the direct charge of two Italian archivists, both ex-officers in the present war and one of them a professional archivist. They have the services of a typist.

Three plain-clothes policemen take their turn in guarding the three rooms occupied by the Archives in the Palazzo Venezia, by day and night. In view of the Archives' importance, and of the possible circulation of the fact of Allied interest, the adequacy of a single guard may be questioned. (V. Recommendations VIII a. and b.)

However, I would like here to acknowledge the unstated help and

On the fifteenth, Capt. Proctor Thomas of FBI arranged an appointment for me for the following day with Marchese Cittadini of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is acting as Liaison Officer between the Italian Government and A.C.I. apprised him of my desire to visit the Archives and of the permit received from Comm. Re. Marchese Cittadini referred the matter to Eccellenza Adalberto Berruti, Chief de cabinet to the Minister of the Interior. The Marchese telephonically informed me later in the day that Eccellenza Berruti had expressed his full approval.

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However, I would like here to acknowledge the unstinted help and guidance I received from Comm. Re, his assistants and the plain-clothes policemen in carrying out my preliminary investigations.

4. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

On Saturday, 17th March, I paid my first prolonged visit to the Archives, returning there on the following Monday and Tuesday.

These three visits were mainly devoted to the examination of the secret deposits from the Palazzo Venezia. In the limited time at my disposal I was able to convince myself that this material appeared to be of major interest and was able to classify its more important component groups for the purposes of this report.

I concluded my inspection with a rapid scrutiny of the Archivio Ordinario, the contents of which I shall next describe.

5. ARCHIVIO ORDINARIO

The Archivio Ordinario consists of some 100,000 files; 60,000 (this and other figures are approximate) of these constitute the current archives, and 40,000 files the non-current archives, i.e. those that were no longer kept up.

The 60,000 files of the current archives comprise: 5,000 files dealing with the benefactions of Countess Eda Ciano; and 55,000 remaining files which may be subdivided as follows:

- 1,000 files embracing the general business of the Duce's Private Secretariat.
- 8,000 files dealing with correspondence with officials in provinces and communes.
- 40,000 files dealing with correspondence with the numerous members of the Mussolini Family, declarations of devotion to Mussolini, requests for favours, events, photographs on the part of persons and institutions; relations with prominent and obscure personages, Italian and foreign, and institutions of a widely diversified character.

The 40,000 non-current archives contain largely analogous matter.

The current archives are filed in closed shelves and are numbered from 890,001 onwards. The non-current have retained their original numbers.

As to the index cards, numbering some 200,000, two-thirds are filed according to name, and the rest according to subject. There is an alphabetical register, from 1928 onwards, of correspondence forwarded by the Secretariat to various ministries and institutions for their attention. There are also a large number of official publications such as deal with Fascist legislation and Fascist party decrees. There is also a small private library, containing books of economic and political interest which had been purchased by Mussolini from a former syndicalist, Galda, in needy circumstances.

6. BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE ARCHIVIO ORDINARIO

2106

These archives represent the bulk of Mussolini's own correspondence with prominent and obscure persons in Italy and abroad, and thus possess unique political and historical value.

Their salient features may be summed up as follows:

- (1) the Archivio Ordinario has been kept up with striking completeness, elaborateness, and care, which will naturally facilitate investigation.

(2) The files in every sense, so as for book as the very early

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6. BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE ARCHIVIO ORDINARIO

2106

These archives represent the bulk of Mussolini's open correspondence with prominent and obscure persons in Italy and abroad, and thus possess unique political and historical value.

Their salient features may be summed up as follows :

- (i) the Archivio Ordinario has been kept up with striking completeness, elaborateness, and care, which will naturally facilitate investigation.
- (ii) The files, in many cases, go as far back as the very early years of the Fascist regime.
- (iii) The numerous recipients of Mussolini's and Countess Ciano's gifts and favours, big and small, constitute a long list of political suspects, who are named and particularised for the convenience, as it were, of the Allies and the present Italian Government.
- (iv) The other correspondence, who include many prominent Italians, betray the length and intimacy of their association with Mussolini and Fascism.
- (v) The correspondence with foreigners throws light on Mussolini's international relationships and Fascism's world-wide ramifications.
- (vi) The following items are also of note :
 - (a) Register of names of Italian prisoners-of-war affirming loyalty to Mussolini (interesting for comparison with names obtainable from censorship intercepts)
 - (b) Files of raccomandanti i.e. well-known Italians seeking gifts or favours for their friends or dependants from Mussolini - with card-index.
 - (c) Lists of those volunteering for service in the war.
 - (d) Lists of those offering money and gifts "to the Fatherland" from 1935 to the present war years.
 - (e) Lists of donors of gifts (donatori) to the Duce, approx. 1925-1942.

7. REMAINING SECRET ARCHIVES FROM PALAZZO VENEZIA

The approximately 700 files printed works and other items found in the Palazzo Venezia have been placed in such shelves as have been available. A large number of the files and documents bear a massive "V" (visto), indicating that they had been personally perused by the Duce.

The following are the main items of interest :

(i) Prememoria per il Duce (For the Duce's Attention), 1941-42.

A numerous but incomplete series of daily reports from the General Command of the Carabinieri. Including a summary of the major events and crimes (reati ed avvenimenti di massimo rilievo). These reports give an exhaustive day-to-day internal picture of Italy at war. They provide items of information such as the following :

- List of criminal offences
- List of suicides
- Escape and re-capture of prisoners-of-war
- Labour situation: resumption of work by and closing down of factories; dismissal and re-employment of workers.
- Partisan attacks in Italian-occupied Balkan territory.
- Monitoring summary of news transmissions by Radio Londra

(ii) Political Police Reports, 1940-42

Unsigned reports from the Divisione Polizia Politica, Min. of the Interior, addressed to Osvaldo Sebastiani, the Duce's Private Secretary, some marked "Most Confidential" (riservatissimo). Type-written foolscap sheets - about fifty each in some 50 envelopes - contain reports on a wide variety of subjects of which the following are possibly typical :

- Views and conduct of prominent Italians and foreigners in Italy and abroad
- Reactions in Italy, Axis countries and elsewhere to political events and economic conditions
- Various military, political, and economic information
- Anti-Fascist political activity.

(iii) Daily Audiences (Udienze), 1942 - and possibly earlier to 25.7.42

Loose-leaf sheets, in diary form often in duplicate indicating persons to whom and times at which the Duce granted audiences.

(iv) Card-index of Mussolini's correspondents, A-B

Relative secret files not available.

(v) Mussolini's Family

escape and re-capture of prisoners-of-war
 Labour situation: resumption of work by and closing down of factories;
 dismissal and re-employment of workers.
 Partisan attacks in Italian-occupied Balkan territory.
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 Various military, political, and economic information
 Anti-Fascist political activity.

(111) Daily Audiences (Udienze), 1942 - and possibly earlier to 25.7.43

Loose-leaf sheets, in diary form often in duplicate indicating ²¹⁰⁵ to whom and times at which the Duce granted audiences.

(iv) Card-index of Mussolini's correspondents, A-B

Relative secret files not available.

(v) Mussolini's Family

Cards, in alphabetical order containing particulars of the numerous members of the Mussolini Family, also those persons under suspicion for having claimed falsely to be his relatives.

(vi) Mussolini's Letters to Prominent Fascists, 1931-35

Typescript copies of letters to Balbo, De Vecchi, Pariani, and others.

(vii) Supreme Command Cables, 1940-42.

Daily cypher and an clair cables dealing with the operations of the Italian Army, Navy and Air Force almost throughout entire period of the war.

(viii) SIM Reports, 1940-43.

Intelligence reports for the Armed Forces. Daily series incomplete.

(ix) SIF Reports, 1942-43.

Army Intelligence reports. Daily series, incomplete.

(x) Army Staff circulars and other papers, 1942-43.

(xi) New Order Reviews, 1942-43.

Fortnightly and weekly reviews of foreign press comment on the New Order, 1942-43.

(xii) Questura di Roma.

Food Market Reports, 1942-Jan.-1943

Daily Police Service Orders, May-December, 1942.

(xiii) Ministry of Popular Culture.

Confidential Information Services : Reviews of Foreign Press

Radio Monitoring Reports

British Press Cable Intercepts

"Bibliografia Straniera", 1941-42

(xiv) Special Tribunal for the Defence of the State.

Reports of Court Proceedings for the Duce, 1942-43.

(xv) Prefects' Telegrams, 1943

1500-2000 copies of telegrams to the Ministry of the Interior, dealing with German requisitioning, Communist activity, air raids, etc.

(xvi) CHIAVOLINI, Alessandro Contracts deeds of gifts, etc. Off interest in view of Chiavolini's recent arrest (former Private Secretary of the Duce)

(xvii) MARDOGLIO Racine (Pro-Armistice)

There is a certain amount of material belonging to this period, when the Secretariat appears to have been taken over by the Marshal. The items of interest include: Prefects' Telegrams as described in sub-section(xv) up to the time of the Armistice, 8.9.43; and register of visitors to the Secretariat.

8. THEIR PROPAGANDA AND INTELLIGENCE VALUE

210/2
A proper appraisal of these Secret Archives must naturally wait upon a detailed investigation. However, their potential intelligence and propaganda value to PID, and perhaps to other Allied agencies, seems clear.

These Secret Archives help to re-construct a picture - the first of its kind in Allied hands - of a dictatorship at work that is illuminating as it is absorbing in detail. They reveal the ubiquitous, tentacular ramifications of modern dictatorial power, and may be used to play an important part in

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(xvii) RADOLIO, Regime (Pre-Armistice)

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These Secret Archives help to re-construct a picture - the first of its kind in Allied hands - of a dictatorship at work that is illuminating as it is absorbing in detail. They reveal the ubiquitous, tentacular ramifications of modern dictatorial power, and may be used to play an important part in combatting the various tendencies towards mass-tyranny that are today so perilously in fashion.

In general, the Secret Archives may be said to shed light on problems such as the following :

- (i) the identity, and degree of complicity, of Mussolini's collaborators before his fall.
- (ii) Italy's relations with Nazi Germany and other powers.
- (iii) the identity of foreign agents and elements in Italy potentially hostile to the cause of the United Nations.
- (iv) the permeation of fascist sentiment in the ranks of the Armed Forces and other social spheres.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

I submit for consideration the following recommendations :

2104

(10) That the Archivio Ordinario and the remaining Secret Archives be further examined and assessed in detail in respect of their value to PID and other bodies.

(11) that documents and other material of interest or copies thereof be made available to PID and other bodies with utmost despatch.

