Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

ACC 10000/145/343 20905/C/.

ARCHIVES REPORTS - MFAA PERSONNEL - REC

Sept 1944 - Mar. 1946

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RCHIVES REPORTS - MFAA PERSONNEL - REGION IX - There Is A Card Index To These Reports, Reference 20905/c/15

Sept 1944 - Mar. 1946

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 89081, ext 442 & 254)

20905/C/4/MFAA 18th March 1946

From Major H.E.Bell, Acting Director

Dear Waterhouse,

John Ward Perkins has asked me to answer your letter about the Rimini archives, which I can best do by sending you an extract from the report that I made on them on 22 February 1945.

I think it's not optimistic to say that losses are negligible.

The same is not true, unfortunately, about the smaller communal archives of the Romagna, which I imagine would have been a valuable source for your man Jones. They have suffered terribly, and were my great preoccupation - especially because they had been worked scarcely at all.

I shall be very glad to talk to Jones about the Romagna, which is very much my darling, when I come to New College. I am so glad to hear of an English scholar who is working on it.

Yours sincerely
H.E.B.

3261

E.K.Waterhouse Esq.,
Magdalen College
Oxford

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION HEB/tc
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext 442 & 254; 478480)

20905/C/9/MFAA 10th January 1946

SUBJECT: Transmission of Package.

TO : A.C.Liaison Officer, Bologna.

It will be much appreciated if you can arrange delivery of the attached package to PROFESSOR CENCETTI, ARCHIVIO DI STATO, PALAZZO DEI CELESTINI, BOLOGNA.

The package contains a book belonging to the Archivio di Stato and sent by that institution to this Sub-Commission for official purposes. In view of the intrinsic value of the book it is not desirable to risk transmission by ordinary mail service.

HEB.
H.E.BELL, Major
Archives Officer

3260

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext 442 & 254; 478480)

9 gennaio 46

Prof. Giorgio Cencetti
Archivio di Stato
Palazzo dei Celestini
BOLOGNA

Con i più vivi ringraziamenti e i migliori saluti .

H.E.BELL,
Maj AEC

COPY

21 LUG 1945

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HQ EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Office

21 July 45

Subject: PIACENZA PROVINCE Report on Monuments.

To : RC, Emilia.

for Capt Pratt

Done HEB

The monuments in PIACENZA Province, outside of PIACENZA City, have got off lightly. The most serious damage, and that not very serious, was to the Rocca d'Olgisio (N°20b below). The "Mastio" is practically intact, but an isolated tower has gone entirely and a room with XVIIIth century frescoes in the residential wing is three-quarters destroyed. The Castello di Montecanino (N°17 below), half ruined already, had the roof burnt off an old already cracked tower, and the unlisted Castello di Gropparello (N°14 below) had the middle of the front of the drawbridge tower knocked out. Light damage, already repaired and touched up, was to frescoed rooms in the Castello (now Convent) at Castelnuovo Fogliani (N°7 below), and to an arch in the aisle of the Parish Church at Borgonovo Val Tidone (N°4a below). Apart from the above, some dozen monuments have lost some glass or had some roof tiles shaken. The rest are intact. Most of the damage was from fighting between the Germans and Italian Fascists in the one hand and Partisans on the other, or from the blowing up of ammunition dumps.

The following were visited by the undersigned between the 12th and 19th July, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments:-

1. AGAZZANO K. 4705

3258

a) Castello Anguissola. Rocca an imposing mass: moat filled up; XIVth century

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below). The "Castle" is practically intact, but an isolated tower has gone entirely and a room with XVIIIth century frescoes in the residential wing is three-quarters destroyed. The Castello di Montecanino (N°17 below), half ruined already, had the roof burnt off an old already cracked tower, and the unlisted Castello di Gropparello (N°14 below) had the middle of the front of the drawbridge tower knocked out. Light damage, already repaired and touched up, was to frescoed rooms in the Castello (now Convent) at Castelnuovo Fogliani (N °7 below), and to an arch in the aisle of the Parish Church at Borgonovo Val Tidone (N°4a below). Apart from the above, some dozen monuments have lost some glass or had some roof tiles shaken. The rest are intact. Most of the damage was from fighting between the Germans and Italian Fascists in the one hand and Partisans on the other, or from the blowing up of ammunition dumps.

The following were visited by the undersigned between the 12th and 19th July, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments:-

1. AGAZZANO K. 4705

3258

a) Castello Anguissola. Rocca an imposing mass: moat filled up; XIVth century arcaded court. Castello, the residential part, has some early XIXth century decorations.
Intact.

b) Environs: See MONTECANINO.

2. BETTOLA P. 5386

a) S.Bernardino.
Intact.

3. BOBBIO P. 3686

a) S.Colombano, with stone strap-ornament panels and other

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early fragments, and mosaic floor of about 1000 A.D.
Intact.
Trasure intact, still stored away in safety, according to parroco.

b) Duomo.
Intact.

c) Palazzo Malaspina (courtyard only of interest).
Intact.

4. BORGONOVO VAL TIDONE K.4213

a) Parish Church.
Damage. Dump explosion shock down part of an aisle arch. Already rebuilt and touched up by parroco. A little glass out.
Otherwise intact.

b) Castello Filippo Maria Visconti. Uninteresting.
Intact.

c) Environs: See MONTALBO and SEMINO.

5. CAORSO X. 7515

a) Collegiata. Facade new. Interior painted over in 1880's.
Intact.

b) Castello Visconti. Uninteresting.
Intact.

6. CASTELL'ARQUATO P. 7494. A very picturesque town.

a) Parish Church: An imposing stone Romanesque church, inside and out. Has an VIIIth century stone immersion font, a fine large XIVth century crucifix, and a XVIth century frescoed chapel.
All intact.
Chapter and Parish archives intact, and in their place, according to parroco.

3257

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 785026

a) Parish Church.
Damage. Dump explosion shook down part of an aisle arch. Already rebuilt and touched up by parroco. A little glass out.
Otherwise intact.

b) Castello Filippo Maria Visconti. Uninteresting.
Intact.

c) Environs: See MONTALBO and SEMINO.

5. CAORSO K. 7515

a) Collegiata. Facade new. Interior painted over in 1880's.
Intact.

b) Castello Visconti. Uninteresting.
Intact.

6. CASTELL'ARQUATO P. 7494. A very picturesque town.

a) Parish Church: An imposing stone Romanesque church, inside and out. Has an VIIIth century stone immersion font, a fine large XIVth century crucifix, and a XVIth century frescoed chapel.
All intact.
Chapter and Parish archives intact, and in their place, according to parroco.

3257

b) Palazzo Comunale.
Intact.
Comunal Archives intact and in place, according to Segretario Comunale.

c) Castello Visconti (Rocca).
A little glass out and some tiles shaken by dump explosions. Otherwise intact.

d) Fontana del Duca (1392).
Intact.

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7. CASTELNUOVO FOGLIANI P. 8295

a) Castle (now Convent of Nuns), with gay XVIIIth century frescoed rooms, and two rooms with coloured French stucco ornament.
Damage: Dump explosion cracked painted and other ceilings and partitions, and broke glass. All cracks repaired and skillfully touched up. Otherwise intact.
Box garden intact.

8. CASTEL SAN GIOVANNI K. 4118

a) Parish Church (Collegiata).
Organ damaged. Some glass out.
Otherwise intact.
Archives intact according to parroco.

b) S.Rocco.
Intact.

9. CHIARAVALLE DELLA COLOMBA K. 8301

a) Abbey Church. Romanesque church with XIVth century Deposition, XVIIIth century painted chapels, and cloister and chapter-house.
Intact, but for some glass, and a few tiles loosened, already repaired.

10. CORTEMAGGIORE K. 7909

a) Collegiata delle Grazie. Facade rebuilt new.
Intact but for some glass.

b) S.Francesco, with Pordenone chapel and other frescoes.
Intact but for a little pockmarking of baroque decoration of choir by two light shells wich came in by window; some glass.

c) Palazzo del Marchese (also called Palazzo della Rocca), with fine loggia at back. Has only one side and two wings today.
Intact.

11. FIORENZUOLA D'[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Archives intact according to parroco.

b) S.Rocco.
Intact.

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c) Palazzo del Marchese (also called Palazzo della Rocca), with fine loggia at back. Has only one side and two wings today.
Intact.

3256

11. FIORENZUOLA D'ARDA K. 7801

a) S.Fiorenzo (Chiesa Maggiore)
Intact but for some glass.
Treasure and Archives intact and in place, according to parroco.

12. GAZZOLA K. 4906

a) Castello di Lisignano (1 km. S of village).
Fine stone castle with moat and water.
Baroque features in courtyard.
Intact.

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13. GRAZZANO VISCONTI K. 5903

a) Castello. All faked over.
Intact.

b) Reconstruction of Mediaeval village. Absad imitation.
Intact.

14. ?GROPPARELLO P. 6329 (not listed). A fine picturesque stone mass. The only castle encountered with drawbridges in working order (until damaged as below). Striking winding gorge in volcanic serpentine below castle.
Damage: Centre of front of drawbridge tower knocked put. Part of roof and a floor of this tower damaged. Drawbridge damaged. All repairable however.
Otherwise intact.
Collection of Arms (doubtful) intact.

15. MOMELIANO K. 4802

a) Castle. Fine three-sided mass. Magnificent view.
Intact except that all glass is out.

16. MONTALBO K. 3608 (Environs of Borgonovo)

a) Castle. Hexagonal.
Intact but for two very small shell-holes.

17. MONTECANINO K. 4304 (Environs of Agazzano. Wrongly listed as Environs of Rezzanello).

a) Castle. Already a ruin. Tower out of plumb and with old crack.
Damage: Tower roof burnt off by Germans.
XIVth century chapel intact.

18. MONTEVENTANO P. 4499

3255

a) Oratory, of itself of little interest, except for:-

b) Baptistry, a XIIth century apse on south side of Oratory, apparently the only remains of an earlier church.
All intact.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Part of roof and a floor of this tower damaged. Drawbridge damaged. All repairable however.
Otherwise intact.
Collection of Arms (doubtful) intact.

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b) Baptistry, a XIIth century apse on south side of Oratory, apparently the only remains of an earlier church.
All intact.

19. MONTICELLI D'ONGINA K. 8019

a) Parish Church. Gorgeous baroque apse and transepts hiding XIVth century structure.
Intact.

b) Castle.
Intact. No collection, and present owners had never heard of any.

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20. PIANELLO VAL TIDONE K. 3805

a) Rocca dal Verme. Uninteresting.
Small piece of corner knocked off by shell, of no importance.

b) Environs: Rocca d'Olgisio (6 km. to S). An imposing picturesque mass; last part of road negotiable only on foot. Was main stronghold of Piacenze partisans. "Mastio" (main fortress) practically intact. Had one or two small shell-hits, and fattore reported a spiral stair inside burnt out. But key not being available, interior of fortress was not visited.
Damage. An isolated watch-tower on south side of keep enclosure mined by Germans and entirely disappeared.
In residential wing, built along the north edge of Keep enclosure; room with XVIIIth century frescoes three-quarters destroyed, and other rooms of less importance damaged.
Fattore reported that owner takes an active interest in property and is already planning to do repairs when possible.

21. REZZANELLO K. 4701

a) S.Savino. Present church entirely new, built in 1850. Old church, on a site near by, was half ruined and was demolished when new church was built.

b) Castle. Hopelessly restored in 1890's.
But intact.

22. RIVALTA TREBBIA K. 5205 (not listed).

a) Bronze Equestrian Statues from Piacenza placed here for safety.
Still here and intact. A few small pieces of bronze cord etc., from harness may have been broken off by school boys.

23. RIVERGARO K. 5301

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

a spiral stair inside burnt out. But key not being available, interior of fortress was not visited.

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But intact.

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Still here and intact. A few small pieces of bronze cord etc., from harness may have been broken off by school boys.

23. RIVERGARO K. 5301

3254

a) S.Rocco, with not very important end XVIth century Lombard school pictures.
Intact.

b) Santuario della Madonna del Castello. Only one XIIth century side wall of old church left. The rest is recent.
Intact.

c) Environs: STATTO, Castle. Fine stone pile; with later facade.
Intact except for some glass.

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24. SAN GIORGIO PIACENTINO K. 6405

a) Castle (now Municipio)
Intact.

b) Villa Gazzola (same as La Rocca). Small lively composition. Interior with charming XVIIIth century decorations by Milanese painter, some Empire ceiling figures of the "Merveilleuse" type, and some XIXth century French printed landscape wallpapers.
Intact but for some bad stains on papers from toilet broken by Germans.

25. SAN LAZZARO ALBERONI K. 6315

a) Collegio Alberoni.
Intact except for a little glass.
Collections still elsewhere in safety. Nothing lost.

26. SAN PIETRO IN CERRO K. 8111

a) Palazzo Barattieri, and Palazzo Brondelli (ex Barattieri).
Both intact, with collection of carriages and coach.

b) Castle.
Intact.

27. SEMINO K. 3812 (Environs of Borgonovo).

a) Castle. Of little interest.
Intact.

28. TRAVO P. 4995

a) Castello d'Anguissola.
Intact.
Pictures from Galleria Ricci-Oddi from Piacenza were stored here. Half have been moved back recently. The rest to follow. No losses recorded.

b) Environs. Castello di Montechiaro.
Intact.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Intact but for some bad stains on papers from toilet broken by Germans.

25. SAN LAZZARO ALBERONI K. 6315

a) Collegio Alberoni.
Intact except for a little glass.
Collections still elsewhere in safety. Nothing lost.

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b) Environs. Castello di Montechiaro.
Intact.

3259

29. VALCONASSO K. 6806

a) Chapel (Oratorio), with good XVth century fresco fragments.
Intact.

30. VELLEIA P. 6286

a) Remains of Roman City (scanty), and Museum contents.
(Best things at Piacenza).
Intact.

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31. VIGOLO MARCHESE P. 7297

a) Baptistry. XIth century; circular, with Roman cap for font.
Intact.

b) Church. XIth century and XIVth.
Intact.

/s/ Cecil Pinsent

/ t/ C.R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

Copy to:-
PC, Piacenza
Dir, MFAA S/C
File.

3252

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

/s/ Cecil Pinsent

/ t/ C.R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

Copy to:-
PC, Piacenza
Dir, MFAA S/C
File.

3252

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

15 LUG 1945

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HQ EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Office

15 July 45

Subject: PARMA PROVINCE. Report on Monuments.

To : HQ, Emilia Region.

No serious damage was suffered by any listed Monument in PARMA Province, outside of PARMA City.

The following were visited by the undersigned between the 5th and 11th July, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments:-

1. BARDI P. 6169.

a) Castle. A magnificent mass. Part used as prison.
Intact except for an unimportant house within the walls, and one or two shell-holes in roofs of other similar houses.

b) Archives.
The Municipio was in the Castle, and had been sacked. The modern Archives were all over the floors. The bound archives from the XIXth century onwards were on their shelves and in order.
The Historical Archives of the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries had been moved for safety into a room which appeared to have been damp, and mice appeared to have been active on the edges of some of the pages. The Sindaco in the temporary Municipio on being requested gave orders for these to be moved to a dry room.
One parchment MS of the time of the "Imperatore Mathia", with a big red seal, had been stolen.

3251

2. BARDONE P. 9267.

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The following were visited by the undersigned between the 5th and 11th July, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments:-

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One parchment MS of the time of the "Imperatore Mathia", with a big red seal, had been stolen.

3251

2. BARDONE P. 9267.

a) Parish Church. Not listed, but well deserves to have been.
Intact, with two fine XIIth century altar-fronts carved in high relief, three stone figures about 2' 6" high, two lions, and other carvings of the same period.

3. BERCETO P. 8155.

a) Parish Church. Romanesque.
Intact, with fine VIIIth century portal. Interior badly restored without the permission of the Soprintendenza.
Treasure intact, including XIth - XIIth century woven border of altar-front.

15 LUG 20903/C/9

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4. BORGOTARO P. 6453.

a) Castle.
No war damage, but two thirds demolished in 1941 to make room for Casa del Fascio which was never built. The consent of the Superintendent of Monuments of the time (Prof. Venè?) was said to have been obtained.

b) Archivio Notarile (archivio sussidiario).
The Notaro stated that this was moved to PARMA in May 1930.

5. BUSSETO K. 8806.

a) Rocca (Comune).
Some glass only.

b) Archives.
Intact.

c) S.Bartolomeo.
A few pockmarks.

d) Monte di Pietà.
Intact.

e) S.Maria degli Angeli.
A little glass.

f) Villa Pallavicino, curiously but inconveniently planned as a chequer board, the family arms. Nice rooms with XVIII th century frescoes on ceilings.
Intact.

g) Environs: See Sant'Agata and Roncole.

6. CASSIO P. 8563.

a) Parish Church. Important only for fragment of XVth century fresco.
Fresco intact, but needs cleaning. Is sufficiently protected.

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a) Tocca (Comune).
Some glass only.

b) Archives.
Intact.

c) S.Bartolomeo.
A few pockmarks.

d) Monte di Pietà.
Intact.

e) S.Maria degli Angeli.
A little glass.

f) Villa Pallavicino, curiously but inconveniently planned as a chequer board, the family arms. Has rooms with XVIII th century frescoes on ceilings.
Intact.

g) Environs: See Sant'Agata and Roncole.

6; CASSIO P. 8663.

a) Parish Church. Important only for fragment of XVth century fresco.
Fresco intact, but needs cleaning. Is sufficiently protected.
Damage: Apse, of no artistic importance, knocked in.

b) "Salti del Diavolo", a curious natural phenomen consisting of a line of thin up-edged rocks stretching from one side of the wide valley to the other. While standing up sometimes 200ft, their thickness is only about 20ft.
No war damage, but the rock nearest the village and most accesible to tourists is being thinned down by blasting to quarry stone.
If not already so protected, Prof. Barbacci would have the rocks "vincolati", and put on the list of "Bellezze naturali".

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7. COLLECCHIO L. 0181.

a) S. Prospero, with original rectangular apse, and Romanesque caps inside. The outside is all rebuilt and the campanile new. The nave vault has hideous modern paintings.
All intact.

8. COLORNO F. 1400.

a) Palazzo Ducale.
Intact except for glass and some window-frames. XVIIIth century French paintings intact.

b) S.Liborio (in Pal. Ducale). Very fine interior, chiefly French Empire.
Intact, including 1760 frescoes.
Model of church of S.Gregorio mishandled. Apse roof torn off and burnt.

9. FIDENZA P. 8994.

a) Duomo.
Intact except for points of cones on west facade towers knocked off. One has been recovered, and the other is easily replaceable. Brick coverings of west portal still in place.
This was a miraculous escape as houses on two sides are bombed right down to within ten yards.

b) Duomo Treasury.
Sac. Don Lorenzo Guareschi stated that this was dispersed among various parishes in charge of parrochi; and was intact.

c) S. Antonio.
Some glass out. Roof tiles shaken but repaired by Parroco.

d) S. Michele.
Roof a bit shaken and needs going over. Light crecks to cupola. Roof over chapel with XVIth century fresco of Madonna loosened. Instructions were given

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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Model of church of S.Gregorio mishandled. Apse roof torn off and burnt.

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c) S. Antonio.

Some glass out. Roof tiles shaken but repaired by Parroco.

d) S. Michele.

Roof a bit shaken and needs going over. Light cracks to cupola. Roof over chapel with XVIth century fresco of Madonna loosened. Instructions were given to parroco to have roofs gone over.

e) Municipio. Only front part antique.
Intact but for glass.

f) Romen Gate and Bridge.
Intact.

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10. FONTANELLATO P. 9895.

a) Rocca dei Sanvitali. Very fine castle with moat and water.
A little glass only.
Parmigianino room, and XVIIth and XVIIIth century pictures intact.

b) S. Croce. (Parish church).
Intact.

11. FONTEVIVO P. 9893. (Environs of Fontanellato).

a) Abbey Church.
Nearly all glass out. Facades pockmarked, but already repaired. Otherwise intact.

12. FORNOVO DI TARO. P. 9275.

a) Parish Church.
Some glass out. Roof twice damaged but repaired by parroco. Otherwise intact, including Byzantine carvings and figures.
Bad Hollywood restoration inside, said by parroco to have been done under Prof. Venè's direction.

13. NOCETO P. 9887.

a) Castle.
Intact.

b) S. Martino.
Some glass only.

14. ROLESINE PARMENSE K. 9211.

3248

a) Parish Church.
Intact.

b) Palazzo delle Due Torri. Modest palazzo at edge of Po river, now inhabited by poor people.
Intact.

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already repaired. Otherwise intact.

12. FORNOVO DI TARO. P. 9275.

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Some glass out. Roof twice damaged but repaired by parroco. Otherwise intact, including Byzantine carvings and figures.
Bad Hollywood restoration inside, said by parroco to have been done under Prof. Vené's direction.

13. NOCETO P. 9867.

a) Castle.
Intact.

b) S. Martino.
Some glass only.

3248

14. POLESINE PARMENSE K. 9211.

a) Parish Church.
Intact.

b) Palazzo delle Due Torri. Modest palazzo at edge of Po river, now inhabited by poor people.
Intact.

15. ROCCABIANCA F. 0209.

a) Parish Church.
Intact.

b) Rocca.
Intact.

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16. RONCOLE K. 9004.

a) S. Michele.
Intact but for slight roof damage, now repaired.
The organ on which Verdi played suffered a little from leaks in roof, and one or two stops are out of order.

17. SALA BAGANZA L. 0277.

a) Castello di S. Lorenzo (Municipio).
Intact.

18. SAN SECONDO PARMENSE L. 0299.

a) Castello (Municipio).
Intact with all fine XVIth century frescoes, including great hall.

19. SANT'AGATA K. 8708.

a) Villa Verdi.
Intact with all Verdi's furniture, objects, piano and music in place, devotedly guarded and cared for by a nephew.

20. SERRAVALLE

a) VIIIth century octagonal Temple or Church.
No war damage. Settlement on one side had already taken place some time ago and an iron tie put round the building;
Roof in bad condition. Restoration needed when possible.

21. SORAGNA K. 9401.

3247

a) Rocca. Endless painted rooms; chapel; and magnificent

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

18. SAN SECONDO PARMENSE L. 0299.

a) Castello (Municipio).
Intact with all fine XVIth century frescoes, including great hall.

19. SANT'AGATA K. 8708.

a) Villa Verdi.
Intact with all Verdi's furniture, objects, piano and music in place, devotedly guarded and cared for by a nephew.

20. SERRAVALLE

a) VIIIth century octagonal Temple or Church.
No war damage. Settlement on one side had already taken place some time ago and an iron tie put round the building;
Roof in bad condition. Restoration needed when possible.

21. SORAGNA K. 9401.

3247

a) Rocca. Endless painted rooms; chapel; and magnificent heavy gilded royal rooms.
Intact but for a little glass.
Library, pictures and furniture intact.

22. TORRECHIARA L. 0570.

a) Magnificent Castle.
Intact.

b) All pictures put there by Prof. Quintavalle are intact and judging by those whose cases have been opened are in good order. The only danger is from worm from the old castle timbers. This is being dealt with.
Owing to the Gallery at PARMA being badly damaged,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

and the shortage of transport, the pictures will have to stay at Torrechiara for the present.

This was a fine piece of work for which Prof. Quintavalle, who had many troubles to overcome, deserves great credit.

23. VARANO DE'MELEGARI P. 8474. (not listed).

a) Castle.
Intact.

24. ZIBELLO K. 9511.

a) S. Gervasio.
Intact.

b) Palazzo Pallavicino.
Intact.

/s/ B. R. Pinsent

/ t/ C. R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

Copies to:
PC, Parma
Dir., MFAA S/C
File.

3246

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24. ZIMELLO K. 9511.

a) S. Gervasio.
Intact.

b) Palazzo Pallavicino.
Intact.

/s/ C. R. Pinsent

/ t/ C. R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

Copies to:
PC, Parma
Dir., MFAA S/C
File.

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14 LUG 1945

2

MILA RUSH FOR CAPT PENNEY

1797 14 July 1945 PRIORITY

RESTRICTED XD

PARA ONE. FD UNDERSTOOD FROM MEXICO CITY AT PLANE B MILA

MADE PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH YOU FOR TRANSPORT OF TARANTO

GOLD SHIPMENT STORED AT PARMA TO ROME CMA BOTH ARRANGEMENTS

INCLUDING AIR PASSAGE FROM OF CHARGE OBJECTS AM OF MINISTERIAL

REPRESENTATIVE SENT TO FETCH THEM FD .

PARA TWO MILA RUSH FOR CAPT PENNEY FOUR H. ARE PLANE ARMA

PARA

PARA TWO FD DOCTOR VALERIO CHAPARRO CMA EXPERT FOR

MONUMENTS CMA HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY EXECUTIVE COMMAND TO

ACCOMPLISH ABOVE MISSION FD WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND HIM IF OFFICIAL

PERMISSION IS INVITED AND YOU ARE PREPARED TO COMPLETE ABOVE

ARRANGEMENTS FD

PARA THREE FD PLEASE ADVISE YOUR INTENT

3245

Signed by Col. Dodd Jr

MGM & FA Sec. Allied Comm.

Sec AAF

709051/D

14 LUG 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

13 LUG 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
G-1 Section Civilian Personnel

13 July 1545

Ref Civ Pers/ 892

Subject . Employment of Civilian Personnel

To . All Concerned.

1. As agreed at the Establishment Section Meeting of 9 July 1945, the employment of personnel for duty in this Headquarters building has been delegated to a greater extent to the office of G-1 Section Civilian Personnel.

2. So that fair consideration may be given to all prospective employees who have already been registered with G-1 Section Civilian Personnel Office, independent recruiting as authorized, and practiced in the past will be minimized to the extent as mentioned below.

3. The attached form has been adopted for use in this Headquarters, and will be used by all Sections and Sub-Commissions requiring additional civilian staff. Recommended applicant will be contacted after a three day period if any difficulty or delay is experienced in the selecting of satisfactory applicants already on file with this office.

4. Civilians will not be directed to this office, as has been the practice in the past, with a request for their employment. The above instructions - as outlined above, and set forth on CIV PERS FORM 1B will be complied with.

5. Additional forms (Civ Pers Forms 1B) may be obtained from this office.

H. P. Theodore
N. P. 3244 THEODORE
1st Lt. AUS.
Ass't G-1 (A).

DISTRIBUTION
"C"

1 Incl.
CIV PERS FORM 1B

20200/CIV/1

13 LUG 1945

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
A L L I E D C O M M I S S I O N

_____
Section
A P O 394

Reference No._____ _____1945

SUBJECT. Request for Civilian Personnel

TO . G-1 (A) Section Civilian Personnel.

1. Request that this office be assigned the following civilian personnel;

Proposed Grade_____

Total Required_____

LIST NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS; MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

When requesting Personnel in the Grade of Junior Administrative Assistant or any higher position CIV PERS FORM 2 will be used and attached as an inclosure to this form.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Applicants should be referred for interview to_____

_____Located in Room_____on the_____floor.

3. In compliance with your Ltr Civ Pers No. 892 dated 13 July 1945, may the below listed civilian be referred to this section for possible employment in the event that no suitable

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

1. Request that this office be assigned the following civilian personnel;

Proposed Grade_____

Total Required_____

LIST NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS: MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

When requesting Personnel in the Grade of Junior Administrative Assistant or any Higher position CIV PERS FORM 2 will be used and attached as an inclosure to this form.

2. Applicants should be referred for interview to_____

_____Located in Room_____on the_____floor.

3. In compliance with your Ltr Civ Pers No. 892 dated 13 July 1945, may the below listed civilian be referred to this section for possible employment in the event that no suitable applicants are available;

_____
Name

_____
Address

_____
Phone No.

_____
Name

_____
Rank

_____
Designation

CIV PERS FORM 18
July 45

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

13 GIU. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
EMILIA REGION A.M.G.

ARC/1

13th. June 1945

Subject: Supplementary Report on Archivio di Stato, PARMA.

To : Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region.

(1) The Director of the above Archive (Dr. Giovanni Drei) has now returned to duty. His previous absence is explained by the fact that, in the last days before the liberation, he was wanted by the Fascists.

(2) Dr. Drei has been asked by undersigned to prepare a full report on the Archive; this will be forwarded to Director, MFAA Sub-Commission when received.

(3) Dr. Drei has alternative premises in view for the ordering and housing of the Archive. These are the Ospedale Vecchio, PARMA, and undersigned has requested the Provincial Commissioner, PARMA, to consider whether he can support Dr. Drei's proposal to use this building.

(4) Dr. Drei reports the following private and semi-public archives safe: the Archivio Sanvitale, the Archivio del Principe di Soragna, the Archivio Laletta, the Archivi Terasconi e Magnani, the Raccolta Micheli and the Archivio dell'Accademia di Belle Arti. The last two are in deposit along with records from the Archivio di Stato at Montecelli.