(11i) that, in this connection, the following items be regarded as of special interest and meriting priority in investigation:

Items (i) to (iv), (vi) to (xi) and (xv) to (xvii), under Section 7 ("Remaining Secret Archives from Palazzo Venezia")

(iv) that the opinion of PID be forthwith sought as to the open and secret archives as described in this report, and in particular as to the above choice of items for priority in investigation;

(v) that items of interest be also made available to other bodies; in particular comments of military and air force interest be made known and available to the appropriate Allied agencies;

(vi) that plans be so contrived that the above recommendations do not prejudice the further investigation and exploitation of such interesting material as may be found in the Archivio Ordinario;

(vii) that the agreement of the Italian Government be sought for the further investigation, and exploitation of the Archivio Ordinario and the remaining Secret Archives in the manner described in the preceding recommendations;

(viii) (a) that the question be considered of seeking the Italian Government's agreement for the transfer elsewhere of such material as may be deemed desirable to be held under the possibly safer custody of the Allied authorities;

4(viii) (b) or, alternately, that the Italian Government be reminded of its responsibility in having custody of these important archives and be left to take such steps as may appear desirable for the additional safeguarding of these archives;

10. FUTURE PLANS

2103

The few hundred secret files from the Palazzo Venezia cannot fail to whet one's appetite for what is yet possibly to be found in Northern Italy. In view of their value to PID- and, perhaps, other organisations - it is opportune to express the hope that every conceivable effort will be made to locate and secure possession of Mussolini's Secret Archives and other important Fascist archives. And once found, it is to be expected that their discovery will be

(vi) that plans be so contrived that the above recommendations do not prejudice the further investigation and exploitation of such interesting material as may be found in the Archivio Ordinario;

(vii) that the agreement of the Italian Government be sought for the further investigation, and exploitation of the Archivio Ordinario and the remaining Secret Archives in the manner described in the preceding recommendations;

(viii) (a) that the question be considered of seeking the Italian Government's agreement for the transfer elsewhere of such material as may be deemed desirable to be held under the possibly safer custody of the Allied authorities;

(viii) (b) or, alternately, that the Italian Government be reminded of its responsibility in having custody of these important archives and be left to take such steps as may appear desirable for the additional safeguarding of these archives;

2103

10. FUTURE FILES

The few hundred secret files from the Palazzo Venezia cannot fail to whet one's appetite for what is yet possibly to be found in Northern Italy. In view of their value to PIR- and, perhaps, other organizations - it is opportune to express the hope that every conceivable effort will be made to locate and secure possession of Mussolini's Secret Archives and other important Fascist archives. And once found, it is to be expected that their discovery will be made known at once to PIR and other interested bodies.

Furthermore, it is to be noted that both the discoveries made in Rome and the information available as to the whereabouts of similar material in the North were obtained by Capt. Brooke through Italian civilian channels. (It will be recalled that even a former Fascist official, Col. Renato Nani, aided in the detection of the remaining Secret Archives in the Palazzo Venezia). The possibilities of similar cooperation in the future should not be overlooked.

WILFRED DAVID
Attached to "E" Section,
PIR Unit n.17

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

20905/4/2/KPAA

March 1945

Subject: Archives, ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE.

To : Hq. 15th Army Group.

1. Reference is made to para. 2 of your Hq.'s letter 1433/3 of 16 Feb 45. This states that GSI(b) Eighth Army cannot recall having been requested to arrange for special guarding of the Castle, ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE, near FORI', containing private papers of Mussolini.

2. In view of the unfortunate losses which these collections suffered subsequent to the Allied entrance into ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE in the early days of November 44, it appears proper to establish the fact that G-2 (Intelligence Objectives Sub-Section), C.S.V., did point out the importance of the material in question and suggest its protection.

3. A copy of the letter from G-2 (I.O.S.-3.), C.S.V., dated 29 Sep 44 to G-2, C.S.L.(b), Main Hq., Eighth Army is attached herewith, together with a covering letter from the G.C. G-2 (I.O.S.-1.), C.S.V., dated 28 Nov 44.

For the CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

G.R. SMITH, Brig.
VP CA Sect

2 Incls--
as stated in para. 3.

785016

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E. J. Givens

G-2 (Intelligence Objectives Sub-Section) G. M. F.
c/o Rome Area Allied Command
APO 734, U. S. Army

6

OK - 6

28 November 44

SUBJECT: Former Residence of MUSSOLINI.

TO : Fine Arts and Monuments Division,
(Attention Archives Section),
Allied Commission.

Reference Capt. BROOK's call to this
office yesterday.

For your information is attached a copy
of a letter OK - 6 dated 29 September 44 addressed
by this section to G-2, G.S.I. (b), Main Head-
quarters, Eighth Army.

5

A. J. Givens

A. J. GIVENS,
Major, G. S.,
G-2(I.O.S-S.)G.M.F.

ADP/rbm

END.

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90905/11/2

785016

~~SECRET~~*2-2-44*

G-2 (Intelligence Objectives Sub-Section) C. M. F.
c/o Rome Area Allied Command
APO 794, U. S. Army

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RESTRICTED

CX - 6

29 September 44

SUBJECT: Former Residence of MUSSOLINI.

TO : G-2, G.S.I.(b),
Main Headquarters,
Eighth Army.

The following information is forwarded
to you for your attention.

The CASTELLO at ROCCA delle CAMINATE,
FORLI - Map Ref. M 4105 - was a former residence
of MUSSOLINI and may still contain personal papers
and other documents of importance.

It is suggested that arrangements be
made to search and guard the building at the earli-
est opportunity.

ACCH/rbm

A. J. COVENTRY,
Major, G. S.,
G-2(I.O.S-S.)C.M.F.

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RESTRICTED
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SECRET

20905/10/2

785016

A F A 16 FEB. 1945

SUBJECT:- Archives, ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE

RESTRICTED 4

HQ 15th ARMY GROUP

1433/3

16 Feb 45
-----HQ Allied Commission

Ref your 20905/A/2/MFAA dated 3 Jan 45. 2

1. A copy of your letter was forwarded to Eighth Army for their comments and enquiries, and the following information has been received.
2. GSI(b) Eighth Army cannot recall having been requested to arrange for the villa to be specially guarded.
3. It was learnt from local civilians that 130 German troops had been billeted in ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE before the enemy's evacuation of the area.
4. It is not known to what extent the place was looted and damaged prior to the arrival of Allied troops, but a FSS patrol of 5 Kres Div, which followed closely on the heels of the forward troops, found the place very devastated and in a state of confusion.
5. The Castello was searched by FCS for documents of security interest, but none were found.
6. Certain films and documents were salvaged and passed to PWB in order that this opportunity should not be lost of exploiting information of immediate propaganda value. PWB has been asked to forward all such material to G-2 Documents Section AFHQ, in accordance with your request.
7. Polish Corps reports that no trace is available of the present whereabouts of the Visitors' Book.

2099

HEADQUARTERS
19 FEB 1945
1. G.for
Major General
Chief of StaffDOCUMENTS FILED & ARCHIVED
SUBCOM
19 FEB 1945
FILE No 20905/A/2

16 FEB 1945

DB

785016

Subject:- Rocca Delle Caminate

Headquarters
15 Army Group
Civil Affairs
Tel: Filpot 121

To:- Chief of Staff,
HQ Allied Commission

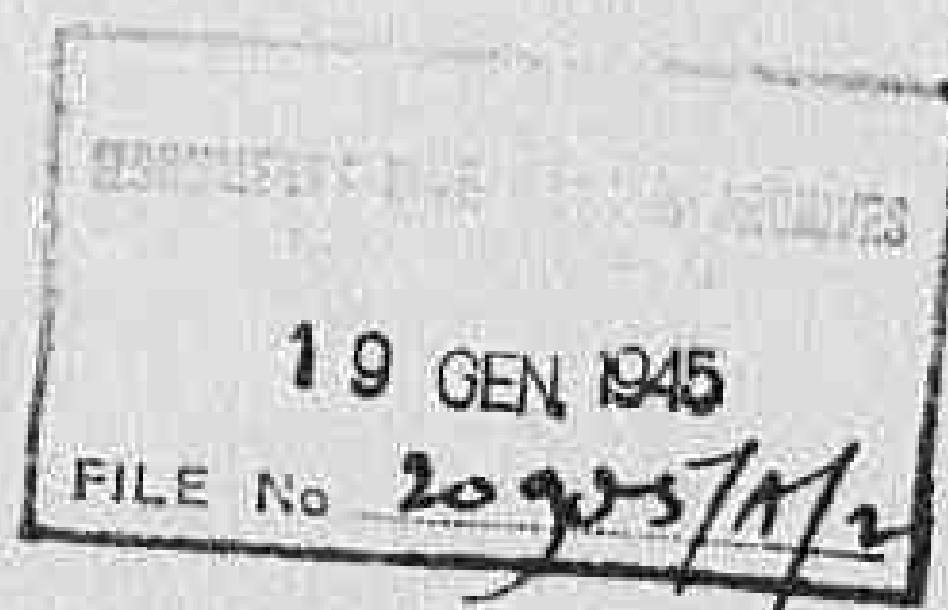
DGCAC/14/12.1
16 Jan 45

1. Reference 20905/A/2 MFA dated 3 Jan 45, and received by this HQ 12 Jan 45.

2. Attached herewith is the initial action letter to Eighth Army. Upon receipt of further information you will be advised as to the steps being taken in this matter by 15 Army Group.



R. A. Perseil
R. A. PERSEIL,
Lt. Col., Inf.
for DGCAC



2098

785016

3A

SUBJECT: Archives: ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE

R. 15th ARMY GROUP, GAF.

1433/3/GSI(b)

14 Jan. 45

Eighth Army

1. Attached is copy of a letter dated 3 Jan 45 which has been received from H. Allied Commission on the subject of MUSSOLINI's former residence at ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE, near FORLI.
2. Will you please forward to this H. your comments on the attached letter, together with such facts as you are able to ascertain concerning the posting of guards, the removal of papers etc.

G.S.S.

for Major General,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: Civil Affairs Section

2097



DCCAO		
CSC		
ECOS		
Civ. Affairs	✓	///
Trans. & Com.		
Food		
Chief Clerk		
for	INFO	
	ACTION	

785016

2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 20905/A/2/MFAA

3 Jan 1945

SUBJECT: Archives, ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE

TO : HQ. 15 Army Group

1. A serious case of a breach of AAI Admin. Instruction No. 10 and AFHQ Intelligence Instruction No. 38 occurred recently at the Rocca delle Caminate, former residence of Mussolini near Forlì.
2. In the absence of any other available specialist the place has been visited by the Archives Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region. An extract of his report is attached. 2A
3. It is evident that a collection of historical importance, one which might also be of interest to intelligence agencies, has suffered unnecessary losses.
4. Photographic evidence showing allied troops in the Library on 13 November 44 (British Army Film photo through P.W.B. R x 3279) proves that the damage by civilians occurred after this date and is therefore attributable to the failure to place guards, contrary to the request made to G2 (GSI) (b) Main H., 8th Army by G2 (I.O.S.S.) CMF (See para 8 of attached report).
5. Attention is drawn to
 - (i) AFHQ Intelligence Instruction No 38 of 4 June 44, which lays down that any documents removed by formations and agencies under HQ AAI will be routed only through G2 Documents Section AFHQ, those of operational nature to be passed first to HQ AAI c/o BGS (Int.)
 - (ii) AAI Admin. Instruction No. 10 of 30 March 44 para 11, which states "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."

785016

6. From the point of view of the preservation of contemporary records in which the Allied Commission is directly concerned (through the Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives) these instructions are an important safeguard against souvenir hunting and looting. There has evidently been neglect of them in this instance.

7. The material remaining in the Rocca is to be removed to Rome where it will be united with the other Archives relating to Mussolini in the repository supervised by the Archives Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region.