He has no information of any damage to Archivi Comunali in the Province.

3242

/s/ H. E. Bell Major

/t/ H. E. Bell, A.E.O., Archives Officer.

Copy to: Director MFAA Sub-Commission.

20905 C19

13 GIU. 1945

10 LUG 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489061, ext. 442 & 254; 475450)

Reference: 20905/D/MFAA

10 July 1945

Subject: Tour by Mr. Hilary Jenkinson C.B.E., Archives Advisor to the War Office.

To : Director, MFAA Subcommission.

Undersigned left this headquarters on 30th June 1945 to accompany Mr. Hilary Jenkinson on a six-day tour of archival reposition in Northern Italy. The following visits were made, nos. 1. and 2. in the company of Commendatore De. Gennaro of State Archives.

1. ROMA (Commendatore Cecchini, Director)

The condition of the Archivio di Stato is now excellent. Deposits are returned and replaced on the shelves of the repository; losses are much less heavy than was at one time feared, and indeed are not serious.

Mr. Jenkinson's visit was timed to coincide with the re-opening of the Sala di Mostra of the Archivio, to which there has been added a new, and very fine, exhibition of Lenese bindings.

2. FIRENZE (Professor Pandia, Director; Dr. Bertini, Vice-Director; Mr. Cameroni; Mr. De Rubertis)

It is a matter for regret that it has not been found possible to implement the recommendations successively made by Major Mills, Capt. Brooke and Major Bell for the repair of the roof of the Archivio di Stato. This has made impossible the return of the important deposits to this Archivio as well as, to some extent, endangering records actually in the repository.

One deposit (at the Villa di Sesto, Sesto 180) was visited. Conditions there were not unsatisfactory. The villa's occupation by Allied troops had necessitated re-stacking of archives in one of the four rooms used in order to make a passage to a lavatory. This had been carried out carefully, however, and all evidence is that the archives were respected. In one other room conditions were a little domestic, with a hen sitting out her eggs in the midst of the archives; the custode readily agreed not to use this room for any purpose other than archive storage - through once again it must be said that no harm had come to the records

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

accompany Mr. Hilary Jenkinson on a six-day tour of archival re-collection in Northern Italy. The following visits were made, nos. 1. and 2. in the company of Commendatore De, Superintendent of State Archives.

1. PISA (Commendatore Cecchini, Director)

The condition of the Archivio di Stato is now excellent. Deposits are returned and replaced on the shelves of the repository; losses are much less heavy than was at one time feared, and indeed are not serious.

Mr. Jenkinson's visit was timed to coincide with the re-opening of the Sala di Mostra of the Archivio, to which there has been added a new, and very fine, exhibition of Roman bindings.

2. FLORENCE (Professor Pansella, Director; Dr. Bertini, Vice-Director; Dr. Camerani; Dr. De Robertis)

It is a matter for regret that it has not been found possible to implement the recommendations successively made by Major Ellis, Capt. Brooke and Major Bell for the repair of the roof of the Archivio di Stato. This has made impossible the return of two important deposits to this Archivio as well as, to some extent, endangering records actually in the repository.

One deposit (at the Villa di Poli, GALLICO) was visited. Conditions there were not unsatisfactory. The villa's occupation by Allied troops had necessitated re-stacking of archives in one of the four rooms used in order to make a passage to a lavatory. This had been carried out carefully, however, and all evidence is that the archives were respected. In one other room conditions were a little domestic, with a hen sitting out her cage in the midst of the archives: the custode readily agreed not to use this room for any purpose other than archive storage - through once again it must be said that no harm has come to the records.

3. BOLOGNA (Commendatore Mazzoli, Director; Prof. Concetti)

Re-ordering of the Archivio di Stato is proceeding satisfactorily, with the additional assistance of Dr. Roppi, recently appointed to this repository. Undersigned handed to Commendatore Mazzoli an outline survey of conditions in archive repositories within his superintendency; this survey was made on the basis of MFAA inspections.

4. PARMA (Dr. Bettini, Director of Museum)

Deposits of the Archivio Comunale have not yet been brought back from Fidenza, but there are understood to be good.

conditions

3241

20905/C/19.
10 LUG 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

The Ministry of Public Instruction has commenced removal of its archives from Rome, VENETO Region - an example of the piecemeal transfer of archives of this character which the Commissary of State Archives is most anxious to avoid. The representative of the Ministry was instructed that he must provide himself with written authority from the Ministry before making further transfers.

5. VENICE (Commendatore Monga, Director)

Conditions in the most important archivio di Stato are excellent, and the Director hopes soon to commence restoration to their proper shelves of documents formerly placed for safety on the ground-floor or in deposits in the city. Undersigned has consulted Provincial Finance Officer, VENEZIA, and on his advice instructed Commendatore Monga to submit to the Prefect an estimate of the cost of this work; this Commendatore Monga has done.

Capt. Brooks, attached Military Government Austria, and Mr. Jenkinson in VENICE for consultations.

Major E.E. Bell, A.U.S., Archives Officer.

Copies to:
Regional Commissioner, VENEZIA Region (attn. Maj. Norman Newton, MFAA Officer)
Regional Commissioner, PUGLIA Region (attn. Capt. C.H. Vincent, MFAA Officer)
Lt. F. Hartt, FLORENCE.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

on the ground-floor of [illegible] and on his [illegible]
consulted Provincial Finance Officer, VENICE, and on his [illegible]
instructed Commandatura Zones to submit to the Prefect an
estimate of the cost of this work; this Commandatura Zone has [illegible]
done.

Capt. Brooks, attached Military Government Austria, and Mr. Jenkinson in VENICE for consultations.

Major H.N. Bell, A.M.G., Archives Officer.

Copies to:
Regional Commissioner, VENETIA Region (attn. Maj. Norman Norton, MFA&A Officer)
Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region (attn. Capt. C.F. Pinsent, MFA&A Officer)
Lt. F. Hartt, FLORENCE.

3210

- 2 -

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

8 LUG 1945

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HQ EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Office

8 July 45

SUBJECT: REGGIO EMILIA PROVINCE. Report on Monuments.

TO : RQ, Emilia Region.

In the whole of REGGIO EMILIA Province, apart from REGGIO EMILIA City, only two monuments have suffered damage;-- the small Romanesque church at TOANO (N°1 below), not listed but deserved to have been; and the not very important Castle at CASTELLARANO (N°2 below).

The following were visited by the undersigned on July 3 and 4, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments.

1. TOANO. L.2637

a) S.Maria Assunta. Small Romanesque church on hill above village, with four carved Romanesque caps, two of which have striking carvings in high relief representing persons, scenes and animals from the Bible.

Damage. The roof was burnt off by the Germans on 5 Aug 1944, as part of the reprisals against the Patriots. The rest of the structure of the building is intact.

A corner of one of the carved caps was knocked off, but was found in the rubble and handed to the parroco for safe-keeping.

Work urgently required: The rebuilding of the roof before winter, to save the walls, arches and apse from collapse from infiltration of water. Shaley sandstone slabs are the local roof covering, and are found locally. It should be possible to cut timber locally too.

An estimate has been ordered for this work.

3230

2. CASTELLARANO. L.4052.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

The following were visited by the undersigned on July 3 and 4, accompanied by Prof. Barbacci, Superintendent of Monuments.

1. TOANO. L.2637

a) S.Maria Assunta. Small Romanesque church on hill above village, with four carved Romanesque caps, two of which have striking carvings in high relief representing persons, scenes and animals from the Bible.

Damage. The roof was burnt off by the Germans on 5 Aug 1944, as part of the reprisals against the Patriots. The rest of the structure of the building is intact.

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Work urgently required: The rebuilding of the roof before winter, to save the walls, arches and apse from collapse from infiltration of water. Shaley sandstone slabs are the local roof covering, and are found locally. It should be possible to cut timber locally too.

An estimate has been ordered for this work.

3239

2. CASTELLARANO. L.4052.

a) Rocca. A not very interesting castle.

Damage. Interior blown up and set fire to by Germans on 20 July 1944. Outside walls and a few rooms remain standing.

Tower intact.

b) S.Maria.

Intact, including small remains of XIth century crypt. Roof damaged, but repaired.

20905/C/9

8 LUG 1945

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c) S.Croce. Modernized as a memorial to the fallen in the last war. Of no artistic interest now.
Intact.

The following were all found to be intact:-

3. BRESCELLO L.2596.

a) Statue of Hercules.

b) Roman Mosaics.
Not seen, but school in which kept was intact.
Doors locked, and no custodian to be found.

4. CANOSSA L.1960.

a) Remains of Castle.

5. CASTELNUOVO NEI MONTI L.1445.

a) Parish church, with Seicentesque frescoes.
Some glass out. Some tiles shaken but mended.

6. CORREGGIO L.4681.

a) Palazzo dei Principi.
Archives and Library declared intact by Sig. Giovanni Scaltriti, Assessore Comunale and Librarian.

b) Congregazione di Carità. Building of no interest.
Two pictures were removed to the Library, and were for a time at GUIGLIA.

c) S.Francesco.

d) S.Quirino, including XIVth century ivory casket.

7. FABBRICO L.4892.

3239

a) Parish Church.

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4. CANOSSA L.1960.

a) Remains of Castle.

5. CASTELNUOVO NEI MONTI L.1445.

a) Parish church, with Seicentesque frescoes.
Some glass out. Some tiles shaken but mended.

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Two pictures were removed to the Library, and were for a time at GUIGLIA.

c) S.Francesco.

d) S.Quirino, including XIVth century ivory casket.

7. FABBRICO L.4892.

3239

a) Parish Church.

8. GUALTIERI L.3497.

a) Palazzo Bentivoglio.

9. GUASTALLA L.3698.

a) Cathedral, with fine Baroque chapel.

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b) Madonna della Porta. Fine Baroque church.

c) Monument to Ferrante I Gonzaga.

d) Palazzo Gonzaga. Interior decorated in 1890's, including elaborate intarsia rooms.

e) Environs: PIEVE DI GUASTALLA. Much restored.

10. NOVELLARA L.4289.

a) Rocca, with Archivio Comunale, Archivio Gonzaga, and Biblioteca Comunale.

b) S.Stefano.

11. SAN POLO D'ENSA L.1760.

a) Castle.

12. SCANDIANO L.3762.

a) Rocca. Only outside of interest.
Some glass gone. Hole or two in roof, now mended.

/s/ C.R. Pinsent

/ t/ C.R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

3237

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a) Rocca, Main [illegible]
Biblioteca Comunale.

b) S.Stefano.

11. SAN POLO D'ENSA L.1760.

a) Castle.

12. SCANDIANO L.3762.

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Some glass gone. Hole or two in roof, now mended.

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/ t/ C.R. PINSENT,
Capt.,
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

3237

Copies to:-
PC, REGGIO
Dir., MFAA S/C, HQ, AC
File.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

C o p y

6 GIU. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
EMILIA REGION A.M.G.

ARC/1 6th. June 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Archives and Libraries in PIACENZA Province.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region.

1. PIACENZA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale and the Biblioteca Comunale. Both buildings and contents are safe - the library building lacking some window-glass. The Director (Conte prof. Nasalli Rocca di Corneliano) reports deposits as under:-

Castello di Rivalta 25 kms. from PIACENZA, with roughly fifteen chests of material from the Archivio and fifteen from the Library. The deposit has been seen by the Director within the last fortnight, and is in good condition.

Torrechiara, with material from the Library. This we know from Capt. Keller's reports to be a satisfactory deposit.

Villo, with material from the Library; the Director says that it is safe.

The question of the return of material from all three will receive undersigned's attention in the near future.

The Archivio Notarile is safe, though the building has suffered slight structural damage, mainly to window-frames.

Ecclesiastical Archives are reported by Conte Nasalli Rocca di Corneliano to be safe, as also (he states) are the following:

Private Archives - Archivio del Collegio Alberoni, Archivio Baratieri di S. Pietro, Archivio Landi, Archivio Casati, Archivio Gazzola di Settima, Archivio Anguissola Scotti, Archivio Fogliani d'Aragona Pallavicino and the Raccolta Prof. Rapetti.

2. FIORENZUOLA.

The Archivio della Chiesa di San Fiorenzo is intact and in position. It contains a rather good collection of pergamene. The late 15th. century illuminated Office of S. Fiorenzo is also

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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2. FIORENZUOLA.

The Archivio della Chiesa di San Fiorenzo is intact and in position. It contains a rather good collection of pergamene. The late 15th. century illuminated Office of S. Fiorenzo is also safe.

3. CASTEL S.GIOVANNI.

The Archivio della Chiesa Collegiata is reported by an assistant priest to be safe.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major
/t/ Major H.E. Bell., A.E.C.,
Archives Officer.

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

6 JUL. 1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

4 GIU. 1945

[redacted]

Relazione danni sofferti dalle Biblioteche e Archivi della Provincia di Piacenza

Piacenza 4 Giugno 1945

BIBLIOTECHE

Biblioteca Comunale di Piacenza = In seguito agli avvenimenti di guerra, nessun danno ha sofferto la Biblioteca per il materiale bibliografico in essa contenuto sia nella sua sede in PIACENZA (via Cardacci 18) sia nelle località di sfollamento dei manoscritti, incunaboli, operé e collezioni pregevoli in TORRECHIARA (prvo.Parma) per il materiale prezioso scelto in base a direttive del Ministero Nazionale, di RIVALTA (prov. Piacenza) per manoscritti e incunaboli e opere rare, di VILLO' (prov. Piacenza) per opere a stampa e collezioni di particolare interesse.

L'edificio della Biblioteca in PIACENZA ha avuto peraltro a causa dei bombardamenti un centinaio di vetri rotti e qualche danno a serramenti.

Biblioteche varie. Le altre biblioteche cittadine di particolare importanza storica bibliografica (del Capitolo Cattedrale, della Collegiata di Sant'Antonino, del Collegio Alberoni ecc.) sono pure rimaste incolumi.

Danni notevoli ebbe invece a sopportare la Biblioteca del Convento dei Padri Cappuccini (Stradone Farnese) per il crollo di parte del convento avvenuta in seguito a bombardamento del°11 gennaio 1945). La biblioteca, privata ad uso dei frati e circolante per il pubblico composta di circa 20.000 voll. prevalentemente di materie religiose, con molte opere antiche, ha avuto perdite di opere, danneggiamento a volumi singoli. Occorreranno forti spese per il rispetto, la scaffalatura, la schedatura, il completamento, spese che detti Frati non possono minimamente sopportare e per le quali si chiede l'intervento delle Autorità.

3235

ARCHIVI

Anche gli Archivi storici della città sopratutto l'Archivio Storico Comunale, l'Archivio Notarile, Archivi dei Capitoli di Santo

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

il materiale prezioso scelto in base a direttiva del Ministero Nazionale, di RIVALTA (prov. Piacenza) per manoscritti e incunaboli e opere rare, di VILLO' (prov. Piacenza) per opere a stampa e collezioni di particolare interesse.

L'edificio della Biblioteca in PIACENZA ha avuto peraltro a causa dei bombardamenti un centinaio di vetri rotti e qualche danno a serramenti.

Biblioteche varie. Le altre biblioteche cittadine di particolare importanza storica bibliografica (del Capitolo Cattedrale, della Collegiata di Sant'Antonino, del Collegio Alberoni ecc.) sono pure rimaste incolumi.

Danni notevoli ebbe invece a sopportare la Biblioteca del Convento dei Padri Cappuccini (Stradone Farnese) per il crollo di parte del convento avvenuta in seguito a bombardamento del 11 gennaio 1945). La biblioteca, privata ad uso dei frati e circolante per il pubblico composta di circa 20.000 voll. prevalentemente di materie religiose, con molte opere antiche, ha avuto perdite di opere, danneggiamento a volumi singoli. Occorreranno forti spese per il rassetto, la scaffalatura, la schedatura, il completamento, spese che detti Frati non possono minimamente sopportare e per le quali si chiede l'intervento delle Autorità.

3235

ARCHIVI

Anche gli Archivi storici della città soprattutto l'Archivio Storico Comunale, l'Archivio Notarile, Archivi dei Capitoli di Santo Antonino e della Cattedrale, degli Ospizi Civili ecc.nonché gli archivi privati di antiche famiglie(a quanto consta) non subirono danni di sorta quanto al materiale archivistico.

L'edificio dell'Archivio notarile (Via Nova) subì peraltro vari danni a vetri e a serramenti per vari bombardamenti.

La parte più pregevole dell'Archivio Storico Comunale venne sfollato a RIVALTA dove rimase conservata in ottime condizioni. Anche le Biblioteche e gli archivi esistenti in Provincia (p.e. Castell'Arquato, Pierenzuola, Castel San Giovanni, Bobbio ecc.) per quanto consta non ebbero a subire danni.

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4 GIU. 1945

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L' desiderio delle Autorità cittadine, degli Studiosi e della Direzione della Biblioteca e dell'Archivio Storico Comunale, di potere effettuare quanto prima il ritorno alla sede del materiale trasferito per ragioni precauzionali. Per cortese concessione dell'Ufficiale dei Servizi Civili della A.M.G. alcune masse vennero già riportate da RIVALTA a PIACENZA. Ma per il trasporto delle rimanenti occorrerà avere a disposizione un congruo mezzo automobilistico che possa consentire il trasporto del restante materiale contenuto in circa cinquanta grosse casse e in varie migliaia di volumi sciolti.

Si prega la apposita Commissione Alleata e le Autorità italiane a volere prestare in proposito un sollecito ed efficace aiuto.

IL DIRETTORE DELLA BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE
DI PIACENZA E DELL'ARCHIVIO STORICO
(dott. prof. Emilio Nasalli Rocca)

fto. Emilio Nasalli Rocca.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

a volere prestare in proposito un'ossequio di ufficio alto.

IL DIRETTORE DELLA BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE
DI PIACENZA E DELL'ARCHIVIO STORICO
(dott. prof. Emilio Nasalli Rocca)

fto. Emilio Nasalli Rocca.

3234

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

3 JUN. 1945
2 JUN. 1945

Copy

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDIA REGION
APO 394

20114/1/A

3 June 1945

Subject: Inspection of Archive Deposits of MILANO.

To : Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region.

1. The Archives Officer, accompanied by Dr. Guido Manganelli, Soprintendente del R. Archivio di Stato, MILANO, inspected and found in excellent condition all deposits of archives evacuated from the Archivio di Stato of MILANO. Dr.Manganelli completed the evacuation on 7 August 1943. The Palazzo del Senato, one of the buildings occupied by the Archivio di Stato, was hit during a bombing raid on the following day. Four days later on August 12, the building was set afire by incendiary bombs and burned for a period of ten to twenty days. The other building occupied by the Archivio di Stato, Palazzo Sant'Eustorgio, Piazza Sant'Eustorgio 3, was hit on August 15 and completely destroyed. Much credit is due Dr.Manganelli for the great effort he made to save the archives in his care. If he had not been an intelligent, energetic, and resourceful archivist, the loss of Italy would have been inestimable. The deposits are as follows:

a. One large deposit is on the second floor of one of the outbuilding of Villa Greppi at MONTICELLO BRIANZA. The building appears to be fireproof and the contents are safe and in excellent condition. The archives are in boxes of various sizes stacked some eight to ten feet deep on a floor space some 40 feet by 60 feet in size. The owner of Villa Greppi supplied the storage space free and has an interest in the protection of the deposit. An employee of the Archivio di Stato is stationed at the Villa with the deposit. Part of the archives here is the Archivio Sforzesco, and the oldest record noted was dated September,995. Elements of the Special Service Battalion, 6th South African Division (Armoured), have requisitioned parts of the Villa and men are quarted on the ground floor of the building which contains the archives. However, neither the owner of the property nor the employee of the Archivio di Stato anticipated any difficulty from the troops.

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b. Another deposit completely fills the Teatro Comunale, which is located on the ground floor of the Municipio of BARZAGO. Dr.Manganelli evacuated 50,000 bundles (each averaging about five inches in thickness) of the collections of the Archivio Notarile of MILANO. The 100,000 bundles mentioned in the report of May 18 should have been 50,000. The greater part of these archives is stacked very neatly in the Teatro Comunale. Every precaution has been taken to protect the deposit from dampness. Even the windows have been partly walled up as a protective measure.

3 SIU

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c. Another enormous deposit is located in the Teatro dell'Oratorio Maschile S.Giuseppe, Chiesa San Giorgio, ROVEGNATE. Two great stacks of records from the Archivio di Stato occupy the main floor. These archives range in date from 1535 to 1800. The inventories of the Archivio di Stato are also here. The remainder of the archives evacuated from the Archivio Notarile are stacked on the stage. The two deposits from the Archivio Notarile cover the period from 1300 to 1800. Care has been taken to protect the records from dampness and they are examined and aired periodically. The priest who helps watch them stated that only one incident of any significance had taken place in regard to the deposit. Germans had appeared on 31 October 1944 and had searched through the mountains of records for two automobiles they believed hidden there.

d. Another deposit of archives from the Archivio di Stato completely fills the Chiesa in Turba, MERATE. Timbers were placed on the floor to protect the records from dampness. The bundles and folders of papers were then piled some twenty feet high from one end of the church to the other. Space was left for the custodian to walk completely around the great stack between it and the walls, in order that periodic inspections might be made. The archives cover the period from 1535 to 1925.

e. A fifth deposit is located on the ground floor of what was probably a carriage house of Palazzo Belgioioso (Villa del Marchese Annibale Brivio), MERATE. This deposit is principally the Archivio del Catasto di Maria Teresa and the map collection of the Archivio di Stato. One wonders if the Germans who abandoned an 88-mm gun and a stack of ammunition about 75 yards away from the building might have known of the great value of the deposit.

/s/ William D. McCain

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

Copies to:
MFAA, Allied Commission.
Archives Officer, Emilia Region.

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Copies to:
MFAA, Allied Commission.
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

26 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS

EMILIA REGION A.M.G.

ARC/1

26th. May 1945

SUBJECT: Archives and Libraries in REGGIO Province.

TO : Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region.

1. The présent report is based on inspections made on 25th. May 1945. The state of the archives in this province is excellent.

2. CORREGGIO.

The Archivio Comunale and the Biblioteca Comunale are both reported by the segreterio comunale to have suffered no damage whatever.

3. GUALTIERI.

The Archivio del Consorzio di Bonificazione Bentivoglio-Gualtieri, on which the BOLOGNA Superintendency appears to set some store, is unharmed; at no stage of the war have documents been moved from their normal repository.

4. GUASTALLA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale, the Archivio Gonzaga, and the Biblioteca Maldottiana, all three housed in the same building, are safe. The Archivio Gonzaga, together with the best things from the Library, is walled up in a refuge under the principal stairway of the Library. Undersigned stressed to the Librarian the importance of opening up this deposit at a very early date and replacing archives and books in their normal places.

Modern administrative archives of the Comune are safe in the Municipio.

The Archivio Vescovile and the Archivio Capitolare are both reported by the Bishop to be safe. He also states that there has been no war-damage to any of the parish archives of his diocese.

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5. NOVELLARA.

The Archivio Comunale, the Archivio Gonzaga; the Biblioteca Comunale and the little Biblioteca dei Cappuccini are all safe in the Rocca. The Archivio Gonzaga is in process of being ordered under the direction of Prof. Cerlini of the University of GENOA, who ordered and listed the Gonzaga mss. at GUASTALLA. Prof.Cerlini is not at present in NOVELLARA, but undersigned saw his assistant, Sig.Gaetano Gaddi, who is an enthusiastic custodian of all the very valuable collections in the Rocca.

6. THE MONTAGNA.

Undersigned talked with Capt.Colling, C.A.O. for twenty-four mountain communes in the province. He reports that at VILLAMINOZZO the Municipio (along with most of the village) was burnt by the

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Germans as a reprisal for Partisan activity; at TOANO it was destroyed by shell-fire; at BAISO, though the Municipio is safe, archives appear to have been dispersed by the Germans. Otherwise there is no destruction reported, and under these circumstances undersigned will not tour the area.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ Major H.E. Bell, A.E.C.
Archives Officer

Copy to:
Director MFAA
Sub-Commission
HQ, Allied Commission

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24 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS

EMILIA REGION A.M.G.

ARC/1

24th. May 1945

SUBJECT: Archives and Libraries of Province of FERRARA.

TO : Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region.

(1) The present report is based on inspections made during the past week.

(2) FERRARA.

Archives in this city have suffered heavy damage. The place, indeed, provides a most illuminating case-book of the whole range of dangers that beset records in wartime, and of the di= sasters to which they are subject. In an otherwise sad history, however, there are two satisfactory features

(a) the very valuable collections of the Biblioteca Ariostea and of the Archivio Comunale have escaped damage;
(b) where damage to archives has occurred, in no case reported has it been through the fault or negligence of Allied Troops.

Details are as follows:

(i) The Archivio Comunale is unharmed, and all records in place in the Municipio, except for one chest evacuated to the Pinacoteca at CENTO. This contains registers of the atti della Civica Magistratura, 1393-1567. For arrangements regarding its return to FERRARA, see (xiii) below.

(ii) The Archivio Notarile was in two sezions. The first, containing originals of notarii instruments, is in premises in the Castello Estense, and is intact. The second, consisting of copies, the so-called Memorial, was in the Palazzo di Giustizia, and was totally destroyed by fire on 22nd. April 1945. Categories of documents thus destroyed as follows:-

atti del memoriale, 1422-1816;
copie atti publici degli uffici Registri, FERRARA and PORTOMAGGIORE, 1816-1930 and 1846-1923 respectively;
copie atti publici del soppresso archivio, BONDENO, 1822-61.

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From two points of view this loss is disastrous. First, the Memorial are a peculiar feature of Emilian Notarial Archives (undersigned has met them previously, for instance, at MODENA and at BOLOGNA.) They are the forerunners of Notarial Archives proper, and as such have a great historical interest. Second, these copies serve to fill in many gaps in the record where originals are missing.

(iii) Ecclesiastical Archives. The Archivio Arcivescovile and the Archivio della Mensa Arcivescovile are reported by the Archbishop's Chancellor (Mons. Bessi) intact, and all evacuated documents returned. The only damage to the locals in which they are housed is some breakage of window-glass. With them there is also the valuable Archivio dei Residui Demaniali of 152 suppressed religious houses; it, too, is safe.

The Archivio Capitolare is reported by the Chancellor to have been destroyed. Undersigned failed to contact the Chapter Archivist, and has at present no details as to whether anything - in deposit or otherwise - was saved.

Parish Archives in the city are all safe. The Chancellor kindly offered to supply undersigned with all details in his possession regarding the archives of country parishes, where there has been considerably damage.

(iv) The Archivio della Prefettura. Modern documents, along with the offices concerned, were evacuated to VIGARANO MAINARDA, but are now all safely returned to the Castello Estense. For the destruction of the archives of the ex-Papal Legation see under (4) RO FERRARESE, below.

(v) The Archivio del Tribunale was almost wholly destroyed in the fire of 22nd. April 1945, which gutted the Palazzo di Giustizia. Only a few civil and criminal processes remain in rooms connected to the Palazzo by a kind of first-floor bridge, along which the fire did not spread. This fire was not caused by any act of war, but is thought to have been started by persons wishing to destroy the records of criminal processes in the Ossellario. It will be remembered that similar action was attempted at BOLOGNA (undersigned's report reference as above, dated 24th. April 1945 para 4, refers.)

Undersigned arranged with the Sindaco to have all fragments of documents collected and saved. 3228

(vi) The Archives of the Procura del Re, are said to be safe; undersigned inspected some of them, in one of the rooms referred to in (v) above, but is unable to say if the archive is intact.

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(vii) The Archives of the Questura are safe.

(viii) The Archives of the University are safe.

(ix) The Archivio dell'Università Israelitica. An Italian officer, Colonel Amerigo Manzini, interested himself some months back in saving these records. In an undated report on what he has done, he says"Ho selezionato, di tutto il resto, quanto ha valore documentario, e che suggerirei consegnare alla Biblioteca Comunale". The documents referred to are now, in fact, in the Biblioteca Ariostea.

(x) The Archivio del Luogo Pio degli Esposti, which dates from 1249, is reported by the Hospital porter to have suffered no damage; the secretary of the Hospital not being available, undersigned was unable to make a personal inspection.

(xi) The Archivio dell'Arcispedale di S.Anna, which is said to have pergamene from 1095, was seen undersigned in good rooms at the Hospital. It appeared in good order and undisturbed.

(xii) Private Archives. The Archivio della Famiglia Bentivoglio, covering dates from the end of the 12th. to the end of the 18th. century, was recently given to the Comune, and is safe in the Biblioteca Ariostea.