8. In order to ensure that all available records eventually find their way into this collection it is requested that GSI (b) Main Polish Corps should be instructed to

- (i) report on the documents or other material removed from the Rocca;
- (ii) attach a statement to the effect that anything removed has been, or will be, returned to G2 Document Section AFHQ in conformity with AFHQ instructions.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

(signed) M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

1 Incl--

Extract of report (13 Dec 44) by
Archives Officer, LAZIO-UMBRIA
Region

Copy to: DCCAO 15th Army Group

2095

785016

COPY - EXTRACT

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
A.P.O. 394

13 December 44

Subject: Rocca delle Casinate

To : Executive Officer,
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.Copy to: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Sub-Commission, E.A. A.G.

1. On December 1 the undersigned visited the former residence of Mussolini The Castle of Rocca delle Casinate, near Predappio (Forli').
2. The results of this inspection confirmed the reports that had appeared in the Press, notably an article published by 'Il Popolo' on November 26, describing the damage to the personal Archives of the Duce by loot and exposure.
3. The building was damaged by shell fire and entered by civilians who removed every piece of furniture including the bookcases and shelving, strewing their contents on the floor. The staircase and the rooms of the tower and the floor of the large library were covered with a thick layer of papers in hopeless confusion. Some were exposed to rain, others blew out of the windows and others were undoubtedly removed as souvenirs by the troops who had free access to the place. Several Polish soldiers were searching the debris at the time of this inspection.
4. The remaining mass of material is still considerable: it consists primarily of a photographic record of Mussolini's activities and manuscript lists of signatures to testimonials. A few scraps of original correspondence were noted but from local reports it seems that most of this had been previously removed by the Germans or Fascists. Most of the Library is also obviously missing.
5. Five days previously the Sindaco of Meldola (the Comune in which the Rocca delle Casinate stands) had appointed a custode to live in the Castle and begin clearing up the mess. He had also taken steps in conjunction with the Comune of Predappio to recover the material removed by the local inhabitants.
6. The undersigned interviewed the Sindaco (Sig. Manbelli) and also the C.A.O. (Lt. Coker) who both are ready to help. It was agreed that the custode should be provided with assistants.

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Incl 1

7. The undersigned reported to the Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G., 8th Army, who at once arranged with the appropriate authorities for the Building to be placed "out of bounds" and for a Carabinieri guard to be supplied by Forlì. The S.C.A.O. A.M.G. 8th Army, (Group-Captain Benson) has also promised to do what he can to secure a truck to transport all material to Rome.

8. What has occurred illustrates very forcibly the danger in forward areas to material of both historical and Intelligence value and the necessity for placing guards at the earliest possible moment. In this instance both the G2 (I.O.S.S.) C.M.F., and the Archivists of the M.P.A. & A. Sub-Commission had an interest in the building and requests for prompt guarding had been forwarded to G2, G.S.I (b) Main Headquarters, 8th Army. It appears that the information was passed to the GSI (b) Main Polish Corps whose Officers entered the building and removed certain material (it is reported for instance by the SCAO, A.M.G. 8th Army, that the Visitors Book has been presented to the Commanding General of the Polish Corps).

+ + + + +

2093

/s/

T.H. Brooke

/t/

T.H. Brooks, Capt. K.R.R.O.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

Copies to:

S.C.A.O. A.M.G. 8th Army.
Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G. 8th Army.
G.2 (I.O.S.S.), C.M.F.

785016

2

CA Sec

Ref minute 1 COS will sign letters submitted but before doing so wishes to see the report retyped with amendment to para 9. It reads now as if the occupation should have been delayed until the time arts off was available, which was not intended in sure.

1 Jan 45

G. Gordon
Office of COS

(3)

COS

This 2 is again submitted with the para 9 cut out in accordance with your report at minute 2 above. The necessary amendment to para 2 of this 2 has also been made.

R. H. Briggs

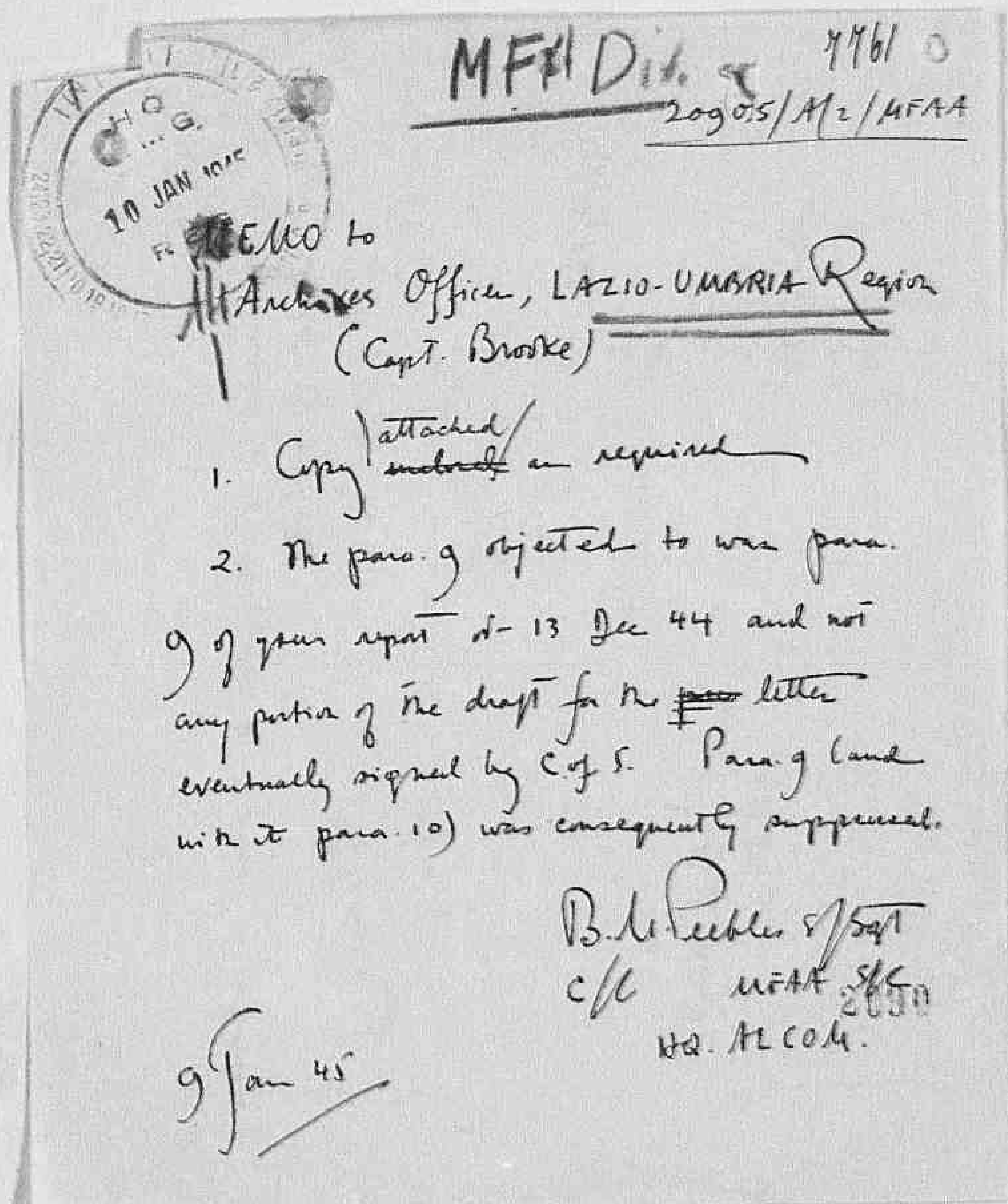
COS

3 Jan 45

X. 608

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785016



785016

4

CA Sec

Letter referred to in Minute 3 signed & returned to you for despatch.

5 Jan 45

E. Horden
Capt
Officer of CS.

(5)

To: M/FAA

See Minute (4)

W. A. S. Holland, Major
C.A. Sec.

6 Jan 45

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
A.F.O. 394

13 December 44

Subject: Rocca delle Caminate
To: Executive Officer,
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.
Copy to: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Sub-Commission, HQ. A.G.

1. On December 1 the undersigned visited the former residence of Mussolini The Castle of Rocca delle Caminate, near Predappio (Forlì).

2. The results of this inspection confirmed the reports that had appeared in the Press, notably an article published by 'Il Popolo' on November 26, describing the damage to the personal Archives of the Duce by loot and exposure.

3. The building was damaged by shell fire and entered by civilians who removed every piece of furniture including the bookcases and shelving, strewing their contents on the floor. The staircase and the rooms of the tower and the floor of the large library were covered with a thick layer of papers in hopeless confusion. Some were exposed to rain, others blew out of the windows and others were undoubtedly removed as souvenirs by the troops who had free access to the place. Several Polish soldiers were searching the debris at the time of this inspection.

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5. Five days previously the Sindaco of Meldola (the

Comune in which the Rocca delle Caminate stands) had appointed a custode to live in the Castle and begin clearing up the mess. He had also taken steps in conjunction with the Comune of Pre-gappie to recover the material removed by the local inhabitants.

6. The undersigned interviewed the Sindaco (Sigr. Mambelli) and also the C.A.O. (Lt. Coker) who both are ready to help. It was agreed that the custode should be provided with assistants.

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9. Owing to technical reasons the Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G., 8th Army, did not visit the Rocca delle Caminate personally to investigate the arrangements made by G.S.I (b). In this connection it was particularly unfortunate that the occupation of the place occurred at the precise moment when the Archives Specialist formerly attached to A.M.G., 8th Army, Capt. Ellis, 2088, was withdrawn from this theatre; a move which, as had been pointed out by the Director of the Sub-Commission, might endanger the safety of Archives generally at this critical time.

10. As a result of this experience it is evident that A.M.G., 8th Army has a clearer picture of the Sub-Commission's interests in modern Archives; that being so the vital co-operation should be forthcoming when the army moves into areas where other

Important deposits are to be found.

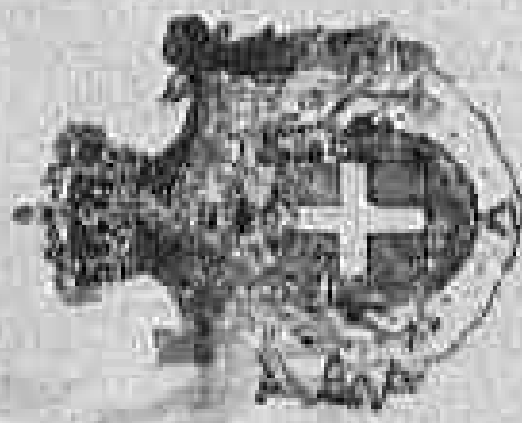
J H Brooke.

F.H. Brooke, Capt. E.R.R.C.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

Copies to:

S.O.A.O. AMG 8th Army.
Fine Arts Officer, AMG 8th Army.
G.2 (I.O.S.S.), C.M.F.

2087



Mod. 839

Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELL'AMMINISTRAZIONE CIVILE

UFFICIO CENTRALE DEGLI ARCHIVI DEL REGNO

Prot. N. 70140/8953.3

Roma, 20 febbraio 1945

APPUNTO PER IL GABINETTO DI S.E. IL MINISTRO

Nel palazzo del Viminale, piano secondo, esiste - com'è noto - e si conserva tutt'ora nell'antica sede che non ha mai abbandonato, il così detto Archivio ordinario della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo, formato di circa 100.000 fascicoli e corredato di un ottimo schedario, onomastico e per materie, composto di 300.000 schede all'incirca.

A differenza dell'Archivio riservato, che si conservava in alcune sale a terreno di Palazzo Venezia, e che, nell'autunno del 1943, fu trasferito a Nord - a Gargnano sul Garda - l'archivio ordinario non ha importanza politica, almeno specifica: esso contiene in fatti, di regola, pratiche di beneficenza e di assistenza non che fascicoli riguardanti Province e Comuni, concessioni di fotografie, omaggi, elargizioni, affari generali di Segreteria, rapporti con Ministeri ed Enti vari e così via. 2086

L'importanza di tale Archivio è piuttosto generica e globale: esso servirà ai futuri storici per intendere come, nel ventennio, funzionasse la dittatura, quali fossero le sue relazioni e le sue fonti d'informazione, e fin dove arrivassero le sue ramificazioni, veramente capillari.

Quando, nel giugno dell'anno scorso, Roma fu liberata, il sottoscritto,

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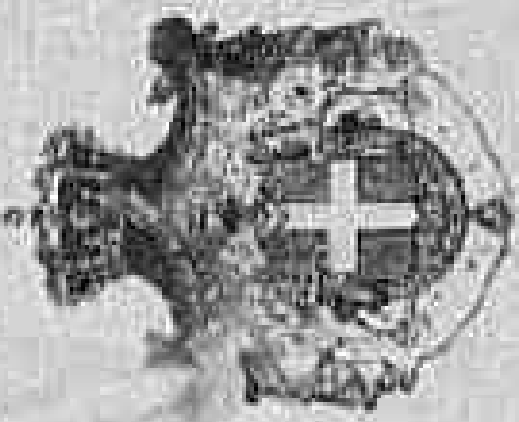
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208

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Quando, nel giugno dell'anno scorso, Roma fu liberata, il sottoscritto, nella sua qualità di Direttore dell'Archivio del Regno, fu prevenuto in comparsa da un tale Archivio e immediatamente si recò a visitarlo in compagnia del Cap. T.M. Brooke della Sottocommissione Alleata per la protezione dei Monumenti Belle Arti e Archivi. La prima visita ebbe luogo precisamente il 12 di quel mese, e, sempre d'accordo col rappresentante della S. Commissione Alleata, fu immediatamente provveduto quel giorno stesso a chiudere gli accessi e a proibire l'ingresso alle sale dove era conservato l'Archivio

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Mod. 839

Ministero dell'Interno

ponendovi una guardia che - da quel giorno - vi è rimasta sempre, a turno, ininterrottamente.

Da allora l'Archivio non ha subito alcuna alterazione, e tanto meno alcuna diminuzione. Esso ha avuto anzi qualche "accessione" di materiale rinvenuto, tra l'ottobre e il novembre, sia nello stesso palazzo del Viminale, che a palazzo Venezia; e per di più ha concentrato in una unica fila di stanze quanto era prima diviso in altre stanze, o attigue, o dirimpetto, nel medesimo corridoio.

I provvedimenti presi fin qui per quanto riguarda l'Archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo non erano, e non potevano essere che di carattere conservativo: essi miravano unicamente a conservare l'assoluta integrità d'un materiale di notevole importanza per la storia dell'ultimo ventennio e che curiosità oziose e indiscrete, o anche interessi di vario genere, avrebbero potuto facilmente contribuire a manomettere, disordinare, disperdere. E questo scopo è stato raggiunto in pieno.

Ma a distanza di circa otto mesi, e quando da un pezzo l'autorità del Governo Italiano è tornata a insediarsi in Roma, sembra finalmente venuto il momento di procedere oltre il provvedimento puramente conservativo di preoccuparsi della amministrazione e del riordinamento di quell'importante complesso documentario, normalizzando insieme quella che fino ad oggi è stata una situazione di fatto.

Intanto i concentramenti e le "accessioni", cui abbiamo accennato innanzi, sono stati compiuti, di necessità, in fretta e, in conseguenza, non sistematicamente; e sarà in conseguenza necessario riscontrare

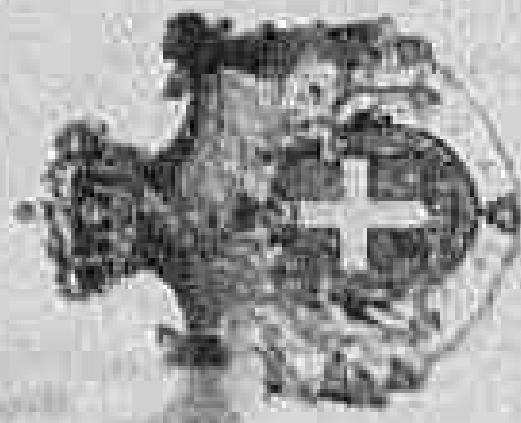
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Intanto i concentramenti e le "accessioni", cui abbiamo accennato innanzi, sono stati compiuti, di necessità, in fretta e, in conseguenza, alquanto tumultuariamente; e sarà in conseguenza necessario riscontrare ora tutto il materiale, distinguendo in esso l'antico e originario da quello di nuova accessione, e rendendosi conto, al fine delle ricerche, dei rapporti esistenti tra fascicoli e materiale di corredo, quanto dire lo schedario sia onomastico che per materia. Sarà pure indispensabile disporre dell'abbondante materiale librario ivi esistente, distinguendo anche qui, quello che costituiva parte essenziale della ex Segreteria - soprattutto copie di omaggio - e quello che proviene dalla Biblioteca di un privato (Calda) che era stata acquistata, negli ultimi tempi, per venire in aiuto

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Ministero dell'Interno

al suo proprietario.

Insomma tutto il lavoro necessario per rimettere in ordine un tutto che da circa un anno risulta abbandonato, e per mantenervelo dopo: lavoro che, evidentemente non può essere affidato se non a personale specializzato.

Ora l'Archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo non è un qualunque Archivio di deposito e tanto meno un archivio corrente: e non esiste più neppure l'Ufficio di cui possa dirsi che costituisca il precedente, e al quale possa quindi essere annesso. Basso è invece il caso tipico dell'archivio morto d'un regime morto: e morto per eccellenza.

Ora quando a Napoli, nel settembre 1860, con la fine del regime Borbonico, si verificò un caso simile, tutti gli Archivi dei Ministeri - che naturalmente non avevano una continuazione in quelli del nuovo Regno d'Italia - furono senz'altro versati come archivi morti, al grande Archivio di Napoli. Io stesso, si propone ora per l'Archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo, con la sola ovvia variante che essa debba essere versato, in Roma, all'Archivio del Regno.

Da quel momento l'Archivio in questione verrebbe ad essere retto ed amministrato con le norme che reggono l'Archivio del Regno, e che ne garantiscono l'integrità; e affidato a personale specializzato, in grado di procedere al suo riordinamento e di corrispondere a tutte le richieste che potessero eventualmente essere presentate, anche per scopi pratici ed attuali.

L'Archivio avrebbe così insieme l'amministrazione che - lo compete, e la normalizzazione di cui ha pure bisogno.

comio, si verrebbe un caso simile, tutti gli Archivi dei Ministeri - che sostanzialmente non avevano una continuazione in quelli del nuovo Regno d'Italia - furono senz'altro versati come archivi morti, al grande Archivio di Napoli. Lo stesso si propone ora per l'Archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo, con la sola ovvia variante che essa debba essere versata, in Roma, all'Archivio del Regno.

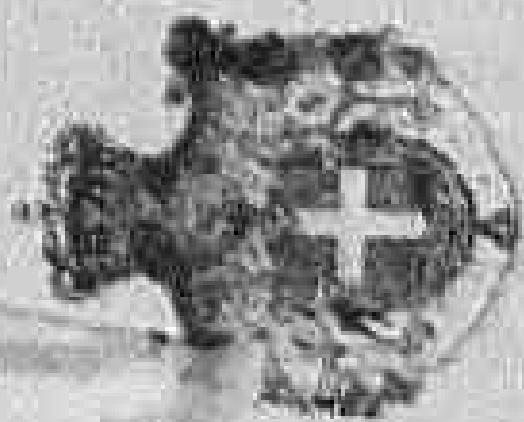
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L'Archivio avrebbe così insieme l'amministrazione che le compete, e la normalizzazione di cui ha pure bisogno.

Per ragioni contingenti d'opportunità, si proporrebbe solo che l'Archivio rimanesse per il momento, e fino a revisione ultimata, nei locali stessi che ora occupa e dove la scaffalatura coincide ed è, al più ben dire, tutt'uno coll'ordinamento presente.

L'Archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo diventerebbe e rimarrebbe così per qualche tempo una Sezione distaccata dell'Archivio del

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Ministero dell'Interno

Mod. 839

Regno, che ne sarebbe però responsabile fino dal primo giorno, e che assumerebbe il carico di corrispondere, con le dovute garanzie, a tutte le possibili richieste dell'Amministrazione corrente.--

IL COMMISSARIO PER GLI ARCHIVI
DEL REGNO

3083

2083

DEL REGNO

O.C.

2 Aug. 47

Memo. to Captain Brooke:

Thank you for letting us copy attached report. Please put us on distribution list for all of your reports.

John V. Hinkel
Major, M.I.
Director
Info Div.
ACF



Declassified E.O. 12958 Section 1.5 DMM No.

[illegible]

1785016

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref : 20005/A/2/17AA

3 Jan 1945

SUBJECT : Archives, ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE.

TO : Hq. 15 Army Group.

1. A serious case of a breach of AAI Admin. Instruction No. 10 and AFHQ Intelligence Instruction No. 38 occurred recently at the Rocca delle Caminate, former residence of Mussolini near Forlì.
2. In the absence of any other available specialist the place has been visited by the Archives Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region. An extract of his report is attached.
3. It is evident that a collection of historical importance, one which might also be of interest to intelligence agencies, has suffered unnecessary losses.
4. Photographic evidence showing allied troops in the Library on 13 November 44 (British Army Film photo through P.W.B. R x 3279) proves that the damage by civilians occurred after this date and is therefore attributable to the failure to place guards, contrary to the request made to G2 (GSI) (b) Main Hq., 8th Army by G2 (I.O.S.S.) GAF (See para 8 of attached report).

5. Attention is drawn to

- (1) AFHQ Intelligence Instruction No 38 of 4 June 44 which lays down that any documents removed by formations and agencies under HQ AAI will be routed only through G2 documents Section AFHQ, those of operational nature to be passed first to HQ AAI c/o DGS (Int.)
- (11) AAI Admin. Instruction No. 10 of 30 March 44 para 11, which states "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."

Even the point of view of the preservation of contemporary

unnecessary losses.

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(1) AFHQ Intelligence Instruction No 38 of 4 June 44 which lays down that any documents removed by formations and agencies under HQ AAI will be routed only through G2 documents Section AFHQ, those of operational nature to be passed first to HQ AAI c/o BGS (Int.)