The Archivio Strozzi Sacrati was housed in the Palazzo Strozzi, Via Garibaldi. This palace was heavily hit by bombs on 28th January 1944. Actually the room housing the archive was not seriously damaged, but civilians entered and stole much of the collection. An English Major (name unknown) recently called on the Provincial Commissioner FERRARA and, upon presentation of credentials from the Marchese Strozzi, was allowed to enter the Palazzo and remove, on the marchese's behalf, such papers as remained.

Undersigned was able to get on the track of further records from this archive and found them being used as wrapping-paper in a greengrocer's shop at Via Garibaldi 91. The shopkeeper said she had bought them from an itinerant paper-vendor. As the Marchese Strozzi has no fattore resident in FERRARA, undersigned has requested the Librarian of the Biblioteca Ariostea to collect the papers concerned from the greengrocer and hold them in safety for their proprietor. MFAA Officer Toscana Region has been asked to inform the Marchese, who is resident in FLORENCE, of action taken.

Prolonged cross-question of the greengrocer failed to produce any indication of the identity of the paper vendor; the scent is cold, and the great part of the archive must be considered lost.

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(iii) The Biblioteca Ariostea is safe. The Reggente (the Marchese Raoul Manfredini) reports that 25 chests of incunabula and mss. are in deposit, along with one chest from the Archivio Comunale, at the Pinacoteca at CENTO. Capt.C.R.Pinsent was recently informed by the segretario comunale that arrangements have been made for the return of this deposit.

The Library also houses at least part of the important Biblioteca del Talmud Tora, saved by Colonel Manzini from the collections of the Universita Israelitica.

(3) CENTO

(i) The Archivio Comunale is in the Municipio, beautifully and elaborately arranged on a system that can only be described as an archivist's nightmare. It is totally unharmed.

(ii) The Archivio Notarile is in the same building as the Pinacoteca, and is reported safe.

(iii) The Archivio della ex-Congregazione di Carita is in the old hospital, the secretary of which reports that it has suffered no war damage.

(iv) The Biblioteca Cesare Cremonino was occupied by Germans who destroyed and dispersed some of the books; in December 1944 others were taken, for safe keeping, to the Pinacoteca, but have now been returned to the Library.

(4) RO FERRARESE.

(1) The Archivio della Legazione Pontificia, from the Prefettura, FERRARA, was in deposit in the Municipio. There it was largely destroyed in the air-attack of 24th.April 1945, which flattened the whole Municipio. Undersigned, along with Corporal-Major E.Ciancotta, collected all documents (some of them considerably charred) that remained easily accessible on the surface of the rubble. These were transported in Jeep 20325870 to the new provisional seat of the comune, where the segretario comunale will hold them in safe custody for the time-being. P.C. FERRARA has been requested, if circumstances permit, to instruct the Prefect to send employees to RO FERRARESE to recover other documents from under the rubble. Excavation, properly speaking, is not involved, as the building is thoroughly destroyed and burnt out, and little rubble remains. There are, however, one or two caches of surviving archives quite sufficient to justify the action that undersigned has requested be taken.

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(ii) The Archivio Comunale was totally destroyed in the air-raid referred to above.

(iii) Parish archives, on a separate occasion, were destroyed by the Germans setting fire to the room in which they were housed.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ Major H.E. Bell, A.E.C.

Archives Officer

Copy to: Director, MFAA Sub-Commission,
HQ, Allied Commission

22 MAG. 1945

C o p y

HEADQUARTERS
EMILIA REGION AMG

22 May 1945

Subject: Archives and Libraries of Provinces of BOLOGNA and RAVENNA

To : Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region.

1. The present report is designed to give a picture of war damage to archives in the area immediately north of the winter line; it is in a sense, therefore, supplementary to undersigned's two previous reports, reference as above, dated 9th April 1945, which sought to convey similar information about the postion south of the winter line.

Experience to date shows that it is among the little townships, lying on, or flanking, Route 9, that the heaviest damage to comunal archives has occurred. Nor is this in any way surprising: it is simply a matter of history sadly repeating itself. "Romagna tua non è, e non fu mai, senza guerra" - and in the process she has lost much of the raw materials of her own, and Italy's, history. For the Emilian townships have a significance in Italian history, and incidentally in the development of democratic institutions generally, that has never perhaps been sufficiently stressed. In comparison with the records of, for instance, Toscana, the comunal archives of Emilia are relatively unworked. That makes their loss the more serious, and is undersigned's reason for attemting to pick up the bits in this area before proceeding to pressing duties elsewhere.

2. BOLOGNA PROVINCE.

Bazzano, the Archivio Comunale, is in the Municipio, a buolding hit, by bombs on 26 February 1945. Luckily the room actually holding records remained fairly sound - though lacking window-glass and a door capable of being lockd. The latter difficulty was overcome by the comune arranging, with commendable promptitude, to have the doorway bricked up.

At undersigned's request sufficient of the brickwork was removed to make possible a general view of the state of the archive. It seems in fair condition, but Sindaco and Segretario

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This archive is of particular importance as it contains records of the vicariates of Bazzano, Savigno, Monteveglio, Serravalle, S.Lorenzo in Collina, Ozzano adn Piumazzo, and is therefore almost regional in its significance.

Castel Guelfo, the Archivio Storico appears to be safe though it was difficult to check the existence of some of the best series that it is supposed to contain, since the whole archive is swamped in modern records, originally in another part of the Municipio, then transferred to the bell-tower over the town gate and, when that was hit, brought back and placed with these more ancient documents. The segretario is optimistic and thinks that not much was lost in these transfers; but not until the whole

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archive is re-ordered will it be known with certainly how much is missing.

Parish archives are safe.

Dozza, the Archivio Comunale was occupied by Germans. It is the most conscientiously ordered and labelled comunal archives yet seen by undersigned, boasting an excellent printed list (Comune di Dozza, Archivio Storico, published at Imola, 1913).

The existence of this list enabled undersigned to make a rapid check of certain sections of the archive - with rather distressing results. Boxes nos. 147, 158, 150, 151, 152 (references to printed list) appear to be missing - though a few loose papers, which undersigned arranged to have collected and kept in a single box, are no doubt part of the contents of these boxes. More serious, the oldest document of the archive, the "concessione di diritti e privilegi alla chiesa di Dozza" of 1175, is missing from its envelope.

The German occupation accounts for the loss of the boxes of records (soldiers were, indeed, seen removing these), but it does not necessarily account for the absence of the single early document. If the thief was indeed a German soldier, he showed a nice sense of values.

At undersigned's request, the Segretario is noting on the relevent envelope the circumstances in which the loss was discovered.

Monteveglio, the Archivio Comunale was in the Municipio, heavily hit in the last days before liberation; all that could be saved, except for some States of Families, has now been moved to the provisional premises of the comune; the segretario promised that the States of Families will also be moved as soon as he can procure a ladder long enough to reach the correct height at which they are marooned.

Parish archives of the abbey church are safe. As the first Allied Officer to enter the little hill-top comunity that clusters round the abbey, undersigned had a particularly pleasant welcome.

Mordano, the Archivio Comunale is in two sezione in different parts of the Municipio. The modern records are behind a door so effectively battened down that undersigned did not get in to see them, rather reluctantly accepting the segretario's assurance that they are in their normal room, substantially intact, and dry. Older records are less fortunate. They are stacked neatly enough but it is clear that there has been loss and much dispesion; the whole Municipio was fairly thourghly shot-up.

3223

Pieve di Cento, the Archivio Comunale, including a volume

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the oldest document of the archive, the "concessione di diritti e privilegi alla chiesa di Dozza" of 1175, is missing from its envelope.

The German occupation accounts for the loss of the boxes of records (soldiers were, indeed, seen removing these), but it does not necessarily account for the absence of the single early document. It the thief was indeed a German soldier, he showed a nice sense of values.

At undersigned's request, the Segretario is noting on the relevant envelope the circumstances in which the loss was discovered.

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3223

Pieve di Cento, the Archivio Comunale, including a volume of Statuti of 1525, is safe in the Municipio.

The Archivio Notarile is safe in a jolly room in the Municipio; it has most attractive 18th century painted presses.

The Library of the ex-Scuola dei Padri Scolopi is in the Municipio, and unharmed.

S.Giovanni in Persiceto, the Archivio Comunale is safe. It contains only modern records from 1871, and nobody knows what has become of the 11th century diploma that used to be here.

The Archivio del consorzio dei partecipanti, dating from the 15th century and most interesting institutionally, is in deposit at Decima di Persiceto, Via Carradona 1. It is reported to be safe.

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3. RAVENNA PROVINCE

Bagnara di Romagna, the Archivio Comunale undoubtedly suffered heavy losses when, on 11 April 1945, the Municipio was hit. The Stato Civile from 1866 is safe, and also all other documents that could be salvaged from the wreckage were placed in the Rocca, where a little towards re-ordering the archives has already been done. Undersigned examined the Municipio itself, but this has been cleaned up and any chance that there may have been of recovering further documents from the rubble no longer exists.

Castel Bolognese, the Archivio Comunale, which used to be a rather valuable little archive, was badly smashed when some months back, the Municipio was hit. Some documents (and perhaps parts of the more important series are amongst them; it is difficult to say) were recovered and placed in the provisional seat of the comune; others were used by the Germans to wrap up rations; others are, just conceivably, still under the rubble. Undersigned feels, however, that the last possibility is too long a shot to justify the labour necessary for excavations. There is much work for every pair of hands in this hard-hit little town.

Massa Lombarda, the Archivio Comunale remains in its usual quarters in the Istituto di Invalidi. So does the Archivio Notarile and, in spite of miscellaneous junk that fills every inch of archive-free space, both seem in fair shape.

Solarolo, the Archivio Comunale is totally destroyed, except for a very few modern records and an 18th century manuscript history of the place salvaged by the Arciprete.

The Germans are blamed for piecemeal destruction.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H.E. BELL, MAJOR
Archives Officer

Copy to:
Director, MFAA, S/C
HQ Allied Commission
SCAO 5 Army (attn. MFAA Officer)

3222

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

22 MAG. 1945

C o p y

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HQ EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Office

22 May 1945

Subject: FERRARA Province. Report on Monuments etc.

To : RC, Emilia Region

The following were visited between the 11th and 13th May by the undersigned accompanied by Prof. Capezzuoli, Soprintendente ai Monumenti (see Sitrep for 19 May 45).

Copies of this report are forwarded to PW, FERRARA, for distribution to CAOs concerned.

Recommended: That assistance be provided in finance and access to materials for carrying out the works mentioned in the text below.

1. ARGENTA;

A) Requiring urgent attention:

i. San Giovanni. Church with Oratory behind. Striking interiors. One section of Oratory roof down, between two roof-trusses, bringing that section of painted ceiling-canvas down with it. Whole roof shaken. Some holes in walls.

Work urgently required:

a) Recovery of canvas from rubble on floor.
b) Reconstruction of section of roof.
c) All roof to be gone over.
d) Shell holes in walls to be filled up.

ii. Municipio. Two ends of building gone. Only middle standing.

Archives. Can be seen from road as part of room on first floor has been blown away. Part of archives still on shelves, part in heap on floor exposed to weather. Sindaco absent on day of visit, but message sent by another citizen to recommend material being moved under cover. Conditions difficult as only 10% of houses in Argenta remain intact.

3221

Small collection of pictures still walled up at

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Copies of this report are forwarded to PW, FERRARA, for distribution to CAOs concerned.

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Small collection of pictures still walled up in room of Municipio. Will be moved as soon as space can be provided.

Recommended: That assistance be given in freeing space elsewhere to house archives and pictures.

B) Requiring attention when possible:

iii. San Domenico. Fine brick exterior standing firm. Interior abandoned since war broke out. Now locked and used to store printer's machines and stocks.
Roof pierced and shaken. Frescoes in apse long neglected.

Work required (not urgent): Repairs to roof.

C) Damaged beyond repair: not requiring attention; or intact:

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iv. San Francesco. All gone except choir arch and parts of apse walls. Medieval campanile just standing, but very badly shaken. No action possible.

v. San Giacomo. (Chiesa Parrocchiale). Half gone. Remainder badly shaken. No action possible

vi. Madonna della Selciata. Front standing but part missing Side walls and alla roof gone. Interior uninteresting. No action.

vii. San Niccolò (Cathedral), or Collegiata). Practically complete ruin. Facade, some parts of walls, some columns and arches standing, but all badly shaken, No action possible.

viii. Palazzo Aletti. XVIIth cent. facade intact. Interior of no importance. Roof in bad order.
Work required (low priority): Repair roof over facade to prevent infiltration.

Environs:

ix. Pieve (Oratorio di San Giorgio). Small abandoned chapel. Romanesuqeportal has a few chips (and old cracks on lintol). Byzantine Ciborio and small columns over altar intact.

x. Madonna della Celletta. Oval church 2km along road towards Ravenna. Blasted, cracked, holed and bulged, and yet largely standing, a Piranesiesque ruin. No action possible.

2. BONDENO. (Not visited). Repository.
Assured by Prof. Jacopi, Soprintendente alle Antichità, that all material had been taken back to Ferrara.

3. CENTO. Whole town intact. Saw Sindaco & Prof. Costa, Isp. Un.
Repositories.
All material had been cleared back to Ferrara, except 22 cases of manuscripts and Incunabule. Arrangements are being made for these to be moved back now.
Pinacoteca of Cento.
Material still part in Chiesa della Rocca dei Cappuccini, and less important things walled up in Pinacoteca itsef.
Undersigned conveyed letter from Soprintendente Sorrentino

3220

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viii. Palazzo Mieli. [illegible]
of no importance. Roof in bad order.
Work required (low priority): Repair roof over facade to prevent infiltration.

Environs:

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3220
Pinacoteca of Cento.
Material still part in Chiesa della Rocca dei Cappuccini, and less important things walled up in Pinacoteca itself. Undersigned conveyed letter from Soprintendente Sorrentino giving instructions to open up and put everything back in Pinacoteca.
Church of the Rosario.
Guercino from alter had been removed and was safe with Frati. Guercino on ceiling still there and intact.
Bibbiena high alter intact.
Environs:

Villa Giovannina.
Completely restored - overrestored - castle, intact.
Much touched-up Guercino frescoes intact.

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4. PIEVE DI CENTO

Town Gate, intact.

Municipio. Building intact.

Pictures. About 30 were put in Hospital. A shell ~~xxxxxxx~~ entered the room, and a few not important Bolognese school pictures were damaged. Guercino Annunciation safe in Collegiate church.

SS.Trinità. Locked. Assured by Segretario Comunale that Lionello Spada and Brizio paintings were there and intact.

5. POGGIO RENATICO

Castello Lambertini.

Much restored. Intact except for shell-hole in roof and ceiling of unimportant part used as Municipio.

6. POMPOSA

Intact as already reported. Instructions were left with Parroco to carry out small repairs ro roofs and windows.

Recommended. Small financial assistance may be needed for this work.

7. PORTOMAGGIORE.

Perish Church (Romasque transformed in XVIIth century).

A heap of ruins, as already reported.

Instructions were left with Parroco Don Vincenzo Tombe to employ labour under his direction to work through rubble to collect fragments of terracotta Madonna by Domenico di Paris (part already recovered), and of a life-size terracotta Pieth group by Mazzoni. All paintings on canvas are lost.

Recommended. That small financial assistance be provided for going thorugh the rubble.

8. SAN VITO;

Intact as already reported. Church had been reversed, and apses built in place of later facade. Only campanile is unrestored.

3219

9. STELLATA; (Not visited). Repository.

Assured by Prof. Correntino, Soprintendente alle Gallerie, that all material had been taken back to Ferrara.

/s/ Cecil R. Pinsent

(t/c C.R. PINSENT, Capt.

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Recommended. Small financial assistance may be needed for this work.

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/t/ C.R. PINSENT, Capt.
MFAA, AMG,
Emilia Region.

Copies to:
PC, Ferrara (4) for distribution to respective CAOs.
Director, MFAA S/C, HQ AC

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17 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives
(Tel. 489081, ext. 442 & 254; 478480)

ETDW/ps

20905/C/9/MFAA

17 May 1945

Subject: Attached Publications.

To : Archives Officer, VENEZIE Region (Major H.E. Bell).

1. Forwarded herewith, for retention, are:

a. Clipping from Osservatore Romano (6 May 45)

b. ECCLESIA, March 1945 (this purchased by you, through C/Cm this office).

2. Archives report from you of 12 May 45 (TREVISO, VENICE) received. Copy passed to Commissario per gli Archivi del Regno, who, unless request be made to the contrary, will be given copies of all your reports.

ERNEST T. DE WALD
Lt.Col., Spec.Res.
Director.

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17 MAG. 1945

3 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS

EMILIA REGION A.M.G.

3rd May 1945

ARC/1

Subject: Report on Archives and Library at IMOLA.

To : S.C.A.O. 8th Army (attention of Major Norman Newton M.F.A.A. Officer)

Undersigned visited Imola on 2nd May 1945 and reports as under on archives and library there.

(1) THE ARCHIVIO STORICO COMUNALE is housed in the same building as the Library and Museum. United to it are the following:- the Archivio Notarile Antico, the Archivio Sassatelli, the Archivio Codronchi and the Archivio Gamberini. All are intact.

The room housing them lacks glass for a few of its windows. Since the amount required is very small, undersigned expresses the hope that C.A.O. Imola may be able to assist the Director of the Archives (Dr. Toschi) to obtain it. These valuable collections will then be entirely safe.

(2) THE ARCHIVI DELLA MENSA VESCOVILE AND DELLA CURIA VESCOVILE are in the Curia. Undersigned was received most hospitably by the Bishop, who reported both safe.

(3) THE ARCHIVIO DI S.CASSIANO, the most important archive in Imola, was placed in deposit under the Cathedral, but is now back in the Cathedral Archivio, where it was inspected by undersigned. It is unharmed.

(4) THE ARCHIVIO DELL'OSPEDALE, which dates from 1334, is safe.

(5) THE ARCHIVIO DELLE ALUNNE DI S.GIUSEPPE, containing interesting records of the foundation from the 16th. century onwards, was inspected by undersigned who found it intact and undamaged.

(6) THE ARCHIVIO TOZZONI is safe.

(7) THE ARCHIVIO DAL PIRO (Villa Milena, Piratello) is reported by Dr. Amadeo Tabanelli of the Library to have been destroyed by the Germans.

(8) THE BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE suffered one hit from a shell in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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(7) THE ARCHIVIO DEL PIRO (Villa Milana, Piratello) is reported by Dr. Amadeo Tabanelli of the Library to have been destroyed by the Germans.

(8) THE BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE suffered one hit from a shell in January of this year. Fortunately losses of books were negligible, and the portion of the Library that was damaged not very important. Repairs as recommended in 8th. Army M.F.A.A. Officer's report CA/132 dated 16 Apr. 45 are necessary - there is a need of window-glass (which should not, however, be given as high a priority as glass for the windows of the Archivio.)

Some of the best mss. and books are in deposit at Torrechiara and at Bologna. It is understood that Dr. Toschi and Dr. Tabanelli will apply to C.A.O. Imola for permits to visit Bologna for consultation with the Soprintendente Bibliografico about these; in undersigned's view this visit would prove useful.

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3 MAG. 1945

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(9) GENERAL. Undersigned regrets to have failed to see C.A.O. Imola, who was out on duty when his office was visited. It is also a matter for regret that Prof. Galli, who has an unrivalled knoledge of the archives of Imola, was sick and not available for consultation.

(10) FOR INFORMATION OF DIRECTORY M.F.A.A. SUB-COMMISSION only. Jeep no. 20325870, has developed serious trouble and been off the road since 1st May; a new engine is being fitted. In the meantime undersigned's activities have necessarily been confined to Emilia Region.

/s/ H.E. Bell

/t/ MAJOR H.E. BELL, A.E.C., ARCHIVES OFFICER

Copies to:
Regional Commissioner
Emilia Region
C.A.O. Imola
Director M.F.A.A. Sub-Comm. H. . A.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

/s/ H.E. Bell

/t/ MAJOR H.E. BELL, A.H.C., ARCHIVES OFFICER

Copies to:
Regional Commissioner
Emilia Region
C.A.O. Imola
Director M.F.A.A. Sub-Comm. H. . A.C.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

1 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
EMILIA REGION AMG

ARC/1 1 May 1945

Subject: Inspections of Archives and Libraries of REGGIO and PARMA

To: SCAO 5th Army (attention of Capt. Deane Keller MFAA Officer)

Undersigned visited Reggio on 29th and 30th April 1945 an Parma on 30th April 1945.

(1) REGGIO

The Archivio di Stato, is housed in the same building as the Biblioteca Municipale. This locale and all records, are undamaged; the Director (Dr.Gatta) is on the spot.

There are two deposits of documents as under
San Pellegrino (archivio antico comunale);
Barco (archives of suppressed religious houses and part of the ancient Archivio Notarile)

The Director is satisfied with conditions in both of these, but at a little later date undersigned will take up with P.C. Reggio the question of transport for their return.

The Archivio Notarile, containing modern documents only, is safe.

The Biblioteca Municipale, housed immediately beneath the Archivio, is safe. The most important mss. and books were in deposit, but are now returned to the Library. Remaining deposits are of less important books, and in undersigned's opinion their return is not a matter of great urgency.

The Director (Prof. Gualazzini) is active and able, and may be relied on to look after the interests of his Library.

The Archivio Cassoli is reported by its owner (Conte Cassoli, Via Toschi, 34) to be intact.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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3206

(2) PARMA

The Archivio di Stato occupies the two top floors of the Palazzo della Pilotta, and has also a sezione in the ex-Chiesa del Carmine (this last containing mainly 19th century archives, but also archives of the Magistrato Camerale of Parma, 1611-1805, do. of Piacenza 1485-1805, and some early notarial records).

From December 1942 onwards, records were evacuated and remain in deposits as under -

Gaione (Villa Paganini)
Monticelli Bagni

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The first of these is incomparably the more important, housing the whole fondo diplomatico and the best things in the Archivio Farnesiano. It was visited by undersigned and posted with notice 4 (modifies) (no. 82). The building was previously placed under the protection of the German Army, and their notice remained on the door.

The main locale of the archive, in the Palazzo della Pilotta was heavily hit in the bombardment of 13 May 1944. Consequently reconstruction must remain a long-term question. In view of the absence of the Director (Dr. Giovanni Drei), who for the time is blocked in the north, undersigned has not even had preliminary discussions on the subject. On the other hand, the situation has certain healthy features.

(I) actual losses of records as a result of the bombardment appears to have been surprisingly light;

(II) many records were saved from the debris and are satisfactorily stored in the Chiesa del Carmine, where undersigned inspected them.

(III) the two deposits are said to be satisfactory; undersigned was very pleased with conditions at Gaione.

(IV) Cav. Angelo Piccardo, and the custode, are aware of the importance of the archives that they serve; they can be relied on to held the fort until the Director returns.

The Archivio Notarile Distrettuale occupies grand premises adjacent to the Palazzo della Pilotta. There was some damage to one part of the building, and to the roof, in the bombardment of 13th May 1945; but the conservatore says that the provisional repairs have proved satisfactory. Undersigned found this fine archive in satisfactory condition.

CHURCH ARCHIVES

The Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescovile are both reported by an official in the Bishop's Curia to be intact. The Curia is preparing for undersigned a note of all information in the Bishop's possession regarding parish archives in his diocese.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

3205

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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3205

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

The Vice-Prefect reports that the archives of the Province and Prefettura have suffered heavily - both archives in the bombardment of 13 May 1944, and those of the Prefettura additionally during evacuation to Felino (September 1944) and when the premises to which they were finally moved (Viale Bazetti) were involved in the recent fighting.

The Biblioteca Palatina, occupying part of the Palazzo della Pilotta, was hit in the bombardment of 13 May 1944.

Premises are very badly damaged, and, as far as books are concerned the Director (Dr. Massi) ostimates 60.000 lost and 340.000 safe; of the latter 140-150.000 are at present distri-

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buted in four separate deposits on the city, the remainder in sound portions of the original premises. The best mss. and incunabula are all safe.

As in the case of the Archivio di Stato, reconstruction must necessarily be a long-term question. There are, however, two problems that demand more immediate attention -

(I) the re-opening and re-functioning of the Library;

(II) the concentration of deposits into a single building.

Undersigned has had preliminary discussions with the Director of these topics. So far as (I) is concerned, it appears that, with a relatively small amount of repair and reconstruction, sufficient of the old premises could be put into shape to enable the Library to operate; as relates to (II), the Director has a location in view - the Asilo Femminile, Via Petrarca. Undersigned will consult P.C. Parma pg both points, when Provincial H.Q. has had a chance to deal with the more pressing problems of the first few days of occupation.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H.E. BELL, Major
A.E.C. ARCHIVES OFFICER

Copies to:
Provincial Commissioner, Reggio Province AMG
Provincial Commissioner, Parma Province AMG
Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region AMG
Director MFAA Subcommission, HQ. Allied Commission

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Undersigned has had preliminary discussions with the Director of these topics. So far as (I) is concerned, it appears that, with a relatively small amount of repair and reconstruction, sufficient of the old premises could be put into shape to enable the Library to operate; as relates to (II), the Director has a location in view - the Asilo Femminile, Via Petrarca. Undersigned will consult P.C. Parma on both points, when Provincial H.Q. has had a chance to deal with the more pressing problems of the first few days of occupation.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H.E. BELL, Major
A.E.C. ARCHIVES OFFICER

Copies to:
Provincial Commissioner, Reggio Province AMG
Provincial Commissioner, Parma Province AMG
Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region AMG
Director MFAA Subcommission, HQ. Allied Commission

3204

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Tel Ext 93.

29 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject: Monuments of MINERBIO, BUDRIO, CASTEL SAN PIETRO and DOZZA.

OA/132

29 Apr 45.

S.C.A.O.,
A.M.G. Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of inspections made in recent days at MINERBIO, BUDRIO, CASTEL SAN PIETRO and DOZZA., all in Bologna Province.

MINERBIO.

2. San Giovanni (Parish Church). Completely modernised church of 18th century and earlier; rich interior. Campanile, mined by Germans, fell partly into sacristy. No other damage. Arciprete Alberto DALLA says entire Treasury is safe and "Madonna" by Guido Reni was sent to Bologna Superintendency for safe keeping.

3. Rocca Isolani. Dilapidated structure retaining in cortile remnants of original terracotta decorations. Interiors, now used for storage, are of little interest except for badly deteriorated scenographic canvases in one storeroom. Custode Isolforo ORLANDI lives on premises. Only "collection" known to him is one of mementoes; this is intact. Out of Bounds notices are in place on Rocca.

4. Palazzo Isolani. Mondoscript large building in rear of Rocca. No damage. Used for refugees with consent of owner. Interiors of little interest except vaulted basement (ground floor) rooms, undecorated and used temporarily by troops as small canteen. Custode praised troops for excellent behaviour in contrast to that of Germans. This Palazzo (not Rocca, as listed) was deposit for objects from Bologna; these were taken away again (Custode thinks to Bologna) by Dr SORRENTINO several months ago. Left were two lions from Bologna (church of S.Petronio?) which are still bricked up securely in corner room of basement.

5. Colomberia. Interesting high pigeon-loft adjacent to Palazzo Isolani, reputedly designed by Vignola. No damage. Willingly shown to troops by Custode, who holds keys.

6. Castello di S.Martino. at 035610. Charming one-storey brick castle and corner tower, moated, with drawbridge and outbuildings. Property of Conte Filippo CAVAZZI, whose sisters-in-law are in residence. Military unit occupies portion of surrounding grounds; officers billeted in castle itself with consent of owners and of Corps. No losses in castle from occupation by Germans or Allies. Several shell hits on walls and castellations, slight damage to roof (already repaired). One outbuilding was burned during battle by fire spreading from struck German motor vehicles. Protective posters are in place on outer gate and on entry to castle.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUPRIO, CASTEL SAN PIETRO and DOZZA, all in Bologna Province.

MINERBIO.

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MUDRIO.

7. S. Agata. Undistinguished small church, hit by a few shells, with some damage to interior by fragments.

8. S. Lorenzo. Parish church; no exterior interest; richly ornamented interior. Germans mined campanile, which fell into choir and demolished it. Remainder of church intact except for jarring.

9. Palazzo Comunale. Modern building in poor imitation of old. A few stone heraldic tablets are set into facade. No damage beyond minor chipping of roof by splinters.

10. Pinacoteca Inzaghi. Communal gallery, housed at Via Montare 9. Custodian in residence. All material safe behind securely locked doors adjacent to custodian's quarters. Gallery space is empty. Storage was never entered by any troops.

2905/c/9

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CASTEL SAN PIETRO.

11. S. Maria Maggiore (Parish Church). Newly rebuilt facade with handsome 18th.century interior. Small shell hole in wall of Chapel of Rosary; slight harm to few roof-tiles.

12. S. Bartolomeo. Undistinguished church with interesting portal in terracotta. Shell hole in right wall; some damage to roof. Used for storage.