(14) AAI Admin. Instruction No. 10 of 30 March 44 para 11, which states "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."

6. From the point of view of the preservation of contemporary records in which the Allied Commission is directly concerned (through the Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives) these instructions are an important safeguard against souvenir hunting and looting. There has evidently been neglect of them in this instance.

7. The material remaining in the Rocca is to be removed to Rome where it will be united with the other Archives relating to Mussolini in the repository supervised by the Archives Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region.

8. In order to ensure that all available records eventually find their way into this collection it is suggested that GSI (b) is in Polish Corps should be instructed to

(1) report on the documents or other material removed from the Rocca

(11) attach a statement to the effect that anything removed has been, or will be, returned to G2 Document Section AFHQ in conformity with AFHQ instructions.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

/s/ M.S. Lush

1 Encl--

Extract of report (13 Dec 44) by archives officer, Lazio-Umbria Region

/s/ Brigadier,
Chief of Staff

Copy to: DDCIO 15th Army Group

785016

C O P Y

Subject: Rocca delle Caminate.

HQ. AMG. Eighth Army,
5 December 1944.
OA/132

To: Director, Subcommittee on Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives,
HQ, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Ref: your 20462/MFAA of 27 Nov 44, received this morning.
2. Rocca delle Caminate was inspected on 1 Dec 44 by Capt Brooke, Archives Officer, who will render a complete report on his return to Rome.
3. After conversations with Eapt. Brooke, it is now evident that the undersigned had at no time gained a clear picture of the desires of the Subcommittee in this matter. From para 2 of Capt. Brooke's 20905/B/1 MFAA of 5 Sept 44¹ forwarded by the Subcommittee's indorsement of the same date, it was naturally understood here that the documents at the Rocca were entirely an Intelligence matter, and that it was our function to make sure that GSI were furnished the information we had obtained.
4. On receipt of Capt Brooke's informal letter of 26 Sept 44, the undersigned sent to the appropriate AMG Liaison Officer at Corps a memorandum asking that the information be passed to Corps Intelligence and that this HQ be informed of the disposition of the documents when captured. A copy of this memorandum was sent to the Subcommittee.
5. In his preliminary report after the capture of the Rocca, AMG Liaison Officer stated that Security had taken immediate charge. The undersigned accordingly considered our mission accomplished.
6. In a further report, the AMG Liaison Officer has ²⁰⁹⁰⁵stated: that GSI(b) Main Polish Corps thoroughly searched the castle when it was captured; that the castle was demolished to a considerable degree and no important archives were found; that all material shedding light on Fascist activities was being sent to GSI(b) Main Eighth Army.
7. At Capt. Brooke's request, additional steps have now been taken. The Sindaco of Meldola, who had sent a custode to the Rocca, is also sen-

the Subcommittee in this matter. From para 2 of Capt. Brooke's 20905/B/1 MPAA of 5 Sept 44, forwarded by the Subcommittee's indorsement of the same date, it was naturally understood here that the documents at the Rocca were entirely an Intelligence matter, and that it was our function to make sure that GSI were furnished the information we had obtained.

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7. At Capt. Brooke's request, additional steps have now been taken. The Sindaco of Meldola, who had sent a custode to the Rocca, is also sending assistants to help clearing and reordering of the premises. Polish Corps is putting the place Out of Bounds to troops. A carabinieri guard is being arranged by PP50 Forlì Province.

/s/ Norman T. Newton,

/t/ NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MPAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

785016

~~SECRET~~~~SECRET~~

Confidential

G-2 (Intelligence Objectives Sub-Section) C. M. F.
c/o Rome Area Allied Command
APO 794, U. S. Army

Davin
4 ed
8/10/45

CX - 6

28 November 44

SUBJECT: Former Residence of MUSSOLINI:

TO : Fine Arts and Monuments Division,
(Attention Archives Section),
Allied Commission.Reference Capt. BROOK's call to this
office yesterday.For your information is attached a copy
of a letter CX - 6 dated 29 September 44 addressed
by this section to G-2, G.S.I. (b), Main Head-
quarters, Eighth Army.*A. J. Coventry*A. J. COVENTRY,
Major, G. S.,
G-2(I.O.S-S.)C.M.F.H. P. P. B.
ACBE/rbm

Enc.

2079

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

A. C. C.	
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES	
1	DIC 1944
FILE No	20905

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monumental Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489064, ext. 442 & 664; 473480)

20462/AFSA

27 November 1944

Subject: Rocca della Casinate.

To : SAC 8th Army, (attn. AFSA Officers).

1. A report is requested at your earliest convenience on the state of the personal and family archives of Mussolini at ROCCA DELLA CASINATE near FERRARIO. These are, as already notified by Capt. Brooks, likely to be of very first historical importance, and reports are already circulating in the Italian press purporting to show that they are in a condition of considerable neglect. A copy of one such report is attached.

2. While I am sure that such reports are exaggerated, I should be glad to receive assurance that all measures were in fact taken at the earliest possible opportunity to prevent damage by G-2 agents, by troops, and by civilians.

ROBERT T. DE SAID
Major, Spec. Bn.
Director.

" IL POPOLO " 26 November 1944

" The War passes by the cities of Silence. "

Extract:

" La Rocca (della Casinate)..... Some shells have made holes in it but the architectural whole is complete. Of the furniture nothing is left; all the doors are open and the wind blows down the spiral staircases, which connects the different floors. But on the ground are piles of books, papers, and newspaper cuttings"

785016

Capt. Broome. to see and destroy. My references
to living persons on page 2, line 3 are purely
coincidental of course. Does this meet the case.
Done

HEAD-QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 324

Subcommission for Monumental Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 664; 473480)

11 November 1944

FROM: Major J.B. WARD PINKINS M.A.

Dear

In interviewing Broome on his return today is evident that
there has been some misunderstanding over the subject of important
repositories of modern archives and I am writing to clarify this.
I preface my remarks by saying I feel responsible myself for any
such misunderstanding in that I have not had issued any directive
on the subject. I had felt so certain that in a thesis of collaboration
with Ellis in the field Ellis and you would have discussed all matters
of mutual concern, but it appears he neglected to do so.

As a Subcommission we are responsible for Archives as well as
Fine Arts. We have specialist archivists officers, but in general
terms every officer of the Subcommission has a responsibility for
taking such reasonable common-sense measures as he can in regard to
protection of archives, both ancient and modern. In general we have
found this. It is the latter which are the more vulnerable, and our
experience at home and elsewhere showed that among the worst offenders
are G-2.

2068

When Ellis was withdrawn, against our strong advice, we made it
clear that we could not accept responsibility for shortcoming over
the protection of archives in Army areas; but that an heretofore MFAA
officers with the armies would continue to include archives among the
subjects of their attention. They must of course take their place ac-
cording to their relative importance (on which no doubt, Norman, you
hold sound, Catholic views). But I do want to make clear that the
important modern archives, of which you get occasional notification,
are a matter for the personal concern of the Subcommission and of its
officers, and are liable to be rather "hot".

9-17-31
In interviewing Brooke on his return today it is evident that there has been some misunderstanding over the subject of important repositories of modern archives and I am writing to clarify this. I preface my remarks by saying I feel responsible myself for any such misunderstanding in that I have not had issued any directive on the subject. I had felt so certain that in months of collaboration with Ellis in the field Ellis and you would have discussed all matters of actual concern, but it appears he neglected to do so.

As a Subcommission we are responsible for Archives as well as Fine Arts. We have specialist archives officers, but in general terms every officer of the Subcommission has a responsibility for taking such reasonable common-sense measures as he can in regard to protection of archives, both ancient and modern. In general we have found that it is the latter which are the more vulnerable, and our experience at home and elsewhere showed that among the worst offenders are G-2.

2008
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I do hope you will correct this in criticism. As I say if there has been lack of direction the fault is mine, and I write this in an effort to rectify the omission.

One other point. Brooke tells me that our request to send Italian architects to survey the Tempio Malatestiano was received with considerable annoyance, but granted. I would far rather that in case like that you would instead write to me and explain the difficulty, because I feel that sending people up under those terms is in the long run worse than useless and bad for the Subcommission. It's our duty to put up a request if on general policy (as in this case) it seems to us desirable. We

don't know the local difficulties however and we look to you to inform us frankly, as the man on the spot. I dare say Brooke has exaggerated (an excitable witness!), but I know the name as well when "it" puts its heavy foot in once more".

I'm awaiting your further report on RAVENIA with great interest. Thank God it's no worse. Am also expecting daily (after reading your reports) some comment on the Ballin lists. Not guilty, that's me. How RAVENIA is ours is there any chance of a visit from you? You've certainly earned one and we should love to see you.

Yours

David

Major H.C. Newton
MP/IA Officer, AMS, 8 Army

2067

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

26 September 44

Dear Major,

You probably received sometime ago a note of certain additional Archives in Northern Italy not on our lists. This included the Castello at ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE (Forlì) a former residence of Mussolini which is believed still to contain personal papers of some importance. Knowing how heavy are your other commitments I hate to bother you about this matter but it would be a relief to know that (when circumstances permit) it has been attended to. Perhaps G2 8th Army would assist?

Sincerely yours

2066

T.H. Brooke, Capt. K.R.R.C.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Region IV, A.M.G.

To: Major Norman T. Newton
M.F.A.A. Officer
A.M.G. 8th Army.

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

26 September 44

Dear Major,

You probably received sometime ago a note of certain additional Archives in Northern Italy not on our lists. This included the Castello at ROCCA DELLE CAMINATE (Forlì) a former residence of Mussolini which is believed still to contain personal papers of some importance. Knowing how heavy are your other commitments I hate to bother you about this matter but it would be a relief to know that (when circumstances permit) it has been attended to. Perhaps G2 8th Army would assist?

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2066

T.H. Brooke, Capt. K.R.R.C.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Region IV, A.M.G.

To: Major Norman T. Newton
M.F.A.A. Officer
A.M.G. 8th Army.

Materiale archivistico rinvenuto al Viminale dall' Economo
comm. Iodato, trasmesso al sottoscritto il 30 settembre, e da me de-
positato nell'archivio della ex Segreteria del Capo del Governo, oggi
2 ottobre 1944.

Industrie

E L E N O

Segreteria particolare Contessa Eda Ciano - Mussolini

Protocolli

- 1) 1940 maggio - ottobre
- 2) 1940 ottobre - 1941 maggio

e 3 Repertori
così intitolati

- 1) Sussidi concessi dalla Contessa E. Ciano Mussolini, 1938-39.
- 2) Pratiche evase con esito favorevole, 1940 -41.
- 3) Pratiche in cui esistono lettere con annotazioni autografe, 1940-41.

CONFIDENTIAL
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ROME REGION
APO NO. 394

TO: C-2, Rome Region, A.M.G.

SUBJECT: Archives of MUSSOLINI

1. It is suggested that the small quantity of documents and papers remaining in the Palazzo Venezia, in the rooms that formerly contained the Archivio Mussolini, together with the books, pamphlets, stationery and other miscellaneous material, should be moved to the Archivio del Segretario del Capo del Governo in the Ministry of Interior.