13. Oratorio del Crocefisso. Small church of no outstanding merit. Slightly marred on walls and campanile.

14. Palazzo Comunale. Mediocre structure without discoverable distinction. Some damage to roof. Archivio Comunale is reported intact.

DOZZA

15. Villa di Monte del Re. Deposit of material from museums of Milano and Imola was moved out many months ago, as testified by Maresciallo of C.C.R.R., confirming report first received at Imola (see OA/132 of 16 April).

16. Castello Malvezzi. Striking structure, property of Conte MALVEZZI-CAMPEGGI, who lives there. Some hits by shells to walls and roof (latter already repaired). No losses to contents; collection of armour is intact.

Norman Newton

(Sgd) NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
M.F.A.A. Officer,
A.M.G., EIGHTH ARMY.

DISTRIBUTION:

S.C.A.O., A.M.G.S Army	(2)
R.C., Emilia Region	(2)
P.C., Bologna Province	(2)
C.A.O. Minerbio	(2)
C.A.O. Budrio	(2)
C.A.O. Castel S.Pietro	(2)
C.A.O. Dozza	(2)
Subo M.F.A.A., H.Q.,A.C.	(10)
M.F.A.A. Officer AMG 5 Army	(2)
Major Newton	(2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

27 APR.

Tel Ext: 93.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject: Monuments of LUGO (Supplementary Report), BAGNARA and SOLAROLO.

O.I/132

S.C.A.O.
AMG EIGHTH ARMY.

27 Apr 45.

1. Herewith supplementary report (further to OI/132 of 13 Apr 45) on monuments of LUGO and environs, and initial report on BAGNARA and SOLAROLO.

LUGO

2. San Domenico.

Omitted from previous report. Almost totally destroyed by bombs. Campanile and walls of apse remain.

3. Monte di Pieta.

Omitted from previous report. Usually called Palazzo del Vecchio Ospedale. Being used now as hospital, part civilian, part military. Some shell damage to newer additions on east side; older building and cortile are unharmed.

4. Croce Coperta.

Small church at 350382; property of Tamburini family of LUGO. No architectural merit, but contains 15th century frescoes of good quality, in part spoiled by retouching. Germans had fortified south end as strongpoint; church suffered severely from shells. Roof broken in several places; walls cracked. Best frescoes seen in no immediate danger, but Superintendency of Monuments should be urged by Regional MFA&A Officer to consider detaching at least some of frescoes.

5. L'Asconsione.

Small brick church on Ca di Lugo road, at 319416. M 2202
part Romanesque, but much redone. Contains good stone pulpit and fair 16th century frescoes. Badly hit by German shells; half of roof collapsed. Campanile is intact. Frescoes in apse are safe, as is pulpit. Other fresco panel will need overhead protection before winter. Commune of LUGO should be required to aid Parroco, who has already begun attempts at salvage.

6. Madonna del Molino.

Very modern church on Massa Lombarda road, at 325398. Not architecturally inspired; contains competent modern decorations of no great moment. Some shell holes in roof; windows broken.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 785026

on monuments of LUGO and environs, and initial report on BAGNARA and SOLAROLO.

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5. L'Ascensione.

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7. Palazzo S. Lorenzo.

At S. LORENZO, 325450, in zone along south bank of Santerno River, where Germans mined and razed to grade every structure for miles. Not enough left even to distinguish one building from another.

8. Castello di Fabriano.

At 319466, immediately behind Santerno defences. Brick tower of 12th century with palace added in 15th century, and further additions of 1870. Since 1938 has been a reformatory. Occupied from November, 1944, until April, 1945, by Germans, who used most of doors and window frames for firewood. Numerous shell-hits, but no serious damage. This place was formerly called Villa Massari; priest in charge of reformatory says no other Villa Massari exists in this locality.

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27 APR. 1945

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BAGNARA.

9. Rocca.
Handsome small brick castle with round corner-turrets. Hit by numerous shells in upper-structure, but not seriously. Recovered portions of Archivio Comunale from destroyed Municipio are being stored and sorted in corner room of Rocca. Virtually all of town wall has been destroyed, reportedly by both Germans and civilians. Germans mined main tower-gate.

SOLAROLO.

10. Palazzo Comunale.
Badly damaged by Germans, who mined clock tower; further finished by aerial bombardment. Now only debris. No precise information available regarding figure of Madonna (by Francesco di Simone?) which stood in Palazzo. None of former communal officials is now in village. Woman who worked in offices says she saw men preparing Madonna for shipment in September 1944, apparently under orders of Republican Fascist Commissario Prefettizio, Antonio CORTESI. In any event, present communal officials will carefully supervise removal of debris in order to recover statue if indeed it is still under ruins of Palazzo Municipale.

11. Castello.
Brick crenellated tower, blown by Germans, killing some sixty civilians who were inside. Only foundations remain.

[signature]

ROBERT T. HARTH,
Major, AUS, Comdg.
MFA&T Offr, HQ EMILIA AREA.

DISTRIBUTION:

SCAO, ASF Eighth Army	(2)
RC EMILIA Region	(2)
PC RAVENNA Province	(2)
CAO LUGO	(2)
CAO BAGNARA	(2)
CAO SOLAROLO	(2)
Subc MFA&T, HQ A.C.	(10)
MFA&T Offr EMILIA Reg.	(5)
Major Hunter	(2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

HEADQUARTERS
EMILIA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

27 April 1945

MODENA

1. Visited by undersigned and Major H.E. Bell in company with Dott. Pietro ZAMPETTI on 26 Apr 45.

2. Following monuments suffered under bombardment from air on May 13th 1944;

a. Cathedral: On S. side, Porta dei Principi damaged and wall and blind arcade above it; temporary repairs already completed by Sup. Barbacci and all fragments of sculpture from door salvaged; large XVth cent. fresco on inside of S. aisle shaken but measures taken to prevent fragments falling; on N. side, some damage to external pilaster; repairs already instituted; in Sacristy, arch damaged but repaired; no other damage, and main fabric including the Ghirlandina (campanile) intact; all works of art inside intact and main sculptures etc. sandbagged; Treasury and Archives said by Zampetti to be safe.

b. S. Biagio: Near miss broke windows and disturbed tiles; already repaired by Soprintendenza, but some windows not yet replaced; frescoes by Mattia Preti safe.

c. S. Domenico: Apse damaged and holed in ceiling hole in S. transept; already re-roofed, sacristy slightly damaged, with frescoes slightly pitted, but work intact.

d. S. Pietro: Damage to N. end windows; sculptures by Begarelli intact and protected.

e. S.Vincenzo: Most serious damage to Modenese churches; handsome XVIth cent. church which was the Pantheon of the Estensi; whole of N. transept and most of N. side of apse and vault over crossing gone; many sculptured fragments from high altar and tombs recovered and the place in process

3201

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from air on May 19th 1944;

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3201

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f. (All other churches intact.)

g. Palazzo Ducale: Monumental portions intact, damage only to modern portions.

h. Palazzo d. Conf. di Carita': Badly damaged, but portion with frescoed ceiling by Boulanger safe; collection of pictures said to be at NONANTOLA.

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j. Galleria Comporí: Very badly damaged as near railway station; pictures stored in Palazzo de' Musei and partly at ISOLA BELLA.

k. University: Building intact; astronomical material destroyed by Republicans.

l. Palazzo dei Musei: Building intact except for some skylights broken; all material of museums and gallery brought back from CHIOGGIA are safe, though part was sent to ISOLA BELLA; another part at BOLOGNA and another part walled up in cortile of Palazzo dei Musei at MODENA itself, this latter contains famous bust by Bernini of Francesco I d'Este; material from Biblioteca Estense including "Bibbia di Borso d'Este" in the deposit of Badia at TORRECHIARA and said by Capt. Deane Keller, who on 27 Apr 45 went to PARMA; to be safe.

3. Main part of town intact.

/s/ R. Croft Murray

/t/ R. CROFT MURRAY
Captain, I.C.
MFAA Officer, EMILIA Region.

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C o p y

H.Q. EMILIA REGION
A.M.G.

RESTRICTED

Reference: ARC/I 26th April 1945

Subject: Report on Archives and Library in MODENA.

To : SCAO 5th Army
(Attn: Capt. DEANE KELLER, MFAA Officer)

Undersigned visited MODENA on 25th April in company with Capt. Croft-Murray, M.F.A.A. Officer, Emilia Region, and inspected archives in the city.

(1) THE ARCHIVIO DI STATO

This archives, situated in the Corso Cavour, is important as the repository of the records of the Archivio Estense, as well as of more recent archives. Its Director, Dr. Alfredo Braghiroli, was shot by Fascists in August 1944, and since that time Dr. Giovanni Pascucci has been direttore incaricato.

One wing of the building (the Camera Ducale) has suffered a little bomb damage, but on the whole the premises are sound and physical conditions excellent.

From the spring of 1943 onwards some of the more ancient records were evacuated to a villa at Nonantola. German troops were responsible for very considerable disturbance and damage to this deposit. In December 1944 - February 1945, Dr. Pascucci arranged for its return; all documents are now in the Archivio and Dr. Pascucci is engaged in re-ordering them. In undersigned's opinion he will need at least one other archivist to assist him in this very considerable task - that will be, however, a matter for the Commissary of State Archives to decide at a later date.

In the meantime, undersigned will seek permission from Provincial Commissioner, Modena Province, for Dr. Pascucci to travel to Bologna for consultation with Commendatore Mascelli, the Soprintendente.

(2) THE ARCHIVIO NOTARILE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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(2) THE ARCHIVIO NOTARILE

This is a most important archive - amongst the earliest founded of Notarial Archives. It is housed in a Palazzo at Corso Duomo 5.

This palazzo was much damaged by a bomb, but fortunately the parts chiefly affected were in the rear of the building. Of the rooms actually containing documents, onle two were harmed and temporary repair of these has been effected.

A part of the archives, comprising modern atti of current significance and also the most ancient protocolli, was evacuated in June 1944 to Montale and, when that locale was occupied by German troops, to Formigine. The whole deposit was returned to the archive in February of this year.

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The archive is substantially intact, as is the fine collection of matrices of notaries' seals.

(3) ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHIVES

Undersigned interviewed the Archbishop, and had the following information from him:

The Archivio Capitolare is in deposit at the Abbazia di Nonantola, and is safe.

The Archivio della Curia Arcivescovile is safe in the Curia.

The Archivio della Mensa Arcivescovile - The locale in which this was housed was destroyed by a bomb, but the great part of the records was recovered.

(4) ARCHIVES OF REGIONAL OFFICES OF MINISTRIES AND OF THE PROVINCE

Modena was making holiday at the time of the present visit of inspection, and undersigned was therefore unable to contact Italian officials concerned. Provincial Commissioner Modena was asked to stress to his technical officers the importance of an early check-up of archives.

(5) THE ARCHIVIO COMUNALE

This archive is normally housed in part of the Palazzo dei Musei. At present, however, the more important series are in deposit as under:

- Villa Lancellotti, Albareto (Statuti of 1321 and other records of the Archivio antico);

- Scuola Comunale, Citta Nuova (mainly 19th century archives).

The archivist, Sig. Adamo Pedrazzi, reports that both deposits are satisfactory and that both have custodians.

(6) THE BIBLIOTECA ESTENSE 3198

Housed in the Palazzo dei Musei, this is unharmed. The most precious mss. and incunabuli, however, (including the famous Bibbia di Borso d'Este) are in deposit in the Abbazia di Torrechiara, near Parma.

(7) THE ARCHIVIO DELL'ABBAZIA DI NONANTOLA

is reported by Dr. Pasquali to have

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(7) THE ARCHIVIO DELL'ABBAZIA DI NONANTOLA

is reported by Dr. Pascucci to be safe.

/s/ H.E.Bell, Major

/t/ H.E. BELL, Major, A.B.C.
Archives Officer.

Copy to: Provincial Commissioner, Modena Province
Director, MFAA Subcommission, H.Q.
Allied Commission.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 US ARMY

207/9

26 April 1945

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

To : S.C.A.C., AMG 5th Army.

BOLOGNA

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

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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

200 5/1/19

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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

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

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

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

Casa Carducci
Accademia Filarmonica
Casa Rossini
Archiginnasio
Archivio di Stato
Museo Civico
Liceo Musicale
Palazzo dell'Universith
Superintendency of Libraries
Museo Geologico
Museo della Mineralogia
Superintendency of Archives
Accademia delle Belle Arti

3196

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Accademia delle Belle Arti
Superintendency of Monuments
Superintendency of Antiquities
Palazzina della Viola
Collegio di Spagna (Spanish Consulate)
Istituto Rizzoli
Archivio di Stato

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There may be more plus all churches of course.

As of 24th April the larger part of these places had been posted. Previous to 21 April notice of these places plus the necessity of

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examining the Palaces was given undersigned by Lt.Col. Holmgreen and the information was supplied him in lists of Capt. Croft-Murray and Gnudi. It may be remarked again that Lt.Holmgreen has allowed this Section a free hand in taking care of their work before and after the taking of Bologna, and has supported it to the hilt.

3. Follows Description of individual Monuments.

ARCHIGINNASIO.

a. The Anatomical Amphitheatre, built entirely of wood, adorned with carving and fine wood statuary was wiped out of existence by Allied bombs 29 January 1944. Nothing remains of this second story room. The pieces were picked up immediately by those in charge. Nothing larger than a match stick seems to have remained of the carved ceiling. Some portrait statues are fragmented slightly and some badly. The famous flayed figures of Lelli, 16th century sculptor and anatomist, are fortunately mostly intact. The legs suffered most. These can be stuck and dowelled together again. Undersigned saw the piles of pieces in the basement. In the spring of 1944 the Lelli statues were taken to Casaglia for safe keeping, but were returned to Bologna when this place in turn was bombed. This theater was in a sense the heart and soul of Bologna. It is hoped that AMG can help set it to rights again giving aid and succour in a material sense. Here the practical study of anatomy in Europe had it's beginnings and such names as Malpighi, Mundinns, and William Harvey are intimately connected with the place.

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

c. The Arcaded Loggia surrounding the court is completely down, flat on the Theatre side. Pieces are neatly collected with a view to using each usuable fragment in reconstruction. Fine frescoes by Cesi have been removed from the walls of the Bulgari Chapel by the canvas-glue method to prevent deterioration. Other frescoes by the school of Caracci have been protected with canvas and glue. Several piers and arches have already been reconstructed. Work commenced under professional guidance of Archivist Gabelli and Inspector

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d. The books had been parked and put in cases in the basement of the Archiginnasio. Major Bell will make a fuller report on Libraries and Books. In general at Bologna the books and Archives are intact. Some damage and looting has occured with State Archives. All the legal books in English placed in a Villa outside the city;

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

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

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

5. S. FRANCESCO. This church was bombed twice - 21 July and 25 September 1943 by Allied bombers. It's a fine church; the cornerstone was laid in 1237, ten years after the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Four bombs burst on the roof on the half of the church toward the facade and one burst outside the portal. The result is complete obliteration of the roof at the front, though the cracked facade is standing. Four piers of the three naved Church Sivene destroyed and have been rebuilt with the accompanying arches. Vaults of course are down. The Chapel of S.Bernardino is also minus it's, vault. The fine altar and ceredos were removed for safety as was a wooden crucifix, treasure, etc. The altar end of the church is all right. This first three naved Gothic cathedral will be a big job to repair. The priest says he needs plenty of quattrini and he is right. Sfollati, cows, horses, donkeys, pigs, chickens, hay, straw, rubble and fragments neatly piled are the companions of a group of Guardia di Finanza living in the cloister. The fascist Republicans printed on the outside of the church in large letters "Opera dei Liberatori", and it is still there.

3194

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MODENA

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

Damaged

1. Cathedral - slight - contents safe.
2. S.Domenico - bad.
3. S.Vincenzo - destroyed.
4. Palazzo della Congregazione di Carità. Collection is safe.
5. Palazzo del Collegio S.Carlo - hit, but collection is safe.
6. Palazzo Reale - hit but not bad.
7. Palazzo Arcivescovado - hit.
8. Palazzina del Giardino Pubblico, destroyed.
9. Galleria Campori - badly hit.

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8. Palazzina del Giardino Pubblico, destroyed.
9. Galleria Campori - badly hit.
10. State Archives - Germans burned some in making 3492 Some are at Nonantola in deposit.

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

PARMA

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

/s/ Brad R. Brownyard
for /t/ DEANE KELLER, Capt., AUS.,
MFAA Officer
AMG Fifth Army

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

25 APR. 1945

Tel Ext 93.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject:- Monuments of FERRARA.

OA/132

To: SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

25 Apr 45.

1. Herewith summary report of to-day's preliminary inspection of monuments of FERRARA. Comments were discussed briefly with Major Zervudachi, CAO.

2. General. Considering the enemy's recent stand in front of FERRARA, damage to town itself and to its monuments is surprisingly slight. Only serious damage now evident was from bombings of 1944. All museums have been closed to public for many months.

3. Cathedral. Facade intact, with protective covering of portal still in place. Bomb hit of Jan 1944 virtually destroyed Coretto and adjacent rooms, with Archivio Capitolare. Ceilings of main church were jarred by concussion and seem lately to be developing minor cracks. No serious deterioration, however , is reported to have developed during past winter.

4. S.Benedetto. Very seriously damaged by bombings; only parts of walls remain standing. Campanile is intact. All three adjacent cloisters sustained bomb hits.

5. S.Domenico. No evidence of damage beyond possible results of concussion from bomb hit in nearby Palazzo Strozzi.

6. S.Francesco. Shell hit on wall of adjacent house slightly marred left front corner; some breakage of roof tiles from splinters. No other apparent damage,

7. S.Giorgio. Some small calibre hits on lower part of walls and on campanile; no holes in roof. Windows broken. Could not be entered.

8. S.Maria in Vado. No evidence of damage aside from windows broken by concussion.

9. Castello Estense. Bomb damaged outer towers of south drawbridge. No other evidence of damage; none claimed by provincial employees. Archivio Notarile believed intact but awaits final checking.

3193

10. Palazzo Communale. Roof, damaged by bombing, has been repaired. No other damage. Archivio Communale is reported intact.

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11. Teatro Communale. Still securely closed; entry not forced. No signs of damage.

12. Palazzo Arcivescovile. Shaken, but not severely, by bombing. Slight damage to roof from splinters. No other injury discoverable.

13. Palazzo Bentivoglio. Via Garibaldi 90. Richly ornamented facade is intact. Bomb hit caused serious damage in east wing on Piazza Sacrati. Cortile and rest of palace undamaged. Has long been inhabited by several private families, to which are now added numerous refugees.

15. Palazzo Bevilacqua. Piazza Ariostea. Corner damaged by bomb. Said to have been used as caserma. All doors shut and locked.

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16. Palazzina della Marfisa. Corso della Giovecca. All doors shut and locked, although neighbours say custode is in town. No evidence of damage. Garden is in fair condition.

17. Palazzo Massari. Corso Porta Mare and Via Borso. All doors securely closed; could not be entered. Facade, cornice (and probably roof) marred by fragments from near miss. Windows and shutters broken; only slight interior injury visible through windows. Adjoining park, understood to be now property of city, is in dilapidated condition.

18. Palazzo Roverella. Corso della Giovecca. Also known as Palazzo Zamorani. Has long been used a club. Pieces of decoration shaken off facade by concussion from near miss year ago. No visible damage to mediocre ostentatious interior. Now occupied temporarily by Divisional Military Police HQ; responsibility fully appreciated by OC, who had moved all furniture to two back rooms of east wing.

19. Palazzo Sacrati. Corso Ercole I and Corso Porta Po. Also known as Palazzo Prosperi. Had housed Fascist offices; portal blasted by patriots some months ago. Interior empty except for disordered evidence of German billeting and hasty departure.

20. Casa Romei. Via Savonarola 28. No evidence of damage; custode in residence.

21. Casa di Lodovico Ariosto. Via Ariosto 67. All entries securely closed; neighbours say custode fled recently. Bomb hit behind house caused damage, but facade is intact and ceilings, as seen through blown windows, seem undamaged.

22. Palazzo Diamanti. Corso Arcole I and Corso Porta Po. All doors and entries to rear securely shut; no response to signals, although neighbours say custode was recently in residence. Bomb hit at rear appears to have destroyed part of back wall and some ceilings; windows blown by concussion. Walls on streets are intact. Notice in German prohibiting ranoval of objects, is still attached to main portal.

23. Palazzo di Lodovico il Moro. Via XX Settembre 24. Capo di Servizio, Domenico ESPOSITO, has remained constantly in residence. He reports no damage from recent fighting beyond slight marring by shell fragments, evident on rear wall, and breaking of a few exhibit cases by splinters through window. One small calibre bomb hit last year caused slight interior damage; now repaired. All material of R. Museo Archeologico is safe in place or in storage vaults on premises. This includes material formerly stored at BONDENO and brought back months ago by Esposito.

3191

23. Palazzo Schifanoia. Via Scandiana 23. Some marring of south face by shell splinters; air-bursts above roof appear to have cracked some tiles; no evidence yet of deterioration through leakage. Frescoes of Sala dei Mesi

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25. Palazzo dell'Universita. Via delle Scienze. No damage evident. Custode Federico BADIALI says no losses or damage have been sustained by building or by collections, including Biblioteca Comunale Ariostea. He says Director, Marchese Raoul MANFREDINI, is still in town.

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26. Recommendations. CAO is placing Protected Monuments posters on all listed monuments. He will arrange to have following placed "Out of Bounds" for present:

Palazzina della Marfisa
Casa Romei
Palazzo Diamanti
Palazzo di Lodovico il Moro
Palazzo Schifanoia
Palazzo dell'Universita
Archivio Comunale
Archivio Notarile

If possible, billeting of troops should be avoided in all listed monuments, as there would appear to be adequate room in other buildings for the present small requirements.

(Sgd) NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
M.F.A.A.Officer,
A.M.G. EIGHTH ARMY.

DISTRIBUTION:
SCAO AMG Eighth Army (2)
RC Emilia Region (2)
PC Ferrara Province (2)
AMG LO 5 Corps (2)
AMG LO 13 Corps (2)
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MFAA Officers, Emilia Region (5)
Major Newton (2)

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RESTRICTED

Copy

24 Apr 45

HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION AMG

Reference: ARC/1 24th April 1945

Subject: Report on Archives and Libraries in BOLOGNA.

To : SCAO, 5th Army (attention of Capt. Deane Keller MFAA Officer)

Undersigned entered Bologna in company with Capt. Croft-Murray (MFAA Officer, Emilia Region) on 21st April. The following report is based on inspections made on successive dates 22nd-24th April.

(1) THE ARCHIVIO DI STATO

This archive is housed in four separate buildings as under: Palazzo dei Celestini (archives of the ancient comune, of the studium and university, of the suppressed religious houses etc.) Palazzo Galvani, Via Foscherari (judicial and private archives) Cappella Farnese in the Palazzo d'Accursio (19th century records) Via dei Chiari 25 (19th century records).

The first of these is by far the most important repository, and the most valuable series from it were evacuated in the summer of 1943 to the Villa Tallon, S.Domino, although this deposito was protected by a notice furnished by the German Military Authorities, in autumn 1944 German troops occupied the villa and were responsible for much disturbance, and some destruction of documents; they also moved some of the records to parts of the villa where they were damaged by damp. In these circumstances it was thought best to bring the whole deposito back to the Palazzo de' Celestini. This the Direction did in March 1945, and the archives concerned are in process of being re-ordered. Until this re-ordering is complete - and it will be a long labour - no definite list of losses can be prepared. One, and possibly two, additional archivists will ultimately be required to assist in this work.

The contents of the remaining three repositories are safe, and the damage suffered by all four buildings insignificant. Certain members of the staff, and their families, are temporarily resident in the Palazzo de' Celestini; but though this is not ideal they are doing no harm.

The Director (Commendatore Fulvio Mascelli) has furnished undersigned with a full report on the state of the archives. This

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The Director (Commendatore Fulvio Masselli) has furnished undersigned with a full report on the state of the archives. This will be transmitted to Director M.F.A.A. Subcommission, H.Q., A.C. in due course.

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(2) THE ARCHIVIO NOTARILE REGIONALE

This archive is safe in its usual premises in the Palazzo di Re Enzo. The conservatore states that the fabric of the building is weakened as the result of the aerial bombardment, but there does not appear to be any immediate danger. The conservatore and his family have been temporarily resident in the archive, but are now

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moving out.

(3) CHURCH ARCHIVES

The Archivio Arcivescovile is substantially intact; only a few current papers were lost as the result of bombardment. Damage to the roof of the archivio has been repaired.

The Archivio Capitolare, the Archivio del Battistero and the Archivio Parrocchiale are safe in various rooms adjacent to the Cathedral.

Vatican Survey of Archives: Don Mondini, acting archivist to the Archbishop's Curia, reports that about three-quarters of the 490 parishes concerned have furnished replies to the inquiry issued regarding the state of their archives. Many of these answers, however, were transmitted some months ago, and since that time there has no doubt been further destruction. Don Mondini is keeping in touch with undersigned, who hopes to be able to supplement the information at present available by means of personal inquiry and inspection when on tour.

(4) ARCHIVES OF REGIONAL OFFICES OF MINISTRIES

Archive of the Intendenza delle Finanze and of dependent offices are reported by the Intendente to be safe, except for the records of the Inspectorate of Taxes, damaged by the Germans while in deposit.

All offices dependent on the Intendenza evacuated a proportion of their records to various villas etc. in the immediate surroundings of Bologna, but all are now in place in the Palazzo delle Finanze, except for the more modern records of the Conservatorio delle Ipoteche, which are at Via dell'Osservanza 11.

The Archivio del Tribunale is situated in two rooms of the Palazzo di Giustizia. It was entered by unknown persons on the night of 12th October 1944 and a fire started - almost certainly with the intention of destroying records of political processes. At the same time, a part of the Casellario (which is a sort of card-index of criminal processes) was destroyed. In the upshot there some destruction, and much charring, of records in one of the two rooms used as repository. Officials concerned retrieved many of the more recent archives and moved them to the second room; but in the first there still remain many archives scattered over the floor and others, much

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(5) PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

The Archivio della Prefettura was housed in the Palazzo del Governo, where it was partially destroyed by aerial bombardment on 22nd March 1944. The portion that was saved was moved to premises in the new Prefettura, Via Zamboni, 13, and in the Liceo Musicale; on 23rd April 1945 the former premises had a guard provided by 34 Infantr Division the latter are posted as a monument. Papers from the Segreteria Particolare are said to have disappeared in the days immediately preceding Allied occupation.

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(6) THE BIBLIOTECA DELL'ARCHIGINNASIO

On 29th January 1944 the Archiginnasio suffered a direct bomb-hit; damage to the library was, however, comparatively light. Subsequently books and mss. were evacuated as under:

a. Villa Aldini (books recovered from the rubble of the portion of the Library involved in the bomb damage);

b. La Palestra Ginnastica (modern books, and printed and ms. material regarding Bologna);

c. Villa Cassaglia (chests containing mss. and incunabula).

German troops were responsible for some disturbance and destruction in deposits a. and b. It was decided to bring back deposit c. to the Archiginnasio, but on 11th. October 1944, when the work of transfer was in process, the lorries were bombed by Allied aircraft and the Director of the Library (Prof. Barbieri), who was supervising the work of loading etc., was killed.

The present Direttore Reggente (Sig. Zanetti) is of the opinion that most of the material in deposit c. was recovered, though he has not yet been able to make a definitivecheck of losses.

Material from all three deposits is now returned to the library and the work of re-ordering has commenced. The main difficulty that presents itself is lack of space. The structure of two rooms of the Library is damaged and until this can receive attention, it is inadvisable that either should carry a great weight of books. One large room (adjacent to the Library and over the Via Foscherari premises of the Archivio di Stato) is now occupied by the Istituto Aldini as a school workshop. Undersigned is strongly of opinion that, if possible, this should be put at the disposal of the Library, since it offers the minimum space necessary for an efficient re-ordering and housing of this most important collection.

(7) THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY is safe.

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(8) MISCELLANEOUS

At undersigned's request Professor Giorgio Cencetti has prepared lists of public and private archives in the provinces of Bologna, Ferrara, Ravenna and Forli; he has similar lists under preparation for the provinces of Modena, Reggio, Parma and Piacenza. These lists are excellent and will, it is hoped, serve as the basis for future tours

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Professor Fava, the Soprintendente Bibliografico has prepared a list of depositi of mss. and incunabula from the libraries of his region.

Undersigned has set up his office with Capt.Croft-Murray in the Soprintendenza delle Belle Arti, Bologna, and proposes to inspect from this centre the archives of the region and will be available as required by MFAA Officers, 5th and 8th Armies.