2. Both from the point of view of guarding and of permits for access it would be an advantage to have all the available material from the Secretariat of the Duce reunited in this way.

3. The Archives Officer is prepared to supervise the actual transfer of the material from the Palazzo Venezia and to take responsibility for its safety. It would however be an advantage to appoint some Italian civilian, who is familiar with these papers, to arrange the details of their physical reorganization (they are at present in some confusion) and custody.

4. An eminently suitable person for this job is available, Colonel Nani, a former employee in the Archivio, who has worked closely with the Archives Officer in providing essential information as to the whereabouts of these deposits in Rome.

5. It is suggested that Colonel Nani should take charge of the Archives in the Ministry of Interior (Archivio del Segretario del Capo del Governo) under C-2, A.M.G. Apart from arranging for their safe keeping he could assist Intelligence agents wishing to consult the documents; he could keep a register of any papers removed by such agents; he would also be in a position to assist in the reorganization later of any further archives of the Duce that may be recovered in the North of Italy.

6. The question of the Italian Government's right of access to these documents for administrative purposes is bound to crop up sooner or later (it has already been discussed by the Archives Officer and His Excellency Sig. Flores of the Presidenza del Consiglio). When such permission is granted it would be an advantage to have such a person as Colonel Nani at hand to supervise the access.

7. If C-2, Rome Region is prepared to accept these proposals in principle, it is suggested that the Ministry of Interior be asked to confirm the appointment of Colonel Nani.

8. For the actual transfer of the documents the transportation that is avail-

in Art 8
Mussolini
Attn. Capt. Burpee
25 July 1944

former employee of the Archives, who has received confidential information as to the whereabouts of these deposits in Rome.

5. It is suggested that Colonel Mani should take charge of the Archives in the Ministry of Interior (Archivio del Segretario del Capo del Governo) under G-2, A.M.G. Apart from arranging for their safe keeping he could assist Intelligence agents wishing to consult the documents; he could keep a register of any papers removed by such agents; he would also be in a position to assist in the reorganization later of any further archives of the Duce that may be recovered in the North of Italy.

2061

6. The question of the Italian Government's right of access to these documents for administrative purposes is bound to crop up sooner or later (it has already been discussed by the Archives Officer and His Excellency Sig. Flores of the Presidenza del Consiglio). When such permission is granted it would be an advantage to have such a person as Colonel Mani at hand to supervise the access.

7. If G-2, Rome Region is prepared to accept these proposals in principle, it is suggested that the Ministry of Interior be asked to confirm the appointment of Colonel Mani.

8. For the actual transfer of the documents the transportation that is available for the Fine Arts and Archives Division, Rome Region, A.M.G., would be sufficient.

W.B. Baker
T.H. RUOONE, Capt MRCO.
Archives Officer.
Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Division.
Rome Region, A.M.G.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref. 100-1
Agreed in principle
25 July 1944
W.B. Baker

Please return to Capt Baker
A.M.G., Region IV

Exot Gent

Adm. General

III The Archives of Buenos Aires.

1. The exact whereabouts of the Secret Archives of Buenos Aires, according to the most recent information, has been reported to G2 Advanced Intelligence A&HQ. and passed to the partitions working in the area (through the appropriate A&C channels).
2. The Palazzo Venezia, reported by the preliminary "S" force search to have been cleared of documents, was inspected by the undersigned on 11 July. With the assistance of the economic, Comm. Vannutelli, and a former employee, Colonello Nani, a considerable quantity of papers, miscellaneous files, secret reports and other material was identified, evidently left behind in the haste to evacuate the bulk of the Archives. 2063
3. The undersigned immediately reported to G2 Rome Region A&HQ and asked for the materialize documents, which were lying about in an unguarded condition, to be moved to the rooms containing the Archivo Ordinario of Buenos Aires in the Virinales: not obtaining permission for this he asked for the suspension of all permits to visit the building

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2063

3. The undersigned immediately reported to G.2 Rome Region AMG and asked for the materialize documents, which were lying about in an unsanitary condition, to be moved to the rooms containing the Archivio Ordinario of Penosolai in the Virinale: not obtaining permission for this he asked for the suspension of all permits to visit the building except for Intelligence Agents, and this was agreed on.

4. G.2 Advanced AFHQ was informed and ^{also} the Intelligence officers of the Bombing Survey Unit MAAC (certain material of special importance for this work having been noticed by the undersigned). The latter received permits to work in the Palazzo Venezia for several days and to remove

a number of documents for copying.

5. On the 20 July the Archives officer obtained a pass for a member of the Information Section ACC to visit the Palagzo Venegia to inspect certain printed books & reference which it was thought might be of value to that institution. He was warned that ~~documents might be removed~~ ~~as well as~~ ~~aspects~~ ~~periodic~~ ~~and~~ ~~rebad~~ ~~upgrading~~ ~~such~~ ~~documents~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~documents~~ ~~section~~ ~~of~~ ~~ACC~~ not to remove any documents.

6. On July 25 the Archives officer sent a memorandum to G2 Rome Region, ATAG, again suggesting the removal of all the remaining contents of the Palagzo to the Archives Ordinaries of Dumstina in the Veninals. This was agreed on and the move made on 3 July 26-27. 2062

7. On July 27 the Archives officer was supplied by the Information Section of the ACC with a list of books and ~~documents~~ removed from the Palagzo Venegia. ~~He~~ ^{After} ~~protection~~ at the joint improper removal of the documents ~~as~~ he was advised that all would be returned shortly with the exception of a single file which had been posted direct to Washington ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~immediate~~ ~~and~~ ~~later~~ ~~with~~ ~~control~~

documents.

6. On July 25 the Archives officer sent a memorandum to 42 Ross Region, AT19, again suggesting the removal of all the remaining contents of the Dalaggo to the Archives Ordinance of Duesstine in the Kennels. This was agreed on and the move made on 3 July 26-27. 2062

7. On July 27 the Archives officer was supplied by the Information Section of the ACC with a list of Books and documents removed from the Dalaggo Kennels. ~~the~~ ^{AT19} protest at the great improper removal of the documents as he was assured that all would be returned shortly with the exception of a single file which had been posted direct to Washington owing to the urgency immediate importance of its contents.

Style X

acquired by Major
Hinkel as Souvenir -
Temporarily retained by TAPB
as "warning" against this
kind of practice -

No. 88

ROLE AREA ALLIED COMMAND
APO #794 US ARMYIssued to: BROOKE
HINKEL

Name

Date 19 July 44

CAPTAIN and 2 other Off.
Major

Rank

Signature

Organization or address Inf. Sec. ACC

Permission is granted to enter the following buildings:

PALAZZO VENEZIA

ARCHIVIO DEL SEGRETARIA DEL CAPO DEL GOVERNO

Expiration date: 20 July 44

No documents, records, or other articles of any kind
may be removed from the premises without written authority
from this Headquarters.

Approved:

For the Commanding General:

Claude J. Bove
1st Lt. USA

Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2

For Col. Fisher

2061

APPENDIX C
ARTIFACT WITHDRAWAL FORM

THE ITEM IDENTIFIED BELOW HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM THIS FILE:

ITEM: Decree (Mussolini Signature)

ARTIFACT REGISTRATION NUMBER: _____

RG: 331 ACC

SERIES: 10000/145³¹ - A.C.C. HQ, Monuments and
Fine Arts

FILE CITATION 20905/e/4/D Archives of
Ex-Duce.

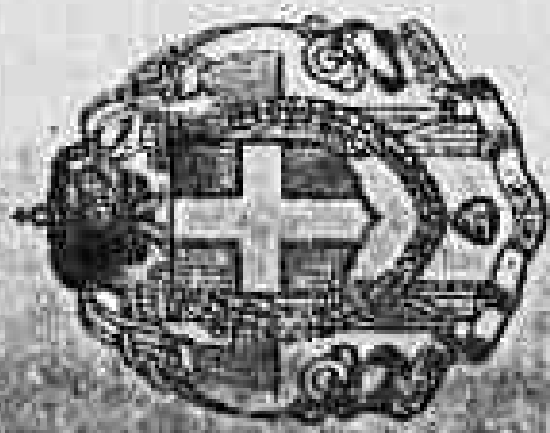
BOX # temporary Box Z

THIS ARTIFACT WAS REMOVED BY: Diana L. Dinkoff - NNTR-S
name

ON 9/8/1989 FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:
date

- ☐ UNDERGOING CONSERVATION TREATMENT
- ☐ PERMANENT WITHDRAWAL
- ☐ TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL
- ☒ REQUIRES SPECIAL HOUSING/STORAGE CONDITIONS
- ☐ HAS BEEN DISPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NARA GUIDELINES

new location: Stack 6 Safe



Il Duce del Fascismo
Capo del Governo

Visto il proprio decreto 20 aprile 1939-XVII, che detta norme sulla composizione e sul funzionamento dei Comitati consultivi delle Corporazioni, in dipendenza dei propri decreti in data 14 febbraio 1939-XVII, che hanno modificato la composizione dei Consigli delle Corporazioni;

Visto il proprio decreto 23 settembre 1939-XVII con il quale il fascista Ampellio Pattini è stato nominato membro del Comitato consultivo della Corporazione dei combustibili liquidi e dei carburanti in rappresentanza dei lavoratori dell'agricoltura;

Visto il proprio decreto 7 maggio 1942-XX con il quale il fascista Calogero Genovese è stato nominato Consigliere aggregato della Corporazione dei combustibili liquidi e dei carburanti, quale rappresentante dei lavoratori dell'agricoltura;

Sulla proposta del Ministro per le Corporazioni

D E C R E T A :

Il fascista Calogero Genovese, Consigliere aggregato della Corporazione dei combustibili liquidi e dei carburanti è nominato mem-

200

sultivo della Corporazione dei coltivatori di agrumi;
in rappresentanza dei lavoratori dell'agricoltura;

Visto il proprio decreto 7 maggio 1942-XX con il quale il fascista Calogero Genovese è stato nominato Consigliere aggregato della Corporazione dei combustibili liquidi e dei carburanti, quale rappresentante dei lavoratori dell'agricoltura;

Sulla proposta del Ministro per le Corporazioni

200

D E C R E T A :

Il fascista Calogero Genovese, Consigliere aggregato della Corporazione dei combustibili liquidi e dei carburanti è nominato membro del Comitato consultivo della Corporazione predetta, quale rappresentante dei lavoratori dell'agricoltura in sostituzione del fascista Ampellio Pattini.

Roma, addì 28 maggio 1942 XX

Mussolini

Record Copy to Ranlae Unstable Original
Property of the National Archives

Preliminary list of some of the material identified
in the Palazzo Venezia.

- ① Reports of the Tribunale Speciale to the Duce. (a few bundles).
- ②. Bulletino of the Supreme Command. The original telegrams to the Duce with his personal pencil markings.
A good series (complete for period of war to July 43?) -
- ③ Telegrammi Giornalieri dei prefetti colla novata della giornata. Daily telegrams from the Prefets of all the provinces for the period May-June 43. Contain detailed statistics of Allied bombing.
- ④ Stampa Extra. Large series - markings in Rumstein hand confirm that these were used as source of information.
- ⑤. Servizio Informazioni Militare (S.I.M). A single file of telegrams for June - September 1940. Italian intelligence reports on German preparations to invade England.
- ⑥ Reports of the Governatori di Roma on the food situation.

") (8059 names of

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

(3) Telegramme Giornalieri dei prefetti della città novata della giornata. Daily telegrams from the prefects of all the provinces for the period May-June 43. Contains detailed statistics of Axis bombing.

(4) Stampa Extra. Large series - markings in Rumination hand confirm that these were used as source of information.

(5) Servizio Informazioni Militari (S.I.M). A single file of telegrams for June - September 1940. Italian intelligence reports on German preparations to invade England.

(6) Reports of the Governors of Rome on the food situation.

(7) 3 Appointment Books ("Udiage"). Contains names of Goering, Rommel & other visitors (1941-2).

(8) A file labelled 'Oro' - list of contributors to La Fede, with details of their gifts. 1935. Contains some American names.

770.

(9) Munroton's pedigree - contains names of several hundred people - obviously used for dealing with a certain type of correspondence. The rubber stamp also exists 'Non è parente'

⑨ Memoranda's pedigree - contains names of several
hundred people - obviously used for dealing with
a certain type of correspondence. The rubber stamp also
exists 'Non è parente'

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

18 August 44

Subject: Arrest of Col. Renato Nani, Via Giulia 204
To: Security and Intelligence Officer,
A.M.G., Region IV
Via: Chief Executive Officer,
A.M.G., Region IV.

1. Col. Nani was among those arrested about 3 weeks ago by order of the Chief of Public Safety, A.M.G. Rome Region. He had taken the "giuramento" last year.
2. Col. Nani is a civil servant, formerly employed in the Segreteria del Capo del Governo and as such has an unrivalled knowledge of the papers and documents of Mussolini.
3. Since the arrival of the Allies in Rome Col. Nani has helped the undersigned in the following ways:
 - a. Identifying the "Archivio Ordinario" of Mussolini in the Ministry of the Interior, which "S" Force had failed to locate.
 - b. Identifying important documents in the Palazzo Venezia, which "S" Force had searched without result. Several different Intelligence agencies have extracted valuable information from these discoveries.
 - c. Preparing a list of the missing portion of Mussolini's Archives.- The secret military and political documents - and supplying information as to their present whereabouts and custody.
4. It has been one of the Archives officer's prime responsibilities to arrange for the safety of this important material. A fundamental precaution is the concentration of all available documents in one repository where they can remain under guard, protected against interference by Italian individuals or souvenir hunters and where a register may be kept of documents removed by Allied agents.
5. The obvious person to be in charge of this repository is Col. Nani. The Chief of the Cabinet, Presidenza del

Consiglio, H.E. Flores, vouched for his suitability on personal knowledge. This was more than confirmed by the Soprintendente for Archives, Dott. Re, a man who never held the fascist party "tessera" and is absolutely reliable in every way.

6. A memorandum dated July 23 by the undersigned to G2 A.M.G., Rome Region suggesting this appointment, was agreed to by Col. Fischer. Col. Nani thereupon supervised the transfer of the Archives from the Palazzo Venezia to the Ministry of Interior and began the concentration and re-organization of the documents there. This was almost at once interrupted by his arrest.

7. It is requested that Col. Nani be released to continue this work, if necessary on parole.

8. The Memorandum mentioned above is attached.

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

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

4 Agosto 44

Soggetto: Arresto del Colonnello Nani.

A: Capo della Polizia, A.M.G., Roma
Maggiore Battersby.

1. Dall'arrivo del sottoscritto a Roma, egli ha avuto incalcolabile assistenza da parte del Colonnello Nani su informazioni riguardo ai luoghi di deposito di carte, documenti e altro materiale di archivio di Mussolini. Senza la sua collaborazione non sarebbe stato possibile l'appropriata custodia di tale materiale.
2. Al momento del suo arresto il Col. Nani era incaricato della salvaguardia dell'Archivio Ordinario di Mussolini nel Ministero degli Interni (Viminale), sorvegliando nei depositi della Segreteria del Capo di Governo l'organizzazione di tutti i materiali riguardanti il Duce sia in quel palazzo sia nel Palazzo di Venezia - lavoro che richiedeva una conoscenza tecnica delle carte etc.
3. Il Col. Nani era stato assegnato a questo compito sotto una raccomandazione del sottoscritto, con l'approvazione di G2 A.M.G., Regione di Roma, e il consenso del Capo di Gabinetto della Presidenza del Consiglio.
4. Non c'è un'altra persona a disposizione per occuparsi di tale lavoro con qualifiche come quelle del Col. Nani, e la sua assenza costituisce un pericolo per la sicurezza del materiale messo sotto la sua responsabilità.
5. Si richiede che sia fatto ogni passo possibile per accelerare il suo immediato rilascio.

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T.M. Brooke, Capt. K.R.R.C.
Archivista
Divisione Monumenti
Belle Arti e Archivi
Governo Militare Alleato
Regione IV.

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

4 August 44

Subject: Arrest of Colonel Nani

To: Deputy Chief of Police, A.M.G., Rome
(Major Battersby).

1. Since the arrival of the undersigned in Rome he has received invaluable assistance from Colonel Nani by way of information as to the whereabouts of the papers, documents and other archival material of Mussolini. Without such collaboration the proper custody of this material would not have been effected.

2. At the time of his arrest Colonel Nani was in charge of the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini in the Ministry of Interior (Viminale), supervising in the repository of the Segreteria del Capo del Governo the organization of all the material relating to the Duce both in that building and the Palazzo Venezia - Work which required an expert knowledge of the papers etc.

3. Colonel Nani was appointed to this job on the recommendation of the undersigned, with the approval of G2 A.M.G., Rome Region and the agreement of the Capo del Gabinetto, Presidenza del Consiglio.

4. There is no other person available so well qualified to perform this work as Colonel Nani and his absence constitutes a danger to the safety of the material in his charge.

5. It is requested that everything possible be done to expedite his speedy release.

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

Copy to Capo del Gabinetto
Presidenza del Consiglio.

N. 2

Notizie relative all'archivio ordinario

Nell'archivio ordinario si trovano presentemente custoditi circa 100.000 fascicoli che possono essere così ripartiti : circa 60.000 fascicoli costituiscono l'archivio corrente, circa 40.000 l'archivio di deposito.

I 60.000 fascicoli dell'archivio corrente comprendono :

- circa 5.000 fascicoli dell'archivio della contessa Edda Ciano Mussolini concernenti pratiche di beneficenza ed assistenze;
- circa 55.000 fascicoli così suddivisi : 1.000 circa riguardanti gli affari generali di segreteria, 6.000 circa riguardanti provincie e comuni, 46.000 circa riguardanti parenti di casa Mussolini, concessioni di fotografie, omaggi, elargizioni a favore di enti e singoli, rapporti con Ministeri ed enti vari di ogni genere, rapporti con singoli su i più svariati argomenti.

I 40.000 fascicoli dell'archivio di deposito sono costituiti da atti analoghi a quelli dell'archivio corrente ma che da tempo non erano più tornati in trattazione.

I fascicoli dell'archivio corrente sono collocati in scaffali per ordine progressivo numerico con inizio dal n. 500.001. I fascicoli dell'archivio di deposito hanno conservato la numerazione che avevano in origine.

Gli schedari comprendono circa 300.000 schede e sono onomastici per oltre due terzi; il resto per materia.

Esistono pure le rubriche alfabetiche dal 1938 in poi di quella corrispondenza che veniva inviata per competenza ai vari Ministeri ed Enti.

Fra il materiale vario conservato nell'archivio ordinario trovansi un certo numero di pubblicazioni ufficiali, fra cui alcune relative ai nuovi codici ed altre agli atti del partito fascista ed una biblioteca acquistata - 5.000.

circa 50.000 fascicoli così suddivisi: 1.000 circa riguardanti gli affari generali di segreteria, 6.000 circa riguardanti provincie e comuni, 46.000 circa riguardanti parenti di casa Mussolini, concessioni di fotografie, omaggi, elargizioni a favore di enti e singoli, rapporti con Ministeri ed enti vari di ogni genere, rapporti con singoli su i più svariati argomenti.

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In Memoria di Benito

Notizie relative all'archivio militare segreto ed a quello riservato.

L'archivio militare segreto (1934-1943) comprende :

- 1°) un numero considerevole di fascicoli relativi a questioni diverse oltreché a piani operativi, situazioni statistiche dei Ministeri della Guerra, della Marina, dell'Aeronautica e della Produzione Bellica,
- 2°) il carteggio intercorso tra il Capo del Governo e il Quartier Generale delle Forze Armate.
- 3°) il carteggio relativo alla campagna di Spagna.
- 4°) il carteggio dell'Impresa Etiopica (1934-35) consistente in 700 fascicoli circa, comprendenti direttive, piani di operazione, ordini, corrispondenza intercorsa fra il Capo del Governo e i Marescialli De Bono, Badoglio, Graziani e altri Capi Militari, oltre quella fra il Re e il Capo del Governo e un numero considerevole di autografi del Capo del Governo e del Re.
- 5°) il carteggio relativo alla campagna di Grecia, d'Albania e al Maresciallo Cavallero.
- 6°) il carteggio relativo alle riunioni (verbali di riunioni) tenute a Palazzo Venezia dai Capi Militari responsabili e del Capo del Governo.
- 7°) carteggio riguardante il Vice Re d'Etiopia (corrispondenza intercorsa fra il Duca d'Aosta e il Capo del Governo, con numerosi autografi).
- 8°) il carteggio concernente il settore Libico, le battaglie della Marmarica, di Tobrue, la campagna d'Egitto e il carteggio riguardante il Maresciallo Graziani (con numerosi autografi del Capo del Governo).

delle Forze Armate.

3°) il carteggio relativo alla campagna di Spagna.

4°) il carteggio dell'Impresa Etiopica (1934-35) consistente in 700 fascicoli circa, comprendenti direttive, piani di operazione, ordini, corrispondenza intercorsa fra il Capo del Governo e i Marescialli De Bono, Badoglio, Graziani e altri Capi Militari, oltre quella fra il Re e il Capo del Governo e un numero considerevole di autografi del Capo del Governo e del Re.

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8°) il carteggio concernente il settore Libico, le battaglie della Marmarica, di Tobruk, la campagna d'Egitto e il carteggio riguardante il Maresciallo Graziani (con numerosi autografi del Capo del Governo).

9°) i fascicoli riguardanti numerosi generali comandanti ~~205~~ tipo operanti e personalità politiche che si occupavano di operazioni belliche nei vari settori.

Luigi Rina

- 10°) la relazione e il materiale d'inchiesta sull'operato del Maresciallo Graziani in Libia.
- 11°) Il carteggio relativo alla guerra attuale (1940-1943) ivi compresa la corrispondenza intercorsa tra il Capo del Governo e il Re, tra il Capo del Governo e il Führer, fra il Capo del Governo e il Principe Ereditario, fra il Capo del Governo e i Comandanti Militari dei vari scacchieri.
- 12°) il carteggio relativo alle operazioni in Francia e in Russia e alle situazioni dei vari scacchieri.
- 13°) altri incartamenti militari di minore importanza (intercettazioni telefoniche, relazioni periodiche, carteggi del S.I.M., informazioni segrete di Enti e Uffici militari e politici vari, informazioni private ecc.