/s/ H.E. Bell, Major
/t/ H.E. BELL, Major
Archives Officer

Copies to: SCAC Bologna City
Director, MFAA S/C HQ
Allied Commission
Regional Commissioner,
Emilia Region

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22 APR. 1945

Copy

SOPRINTENDENZA ARCHIVISTICA
PER L'EMILIA

Bologna 22 Aprile 1945

Il Soprintendente

Al Maggiore H.E. BELL
Allied Commission

Ritengo mio primo dovere, il domani stesso della liberazione di Bologna, riferire sui danni provocati dalla guerra ai locali e alle carte dell'Archivio di Stato, per fortuna non gravi. Le perdite irrêmediabili, a quanto è dato finora accertare, sono poche, ma il disordine indescrivibile.

a. Danni alle carte - Come già a conoscenza del Ministero, la parte più preziosa dell'Archivio Bolognese era stata collocata in sotterranei per proteggerla dai bombardamenti. Ma, essendo apparso grave il pericolo dell'umidità, nell'estate 1943 la Direzione, anche in conformità all'istruzioni ricevute, deliberò di "sfollare" le carte lontano dalla città. Dopo lunghe ricerche, si trovò luogo idoneo nella villa Talon, presso S.Donnino (Comune di Argelato) messa parzialmente a disposizione dal proprietario, che non esigeva compenso, contentadosi della garanzia contro possibili requisizioni offerta, a suo credere, dalla presenza delle carte d'Archivio.

Nella villa trovarono riparo contro i paurosi bombardamenti della città i seguenti archivi:

a. il cosidetto "Archivio del Comune", al completo (cfr. descrizione nell'opera Gli archivi di Stato Italiani, pp. 10-12);

b. gli archivi: del "Reggimento", al completo - delle Assunterie, eccettuate, in parte quelle di Confini e Acqua, di Sede Vacante, di Rota, di Torrone - dell'Ambasciata di Roma, al completo - della Congregazione di Gabella Grossa eccettuati i registri - dell'Ufficio del Contado, limitatamente ai Campioni delle strade e agli Estimi (cfr. per tutti op. cit., pag. 13);

c. gli archivi dei monasteri soppressi, al completo (cfr. op. cit., p. 16);

d. gli archivi dell'antico Studio e della successiva Università di Bologna, compresa la parte recentemente ceduta dall'Archivio Arcivescovile (cfr. CENCETTI, Gli Archivi dello Studio Bologne-

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e. la raccolta così detta "Studio Alidosi", al completo;

f. gli archivi del Senato provvisorio, della Giunta di Difesa Generale della repubblica Cispadana, della Reggenza provvisoria austriaca (cfr. FIORINI, Il Tempio del Risorgimento Italiano, Vol. II, pp. 419-435), nonchè il piccolo "fondo" delle Carte Aldini (cfr. CENCETTI, Inventario delle Carte Aldini);

g. l'archivio degli Ospedali, di recente acquisto, non ancora inventariato.

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12. Palazzo Thiene. Wiped out of existence. Frescoes by Scolari are all gone. A 16th century palace. Not repairable.

13. Palazzo Valmarana. 18th Century. Gutted. All Tiepolo frescoes a miserable pile of rubble. Work of son remains on side walls under sky. Burned out. Happened 18th March 1945.

14. Palazzo Valmarana by Palladio can be repaired. Facade is all right.

15. Villa Valmarana. 2 Km. out of the City, was hit, but the Tiepolos are all right as they had been taken to Venice, probably to the Ducal Palace where so many things from the Region are.

16. Palazzo Banca Commerciale. 16th Century, Just before Palla is not bad and can be repaired.

17. Palazzo Caldogno. Badly hit. Pictures by Pittoni, Maffei, Carpioni are destroyed. They were not taken away for lack of transpor Some private pictures and public ones were put in safety. Practically flat. 1560 palace.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25. Casa Furazi. Venetian-Gothic. Bad, shaking from bomb hit t side.

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26. Archbishop's Palace. Looks like Cassino. Ragged walls are

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3182

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

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

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

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

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

31. Casa Bertani. Destroyed. Renaissance Architecture.

Copy to:
Executive Officer, AMG 5th Army
MFA&A Officer, Venezia Region.

/s/ Deane Keller,
Capt., AUS.,
M.F.A.A. Officer

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3 MAG. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 US ARMY

EK/jm

207/9

3 May 1945

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

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

VICENZA.

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. Palazzo del Trissino. 1540 by Palladio. Mostly destroyed - some small parts of facade remain. Grave. Elements have been collected for safety.

8. Palazzo Braschi-Brunello. Three fourths of the facade has fallen. Beam supports have shored up toppling walls inside. Roofs

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8. Palazzo Braschi-Brunello. Three fourths of the facade has fallen. Beam supports have shored up toppling walls inside. Roofs are so supported. All in bad shape. Gothic-Venetian.

9. Palazzo Cordellina. Neo-classic palace. Roof and ceiling frescoes by Cignaroli are gone. Damaged in air raid of 24th February 1945.

10. Palazzo Chiericati. Hurt very lightly. Tiepolo painting is in Venice. Collections OK.

11. Palazzo da Schio (Ca d'Oro). All gone in ice. Loggia - most beautiful part on upper left of facade is gone. The Portal is all right and the rest of the facade is repairable. A great loss the Loggia. Pieces collected.

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3 MAG 1945

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Il totale delle unità archivistiche "sfollate" ascendeva al numero di circa 21.000. Alla porta della villa fu affisso un cartello fornito da un apposito ufficio del comando tedesco dichiarante che l'edificio e il suo contenuto erano stati posti sotto la protezione della Wehrmacht.

Ma nell'autunno del 1944 la villa fu occupata da un reparto di truppa che, non tenendo alcun conto del cartello, rimosse dal loro posto le carte, purtroppo già altre volte spostate per esigenze del proprietario, le ammucchiò, scompigliate, coi pacchi e i mazzi disfatti, in fienili, in sottotetti, in corridoi. I piatti di legno delle legature più antiche furono spezzati e il cuoio strappato e portato via; i cartoni vuotati e il loro contenuto sparpagliato in terra, adoperato per accendere il fuoco; mazzi e volumi asportati. Alcuni mesi dopo furono offerti in vendita alla libreria Cappelli alcune pergamene che, esaminate da un funzionario dell'Archivio, furono riconosciute senza fatica come provenienti dall'Archivio di Stato. Il venditore era in buona fede: risultò che le aveva trovate, insieme con altri documenti, presso un negoziante di sobborgo, che era stato costretto ad accettarle in pagamento di due bottiglie di cognac da alcuni soldati tedeschi di passaggio, che ne avevano un buon numero di mazzi in un carro.

A causa della mancanza di comunicazioni, la notizia dello scempio non giunse alla Direzione se non ai primi di dicembre. Constatato immediatamente il danno sul luogo, alla presenza del maggiore Ackermann, del comando di piazza, questi rispose alle energiche proteste presentategli promettendo il suo interessamento per il ritorno delle carte in città. Il reparto responsabile dei danni più gravi era stato sostituito da uno di sanità, il cui comandante, maggiore Hafner, s'impegnò a ordinare il più rigoroso rispetto del materiale. Ordine tardivo, perchè frattanto altri spostamenti erano stati eseguiti, e certo solo parzialmente rispettato perchè si potè successivamente constatare che anche dopo la sua emanazione la truppa vuotava i cartoni per usarli agli scopi più vari (per esempio per sciogliervi dentro del gesso), non si faceva scrupolo di rovesciare sui mucchi delle carte la spazzatura della caserma per evitarsi la fatica di portarla allo scarico e continuava a servirsi brevemente dei documenti d'archivio per accendere le stufe.

L'interessamento del maggiore Ackermann non potè ridursi, poi, che a una raccomandazione all'ufficio incaricato di soprintendere ai trasporti civili, essendo rimasto rigorosamente escluso l'uso di mezzi militari; e qui l'assegnazione di autoveicoli all'Archivio passò, naturalmente, in seconda linea di fronte all'esigenza delle

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te le carte collocate nei sottotetti del fabbricato principale, ove gli stessi archivisti incaricati a volta a volta di dirigere il trasporto dovettero rovistare metodicamente e a lungo mucchi di paglia e di rifiuti per estrarne pergamene di vari archivi monastici che vi erano mescolate e disperse in buona quantità.

Per altro, la Direzione riuscì ad ottenere che le fosse messo a disposizione un camion con rimorchio, e successivamente potè procurarsi un secondo camion, l'uno e l'altro assai malconci, ma tuttavia in condizioni di tenere la strada, sicchè il lavoro ripreso potè esser condotto a termine il 6 marzo, cioè in tempo relativamente breve. Furono necessari 40 carichi, ripartiti in 21 viaggi, diretti alternativamente dal Soprintendente, dal Prof. Cencetti e dall'avventizia di prima categoria Dott. Saraz, accompagnati dai tre subalterni Zitotti, Fadiali e Bernardini; alla provvisoria collocazione del materiale scaricato nell'atrio dell'Archivio provvedevano di volta in volta le impiegate Barilli e Gubellini. Credo mio dovere segnalare l'opera non solo dei primi, che hanno volenterosamente affrontato il rischio non lieve di ripetuti disagiatissimi viaggi su strade esposte a continuo pericolo di bombardamento e mitragliamenti aerei simili a quello in cui perdette la vita il direttore della Biblioteca dell'Archiginnasio con uno dei suoi impiegati mentre compiva un trasporto simile, ma anche delle seconde, che non hanno risparmiato fatica, neppure materiale, per rendere più sollecita che fosse possibile le operazioni di scarico.

Presentemente, le carte ricuperate da S.Donnino sono collocate in grossi mucchi nei magazzini del palazzo dei Celestini, ed è stato iniziato un primo lavoro di cernita delle provenienze, mescolate con indicibile confusione. I volumi e le buste indenni o comunque facilmente ricomponibili sono man mano ricollocati nelle stanze sui cui scaffali dovranno trovar posto; le decine di migliaia di quinterni scompaginati, di pergamene sciolte, di carte volanti uscite dalla loro sede sono per ora riunite in grossi pacchi miscellanei, che potranno essere esaminati solo in un secondo tempo. Finora il numero di tali mazzi ascende ad alcune centinaia, ma non è probabilmente calcolo errato numerare a qualche migliaio le unità in tal modo disfatte. Il lavoro di ordinamento; quanto mai delicato e difficile, non potrà essere compiuto, sia pure nelle sue linee generali, che fra molto tempo, e solo allora sarà possibile accertare le perdite irrimediabili. Per ora si può solo dire che, a prima vista non pare siano ingenti. Di alcune serie tenute particolarmente d'occhio, come i così detti "Libri Segreti" dei Collegi dello Studio mancano parecchi volumi; due ne mancano ai 321 dei "Memoriali", mentre integre

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Cencetti e dall'aventizia di prima categoria Dott. Saraz, accompagnati dai tre subalterni Zibotti, Fadiali e Bernardini; alla provvisoria collocazione del materiale scaricato nell'atrio dell'Archivio provvedevano di volta in volta le impiegate Barilli e Gubellini. Credo mio dovere segnalare l'opera non solo dei primi, che hanno volenterosamente affrontato il rischio non lieve di ripetuti disagiatissimi viaggi su strade esposte a continuo pericolo di bombardamento e mitragliamenti aerei simili a quello in cui perdette la vita il direttore della Biblioteca dell'Archiginnasio con uno dei suoi impiegati mentre compiva un trasporto simile, ma anche delle seconde, che non hanno risparmiato fatica, neppure materiale, per rendere più sollecita che fosse possibile le operazioni di scarico.

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Se è certo che l'operazione fondamentale da cui dipende tutto il lavoro, cioè il riconoscimento delle provenienze esige sicura co-

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nosceza e lunga pratica delle carte bolognesi, è anche certo che le operazioni successive è sufficiente buona preparazione archivistica generale. Affidare tutto il lavoro a una solo persona equivarrebbe a rinunciare a vederne, quandochessia, la fine: sarebbe pertanto grandemente opportuno che, appena le condizioni lo permettessero, a collaborare col Prof. CENCETTI (che solo, a mio credere, possiede le conoscenze specifiche necessarie) fossero destinati due buoni archivisti di gruppo A, giovani e forniti della necessaria preparazione. Sarebbe sommamente desiderabile che uno di essi fosse, in caso di riassunzione in servizio, il dottor Neppi, vincitore del concorso del 1937 e successivamente cancellato dal ruolo in seguito all'infausta legislazione razziale. Il dott. Neppi prestava servizio presso l'Archivio di Modena, ma, bolognese e residente a Bologna, aspirava fina dalla sua prima nomina ad essere assegnato a questo Archivio, del cui materiale ha già una certa conoscenza per avervi compiuti studi speciali anteriormente alla sua assunzione in servizio.

b. Danni ai locali - Ripetute volte le immediate e immediatissime vicinanze dei quattro edifici nei quali sono attualmente divise le carte dell'archivio sono state colpite da bombe di grosso calibro, ma solo nell'incursione del 29 gennaio 1944 si ebbero danni fortunatamente assai lievi. Un grappolo di grosse bombe colpì il palazzo dell'Archiginnasio e l'edificio prospiciente la sede di palazzo Galvani in Via Foscherari, distruggendolo completamente: di riflesso tutti i finestroni del piano terreno, sede dell'Archivio, benchè difesi da robuste inferiate, furono sconvolti e taluni schiantati dalle macerie, che penetrarono nell'interno, danneggiando la scaffalatura, senza peraltro provocare danni al materiale archivistico, all'infuori di quelli causati dal terriccio penetrato in grande quantità. Le porte d'accesso furono spalancate e scardinate, ma si potè subito chiuderle provvisoriamente e poi ripararle. Si provvide altresì immediatamente allo sgombero delle macerie e alla chiusura dei finestroni con muri in foglio.

Nella sede di via dei Chiari, per effetto di bombe cadute in vicinanza, sono andati in frantumi quasi tutti i vetri delle finestre sul cortile interno; nella sede della Direzione, in piazza dei Celestini, lo spostamento d'aria dovuto allo scoppio di bombe cadute in varie incursioni a distanza fra i 50 e i 100 metri ha causato la rottura di numerosi vetri, sostituiti per ora da tavolette di legno compensato, senza provocare, fortunatamente, altro danno alle cose e alle persone.

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IL SOPRINTENDENTE

F.to F. MASCELLI

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IL SOPRINTENDENTE

F.to F. MASCELLI

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16 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

OA/132

16 Apr 45

SUBJECT : Monuments of IMOLA and CASTEL BOLOGNESE

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army

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1. Herewith summary report of inspection of monuments of IMOLA and CASTEL BOLOGNESE. Comments were discussed with Major Heassler at Imola and with Major Hanbury-Tracy at Castel Bolognese.

IMOLA

2. General. Town has suffered remarkably little damage. Honorary Inspector or Monuments, Domenico SANGIORGI, a gentleman of advanced years, has not returned to Imola. Great interest, however, is shown by Dr Antonino TOSCHI, Director of Biblioteca Comunale, and by his assistant, Dr Amedeo TABANELLI.

3. Cathedral (S. Cassiano). Some mortar hits on roof and campanile, but without penetrations. Treasury is intact in cathedral vaults, as is Archivio Capitolare. Archivio Vescovile is intact in Vescovado, according to cancelliere, Mons MARTELLI.

4. S. Agostino. Undistinguished brick exterior; interesting baroque interior. No damage except for possibly broken roof-tiles.

5. S. Domenico. Brick structure, with excellent undamaged portal in molded terracotta. Some shell scars on right side and campanile; only penetration was in corridor of adjacent cloister. Large Cerocci canvas from choir is stored in sacristy, where it was slightly marred by shell splinters.

6. S. Maria delle Grazie. On outskirts of town, but intact.

7. S. Maria in Regola. Mediocre exterior; interior clumsy but interesting neo-classic, with handsome altar, made from byzantine screens, and fine early-Christian stone crucifix under altar. Mortar hits on roof; two shells penetrated wall of apse and exploded in nave with only slight damage to interior. Romanesque campanile struck lightly. Fine Bramantesque cloister adjoining church is intact.

8. Museo Civico. In ex-convent of San Francesco, which houses also Biblioteca, Pinacoteca, Archivio Storico, and Archivio Notarile. Roof-tiles have been cracked in numerous places, practically all windows are blown out, but only one projectile penetrated. This (said to have been in January) ruined about half of pre-Columbian collection of American artifacts; remaining items have been well sorted by Director Toschi, and holed wall has been partly bricked up. All other collections of books, manuscripts, paintings, coins, etc., are safe in place or in basement storage rooms.

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a. RECOMMENDATIONS. Quarters of Museum, Library, Gallery, and Archives should be kept Out of Bounds until normal public functioning can be resumed; Ufficio Tecnico of commune, as soon as labor and materials are available, should check and repair roofs where necessary, should

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9. Palazzo Paterlini (Pretura). Good Renaissance exterior; interiors of little interest. Facade struck by shell and already temporarily braced; not serious.

10. Palazzo Sersanti. Fine arcaded structure in main piazza; no evidence of damage. Property of Cassa di Risparmio.

11. Palazzo della Volpe. Interesting brick exterior intact; interior is of no importance.

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12. Farmacia dell'Ospedale. Charming baroque exterior; interior remodeled. Intact, as is collection of ceramics, stored in basement vaults.

13. Deposit at Villa di Monte del Re. This repository (M 086325) near DOZZA, listed as containing material from Imola and Milano, has not yet been inspected, but Director Toschi reports that all material was removed from there in the winter of 1943-44, when German ordered villa's requisition. Items from Imola were returned there to safe storage in Pinacoteca and Vescovado. Items from Milano were removed by Bologna Superintendency, presumably northward to another deposit.

CASTEL BOLOGNESE.

14. General. Town severely damaged in recent months and especially on launching of recent offensive from nearby River Senio. German mining was especially violent along Via Emilia.

15. Palazzo Comunale. End on Via Emilia blown off by Germans, causing general damage throughout. CAO will encourage Comune to recover from debris any buried Archives. Series of carved stone insets in wall of ground-floor loggia is undamaged.

16. Palazzo Ginnasi. Renaissance brick façade, sumptuous for this town, is in remarkably good condition. Mediocre interior has long been used as factory and is now carefully occupied in emergency by Italian troops. Bomb hit in cortile demolished rear section of this. Carved-stone elements will be saved when debris is removed.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution:

SCAO, AMG 8 Army	(2)
RC Emilia Region	(2)
PC Bologna Province	(2)
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CAO Castel Bolognese	(2)
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Major Newton	(2)

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16 APR. 1945

Tel. Ext: 93

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

04/132

15 April 1945

SUBJECT : Monuments of FUSIGNANO and COTIGNOLA.

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army

1. Herewith summary report of inspection of monuments of FUSIGNANO and COTIGNOLA. Both villages, being on the north bank of the River Senio, are heavily damaged. Comments were discussed with Lt Laughren at Fusignano and Capt Williams at Cotignola.

FUSIGNANO

2. Biblioteca Piancastelli. Nondescript building, about half demolished. Owner died nearly two years ago, bequeathing all manuscripts, incunabulae, and other printed material of value, along with paintings by local masters of Romagna, to Commune of Forli. According to Segretario Comunale of Fusignano, Silvio SERVIDEI, material remaining under debris of Palazzo Piancastelli is of little or no value. It has been verified at Forli that the collections from Biblioteca Piancastelli were in fact transferred to Palazzo delle Raccolte Cittadine of Forli over a year ago and are now there or in the deposit at Vecchiazzano (see Forli reports).

COTIGNOLA

3. S. Stefano. Badly shattered throughout except for relatively intact apse containing 16th-century tomb of Cardinal Graziano.

4. Palazzo Comunale. Mined by Germans and further collapsed by bombs. Small collection of Roman sculptures, if recoverable at all, will be watched for in removal of rubble, as will carved stone of structure itself. Vice-Sindaco, Teodorico FRATTINI, himself a sculptor, expressed great interest in this work.

5. Casa degli Sforza. Completely demolished except for small section of front wall at each end. Fragments of modeled terracotta decoration and carved arms of Sforza family from facade will be watched for in removal of rubble. Especial attention will be paid to recovery of Archivio Notarile, which was housed here and is presumably under heaped rubble.

6. S. Francesco (Osservanza). At cemetery, on road to Lugo. Destruction is virtually complete. Effort will be made to recover any remaining fragments of fresco from under debris.

7. S. Maria di Genova. Church of no particular distinction, at about M3535 on road known as Via di Sta. Maria di Genova. About half gone; only parts of walls remain. Roof almost entirely collapsed.

8. [illegible] Unlisted campanile, said to have been erected by

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at Cotignola.

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8. Torre dell'Acuto. Unlisted campanile, said to have been erected by English mercenary, Giovanni Acuto. Mined by Germans during last days of occupation. Bell has fallen but is intact, and will be set up on the site as a matter of civic pride.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

DISTRIBUTION:

SCAO, AMG 8 Army	(2)	MFAA Officers, Emilia Region	(5)
RC Emilia Region	(2)	Major Newton	(2)
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CAO Fusignano	(2)		
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16 APR. 1945

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13 APR. 1945

Tel. Ext: 93

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

13 Apr 45

OA/132

SUBJECT : Monuments of LUGO and BAGNACAVALLO

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of inspection of monuments in inhabited centres of LUGO and BAGNACAVALLO. Items scattered throughout countryside will be checked later.

LUGO

2. General. Town has suffered from bombing and shelling; virtually all monuments have been damaged to some degree, but none appears to be of outstanding importance. Local report will be filed with CAO (Capt WALSH) by Dr Guglielmo TAMBURINI, Corso Vittorio Emanuele 2, who is Honorary Inspector of Monuments.

3. Carmine. Undistinguished exterior, with clumsy but interesting baroque interior. Numerous shell hits on sides and apse; roof badly damaged; interior injury remarkably light.

4. S. Francesco (Collegiata). Apparently intact except for probable shaking of roof-tiles and loss of some windows. Dr Tamburini has deposited here some of his movable objects, especially from damaged country church of Croce Coperta. Good cloister adjoining Collegiata is structurally intact. Cloister and adjacent rooms temporarily occupied by military unit; conference was had with OC, who obviously had good control and attitude.

5. S. Francesco di Paola. Large undistinguished brick church in strange imitation of Gothic. Germans mined campanile, tearing away rear walls and roof.

6. S. Rocco. Long unused small Renaissance structure, with possibly earlier portions. Badly damaged, apparently by both bombs and shells. Important Van Schayck painting had been removed to another church (S. Onofrio) where Tamburini says it is safe and intact.

3178

7. Suffragio. Second-rate 18th-century church; considerable destruction of roof by shellfire; no evidence of interior explosions.

8. Rocca. Rambling brick castle, occupied by Municipio and refugees. Germans damaged walls to make gun positions, and shells struck all sides. Structure is nevertheless practically intact except for roof damage, the extent of which will need careful checking. No information available locally regarding "historical collections" beyond undamaged lapidary insets. Communal officials say there is no Residenza Municipale other than Rocca itself.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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9. Ginnasio Trisi. School building, with Communal Library on top floor and Archives in one room of ground floor. Both are intact. Other ground-floor rooms are used for storage, for refugees, and for living quarters of Custodian, Italo CINGOLANI. Doors of Library, Archives, and storage rooms are all marked Out of Bounds. Some damage to roof, but not over portion containing books of Library. Keys to Library are held by Ragioniere NEGRI, Corso Mazzini 25.

(a) RECOMMENDATIONS: Out of Bounds should be rigidly observed and continued, with Custodian kept in residence. When labor and materials are available, temporary repairs to roof should be done by Ufficio Tecnico.

10. Teatro Rossini. Nondescript exterior with rather nice interior reputedly designed by Bibiena. No evidence of damage except possibly shaken roof. Occupied temporarily by small unit of troops, whose behavior is good. It is presumed that theatre proper will be returned to its normal use as soon as emergency is ended.

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11. Palazzina Rossi. Private residence, with collections of moderate importance, according to Dr Tamburini, who will ask owner to prepare detailed inventory when he returns, with special notes on some items reported to have been taken by Germans. House was locked; entry had apparently not been forced, and protective walls still cover lower windows.

(a) RECOMMENDATION. Except for shops on ground-floor, this house should if possible be kept Out of Bounds, at least until inventory is completed by owner to ascertain attributable losses.

BAGNACAVALLO.

12. General. Cessation of shell-fire now permits final report. Standing close to Senio front, this town has suffered cumulative damage during recent months. Fortunately, the listed monuments, except the Pieve, are of no more than minor importance.

13. Pieve di S. Pietro in Sylvis. Small brick Romanesque church, much restored about 1931. Parroco Don Primo BACCARINI is in residence; with his consent and aid, small military unit temporarily occupies parish house and crypt. He says their behavior has been and is exemplary. It is to be noted that church was first used to garage Bishop's motor-car! Middle section of nave roof is gone. Centre of vault of apse is badly holed, endangering 14th-century frescoes. Reconstructed campanile has had numerous hits but is intact.

(a) RECOMMENDATION. Ufficio Tecnico of Bagnacavallo should be ordered at once by CAO to erect bracing under damaged vault of apse, and to provide temporary cover against entry of rain. When materials are available, vault should be finally repaired and frescoes fixed in place under supervision of Sig Arrigo SAVINI, of Superintendency of Monuments (Ravenna). He has been informed and will visit church.

14. Municipio. Architecturally of little importance. Badly damaged, and now braced, at corner. Roof holed throughout and ceilings cracked. Presumably to be repaired early for communal functioning. Municipal authorities say there was no collection of pictures here.

15. Casa Congregazione di Carith. Building of no particular character, used by various welfare offices and by CAO. Shell hits have damaged rear walls and roof.

16. Casa Longanesi Cattani. Unimportant facade practically intact; some damage to roof and rear walls.

17. Casa Zorli. Indifferent exterior; some mediocre painted ceilings on piano nobile. Long used by Cassa di Risparmio. Badly hit throughout on all walls and roof.

18. Biblioteca Comunale. Building heavily damaged; front wall almost demolished. Thanks to recovery by Librarian, Leo ZANONI, loss of books is small.

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18. Biblioteca Comunale. Building heavily damaged; front wall almost demolished. Thanks to recovery by Librarian, Leo ZANONI, loss of books is small. Has been inspected by Major Bell, Archives Officer Emilia Region (see his report MBC/1 of 9 April 45).

19. Archivio Comunale. Housed partly in Biblioteca Comunale, partly in Municipio. Believed to be intact by Major Bell, who has inspected (see his report MBC/1 of 9 Apr 45).

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFA&A Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution:
SCAO, AMG 8 Army (2)
RO, Emilia Region (2)
PC, Ravenna Province (2)
AMG LO, 5 Corps (2)
CAO, Lugo (2)
CAO, Bagnacavallo (2)
Subc MFA&A, Hq AC (10)
MFA&A Officers, Emilia Region (5)
Major Newton (2).

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
AMG EIGHTH ARMY
REAR

HEB/vfs

Reference : ARC/1

9 April 1945

Subject : Supplementary Report on Archives of Forli' Province.

To : S.C.A.O. AMG. 8th Army.

The following report on Archives in Forli' Province is based on inspections made by the undersigned during the period 19th March-7th April 1945.

(1) BERTINORO

The Archivio Comunale is a rich archive, which includes a volume of Statuti of 1431, papal writs and other pergamene, and various good series of municipal records, many of them dating from the 16th century. It is intact in rooms of the Municipio that have suffered no structural damage. The windows lack glass, but all but one have shutters, and the C.A.O. and Segretario of the Comune will remedy this deficiency.

A few current papers were temporarily evacuated at the time of the fighting, and some of them suffered a little from damp; but the damage is not serious.

The Archivio Notarile is kept alongside the Archivio Comunale. It is undisturbed in its own old presses and well ordered.

The Archivio Capitolare is safe in a room adjacent to the Cathedral.

The Archivio della Cancelleria del Vescovo is housed in rooms in the Bishop's Palace. It does not appear to be a very important archive, and the Chancellor states that the losses of documents, when the palace was struck by bombs, were insignificant.

What appears to the undersigned rather more serious is the damage done by bombs to the structure of the archivio. Two of the

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What appears to the undersigned rather more serious is the damage done by bombs to the structure of the archivio. Two of the rooms have gaping holes in the floor - and in one case a heavy press, filled with records, is uncomfortably close to the hole; it was suggested to the Chancellor that this press should be moved, as well for the safety of persons using the storey below as for that of the archives.

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(2) BORGHI

The Archivio Comunale is substantially intact. It was occupied by the Germans, but not by the Allies. The valuable series of Atti Consiliari from 1536 is safe; the Statuti of 1553, noticed by Mazzatinti in Gli Archivi della Storia d'Italia, vol 1, are missing, but undersigned was assured that they were lost prior to the war; it is also worth noting that later copies of the Statuti of Borghi have found their way into the Biblioteca Comunale of Imola.

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The Archivio Notarile, housed with the Archivio Comunale, appears intact: a list of it exists.

(3) CESENA

The archivio Storico Comunale was reported on by undersigned in 31/MFAA/2/11 (Toscana Region) dated 22 February 1945. The Director of the Biblioteca Malatestiana (Prof. Vantadori) and the Archivist (Prof. Bazzocchi) have now been contacted. The latter is carrying out an excellent re-ordering of this archive, which is substantially intact. It is becoming increasingly urgent that the archives should be returned to their original locale, as the Library needs the space that they are at present occupying. Repairs will be necessary before the return can take place, and also alternative accomodation for the firemen who are at present occupying the archives building. On captain Croft-Murray's return, undersigned will take up these points with him and with C.A.O. Cesena.

Manuscript Collections of the Biblioteca Malatestiana. Some of the most precious mss. and incunabuli of the Library were evacuated to Northern Italy. The Director is supplying a list of these for identification purposes.

Other Repositories. Nothing further to report.

(4) CORIANO

The Archivio Comunale has suffered considerable loss and damage. Modern archives are not in too bad shape (for instance, the Atti Civili from 1923 are complete except for the single year 1926); fortunately too, the valuable ancient series of Atti Consiliari remain in place. Other series, however, have serious gaps. According to the Segretario, files were used by Allied troops, and by civilians, to make a road.

Undersigned suggested a programme for the progressive re-ordering of this archive, and left an Italian translation of the British Records Association instructions on first-aid for damaged documents.

The Archivio Notarile, housed with the Archivio Comunale, and subject to the same hazards, suffered more heavily. The

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The Archivio Notarile, housed with the Archivio Comunale, and subject to the same hazards, suffered more heavily. The Segretario estimates that two-thirds of it is lost.

It should be noted that Coriano was the scene of especially heavy fighting.

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(5) FORLI'

The Sezione of the Archivio di Stato was reported on by undersigned in 31/MFAA/2.11 (Toscana Region) dated 22 February 1945. This opportuny is taken, however, to correct the statement made in

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that report regarding deposits of documents from this archive. There are now actually only two deposits as follows:-

(i) Church of Vecchiazzano - Atti and Registri of the Archivio Comunale, 1800-1897; archives of Prefettura, 19th century.

(ii) La Canonica di Villa San Giorgio - Archives of the Suppressed Religious Corporations.

As previously reported, some of the documents in deposit (i) were becoming damp; since the Direttore Reggente did not wish to bring these back to the archive at present, they have been re-stacked in the deposit and, in the opinion of undersigned who has seen them, should now come to no harm. Deposit (ii) has been seen by the Direttore, who is satisfied that all is well with it.

Archives of Regional Offices etc. of Ministries.

Archives of the Intendenza delle Finanze and of dependent offices (the Ufficio Distrettuale delle Imposte Dirette, the Ufficio del Registro, the Conservatoria delle Ipoteche, the Ufficio Tecnico del Catasto, the Ufficio Tecnico Erariale) have been subject to many vicissitudes, and it seems certain that losses have been heavy. These records were located in the offices concerned, which had premises in the Uffici Statali, a building much damaged during the period immediately prior to the Allied capture of Forli'. Subsequently the building was occupied by Allied troops, who are alleged to have burnt and dispersed many records. Nor have Italian officials concerned done as much as they might to safeguard these archives. Following undersigned's previous visit to Forli (February 1945), a good deal of clearance was affected and many records locked away safely. There still remain, however, two large, and unprotected dumps of archives - one on the second floor and one on the cellar.

Since some of these appeared to belong to the offices mentioned above, and some to the Pretura, undersigned contacted both the Intendente and officials of the latter office. Agreement was reached that officials of the Intendenza and Pretura will combine to examine the archives remaining, sort them, and each take measures to protect its own records. Town Major Forli has agreed to authorise entry for this purpose.

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Archives of the Tribunale in the Palazzo del Tribunale are intact; but an unexploded shell is said to be in the wall of the room adjacent. This fact was reported by undersigned to C.A.O. Forli (Capt. Painter).

Archives of the Procura del Re, situated in the same building, are small in bulk. They are in an upper room that was much shot up, are dirty, a little damaged and need attention - but they will get this from the office of the Procura.

Provincial Archives: the Archivio della Prefettura is safe.

The Archivio Comunale. Modern records, 1898-1936, are, for the great part, safe. Evacuated to Vecchiazano before the fighting,

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they were brought back soon after the liberation to their original home in the old Municipio, and a matter of forty files were lost in the process. More recent documents are safe in the new Municipio.

Ecclesiastical Archives. The Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescovile are both reported by the Bishop to be safe, and so are the records of all parishes in the town, except those of San Biagio.

Private Archives. The collections Gaddi, Sauli, Guarini, Baratti, Mordenti, Lazzarini-Brasini, Panciatichi and Saffi are reported by the Direttore of the Sezione of the Archivio di Stato to be safe.

(6) FORLIMPOPOLI

The Archivio Comunale is safe, though a little disordered and needing cleaning.

(7) GAMBETTOLA

The Archivio Comunale appears to have lost many documents. During the fighting it was stored in the cellars of the Municipio, and many files were used by sheltering civilians in lieu of sandbags. However, the archivist, Signorina DePaoli, who has done a faithful job of conservation, states that all old series are safe; undersigned checked that, at least so far as the Atti Consiliari are concerned, this is true. All documents remain in the cellar of the Municipio, but rather surprisingly are dry, and apparently not deteriorating.

(8) GATTEO

The Archivio Comunale occupies a fine room in the Municipio. The roof at one end was holed during the fighting, and much rain entered prior to its repair. Unfortunately the archives chiefly affected included the most valuable series - 17th century Atti Consiliari and the Catasto Antico - many of which are in very bad condition.

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Undersigned instructed the Segretario in simple first-aid methods and suggested a partial cleaning and re-ordering of the archive. A second visit showed that this work was well in hand, with most encouraging results. Many valuable documents have already been cleaned and dried and re-placed on the shelves.

(9) LONGIANO

The Archivio Comunale, situated in the Municipio, was occupied and disturbed by both German and, it is alleged, Allied troops. Losses do not appear to have been considerable, but are impossible to assess, since it is clear that, even before the war, the state

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of the archive was confused and left much to be desired. In addition to the main record room, other offices house documents, and there are also many in a large room immediately under the roof. This contains a large chest of documents, some of them ancient: it has overflowed and the contents are now partly mixed with books salvaged from the Biblioteca Comunale and with papers of the Ufficio Annonario.

Undersigned suggested a careful sorting and gathering together of all papers of an archival character.

A prolonged search failed to reveal the volume of the Statuti of 1448, noticed by Mazzatinti; but in view of the confusion that reigns in this archive, failure to find anything does not necessarily mean that it is missing.

The Archivio Notarile is in better shape that the Archivio Comunale, but it too, is in sad need of re-ordering. It is in a room adjacent to the Archivio Comunale and has undergone much the same vicissitudes.

(10) MELDOLA

The Archivio Comunale is safe and there has been neither loss nor damage during the present war.

(11) MERCATO SARACENO

The Archivio Comunale is stated by the Segretario to be unharmed, but he knows nothing of the Statuti of 1525, which it is supposed to contain, or indeed of any ancient documents of any sort.

(12) MISANO

The Archivio Comunale is more than nine-tenths destroyed. It is alleged by the Segretario of the Comune that this largely took place in the post-combat phase, and that Canadian troops were responsible. Undersigned inspected the remains of this archive, now housed in the provisional seat of the Comune. Sufficient records to make worth while any attempt to re-constituite the Archive do not exist

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(13) MONTE FIORITO

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The Archivio Comunale is, for the great part, in a room on the top floor of the Municipio. It was occupied by both German and Allied troops, and archives were thrown out of the windows into the cortile and burnt. The room is dirty and the archive needs re-ordering; but, so far as modern administrative documents are concerned, the Sindaco has already commenced this on his own initiative. Undersigned encouraged him to extend his field of action and to enlist the help of the pharmacist, a most enthusiastic antiquary, who was interviewed and agreed to help.

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The Archivio Notarile is in the same room as the Archivio Comunale. Losses do not appear to have been very heavy. A separate small room, now used as an overflow for comunal archives, was surely the original home of the Archivio Notarile, and undersigned has suggested that it is re-ordered and placed there. Once again the pharmacist will help.

(14) MONTESCUDO

The Archivio Comunale occupies a room adjacent to the provisional seat of the Municipio; unfortunately sfollati occupy the same room and have burnt some of the archives. Undersigned was shown alternative accomodation by the Segretario, and recommended the immediate transfer of the archive. Subsequent visits have been made, and the transfer is taking place satisfactorily.

The Archivio Notarile was in the same perilous situation as the Archivio Comunale, but on undersigned's request was transferred to the alternative locale mentioned above.

(15) POGGIO BERNI

The Archivio Comunale is safe in the Municpio. No trace could be found of the Atti Consiliari, said to date from 1566, or indeed of other ancient archives. It is unlikely, however, that these are a war casualty, unless perhaps they were among the "old papers" which are said to have been handed over to a Red Cross Paper Drive early in the war!

(16) RIMINI

The Archivio Storico Comunale, since undersigned's last report, has been opened up, cleaned, and is in profess of being re-ordered by Dr. Campana.

The Archivio Capitolare. Documents have been moved from the Cappella dei Caduti to the Seminary. The question of excavating the rubble in the Tempio for further archives has been raised by undersigned with the Bishop and with the Chapter archivist, Canonico Garattoni, but it has not yet been possible to commence work.

Other Repositories. Nothing further to report.

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Other Repositories. Nothing further to report.

(17) RONCOFREDDO

3172

The Archivio Comunale was in the Municipio, which was heavily hit during the fighting. Both German and Allied troops, according to the Segretario, dispersed and burnt much of the archive. Dr. Antonio Savini, however, saved a considerable quantity of records, and undersigned saw these, some in a room in the old Municipio, and some in Dr. Savini's own house; in neither case was this temporary accomodation very satisfactory. Both Dr. Savini and the

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Segretario of the Comune were most co-operative in seeking an alternative locale. They proposed moving the remaining archives to a room over the pharmacist's; this was inspected by undersigned who felt it to be a great improvement on the present accomodation. The room, therefore, is being put in order, a door and shutters fitted, and the archives will then be transferred and re-ordered.

The Archivio Notarile has had precisely the same history as the Archivio Comunale, except that its temporary location in Dr. Savini's cellar was rather worse that that of the town records. It, too, will be transferred to the room mentioned above.

(18) SALUDECIO

The Archivio Comunale was located in the Palazzo del Comune a building that was badly damaged during the fighting. Weather, soldiers and civilians destroyed many documents and those that were saved-many of them appalling condition-were found by undersigned to be deteriorating rapidly in a sort of shed attached to the provisional seat of the Comune. Under the circumstances, therefore, the Sindaco's offer to move these to a room in the damaged Palazzo del Comune was welcome. This room has been put in order, a door with lock provided, and the greater part of the archives transferred. They are now under the care of an enthusiastic employee of the comune, who has been given instructions as to cleaning and drying documents. The question of provision of shelving is being taken up by undersigned.

The Archivio Notarile was also housed in the Palazzo del Comune, directly over the comunal theater. All rooms over the theater collapsed under bombardment, and the Archivio Noterile fell into the auditorium. From these parts of it were recovered and stored with the Archivio Comunale; the parroco also recovered some volumes. Much remained under the rubble, however, and the Sindaco agreed to have this excavated. A difficulty encountered at the start was that it was impossible to know parts of a wide area of rubble actually covered records. Trial trenches were therefore dug under the direction of Captain Croft-Murray and undersigned, and areas selected for excavation. A substantial quantity of records, some of the 15th and 16th centuries, have been excavated. All noterial

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(19) SAN CLEMENTE

The Archivio Comunale is much disordered. Modern records in day-to-day use are, on the whole, safe, though five files of Atti Civili have gone astray and also documents concerning military levies. In the archivio proper, documents lie in great confusion, and the older records that are known to have existed in this archive

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could not, on a rapid search, be located. It is alleged that Allied colored troops were responsible for some destruction. Under the circumstances it seemed best to suggest an artificial division of the archive on the usual Italian lines into archivio storico and archivio amministrative as a preliminary to a complete re-ordering. The Segretario agreed to act on this recommendation.

(20) SAN GIOVANNI IN MARIGNANO

The Archivio Comunale is safe in the municipio; it dates from 1814.

The Archivio Notarile is also substantially intact, in the same location, though it was slightly disordered when the floor of the room gave way under the weight of a crowd of sfollati. In the absence of both Sindaco and Segretario, an employee of the comune was asked to request the former to have the archive cleaned and re-ordered. Professor Catacckio, a knowledgeable antiquary resident in San Giovanni, was interviewed by undersigned and agreed to assist in the latter process.

(21) SAN MAURO

The Archivio Comunale, situated in the municipio, appears to be substantially safe, though rather disordered; nor did the older series that it should contain readily appear. An Indian unit was entering into occupation of the archivio; but this fact has been brought to the notice of C.A.O. (Lt. Lessa), who hopes to free the premises of occupation.

The Casa di Pascoli contained manuscripts of the poet etc. It is alleged that these were burnt by Canadian troops.

(22) SANT'ARCANGELO

Archives were dealt with in undersigned's previous report; Dr. Campana has the situation well in hand.

(23) SARSINA

3170

The Archivio Comunale was totally destroyed when the Germans

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from 1814.

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3179

(23) SARSINA

The Archivio Comunale was totally destroyed when the Germans burnt down the Municipio, except for a few modern documents in day-to-day use, which were preserved by individual members of the staff of the comune.

The Archivio Notarile, also housed in the Municipio, was completely destroyed.

The Archivio della Curia Vescovile, in rooms of the Bishop's Chancery, was heavily hit during bombardment. The remains, including series of considerable value, were stacked in rooms over the Chancery, where the Chancellor says they were much disturbed by Polish troops occupying and adjacent room. The Chancellor agreed to have some young seminarists clean and order the archive under his supervision. It will be necessary to re-visit Sarsina in about a month's time to make sure that this has been done, as this valuable archive in its present state is in grave danger of serious deterioration.

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(24) SAVIGNANO

The Archivio Comunale was situated in the Palazzo Comunale. When the centre of this building was destroyed, the whole archive was buried under rubble, except for some modern records and also the Statuti of 1376 and a small collection of pergamene-the two last items remaining safe in the Library.

Captain Croft-murray initiated excavations of the rubble, and he and undersigned have supervised these regularly over a period of fortnight. A considerable proportion of the archive has been saved, including many complete files, volumes, and substantial parts of series; documents recovered include a considerable number dating from the 15th century. The excavation is now complete, archives dug out have been transferred to various rooms in the less-damaged part of the Palazzo, where they will be dried and cleaned under the supervision of Sig. Pollarini, the comunal librarian. This official has been given a copy of the R.R.A. instructions on first-aid repair.

The Archivio Notarile, also in the Palazzo Comunale, has been more fortunate than the Archivio Comunale. It is in a sound room and, for the great part, remains in its original cupboards. At some time the room was occupied by the Ufficio Annonario, which appears to have been responsible for a minor disturbance of the archive; some notarial instruments were found scattered about the room and mixed with unused ration cards etc. However, cleaning and re-ordering will not be a great labour, and Sig. Pollarini has promised to look to it as soon as his most urgent work in connection with the Archivio Comunale is completed. In the meantime, undersigned has collected and placed in safety all the loose records referred to.

The Biblioteca Comunale has an important ms. collection, details of which are given in Mazzantini, I Manoscritti delle Biblioteche d'Italia, vol. 1. Undersigned has checked these against Mazzantini's list, and found all in place except for the following--

No. 5. Cicero, De inventione rethorica (14th century)
No. 6. Medical treatise etc. (15th century)
No. 7. Ovid, Metamorphoses (12th century)
No. 45. Miscellaneous treatises (14th century)

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No. 52. Bible (14th century)

3168

These were at one time placed in deposit in the Cassa di Risparmio, later brought back to the Library, and the chest containing them disappeared, during the period of actual hostilities.

The very important series of letters, addressed by the most noted antiquaries of his time to G.C. Amaduzzi, are safe. Of the incunabula, it seems certain that Augustine, De Civitate Dei, Venezia, 1486, is missing.

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R E S T R I C T E D

(25) SOGLIANO AL RUBICONE

The Archivio Comunale is substantially unharmed, though it is alleged that coloured troops for a time occupied the Municipio and used 1944 records as fuel. The Segretario agreed to institute a search for the volume of Atti Consiliari of 1546-59, which undersigned failed to find, and also gradually to re-order the archive. There is no particular urgency about this case as physical conditions are satisfactory.

The Archivio Notarile is in a more serious condition. It underwent serious losses when the locale in which it was situated was destroyed, and later coloured troops are said to have been responsible for further destruction. Undersigned inspected the remains of this archive, at present deposited in a school, with sfollati resident in close proximity to it and the door unlocked. This situation is dangerous, and the Segretario's offer to transfer the documents to the Municipio was therefore accepted. It will be necessary to check that he has done so.

(26) VERUCCHIO

The Archivio Comunale is substantially intact. Dr. Giuseppe Pecci, Honorary Inspector of Monuments, has the 15th century Statuti and the small collection of pergamene safe in his house. The rest of the archive, located in the Palazzo Comunale, is in rooms occupied by troops. Though the present occupants are well-behaved, this archive is of considerable historical importance and should be freed from occupation at the earliest opportunity.

The Archivio Notarile, apparently intact, is in a small room adjacent to the Archivio Comunale. This room not being used by troops at present, it was suggested that it should be kept locked and that, as a temporary measure and until occupation ceases, the most valuable comunal records might be housed alongside the notarial archives.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H/E/ BELL
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H/E/ BELL
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer

Copy to: Director, MFAA Sub-Commission
HQ, AC

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

COPY

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
AMG EIGHTH ARMY
REAR

HEB/w.g.

9th April 1945

REFERENCE : ARC/f

SUBJECT : Report on Archives in Faenza and Bagnacavallo.

TO : S.C.A.O. AMG. 8th Army.

(1). FAENZA

Undersigned submitted an outline report on archives in 31/M.F.A.A./2. II (Toscana Region), dated 22 February 1945.

Three further visits to Faenza have now been made, and the opportunity taken to have discussions with C.A.O. Faenza (Major Palotti), the Bishop of Faenza, and Canonico Giuseppe Rossini, and also with Professor Piero Zama, the director of the Library and Archives, who has now returned to Faenza after being blocked near Lugo. On the basis of these conversations the following more detailed picture of archives in Faenza has been constructed.

The Biblioteca Comunale.(i) General.

Although the Library building is very badly damaged (the large reading-room, for instance, was completely burnt by the Germans), losses of books might very well have been more serious. The Director estimates that some 40,000 have been destroyed, but they were not, for the most part, of great value. The rarer books, and all manuscripts, are safe - the most precious in the Cassa di Risparmio, and the rest in the sound parts of the Library building; where necessary, roofs have been repaired.

Since his return the Director has been hard at work salvaging, cleaning and sorting books - a task in which he has the assistance of a voluntary worker, Dr. Zavatta. He is also formulating plans

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

TO : S.C.A.O. AMG. 8th Army.

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Since his return the Director has been hard at work salvaging, cleaning and sorting books - a task in which he has the assistance of a voluntary worker, Dr. Zavatta. He is also formulating plans for the eventual reconstruction of the Library. 3107

(ii) The Archivio Storico Comunale.

The collection of pergamene is now housed in the Director's own office, and the remainder of the archive elsewhere in the Library.

(iii) The Archivi delle Podesterie di Brisighella, Casola, CastelBolognese and Modigliano, transferred to the Library some years before the war, remain there and are safe.

Modern Administrative Archives of the Comune.

As previously reported, some of these records are housed in the Library. Since undersigned's last report, however, the release

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from military occupation of additional parts of the Municipio has allowed more office room for the comunal administration, which now has a fair-reconstituted archive there of Atti Civili, Contratti Deliberazioni etc. from c. 1875. A number of records are still lying disordered in an upper room that has no door; in view of the presence of troops in the building, undersigned recommended to the Segretario that some means should be found of shutting these away.

The Archivio Capitolare.

Canonico Rossini, on his own initiative, has now moved this from its previous hide-out to a first-floor room adjacent to the Cathedral; apparently in its other locale it was beginning to show the effects of damp. Undersigned is not entirely happy about this transfer and stressed that, in the event of shelling being resumed, there should be no delay in returning the archive to the old refuge, which offers the maximum protection from high explosive.

The Archivio Vescovile.

This archive was housed in the part of the Bishop's Palace that was destroyed. A young priest in the Bishop's Chancery, Don Feretti, has saved a good deal of it, and been responsible for drying and arranging documents recovered. These include the Jus Civile, 1810-66; the Jus Criminale, 17th and 18th centuries; Visitations and Inventories, 16th century; Rescritti and Decreti, 1890-1940; Acta Diversa, 1600-1750. The most important single document of the archive, the Register of Lotharius, 1289-1292, is safe.

On the other hand, it will be noted that in all the series mentioned there are long periods where the archives are missing. After a careful examination of the rubble at the Bishop's Palace, and in the light of experience elsewhere, undersigned feels that there is a very good chance of recovering these by means of excavation. The Bishop has undertaken to have this work started within the next few days, and Major Palotti to assist in the provision of workmen etc. if these are required.

3166

The Archivio and Biblioteca Zauli - Naldi.

These are in a building still occupied by troops; but they are

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3166

The Archivio and Biblioteca Zauli - Naldi.

These are in a building still occupied by troops: but they are now kept locked up, and the O.C. of the unit has agreed to Canonico Rossini entering and checking the contents. The custode reports much destruction in the combat period, but cannot specify what is lost.

(2) BAGNACAVALLO.

The Archivio Comunale is in three sections.

(i) a small archivio storico is kept in a cupboard in the Library building. Undersigned made a rough outline check of the contents against Balduzzi, Sugli Archivi di Bagnacavallo, 1881, and found no evidence of any loss. Undersigned

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left a note for the C.A.O. suggesting that if shelling becomes heavy, these documents should be moved to a ground-floor location.

(ii) the Archivio Napoleonico, also in a room in the Library building, appears to be intact.

(iii) Modern records in the Municipio are, according to the Segretario, safe.

The Biblioteca Comunale is very much damaged structurally, but losses of books have so far been small, largely owing to prompt recovery work by the librarian, Sig. Leo Zannoni.

The Archivio Notarile is housed in a room of the Credito Romagnolo building. The notary who was conservatore is dead and Sig. G. Amici, who holds the key, was out of Bagnacavallo; undersigned was therefore unable to inspect the archive but checked that it had been occupied by neither German nor Allied troops.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H.E. BELL
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer

Copy: - Director M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission, H.Q. Allied Commission.

3165

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

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/t/ H.E. BELL
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer

Copy: - Director M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission, H.Q. Allied Commission.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

1 APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

1 April 1945

OA/132

SUBJECT : Supplementary Report, Monuments of RIMINI, SAVIGNANO, and GATTEO.

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report on monuments of Rimini, Savignano, and Gatteo, supplementing latest reports OA/132 of 4 March 45, 4 March 45, and 2_ Oct 44, respectively. This work is being administered by Capt Croft-Murray, of Emilia Region.

RIMINI

2. General. Inspection was made on 23 March by a commission of experts from the Italian Ministry : Prof Emilio LAVAGNINO; Prof Guglielmo DE ANGELIS D'OSSAT; Prof Cagiano DE AZEVEDO. They will submit their official report to the Subcommission on MFAA, Hq AC.

3. Tempio Malatestiano. Lavagnini Commission (see para 2) decided that nothing further remains to be done until after the war, except for the possibility of erecting protection over some of the interior stucco decorations. Information was obtained from Sig LODI-FE of Riccione that the Piero della Francesco fresco was removed, in May 1944, by the firm of RAFFALDINI & STEFFANONE, Piazza Sordello 14, Mantova.

4. Biblioteca Gambalunga. Work of reordering contents of Library and Archivio is progressing under supervision of Dr CAMPANA and Sig MENGOZZI, who are employed for this purpose by Comune; restoration of pictures from churches, deposited in Library with Prof RAVAIOLI, is to be started week of 1 April.

5. San Fortunato. Parocco has been directed to proceed with closing of hole in wall adjacent to large panel by Vasari. Roof over this has been repaired, and painting is still in reasonably good condition.

6. Madonna delle Grazie. Work of re-roofing old nave of church completed by friars; other parts of building now being tidied up.

7. Piano Regolatore. Lavagnini Commission is to consult with architects of plan (in Rome) regarding preservation of monumental structures and localos, especially 14thecentury remains of S. Niccolò in Porto.

SAVIGNANO

8. Palazzo Municipale. Work of recovering archives from debris begun 20 March; much important material has been excavated under supervision of Major Bell. Capt Croft-Murray visited in its present location the workshops unit that was reported by Sindaco to have removed iron balustrade from theatre in Palazzo Municipale (see report of 4 March). After investigation, it appears certain that the accusation was

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9. Roman Bridge. Plans for reassembly are being prepared by Ingenieri MONTE of Viserba for Comune di Savignano. Photographs of model of bridge, from Museo dell'Impero at Rome, have been furnished him.

CATTEO.

10. San Rocco. Project estimates are being prepared for new roof; S. Rocco is to be used as Parish Church. Material and labor to be provided locally, except lime to be supplied by CAO (Lt Comette).

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution:

SCAO, AMG 8 Army	(2)	CAO Savignano-Catteo	(2)
RC, Emilia Region	(2)	Subc MFAA, HQ AC	(10)
PC, Forlì Province	(2)	MFAA Officer, Emilia Region	(2)
CAO Rimini	(2)	Major Newton	(2)

20905/C/19

1 APR. 1945

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EMILIA REGION A.C.
Monuments and Fine Arts Section

Information of Palazzo Strozzi, Ferrara, and
Villa Massari, Voghera(near Ferrara).

Palazzo Strozzi (formerly Sacrati), Piazza Sacrati, Ferrara.
Damaged by bombing; contains Sacrati Archives, pictures and furniture shut up in one or two rooms remaining.

Villa Massari, Voghenza (Prov. Ferrara). M 2376.
XVIIIth. cent. villa of considerable architectural and decorative interest; contains part of the picturesgallery and tapestries formerly in the Palazzo Massari in Ferrara.

Information from Marchese Uberto Strozzi.

Edward Croft-Murray
MFA&A Officer
Emilia Region

Copies to:
Prov. Com. Ferrara
Major Norman Newton, A.M.G. VIII Army
Director, M.F.A. & A. Sub-Commission
Capt. Humphrey Brooke, Region IV.

3163

20505/c1.19

Subs MFAA HQ AC

(116)

Hq AMG Eighth Army
6 March 1945

OA/132

SUBJECT: Report of Maj Bell on Archives, Provs Forli and Ravenna.

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Attached hereto, for notation and file OA/132, is the excellent comprehensive report 31/MFAA/2.11 of 22 Feb 45, by Major H. A. Bell, on archives of liberated portions of Forli and Ravenna Provinces. Copies have been sent, as requested, to RC Emilia Region (attn MFAA Officer) and to S/C MFAA, Hq AC. The third copy is being retained for working purposes by MFAA Officer AMG 8 Army, who appends the following commentaries on Major Bell's recommendations, following numeration of original:

(1) RIMINI: Archivio Storico Comunale.
(a) Will be obtained as soon as possible by Capt Croft Murray.
(b) Has been discussed with Dr Campana; brick blocking to be removed and guards provided by Comune pending completion of reordering and final securing of entryway.

RIMINI: Archivio Capitolare.
(a) Has been done.
(b) Will be done as soon as possible.

(2) SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Comunale.
(a) Has been discussed with Lt Lessa, who will give all necessary aid to Dr Campana.

SANT'ARCANGELO: Archivio Notarile.
(a) Action being taken, as indicated in report, by Lt Lessa.

(4) FORLI: Sezione Archivio dello Stato.
(a) Has been discussed with Director Servolini, who has authority to proceed according to his best judgment, with assurances of such AMG aid as he may need.
(b) This also will be up to Servolini.

FORLI: Local Taxation Records, etc.
(a) This, as indicated in report, is in hands of RC Forli as a matter of governmental administration.

3162

(5) [illegible] Archivio Storico Comunale.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

tions, following demobilization of brigades.

(1) RIMINI: Archivio Storico Comunale.
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(b) Has been discussed with Dr Campana; brick blocking to be removed and guards provided by Comune pending completion of reordering and final securing of entryway.

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(a) Has been discussed with Director Servolini, who has authority to proceed according to his best judgment, with assurances of such AMG aid as he may heed.
(b) This also will be up to Servolini.

FORLI: Local Taxation Records, etc.
(a) This, as indicated in report, is in hands of PC Forli as a matter of governmental administration.