L'archivio riservato del Capo del Governo, iniziato nell'ottobre 1922, contiene quanto appresso :

- 1°) i fascicoli personali dei Ministri, Sottosegretari e di altri uomini di Governo che si sono avvicendati durante 22 anni di regime fascista.
- 2°) i fascicoli relativi, in numero rilevante, a personalità politiche, gerarchi ed esponenti del partito.
- 3°) i fascicoli personali dei generali e di altri ufficiali della Guerra, della Marina e dell'Aeronautica che hanno operato col regime, oltre il carteggio vario dello Stato Maggiore Generale e degli altri Stati maggiori.
- 4°) i fascicoli relativi agli esponenti dell'industria e della finanza in rapporto alle imprese civili e militari.

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- 4°) i fascicoli relativi agli esponenti dell'Industria e della finanza in rapporto alle imprese civili e militari.
- 5°) i fascicoli e il carteggio riguardanti funzionari e questioni varie di tutti i Ministeri civili, della Corte dei Conti e degli Enti statali e parastatali.
- 6°) i fascicoli e il carteggio vario riguardanti ufficiali, funzionari, e questioni varie dei tre Ministeri Militari, di quello dell'Africa Italiana e del Commissariato per le Fabbricazioni di Guerra.

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- 7°) i fascicoli e il carteggio vario riguardanti ufficiali, funzionari, e questioni varie del Comando Generale della Milizia.
- 8°) i fascicoli relativi a persone di ogni grado sociale che si sono rivolte al Governo per le questioni più svariate, ed a problemi di natura riservate prospettati al Capo del Governo.
- 9°) i fascicoli relativi a persone contrarie o non aderenti al regime, ai fuorusciti, ai confinati.
- 10°) il carteggio relativo agli esponenti ed a questioni della Massoneria.
- 11°) il carteggio riguardante attentati e complotti.
- 12°) relazioni, informazioni, statistiche della P.S., del Comando Generale dei CC.RR., del Tribunale Speciale, del Comando Generale della Milizia, della Direzione del partito e del Ministero della Cultura Popolare.
- 13°) il carteggio riguardante le questioni e gli esponenti del fascismo in tutte le provincie d'Italia.
- 14°) il carteggio relativo al Gran Consiglio del Fascismo ed alle sue riunioni.
- 15°) il carteggio relativo alla direzione del partito e alle riunioni del Direttorio.
- 16°) il carteggio relativo alla Banca d'Italia, alle altre Banche, agli Istituti finanziari, alle Agenzie, alle Forze e agli Agenti di Forza.
- 17°) il carteggio relativo ai giornali e ai giornalisti (bilanci, questioni varie).
- 18°) i fascicoli personali e il carteggio vario relativi ai componenti la famiglia Reale e ai Principi di Casa Savoia (ritirati dal Colonnello Mon-tezemolo e consegnati al Conte Acquarone della Real Casa).
- 19°) i fascicoli personali dei componenti la famiglia del Capo del Governo e di tutti i suoi parenti.
- 20°) i fascicoli relativi a persone di ambo i sessi che hanno avuto rapporti d'intimità col Capo del Governo e coi suoi familiari.

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- 20°) i fascicoli relativi a persone di ambo i sessi che hanno avuto rapporti d'intimità col Capo del Governo e coi suoi familiari.
- 21°) gli autografi del Capo del Governo (diecimila circa) così divisi: discorsi, proclami, prefazioni, comunicazioni, note, articoli, lettere, telegrammi, vari.
- 22°) carteggio relativo ai Patti Lateranensi e ai rapporti col Vaticano.

- 23°) il carteggio relativo agli informatori politici e militari vari, alle intercettazioni telefoniche.
- 24°) carteggio relativo al processo Matteotti e ad altri processi.
- 25°) carteggio relativo all'inchiesta della spedizione Nobile al Polo Nord e ad altre inchieste.
- 26°) il carteggio relativo ai viaggi e alle udienze del Capo del Governo.
- 27°) il carteggio riguardante l'ufficio di P.S. di Palazzo Venezia (scorta alle persona del Capo del Governo).
- 28°) altro carteggio di minore importanza e abbondante raccolta fotografica di avvenimenti di ogni genere.

Notizie relative agli archivi della Segreteria del Capo del Governo

Gli archivi della Segreteria in origine erano sistemati nei locali del Viminale e precisamente l'archivio riservato al 2° piano della palazzina della Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri e l'Archivio ordinario negli stessi corridoi del 2° piano dal lato sinistro del palazzo del Ministero dell'Interno.

Nell'agosto 1941 l'archivio riservato si trasferì a Palazzo Venezia in due grandissimi locali aventi quattro grandi finestre protette da inferriate al piano rialzato della parte sinistra dell'ingresso principale del palazzo stesso.

L'archivio riservato dalla campagna etiopica (1934) si era già suddiviso in due branche: archivio militare segreto ed archivio riservato.

L'archivio militare segreto fu collocato in una delle due stanze e sistemato in armadi metallici. L'archivio riservato fu collocato nell'altra stanza e sistemato in 18 mobili in legno a scaffale con chiusura a serranella.

L'archivio ordinario, rimasto sempre al Viminale, venne nel 1942 riordinato e riunito nelle tre stanze che attualmente occupa delle dimensioni una di circa m. 14 x 5 le altre due di m. 4,50 x 5, e sistemato con nuove scaffalature in legno stabili a muro con ballatoi. Una quarta stanza di fronte ai locali suddetti di circa m. 4,50 x 5 è fornita di scaffalatura semplice pure con ballatoi e fu adibita ad archivio di deposito di quei fascicoli che da molti anni non erano più tornati in trattazione, ma che si ritenne conservare in confronto di circa altri 400.000 fascicoli che nelordinamento dell'archivio ordinario effettuato nel 1941-42 furono mandati al macero perché ritenuti di nessuna importanza.

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Il 26 luglio 1943 il Comando Supremo ritirò dall'archivio militare segreto di Palazzo Venezia la maggior parte del carteggio ed il Ministero della Real Casa, nei giorni successivi, fece ritirare dall'archivio riservato i fascicoli personali ed il carteggio vario relativo ai componenti la Famiglia Reale ed ai Principi di Casa Savoia.

2.

Nell'agosto i locali di palazzo Venezia vennero sgombrati e le carte rimaste furono tutte trasportate al Viminale e sistemate in una grande stanza (locali 105 e 106) del secondo piano nello stesso corridoio del Ministero dell'Interno ove trovavasi l'archivio ordinario.

Nell'ottobre 1943 la parte più importante di detto carteggio riservato e di quello militare rimasto fu incassata e trasportata al nord Italia. Il rimanente fu ritirato nel novembre dello stesso anno.

Risulta che nei primi mesi del 1944 fu trovato in casse, sembre a Milano pressoché intatto, tutto il carteggio militare segreto che il 26 luglio il Comando Supremo aveva ritirato da Palazzo Venezia. Detto carteggio trovasi ora riunito a quello ritirato a Roma nel nord Italia.

Negli uniti allegati (n. 1 e n. 2) viene in sintesi illustrata la consistenza dei predetti archivi (militare segreto, riservato ed ordinario).

Roma, giugno 1944.

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Sabato 8 luglio

Viene alle 12, alla Sapienza, accompagnato dal col. Renato Nani, il col. E.M. già archivista dell'Archivio della Segreteria del Capo del Governo. Mi riferisce che la parte riservata e militare di tale archivio è tutta ora riunita, dopo peripezie varie, nel Palazzo Feltrinelli a Gargnano sul lago di Garda (prov. di Brescia) dove risiede lo stesso ex Capo del Governo. L'archivio è tutt'ora ~~in~~ nelle casse di legno - un centinaio circa - in cui è stato trasferito al Nord; salvo una parte dell'archivio militare che è conservato in due o tre cassoni metallici. Ho tutte le ragioni di ritenere attendibili le notizie riferitemi dal col. E.M. Egli è il tipo dell'impiegato d'ordine, limitato, circoscritto, ma che conosce tutti i segreti dell'archivio al quale è addetto, e addetto dal momento in cui ha cominciato a formarsi, e cioè dal 1922: ventidue anni fa. Perciò egli si considera un po' come il padre di quell'archivio, di cui è anche, per così dire, l'indice e l'inventario vivente. Attaccatissimo com'è a questa ~~in~~ sua creatura, e interessato a conservarlo, può rappresentare un elemento e un acquisto prezioso sia anzitutto per rintracciarlo, sia, più tardi, per trarne immediato profitto.

reported to Capt Elyn Roberts.

7c G.2 Advanced

Letter to PS handed to Raynes
30 Aug 44

perché egli si considera un po' come il padre di quell'archivio, di cui è anche, per così dire, l'indice e l'inventario vivente. Attaccatissimo com'è a questa sua creatura, e interessato a conservarlo, può rappresentare un elemento e un acquisto prezioso sia anzitutto per rintracciarlo, sia, più tardi, per trarne immediato profitto.

repacked to Cape Glyn Roberts.

7c G-2 Advanced

*letter to PS handed to Raynes
30/10/44*



R. SOPRINTENDENZA ARCHIVISTICA
PER IL LAZIO L'UMBRIA E LE MARCHE

IL SOPRINTENDENTE

Murrolini file

ROMA, addì 8 giugno / 47
PALAZZO DELLA PAZIOSITÀ - CORNO RINASCIMENTO
Telef. 55234

Per tutti Capitano,

Credo mio dovere
informarla senza ritardo di quanto
sono venuto a sapere poco fa.

La sera di Venerdì 4 corr.
una piccola folla cercò d'invade-
re, ed effettivamente invase per via
dentro, Palazzo Venezia sulla piazza
dello stesso nome; senza tolleranza
commettere eccessi, né compiere
danni irreparabili. Sembrava di
voler limitarsi a infrangere qual
che vetro e a manomettere le
carte di un ufficio veramente
amministrativo.

A ogni modo il fatto mostra
come sarebbe opportuno che
anche a Palazzo Venezia - come
a Palazzo delle Belle Arti a valle
Lavora - fosse assegnata una

buona quando di Carlo Nicotri.

Il Palazzo Venezia è un importante monumento per se stesso, con decorazioni di grandissimo pregio che sarebbe veramente peccato venissero in qualunque modo danneggiate.

Quanto a l'affidamento di un libro che, come mi risulta, è stato già ricercato dalla Polizia francese, esso - per la parte che ancora è a Roma - si trova al Palazzo Venezia, in alcune sale a cui sarebbe estremamente opportuno vietare in qualunque modo l'ingresso, per evitare anche le possibili manomissioni e asportazioni.

Domattina nelle prossime ore andrò in Vaticano, ma dalle 10.30 in poi sarò certamente alla Fontana di Sapienza. Questo mi permette di raggiungere per il caso di Ella o di qualcuna delle altre, più particolare informazioni in materia. Aggiungo ancora, a ogni buon fine, il mio indirizzo privato, che è: Palazzo Orsini, via Monte Tevere, 30.

Coi migliori saluti

Milio Re

0 2 1 0