3162

(5) RAVENNA: Archivio Storico Comunale.
(a) Dr Saporetti is proceeding as indicated.
(b) Will be carried out when and as possible.

RAVENNA: Archivio Notarile.
(a) Has been referred to Legal Officer, Lt Col Levit, as a matter of administration.

(6) FAENZA: Archivio Comunale (modern admin Archives).
(a) Has been discussed with Major Pellotti; will be carried out as soon as possible.

FAENZA: Archi vio Vescovile.
(a) Excavation, as noted, will be carried out as soon as possible. This will have to be in line with priority of operations locally.

A.C.C. COMMENTS FILE ARTS & ARCHIVES
- 9 MAR 1945
FILE No

Rec'd MFA&A 9 Mar 45

~~20462~~
20906/C1/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

C./132
6 Mar 45

FAENZA: Archivio Zauli-Naldi.

(a) Canonico Rossini will be allowed access on request.

2. Further reports of progress, as developments require, will be included in normal supplementary reports of undersigned.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to:
RC, Emilia Region (attn MFAA Officer)
Subc MFAA, HQAC
Major Bell (c/o MFAA Office, Toscana Region)

Inclosure: 31/MFAA/2.11 of 22 Feb 45

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

RESTRICTED

~~SECRET~~ Bernard Berenson Lt. Col.

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

File Ref: 31/MFAA/2.11 Date: 22 February 1945

SUBJECT Archives of Liberated Provinces of Emilia.

TO : S.C.A.O. 8th Army (attention Major Norman Newton, MFAA Office

With the kind consent of Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, and of S.O.I 8th Army A.M.G. (Lt. Col. Benton Jones), from 12th to 20th February the undersigned made a tour of inspection of archives in Emilia. The following notes on archives visited are now submitted in quadruplicate, and it is requested that distribution of copies may be made as thought necessary; it is suggested that, if agreeable, this distribution includes copies to Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, and Director, M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission, H.Q., A.C.

(1) RIMINI.

The Archivio Storico Comunale and the manuscript collection of the Biblioteca Gambalunga are united on the ground-floor of one wing of the Library. Together they form an archive collection of first-rate importance, used in the past to great effect by Cardinal Garampi.

The Director of the Library, Prof. Carlo Lucchesi, is resident at Torricella, where he has taken, and is said to keep in safety, the more important documents of this collection; no list of documents so transferred is available in the Library.

The bulk of the archives, which remain at the Library, have had a rather chequered career. One of the two rooms in which they are housed was used by the Germans to stable horses. Subsequently the archivio is said to have been entered by Canadian troops. The only door into it was bricked up some months ago, and entry can at present only be effected through a small hole in the ceiling.

Through the courtesy of C.A.O. Rimini, the undersigned was able to obtain a ladder and descend into the archivio. Documents in two parts of the room first entered were found to be in very bad condition, due to rain water seeping in from the first floor. These included 19th century Atti Criminali in shelving on the right-hand side of the room and, more important, miscellaneous medieval manuscripts in the central shelving. The worst affected documents were brought up and handed over to Dr. Augusto Campano, Reggente of the Library, for drying and preservation in other parts of the Library building. Others were removed to dry portions of the archivio.

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The second room contained traces of excrement; but whether human or animal could not, at this stage, be determined. Both rooms contained some loose records on the floor, but not enough to suggest considerable disturbance of the archivio as a whole.

RECOMMENDED.

(a) That a list of documents held at Torricella by Prof. Lucchesi be obtained.

(b) That the Archivio be thoroughly cleaned and re-ordered under the supervision of Dr. Campana; in particular, those portions of the shelving affected by damp should be entirely emptied of records. Undersigned is inclined to think that, in view of the difficulty of entry through the ceiling, the archivio might now be unbricked. Dr. Campana, however, is opposed to this and, so long as he

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and cleaning personnel of small girth are prepared to make the descent, the opening of the door is perhaps not essential. Attention to the archivio, however, is most urgently necessary. Dr. Campana who lives at Sant' Arcangelo but comes into the Library two or three days a week, is qualified to give this attention.

The Archivio Notarile, dating from the 14th century, is housed in another portion of the Library and is safe.

The Administrative Archives of the Comune have suffered considerable losses. Except for records in day-to-day use, they were transferred at the end of 1943 to the Casino Municipale (Kursaal), where they remains dispersion and disturbance are said to have taken place, however, subsequent to the use of parts of this building by allied troops.

The Archivio Capitolare was housed in a room near the sacristy in the building immediately to the left of the Tempio Malatestiano. Unfortunately undersigned was unable to contact Canonico Garattoni, Via XX Sept. 57, who is in charge of the archive; but present information is that those parts that have been saved are in the Cappella de' Caduti of the Tempio Malatestiana and in the Old Seminary. This is an important archivio, which includes documents from 994; it is with making every effort to save as much as may be possible of its contents.

RECOMMENDED

(a) That the documents in the Cappella de' Caduti be moved to a more suitable location.

(b) That the rubble in the Tempio be excavated for further documents.

The Archivio Vescovile is evacuated to Serravalle (except for documents in current use) An official in the Bishop's Cancelleria reports it safe.

(2) SANT' ARCANGELO.

The Archivio Comunale is in fair shape. Modern administrative records are well preserved. There have probably been some losses amongst more ancient archives, consequent upon occupation by German and Allied troops of the room in which they are kept.

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RECOMMENDED.

That Dr. Campani be given facilities to re-order the older records of this archive.

The Archivio Notarile has good series from the 14th century (the earliest document noted by undersigned was dated 1369). Losses do not appear to have been considerable. The room in which this archivio is housed is at present in use as an office of the Polizia Municipale, but the C.A.C. (Lt. Lessa) kindly offered to find alternative accomodation for this office.

RECOMMENDED.

That the room housing the archivio, which is in any case very small, should not be used for other purposes.

(3) CESENA

The Archivio Storico Comunale was inspected in the Biblioteca

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Malatestiana where physical conditions are satisfactory. Undersigned failed to get in touch with the Director of the Library and has at pre sent no information as to what losses the archivio has suffered.

The Archivio Notarile has rather a domestic interior, since a notary Dr. Eugenio Pelosi, is in residence in the building, his own-house having been requisitioned. Some of the notary's goods and chattels are stored in the actual archive, but most of the document are in good cupboards, and no harm is coming to them.

The Archivio Capitolare and the Archivio Vescovile are both repo rted by the Bishop to be safe. Some damage by damp occurred in the early stages, but roofs are now repaired. Parochial records are said by the Bishop to have suffered heavily.

(4) FORLI

The Sezione of the Archivio di Stato occupied rooms on the top floor of the Pinacoteca Civica. Since these were directly under the roof, from November 1942 onwards records were evacuated - the more valuable series (including the archives of the Pubblico Magistrato and of the Corporazioni) to Villa Sisa, and others (archives of the Pre-fecture, Tribunal and Comune) to the parish church of Vecchiazzana. Later the archives at Villa Sisa were brought back to the Palazzo del-la Biblioteca, but it is understood that there are now three deposits- Villa Sisa, Vecchiazzana and San Giorgio- the second of which, only has been inspected by the undersigned, who found some of the documents there suffering from the effects of damp. In addition, a considera-ble quantity of records is stored in a small room on the first floor of the Pinacoteca.

RECOMMENDED.

(a) That, if military conditions are felt to justify it, the records at Vecchiazzano are brought back to Forli and housed in the archivio, which appears dry. If the danger of air-raids is held to be too great to justify this tran-sfer, the records at Vecchiazzano should be re-stacked, particularly those now standing against the chancel walls of the church, which are suffering much from damp.

(b) That the more valuable records, first evacuated be left in deposit for the time being. These are understood to be packed in cases and satisfactorily housed.

The Archivio Notarile is, for the most part, safe. Certain records, some from the older part of the archive, are alleged to have been burnt by British troops. The Custode also said that the cata-

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The Archivio Notarile is, for the most part, safe. Certain records, some from the older part of the archive, are alleged to have been burnt by British troops. The Custode also said that the catalogue of the ancient part of the archivio had been burnt. The Conservatore, Dr. Carlo Pungi, did not seem to be worried by this; but the loss, if it has really taken place, must be regarded as serious. Room adjacent to the archive are now occupied by U.N.R.A. Comando Provinciale; Out of Bounds signs are posted, and the door of the partition wall is locked.

Local Taxation Records in the Uffici Statali were located in rooms now used for troops sleeping quarters. Part of the old Catasto Napoleonico was moved to the Intendenza, but the greater part of modern Catasto records now lies in a cellar of the Uffici Statali. Apart from the unsuitability of this room as a record repository, it is impossible to re-order the records there and they are not available for consultation. The office concerned desires to move the records into alternative premises at Via delle Torri 7, and the undersigned requested Provincial Commissioner Forli to do what he could

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to help. Part of the records of the Ufficio Distrettuale dell'Imposte Dirette have been moved, but part remain on the second floor of the Uffici Statali.

RECOMMENDED.

That all archives be moved from the Uffici Statali; it is especially necessary that suitable accomodation for the Catasto archives be found.

The Archivio del Conte dell' Asti-Brandolini was in part entrusted to the care of Prof. Servolini, Director of the Pinacoteca and Reggente of the Sezione of the Archivio di Stato. Prof. Servolini is now desirous to take over the remainder of this archives which ~~is~~ believes to be in danger owing to the damaged condition of the Palazzo Asti-Brandolini, where it is kept.

This is a matter for negotiation between Prof. Servolini and the proprietor, and the undersigned, who inspected the archivio, did not think it's physical condition sufficiently jeopardised to warrant our intervention.

(5) RAVENNA

The Archivio Storico Comunale is located in the Biblioteca Classense. The archive as a whole is safe and damage by damp, when the library roof was leaking, has not been serious. The oldest and most precious archives, however, have now been walled up in the library for many months, and while it may be premature to replace them on the shelves of the archivio, some anxiety must be felt for their condition. The undersigned therefore recommended to the Vice-Director, Dr. SAPORETTI, that sufficient of the walling be temporarily removed to make tests for damp. If the records are dry, they can be put back into their fortress; if there are signs of damp, they should be extracted and dried.

Codices and Incunabula were evacuated from the library to an uncertain destination in North Italy (possibly Venezia, Stia or Lago Maggiore.) The Vice-Director has promised to supply a detailed list of these, which will be useful for identification purposes should any of them turn up as the Armies advance.

RECOMMENDED

(a) That the Vice-Director be encouraged to carry out the tests for damp mentioned above.

(b) That the Library be used as a clearing-house for such archives as may be excavated from rubble in the city--e;g; it is worth mentioning that Capt. Croft-Murray discovered some fragmentary 18th and 19 century records

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be in danger owing to the damaged condition of the Palazzo Asti-Arnaldi, where it is kept.

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(b) That the Library be used as a clearing-house for such archives as may be excavated from rubble in the city--e;g; it is worth mentioning that Capt. Croft-Murray discovered some fragmentary 18th and 19 century records of the Hospital in the rubble at S. Gio anni; parts of the little archive of the Chapel of S. Mary were found in rubble in the Duomo. Both sites would repay excavation.

The Archivio Notarile is, for the great part, safe. The Custode says that it was entered at Christmastime by Canadian troops; the archivio was disturbed a little, but no damage done.

The Conservatore took certain documents with him to Fusignano. According to Dr. Beltrammelli, one of the four notaries practicing in Ravenna, these probably included copies of testaments and of atti registrati; the impiegato also believes some ancient documents were taken, but he does not know what as he was absent on military service at the time.

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This Archivio presents one rather difficult problem. According to Dr. Beltramelli, the absence of the Conservatore, and the fact that the impiegato is only able to attend irregularly to his duties as he lives at Bagnacavallo, is causing some administrative inconvenience. Italian law gives the President of the Tribunal the right to appoint a deputy to carry out the Conservatore's duties.

RECOMMENDED,

That Lt. Colonel Levitt, Regional Legal Officer, be consulted on the above.

The Archivio del Conte Guido Rasolini Dall'Onda, with important documents for the history of the Risorgimento, was evacuated to two properties of the Count further north. One of these has been liberated, but the building containing the records was mined by the Germans - the Count has picked up the pieces; the fate of the second hide-out is not yet known, and the Count did not appear anxious to disclose its whereabouts.

(6) FAENZA.

The Archivio Storico Comunale is understood to be safe in the Cassa di Risparmio, but has not yet been seen by the undersigned.

Modern Administrative Archives of the Comune are stored in the Library, a building that has been pretty thoroughly shot up, but that still miraculously offers some protection to these records - and also to those of the Comune of Brisighella and Modigliana. Some few of the archives of the Comune however, remain in the part of the Palazzo del Municipio now occupied by Polish Military Police. C.A.O. Faenza (Major Paletti) hopes to secure this building for the use of the Comune.

RECOMMENDED.

That, if the Comune does re-enter the Palazzo del Municipio, the archives be moved back there, and that, if this building can also house those of Brisighella and Modigliana, so much the better. Their present repository is very much al fresco.

The Archivio Notarile is safe and located in a little gem of a room that remains unharmed on the first floor of the Library. It is a good archive, dating from the 14th century, and listed by Canonico Giuseppe Rossini.

3138

The Archivio Capitolare is important, containingd pergamene, baptismal records, acts of the Chapter from 1300, and an interesting music archive connected with Palestrina. It is safe under the Cathedral, along with the bones of St. Peter Damian. It is difficult to rate too high

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The Archivio Vescovile was of less significance; it contained acts of the Curia from the 15th century. Nevertheless, every effort should be made to recover any part of it that may remain under the rubble..

RECOMMENDED.

That, if possible, excavation of the rubble is undertaken at an early date.

The Archivio Zauli-Naldi in the Palazzo Zauli-Naldi, now occupied by F.S.S., has apparently been partially evacuated. The custode was out, and undersigned therefore lacks definite information.

Documents, mainly of the 18th and 19th centuries remain, and an interesting library.

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RECOMMENDED.

That Canonico Rossini, or some other competent person, be allowed access to this library and archivio to make a check of the contents, which appear of considerable value. It should then be sealed off from the remainder of the Palazzo.

Undersigned wishes to express his thanks for permission to make this tour and for the co-operation of A.M.G. Officers in all places mentioned in the present report.

H.E.Bell major

Major H.E. BELL,
A.M.C., Archives Officer.

3137

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4 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject: Supplementary Report, Monuments of RIMINI, SANT'ARCANGELO, SAVIGNANO and CESENA.

OA/132
4 March 45.

S.C.A.O.
AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of developments relating to monuments of RIMINI, SANT'ARCANGELO, SAVIGNANO and CESENA, supplementing latest reports of 18 January, 45, 14th October, 44, 19th October, 44, and 19th November, 44, respectively. Numerous inspections were made during February by Capt. CROFT-MURRAY (of EMILIA Region), to whom the detailed MFAA administration of these towns has now been delegated, subject only to general guidance as to policy by MFAA Officer AMG Eighth Army.

RIMINI.

2. General. Remarkable awakening of civic consciousness has occurred here since installation of Lt-Col. ROBINSON as C.A.O. and Lt. NATALE as special Public Works Officer. Local committee of architects and planners has prepared and is studying a Master Town Plan for future developments.

3. Arco d'Augusto. Bracing of weakened arch has been completed by Ingeniere SERAMIGIOLI. Protective barrier of barbed wire and posters in English and Italian are prominently in place.

4. Tempio Malatestiano. Debris has been cleared from interior; side [illegible] walled up; front gate is locked; protective signs in English and Italian are in place. Documents have been moved from Campidoglio dei Caduti under supervision of Canonico CARATTONI. It has been learned from Assistente SAVINI, of the RAVENNA Superintendency, that the fresco della Francesco fresco, detached from chapel wall of Tempio, was taken to Superintendency deposito at Mantova during the summer of 1944.

5. Biblioteca Gambalunga. Good work on reordering collections and blocking still broken windows has been done by Prof RAVAIOLI and Dr. CAMPANA, with assistance of Sig. MINGOZZI, transferred to Library from another office of Comune. Lt-Col. ROBINSON is discussing with Sindaco the previous recommendation (report OA/132 of 18th Jan 45) that a full-time acting Director be employed in absence of Director LUCCHESI.

6. Archivio Storico. Brick blocking of entrance is to be removed and

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of RIMINI, SANT'ARCANGELO, SAVIGNANO and CESENA, supplementing previous reports of 18 January, 45, 14th October, 44, 19th October, 44, and 19th November, 44, respectively. Numerous inspections were made during February by Capt. CROFT-MURRAY (of EMILIA Region), to whom the detailed MFAA administration of these towns has now been delegated, subject only to general guidance as to policy by MFAA Officer AMG Eighth Army.

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6. Archivio Storico. Brick blocking of entrance is to be removed and guards posted by Comune while cleaning and systematizing of Archivio is done under supervision of Dr. CAMPANA. Most urgent recovery of documents was accomplished by Major BELL, Archives Officer, in course of inspection during February. When necessary work has been done in rooms of Archivio, doors are again to be rendered permanently secure. Urgently needed repair of roof over Archivio is on reconstruction schedule, of Ufficio Tecnico.

7. Museo Civico. After departure of military unit from protective occupation of courtyard, movable items were transferred from Museo to Biblioteca Gambalunga by Prof. Ravaioli. Doorways were blocked up, gates of loggia were securely locked, and additional signs were posted to prohibit indiscriminate entry. Repair of museum building will be a job of major reconstruction. Fortunately, it is known that Dr. Lucchesi has most valuable museum items with him at TORRICELLA. Capt. CROFT-MURRAY deserves special commendation for prompt and effective measures taken at museum this past month with the vigorous cooperation of Lt-Col ROBINSON.

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SANT'ARCANGELO.

8. Rocca Malatestiana. See special letter report 04/132 of 28th February, 45, to Director, MFAA Sub-Commission, H.Q. A.C. Protective occupancy by D.A.F. unit continues with good effect.

9. Archives. Following inspection by Major BELL and Capt. CROFT-MURRAY assistance is being given by C.A.O., Lieut LESSA, to Dr. Campana with respect to reordering of Archivio Comunale and Archivio Notarile.

SAVIGNANO.

10. Palazzo Municipale. Capt. CROFT-MURRAY is obtaining all possible details regarding Sindaco's report that troops from a workshop unit appropriated for metal the cast balustrade in small Theatre of Palazzo.

11. Roman Bridge. Ufficio Tecnico of SAVIGNANO is surveying debris of Rubicon bridge, blown by Germans, and will prepare plans for reassembly of fragments. No new bridge is scheduled by Public Works for this site, thanks to adequacy of new structure on main by-pass highway.

CESENA.

12. Madonna del Monte. Excellent work has been done by friars. All debris is cleared from floor of church; three-quarters of roof has been covered, and beams are prepared for rest of roof. C.A.O. is investigating availability of tiles to complete the work. Ingeniere TELLARINI had submitted in January a carefully detailed estimate for major rebuilding of church, this estimate will now be drastically revised.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution;

S.C.A.O. AMG 8 Army	(2)
R.C. Emilia Region	(2)
P.C. Forli Province	(2)
C.A.O. Rimini	(2)
C.A.O. Sant'Arcangelo	(2)
C.A.O. Savignano	(2)
C.A.O. Cesena	(2)
MFAA Sub-Comm, H.Q. A.C.	(10)
MFAA Offr, Emilia Region	(5)
Major Newton.	(2)

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- 3 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

3 March 1945

OA/132

SUBJECT : Supplementary Report, Monuments of FORLI, RAVENNA, and COCCOLIA.

To : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report on monuments of Forli and Ravenna, supplementing latest report OA/132 of 10 Jan 45, and initial report on churches near Coccolia.

FORLI

2. San Biagio. Capt Croft-Murray was informed by Director SERVOLINI all fragments of tomb of Barbara Manfredi had been successfully recovered from debris of church. They are in custody of clergy, who also have some fragments of Palmezzano fresco.

3. Palazzo delle Raccolte Cittadine. Requisitioned on authority of Corps Commander for use as WOs' and Sergts' Club. Director Servolini was consulted regarding alterations, which are being done not only for serviceability but also to block access from Club to quarters reserved for continued use of Servolini and his staff. Program going very satisfactorily when inspected 27 Feb by undersigned. Library was not involved and may soon be opened for civilian student use with consent of military authorities. All Museum items have been removed from Club quarters; protective covering has been built over sculptures on main entrance stairway. Repairs are being completed by Comune to damaged roof over Museo Etnografico. Relations between Servolini and military seem excellent.

4. S. Mercuriale. Two 14th-century frescoes at base of campanile, in rear, are to receive protective covering. Servolini is in touch with Ufficio Tecnico and CAO (Major Steel) will ensure attention by Sindaco.

5. Archives. Special inspection was made in February by Major Bell, Archives Officer. As previously reported (OA/132 of 10 Jan 45), Director Servolini has authority to bring back material from church at Vecchiazzano. If, in his judgment, occupation of Palazzo delle Raccolte (Museum) prohibits such transfer, he has been assured of assistance (on application to PC or CAO) in restacking material in deposit. PC will also do whatever is possible toward moving administrative archives from present poor storage in building of Uffici Statali. This was discussed with Major Patrick by Major Bell.

RAVENNA

3135

6. General. Visited for three days in Feb by Capt Croft-Murray, during absence of MFA&A Officer, AMG 8 Army. Checked by latter on 2 March. Work proceeding, although slowly because of shortage of labor and materials. Assistente SAVINI of Superintendency has been doing a careful job and wisely prefers to use experienced workmen instead of employing available prisoners [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

1. Herewith summary report on monuments of Forli and Ravenna, supplementing latest report OA/132 of 10 Jan 45, and initial report on churches near Coccolia.

FORLI

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7. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Temporary work on nave completed; work on apse awaits necessary lime. Savini has made careful survey of mosaics (difficult because of poor light) and has made minor repairs.

8. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Most serious holes in roof of nave have been repaired; work continues on other parts of roofs. Tiles are being obtained by stripping damaged corner of exterior porch, where weather can do no harm. Carved fragments from campanile and from church exterior have been carefully preserved. Parroco expresses great satisfaction with work.

9. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Work completed.

20906/4/19

3 MAR 1945

5

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

10. San. Vitale. Water in church has gone down appreciably as AMG flood-control project lowers water level of surrounding country. No apparent damage has been caused in church. Resumption of electricity in Ravenna has not provided sufficient power to operate church's pumps.

11. S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Savini is experimenting with a local restorer, PLAZZA, to determine practicability of removing remaining fragments of fresco. No attempt will be made unless experiment (on unimportant surface) conclusively demonstrates Piazza's competence. Protective signs, provided by military, are in place.

12. S. Giovanni Evangelista. Owing to misunderstanding, several truckloads of brick rubble were removed in February by Italian and Allied units. Stone fragments from portal had been gathered and stored in side chapel. Rubble lost fortunately happens to be not too serious; stout barbed wire fence and profusion of new Out of Bounds signs, both now in place, should prevent further mishaps. Otherwise building is as reported 10 Jan 45.

11. Duomo. Work completed on Cappella del Sacramento.

12. Loggetta Lombardesca. Work not yet begun. Genio Civile has been authorized to include temporary roof repairs in adjacent cloister of S. Maria in Porto.

13. Archivio Notarile (Palazzo Spreti). Work completed. Administrative question as to serviceability, raised by Major Bell, has been referred to Legal Officer, Emilia Region.

14. Biblioteca Classense. Work completed on roof over library quarters, which are in excellent condition. New director, Prof Bruno NEDIANI, has been nominated by Comune to fill vacancy reported 6 Dec 44. Vice-Director SAPORETTI is proceeding with check of storage vaults for damp, as recommended by Major Bell. Ufficio Tecnico has been directed to erect barrier to replace broken temporary one between Library corridor and adjacent school occupied by troops.

15. S. Francesco. Work not yet begun.

3134

16. S. Maria in Porto Citta. Work not yet begun, but temporary walling of south transept, for service purposes, has been started by Parroco. Fragments of choir-stalls carefully collected and stored within W portal.

17. Museo Nazionale. Savini will prepare preliminary estimates for major repair project. First-aid work completed.

18. Battistero. Temporary repair of roof completed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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19. Battistero degli Ariani. Temporary repairs completed.

20. Spirito Santo. Some repair work is to be started soon by Conte Pasolini, whose family is closely connected with history of this church.

CESENA

21. S. Pietro in Trento. Small brick Romanesque church, with parts of earliest structure, much restored in 1927. Germans mined and razed campanile to ground, with loss of apse and rear end of nave. Crypt under apse uninjured; front portion of nave, including facade, unharmed except for bad shaking of all walls. Parroco Anacleto MILANDRI, with aid of local engineer, has braced damaged walls and constructed temporary closure across rear of nave. No further present action required, but reconstruction at a later period should be considered seriously.

22. S. Pietro in Vincoli. Small brick Romanesque pieve. Campanile, mined by Germans, is about half gone, but church does not appear to have suffered otherwise except possibly from shaking of blast.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFA&A Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Distribut on:

SCAO, AMG 8 Army (2)
RC, Emilia Region (2)
AMG LO 5 Corps (2)
PC, Ravenna Province (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO Ravenna (2)
CAO Forli (2)
Subc MFAA, Hq ACC (10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (5)
Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

C O P Y

EMILIA REGION

Ref: BOL/1/15

31 Jan 45

Subject: The Castello, Castel del Rio

To : SCAO, AMG, VIII Army (attn. Capt. Deane Keller)

1. With reference to Capt. Deane Keller's letter, D.K./jm of 19:1:45, and Major Burbury's of 23:1:45 on the subject of the above, I visited Castel del Rio on 30:1:45, with Major Harry Bell, Archives Officer, MFAA Subcommission, A.C.

2. In company with Major Burbury, I inspected the damage to the roof of the Castello which consists of a large hole; part of the tiled floor of the attic below has also been pierced. One cannot, however, say that any monumental part of the Castello is in immediate danger through this, but naturally repairs will be necessary in the not too distant future in the event of the building's being reoccupied as a Municipio,. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is feared that a state grant to defray the expenses of the repair on the grounds of its monumental importance would hardly seem justified.

3. With regard to the mural paintings referred to by Major Burbury, these consit of a series of coats of arms of the Alidosi Family frescoed in the lunettes of the cortile, and bands of leafy decoration on the ribs of the vaulting. These, through restored, form part of the original decoration; the walls of the cortile are also painted with a formal pattern, which may or may not be old. It was suggested to Major Burbury that scubbing with water should on no account be used on the walls of the cortile, and only light and careful dusting be employed to remove cobwebs, etc.

4. The more recent part of the Archivio Comunale is still housed in the Castello (see my report of 24:XI:44). Major Bell is submitting a separate report on this.

5. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the co-operation and assistance of C.A.C., Castel del Rio (Major Burbury).

3133

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Archives Officer, MFAA Subcommission, A.C.

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3133

/s/ R.E. Enthoven capt.
for
Edward Croft-Murray,
Capt.
MFAA, AMG, Officer
Emilia Region

Copies to:
Reg. Com. Emilia
Prov. Com. Bologna
Major Burbury, C.A.O. Castel del Rio
Director MFAA Subcommission
File BOL/1.

20905/c/1/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

31/MFAA/2.11 31th January 1945

Subject: Archives of Castel del Rio

To : SCAO 5th Army (attention of Captain Deane Keller, MFAA Officer).

The undersigned accompanied Captain Edward Croft-Murray to CASTEL DEL RIO on 30th January 1945.

1. Archivio Comunale.

This is normally housed in the Castle - a building that is now used as billets for troops coming out of the line for rest. The room in which the bulk of the archives are kept is now officer's sleeping quarters.

The older part of the Archivio has been moved from this room and placed in the Church. More recent records, however, have not yet been moved. In view of the importance of these for administrative purposes it is undesirable that they should be allowed to remain in a situation where they are exposed to danger of disturbance and piecemeal losses.

The undersigned therefore recommended to C.A.O., Castel del Rio, that, if possible, the rest of the archives remaining in the Castle should be removed to the Church. There is ample room for them to be kept there in two bays, left and right, close to the High Altar. The Church appears dry and is kept locked (key held by the priest). It may therefore be regarded as a satisfactory temporary repository.

It was also recommended that the transfer of the archives referred to should be undertaken under supervision of the Secretary of the Comune; the importance of preserving the existing arrangement in series of documents was stressed.

3132

2. Archivio Parrocchiale.

This is safe.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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3132

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3. The undersigned would like to record the helpful co-operation of C.A.O. Castel del Reio (Major Burbury) during the visit dealt with in the psesent report.

/s/ H.E. Bell Major

/t/ H.E. BELL, Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer, M.F.A.A.

Copies to:
Reg. Com. Emilia
Reg. Com. Bologna
Major Burbury, CAO Castel del Rio
Director MFAA S/C, HQ, A.C.
Captain E.Croft-Murray (File BOL/2)

20905/c/1/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

20905/1/19

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

18 January 1945
CA/132

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report,
Monuments of RIMINI

To : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army

1. Herewith summary report of developments relating to monuments of Rimini, supplementing reports CA/132 of 25 Sep 44 and 19 Nov 44.

2. Protection of Materials. Protected Monument Posters at Arco d'Augusto, Tempio Malatestiana, and S. Maria della Colonella have been supplemented by large painted signs of CMP and Town Major, prohibiting removal of damaged or undamaged material. Staff Captain Q, 86 Area, has instructed Military Police to watch these places particularly. Ing. Stramigioli of Municipio, is adding similar posters in Italian to restrain civilians.

3131

3. Deposits. Dr Carlo Lucchesi, Director of Museo Civico and Biblioteca Giambalunga, is still at Torricella (Prov. Pesaro) with materials he removed to that place. He proposes, wisely enough, to remain there guarding this material until Torricella is accessible by road and until Rimini is in condition to house the material. His claim for payment, transmitted through MFAA Officer of Abruzzi-Marche Region, has been referred to Commune for study and for action if warranted.

4. Arco d'Augusto. Ingegniere Stramigioli submitted an urgent request in December for cement with which to construct necessary support for weakening arch. Material was supplied within 24 hours and work is in progress. When work is finished, barbed-wire barrier will be replaced. Protected Monument posters are in place (see para 2).

5. Tempio Malatestiana. Italian committee of experts from Rome, granted permission by SCAO early in December to visit Rimini,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

20905/d/1/9

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

18 January 1945
OA/132

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5. Tempio Malatestiana. Italian committee of experts from Rome, granted permission by SCAO early in December to visit Rimini, have not yet appeared. Communal Engineer Stramigioli has repeatedly checked structural safety of Tempio and reports no discoverable liability of collapse. Sacristan is removing small liturgical items from debris at rear of Tempio. Barring of entries with wire in November has proved unsatisfactory, and Stramigioli is having rear ones walled up with brick. He will continue to keep front gate locked, when possible will place barrier across entire front, and will erect signs in Italian (see para 2) to prevent removal of brick and sand from protective walls by civilians. In view of apparent indifference of church authorities, Stramigioli is to direct systematic removal of debris from centre of nave, under supervision to preserve any fragments of value.

6. Biblioteca Giambalunga. Despite commendable interest of Prof RAVAIOLI of Rimini, and Dr CAMPANA of Santarcangelo, both honorary inspectors, work of reordering the library has not proceeded with satisfactory speed. Custode SIGNITREDI, although no doubt trustworthy, is not technically proficient. MFAA Officer has recommended to CAO (Capt Comstock) that Commune be urged to employ either Ravaioli or some other competent person as Acting Director of this library in absence

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of Dr Lucchesi, and that such person be adequately compensated for a vigorous program of work. Stramigioli is to proceed with emergency blocking of such windows as need protection against rain and snow. Investigation is now in progress to determine full details regarding recent nocturnal penetration of rear wall by civilians who upset books and removed shelving, presumably for fuel. Custode believes no books or documents are missing, but cannot be entirely certain.

7. Archivio Storico. In south front wing of Biblioteca Giambalunga. This was walled up in late September and was believed secure against damage. Leakage from roof of badly damaged part of Palazzo (not included in repairs completed in November) may be causing some harm in second room, devoted to storage; first room, next to walled entry, appears satisfactory on external examination. According to Custode, troops occupying upper (school) floors of building, about a month ago, cut hole in floor above Archivio, may have used hole as latrine, and surely dumped refuse through it. Custode discovered this only during interval between departure of culpable unit and arrival of present Italian military occupant, whose behaviour causes no difficulty. Custode has been censured for not reporting facts immediately to Municipio. All available particulars have been furnished to Staff Captain G at 86 Area (Capt Drummond-Young), who will investigate fully for punitive action. Stramigioli is to have archive quarters entered and cleaned; commune is then to undertake responsibility for such recovery work on Archivio as may be required. After removal of present protective wall from entrance, security of doorway is to be ensured in most feasible manner. Stramigioli has also prepared estimate for repair of damaged corner of Palazzo Giambalunga, but this will of necessity be a long-term job.

NORMAN E. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution:

SCAO, AMG 8 Army (2)
RC, Emilia Region (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO, Rimini (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ AC (10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (c/o AMG Fifth Army) (5)
Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Copy

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

207/9

DK/jm
18 January 1945

Subject: MFAA Report

To : SCAO AMG 5th Army.

CARDELLO IN VAL DI SENIO

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

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

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

"Wer plündert wird erschossen." (He who plunders will be shot).

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

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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e. The story of Casa Oriani is briefly this: Alfredo Oriani was a political theorist and a poet. He took much from Francesco Crispi in the moulding of his political philosophy; his notion was that Italy should devote all possible energy to the restoration of her ancient prestige of Imperial and Renaissance times. He died in 1911, and he became a Fascist solely through his posthumous adoption by Mussolini who was searching for a name, big and revered in ITALY, upon which he could hook his own theories for the future of ITALY and thereby give them added weight in the minds of the customers? A MARCIA AL CARDELLO was organized, coats of arms from all the Provinces of ITALY were sent by the Fascist

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Prefects to embellish the terrace at Casa Oriani and the Duce visited and signed the guest book "Mussolini" 26 June XVII (sic). The grave of Alfredo Oriani became the Mecca of blackshirted enthusiasts and Ugo Oriani made the arrangements.

Recommendations.

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

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

314

CASOLA VAL DI SENIO

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

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

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

d. Castle of Baffadi and Romanesque church there unharmed.

PALAZZUOLO

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

VALSENIO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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PALAZZUOLO

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

VALSENIO

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

VAL DI SENIO - General

5. Evidence of the fierceness of the battle in this area appear in all the little villages both in the valley and on the mountain sides; MARRADI, RAZZOLO, BADIA DI TUSANNA, CRESPINO, may be mentioned.

/s/ Deane Keller

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

Copy to: C/S/
HQ. Allied Commission,
(for MFAA Section)
Civil Affairs Section, AFHQ.
SCAO, XIII Corps.
R.C., Emilia Region.
MFAA Officer, 8th Army.

3109

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758026

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

MFA+A 8313
(10 COPIES)

Subject: Inspection of Monuments, FAENZA.

HEADQUARTERS
20 JAN 1945
A. C.

G/132

15 Jan 45.

TO: S.C.A.O.,
AMG EIGHTH ARMY.

1. Herewith summary report of preliminary inspections at FAENZA. Comments have been discussed with C.A.O., Major PALLOTTI.

2. GENERAL. Owing to bitter German resistance in and about FAENZA in the weeks before and after its fall, the town and its monuments have suffered severely. As the front is even now only three miles away, life is far from normal. The area remains in every sense an operational one; shortage of labour, transport, and materials is of course acute.

3. MUSEO INTERNAZIONALE DELLE CERAMICHE. One of the few highly important, world-renowned extra Museums of EUROPE. Also totally destroyed by bombing and shelling; no part of Museum building remains intact. Fortunately, building itself was of no architectural distinction. Nearby Royal School of Ceramics, in Palazzo Strocchi, was also hit by shells but can be repaired. Director of Museum and School, Dott. Gaetano BALLARDINI, founder of Museum and its head for 36 years, is actively present in FAENZA. He had removed most important materials from Museum and school to several deposits.

(a) Fondo Salita at CRIOLO (M.3417) 3168
Principally 129 cases of antique ceramics, in building on Salita Estate. Direct bomb hit and consequent fire has probably destroyed most of material remaining under debris.

(b) Villa Isola on road to MODIGLIANA, just outside FAENZA. Contained: Martini collection of ceramics (32 cases); technical library of over 5000 volumes; collection of 10,000 photographs and 3000 negatives; manuscript collection in 24 bound volumes. Building demolished by German mines; rescue material remains under debris.

(c) Convento dei Cappuccini, in outskirts of FAENZA. Books and administrative records.

(d) House No.43 at SAN ROCCO (M.3226). Books, documents, school apparatus.

(e) Ceramics at MODIGLIANA (M.3520). Books and documents.

(f) Monte di Pietà, Faenza. Records of unfinished litigation relating to estate of Giorgio Busiropoulos, the Medici plate bequeathed or lent by him to Museum was deposited with Monte di Pietà of Faenza and is presumably safeguarded in their vaults. This will be checked by Dr. Ballardini.

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3. MUSEO TERRITORIALE ZICHARIE DELLA CAMPANIA. One of the few highly important, world-renowned [illegible] totally destroyed by bombing and shelling; no part of Museum building remains intact. Fortunately, building itself was of no architectural distinction. Nearby Royal School of Ceramics, in Palazzo Carafa, was also hit by shells but can be repaired. Director of Museum and School, Dott. Gaetano FALLAMONI, founder of Museum and its head for 36 years, is actively present in FAENZA. He had removed most important materials from Museum and school to several deposits.

(a) Fondo Solitario at CARIOLO (M.3417) 3108
Principally 120 cases of antique ceramics, in building on Solito Estate. Direct bomb hit and consequent fire has probably destroyed most of material remaining under debris.

(b) Villa Isola on road to [illegible]. Just outside FAENZA. Contained: Martin collection of ceramics (52 cases); technical library of over 5000 volumes; collection of 10,000 photographs and 3000 negatives; manuscript collection in 24 bound volumes. Building demolished by German mines; [illegible] material remains under debris.

(c) Convento dei Cappuccini, in outskirts of FAENZA. Books and [illegible] archive records.

(d) House No.43 at Via ROMA (M.3226). Books, documents, school apparatus.

(e) Canonica at [illegible] (M.3920). Books and documents.

(f) Monte di Pieta, Faenza. Inventory of unfinished litigation relating to estate of George Lamparopoulos, the Medici plate bequeathed or lent by him to Museum was deposited with Monte di Pieta of Faenza and is presumably unchanged in their vaults. This will be checked by Dr. Ballardini.

(g) Museum storage. After first bombing of Museum, Director salvaged various items not previously moved, and placed them temporarily in storage on ground floor of least damaged portion of Museum, where they remain. As soon as labour is available he will remove these to school building.

(h) RECOMMENDATIONS. (1) As soon as labour and transport are available, it is urged that Dr. Ballardini be given all possible aid in recovering materials from deposits at Cariolo, Villa Isola, Convento dei Cappuccini, San Rocco, Barbiano, and from Museum itself. (2) Building of School of Ceramics should be pointed out as depository for returned materials. (3) Ballardini should be aided in placing Protected Monument posters, [illegible] supply furnished Major FALLOTTI, on remains of Museum and in all de-mits not already so posted.

A C
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION
20 GEN 1945
FILE No

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

4. BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE. Building in Via Manfredi, housing important library, several museum collections, and various valuable archives. Considerable damage from direct bomb hit, shelling, and fire. Director Prof Piero ZAMA, reported to be blocked on Borgolino, should be brought back as soon as possible and, if found politically desirable, should be put to work by Comune. Supervision now being done by energetic Mons. Giuseppe ROSSINI, honorary inspector for libraries and archives. He furnished following detailed information. About 80% of Biblioteca Comunale remains and is recoverable. Modern circulating library is buried under debris. Museo del Risorgimento and Museo Coloniale are in disorder but not otherwise damaged. Archivio Notarile (both historical and current sections) are intact although in need of moving within building to avoid leaks from roof; partisans have already aided Mons Rossini in clearing up parts of these archives. Archivio Musicale is intact, but in some disorder. Deposits of archives from MODIGLIANA and other outlying towns, moved to this building some months ago, are apparently intact.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS. As soon as labour and materials are available, Ufficio Tecnico of Comune should make at least temporary repairs of roof of Biblioteca to prevent further damage to contents by rain. Meanwhile, either Mons. Rossini or Director Zama should be given all possible aid in clearing up and re-ordering various parts of Biblioteca. Out of Bounds provision should be continued, and building permanently protected against even partial requisition for troop occupancy.

5. PINACOTECA COMUNALE. Housed in Liceo building, on upper floor only. Gallery includes small collection of antiquities. Roof and walls damaged by shellfire. Lower portion of building occupied, with consequent protection, by military storage in west end and Vigili del Fuoco in east end. Director GRIGI, injured in bombardment, is reported to be in hospital at Forli. Custode LEGA is located at nearby temporary Municipio. Some of paintings from Pinacoteca were moved, months ago, to villa outside Faenza with other cultural objects. This villa was destroyed in bombing and most of pictures lost. Remainder were later brought back to Pinacoteca.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS. Doors of Pinacoteca, on top floor, will be kept locked and will be posted Out of Bounds. These rooms should under no circumstances be requisitioned; there is no MFAA objection to continuing responsible occupation of other portions of Liceo. When materials and labour permit, temporary roof repairs should be effected by Ufficio Tecnico to avoid further damage by rain.

6. FOUNTAIN IN PIAZZA. Bomb-blast blew off part of brick protective wall at base; upper part still covered. No apparent harm to fountain itself. Adequate barrier against traffic-damage should be installed to replace broken brick wall.

7. DUOMO. Undamaged except for slight shell-holes in roof and breaking of windows. Archivio Capitolare is intact in crypt. Cathedral vestments and treasury, now in large case at Banca d'Italia in S.ANDREA (M.3429), will be brought back by order of CCG when troops are withdrawn.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS. As soon as labour and materials are available, Ufficio Tecnico of command should make at least temporary repairs of roof of Biblioteca to prevent further damage to contents by rain. Meanwhile, either Mons. Rotelli or Director Zama should be given all possible aid in clearing up and re-ordering various parts of Biblioteca. Out of Bounds provision should be continued and building permanently protected against even partial requisition for troop occupancy.

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8. PALAZZO DEL PODESTA. North end severely damaged in blasting of adjoining houses. Otherwise only slightly injured by shelling. Front and rear walls intact; some damage to colonnade on piazza. Occupied by necessary military stores.

9. PALAZZO DEL MUNICIPIO. Heavy damage to roof and ceilings throughout. Walls are generally intact. Considerable repair will have to be done before communal functioning can be resumed. Parts of building necessarily occupied by troops.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG EIGHTH ARMY.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

DISTRIBUTION:

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Major Newton. (2)

1107

COPY

EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Section

Ref: RAV/1/7 22 Dec 44
SUBJECT: The Palazzo Rasponi-Murat, Via Massimo d'Azeglio, 11 Ravenna.

TO : S.C.A.O., A.M.G., VII Army (for attention of Major Norman Newton, M.F.A. Officer).

1. Information as to the contents of the above palace, on List of Protected Monuments, No. 6, p. 38, was given me on 21:XII:44 by the owner, the Conte Spalletti Rasponi, now living at the Villa Lucciano, Quarata, Tizzana, Pistoia.

2. The following are amongst the most important items of the Collection:
(a) Pictures and Sculpture: Portrait of Joachin Murat, by Gerard
Portrait of Caroline Murat, by Gerard
Equestrian Portrait of Joachin Murat, unsigned.
Portrait of Caroline Murat, unsigned
Portrait of Pauline Borghese, by Bartou (name unidentified).
Portrait Bust of Joachin Murat, by Canova.
(b) Other Works of Art, etc: Decorations and other Relics of Murat and Bonaparte Family- Several important pieces of Empire Furniture.
(c) Library and Archives: Library of Caroline Murat.
Important Archivio of documents relatin to Murat and Bonaparte Family.

3. All the above are stored on the premises, and the entrances to the deposits walled up and concealed by being plastered over.
The furniture 2(b), the Library (in wooden packing cases) and the Archivio (c) are all in a space near the kitchen on the mezzanino, between the ground floor and the piano nobile, the entrance being masked by a cupboard with shelves filled with rubbish. The Murat Relics 2(b) are in the Appartment of the Contessa Eugenia Rasponi, who lives on the premises.

4. It is understood that the piano nobile has handsome decorations of the Empire period.

5. The Contessa Pasolini, Piazza dell'Aquila, Ravenna, knows the exact spots where the various contents of the Palazzo Rasponi is deposited and there is a custode, by name Capucci, who lives in the Palace.

/s/ Croft-Murray 3106

/t/ Edward Croft-Murray
Capt.
MFAA Officer
Emilia Region

Distribution:
Reg. Commissioner, Emilia
Prov. Commissioner, Ravenna
C.A.O., A.M.G., VIII Army, Ravenna
Town Major, Ravenna
Director, M.F.A. Sub-Comm. A.C. Rome

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 785026

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/s/ Croft-Murray 3106

/t/ Edward Croft-Murray
Capt.
MFAA Officer
Emilia Region

Distribution:
Reg. Commissioner, Emilia
Prov. Commissoner, Ravenna
C.A.O., A.M.G., VIII Army, Ravenna
Town Major, Ravenna
Director, M.F.A. Sub-Comm. A.C. Rome
Capt. Humphrey Brooke, Archives Section, Region IV, A.C.
File RAV/1/

20905/C/1/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report, Monuments of RAVENNA.

HQ AMG Eighth Army
18 December 1944
OA/132

TO: SCAO AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith report of developments relating to monuments of Ravenna, supplementing preliminary report of 6 December.

2. Organization of Work. In the absence of the Superintendent of Monuments, Corrado CAPEZZUOLI (reported to be blocked at SOLAROLO), a voluntary civilian Committee on Monuments was appointed by the Prefect to fulfil temporarily the functions of the Superintendency of Monuments in collaboration with the Genio Civile. Membership: Teodoro ORSELLI, painter and Member of Giunta Communale; Alieto BENINI, Professor of Art History and Preside del Liceo e Ginnasio; Arrigo SAVINI, Assistente alla Soprintendenza ai Monumenti. Numerous conferences have been held with the Committee and the Genio Civile to discuss emergency first-aid projects recommended to Provincial Commissioner on 13 December. Despite critical shortages of material, labor, and transport, work on these urgent repairs has been begun. It is believed that all concerned, both military and civil, understand the exceptional position of Ravenna's monuments and will concentrate on their conservation. Emergency first-aid projects are here reported in paras 3 to 15 in order of their priority.

3. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Roof to be examined and repaired where necessary; damage very light except in right aisle. Brick blocking of clerestory windows is almost completely intact; breaks will be repaired at once. Broken windows of right aisle will be temporarily closed. Repairs to sacristy and cloister will be needed later on.

4. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Despite penetration by numerous shells, only the slightest damage has occurred to mosaics, columns, and sarcofagi. Protective covering of apse still in place. Roof to be examined for leaks and repaired where necessary to prevent infiltration over mosaics; holes and broken windows to be blocked; structural stability of church and campanile to be checked and ensured. More extensive general repairs will be required in a later period.

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5. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. Roof has been checked by Savini; minor cracks are being repaired. No further action needed.

6. S. Vitale. Roof has been checked by Savini; minor cracks are being repaired. Vigili del Fuoco began pumping water out of church with auxiliary gasoline pump. No headway could be made against seepage because of high water-table created by flooded plains of region. Only immediate danger involved is from ice in case of freezing; Savini will watch for this and and break any ice that forms. When electric energy is available, undamaged pumps now in place can be operated normally. In absence of power, gasoline pump should be allocated to San Vitale, if and when possible. At 1000 liters per minute, 36 hours of pumping would be needed to empty present volume, followed by 3 to 6 hours of pumping daily to prevent refilling.

20905/c/119

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

7. S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Destroyed except for parts of walls, with a few remaining areas of fresco. Bodies still being removed from debris. Parroco says Germans had occupied church and OP in Campanile for some two months. Local people were cautioned against trampling fallen fragments of fresco. Temporary barrier is to be erected by Genio Civili and measures improvised to retain remains of fresco until such time as expert can attempt detaching them from walls.

8. S. Giovanni Evangelista. More remains than appeared on first inspection. Rear half of nave seems relatively stable. Roof of left chapel to be repaired to protect remains of Giottesque frescos; fallen fragments of fresco have been removed to Museo Nazionale; gates to chapel are now chained and locked. Broken parts of framed floor-mosaics in left aisle have been removed to Museo; others will be removed by Superintendency along with fragments of stone portal. Protective signs were placed about ruins; barbed-wire fence is to be erected, with aid of Canadians, to prevent removal of debris until it can be done with care under supervision of Superintendency of Monuments.

9. Duomo. Roof over Chapel of the Sacrament is to be repaired to protect decorations by Guido Reni. Repair of main body of church must be deferred.

10. Loggetta Lombardesca.(Loggia del Giardino). Damaged roofing to be stabilized by Genio Civile to prevent collapse; new covering over roof must come later. Fragments of stone have been gathered and stored inside building.

11. Archivio Notarile. In top floor of Palazzo Spreti. Posted Out of Bounds. Very little damage from leaks in roof. These breaks will be repaired immediately. Custode Cesare VIGNUZZI has already blocked off windows where rain might enter.

12. Biblioteca Classense. Posted Out of Bounds. Roof to be checked by Genio Civile and repaired if necessary to prevent seepage; broken windows to be blocked wherever books or Archivio are endangered.

13. S. Francesco. Roof to be checked and repaired against seepage; windows and broken front portal to be blocked; temporary roof to be built over left aisle; general stability to be ensured. Further permanent repairs will be needed later. Water is to be pumped from crypt when pumps are available.

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chapel to be repaired to protect remains of Giottesque frescos; fallen fragments of fresco have been removed to Museo Nazionale; gates to chapel are now chained and locked. Broken parts of framed floor-mosaics in left aisle have been removed to Museo; others will be removed by Superintendency along with fragments of stone portal. Protective signs were placed about ruins; barbed-wire fence is to be erected, with aid of Canadians, to prevent removal of debris until it can be done with care under supervision of Superintendency of Monuments.

9. Duomo. Roof over Chapel of the Sacrament is to be repaired to protect decorations by Guido Reni. Repair of main body of church must be deferred.

10. Loggetta Lombardesca. (Loggia del Giardino). Damaged roof-framing to be stabilized by Genio Civile to prevent collapse; new covering for roof must come later. Fragments of stone have been gathered and stored inside building.

11. Archivio Notarile. In top floor of Palazzo Spreti. Posted Out of Bounds. Very little damage from leaks in roof. Those breaks will be repaired immediately. Custode Cesare VIGNUZZI has already blocked off windows where rain might enter.

12. Biblioteca Classense. Posted Out of Bounds. Roof to be checked by Genio Civile and repaired if necessary to prevent seepage; broken windows to be blocked wherever books or Archivio are endangered.

13. S. Francesco. Roof to be checked and repaired against seepage; windows and broken front portal to be blocked; temporary roof to be built over left aisle; general stability to be ensured. Further permanent repairs will be needed later. Water is to be pumped from crypt when means are available.

14. S. Maria in Porto Città. General stability of apse and cupola to be checked and ensured; roof to be repaired where needed to prevent seepage; shell-hole in apse to be blocked to deter further damage to carved wood choir-stalls; windows to be blocked, especially lunettes over altars in left-aisle chapels. Adjoining ex-monastery will need considerable repair in later period (see also para 10).

15. Museo Nazionale. Posted Out of Bounds; broken doorways in rear toward Caserma are now blocked up. Structural stability to be ensured by Genio Civile. In time considerable permanent reconstruction will be needed, as well as systematic removal of debris to recover buried museum material.

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16. Battistero. Roof being checked by Superintendency to guarantee absence of bombs.

17. Battistero degli Ariani. Roof already checked by Superintendency and minor repairs in progress. Doorway has been blocked pending repair of broken doors. Damaged portion of adjacent wall of Casa di Drocdone may require partial removal to avoid imperiling roof of Baptistry.

18. Palazzo Comunale. Preliminary report omitted reference to damage of extreme east section and adjoining Prefettura. No immediate action needed.

19. Palazzo dell'Arcivescovado. As previously reported, this is intact with all its contents. Not posted Out of Bonds, but Town Major has agreed not to requisition. Archivio Arcivescovile, according to archivist Don Mario MAZZOTTI, is intact; some of most important items were walled up locally and will shortly be restored to normal location in Archivio.

20. Rocca Brancaleona. Hit repeatedly by bombs but not seriously damaged. No action needed.

21. Accademia di Belle Arti. Posted Out of Bounds. Custode has repaired broken windows. No further action needed.

22. Palazzo Rasponi dalle Teste. Examined with representative of Divisional HQ. Occupied by troops with no danger to mediocre interiors. Considerable damage from concussion; repairs will ultimately be needed.

23. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Approved for occupancy by responsible troops except Empire apartment, which is posted Out of Bounds at all entrances. Minor damage from concussion and from a few small-caliber hits. Collection of Murat momentoes had been removed by owners prior to occupancy by Germans. Latter are said by Custode to have taken considerable furniture of secondary value after forced agreement with owners.

24. Casa di Drocdone. Consists only of brick wall between Spirito Santo and Battistero degli Ariani. Holed and weakened by near-miss.

25. Casa Diedi. Handsome brick facade intact, Via Romolo Gessi 18. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.

26. Casa Ghigi. House completely modernized; of no monumental importance.

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25. Casa Diedi. Handsome brick facade intact, Via Romolo Gessi 18. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.

26. Casa Ghigi. House completely modernized; of no monumental importance.

27. Casa Minzoni. Facade alone of value, Via Cairoli 25. No damage. Occupancy could not involve monumental values.

28. Case Polentani. In poor repair; no occupancy problems.

29. Case Stonghellini. Only facade, at Via Paolo Costa 8, is of importance. Interiors of no value. Some damage to roof from concussion.

30. Casa Traversari. Restored building, Via San Vitale 12, occupied by private Biblioteca Reva. Locked; access not obtainable. Posted Out of Bounds.

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31. Tomb of Theodoric. Undamaged but surrounded by water owing to German flooding of lands.

32. Casa Manghini. Non-monumental house of Avv. Antonio Serena MANGHINI, at Via Roma (Corso Garibaldi) 73. Owner's apartment contains built-in fragments of Roman mosaic pavements from Palace of Theoderic and other excavations. No damage to monumental values. Apartment placed Out of Bounds, occupied by owners.

33. General Protection. Places posted Out of Bounds are so noted above. On every listed monument was placed a Protected Monument poster, reading as follows, over the name of the Army Commander : "This is a protected Monument of historical importance. It is to be respected by all Allied personnel. No part of it, its contents, or material placed to protect it, whether damaged or undamaged, is to be removed." The spirit of this poster has been meticulously observed by troops. The cooperation of the Town Major, Major Wallace King, has been notably fine. In every way the presence of Eighth Army in Ravenna has thus far been one of the brightest chapters in the experience of this MFAA Officer.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Distribution :

SCAO AMG 8 Army	(2)
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PC, Ravenna Province	(2)
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Major Newton	(2)

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C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
APO 394

13 December 1944

Subject: Rocca delle Caminate

To : Executive Officer,
Lazio-Umbria Region, AMG

Copy:to Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Sub-Commission, HQ. AC

1. On December 1 the undersigned visited the former residence of Mussolini The Castle of Rocca delle Caminate, 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. 3165

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

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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 Predappio 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.

7. The undersigned reported to the Fine Arts Officer, AMG, 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 Forli. 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 occured 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.F.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, AMG 8th Army, that the Visitors Book has been presented to the Commanding General of the Polish Corps).

9. Owing to technical reasons the Fine Arts Officer, AMG 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 AMG 8th Army, Capt. Ellis, 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 AMG 8th Army has a clearer picture of the Sub-Commission's interests in modern Archives; that being so the vital cooperation should be forthcoming when the army moves into areas where other important deposits are to be found.

/s/ T.H. Brooke,
/t/ T.H. BROOKE, Capt. K.R.R.C.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

Copies to:
SCAO AMG 8th Army
Fine Arts Officer,
AMG 8th Army
G2 (I.O.S.S.), C.M.F.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Copy

EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Section

Ref: FORL/1/13 13 Dec 44

Subject: Palazzi Albicini, Merende and Reggiani, FORLI'.

To : Major Norman Newton, Monuments and Fine Arts Officer,
AMG VIII Army.

1. With the knowledge and approval of Major Procter, Town Major, Forli, 1:XII:44 I visited, in company with Luigi Servolini, Director of the Museum at Forli, the following private palaces in that city:

a. PALAZZO ALBICINI. (Prop. Ing. Mazzoni): Corso Garibaldi, at the corner of the Piazza Ordelaffi; Ing. Mazzoni lives in another house in Forlì, but custode lives on premises; contains on first floor, handsome salone and other room, both with painted and stucco decorations on the ceilings and walls (Bolognese XVIIIth Cent.); in two other rooms were a small library (partly of old books), a few old pictures of no great importance, and on interesting set of family archives in original XVIIIth cent. carton portfolios, the matter housed in old cupboards; also on the same floor, a frescoed gallery with small chapel along side of it; the whole place in considerable disorder, and possibly some books and papers missing from the library and archivio; understand that it was occupied by a unit of the Black Watch soon after the liberation of the City; met there the custode who informed me that the best furniture and pictures had been stored in the cellars and in a large room at the back of the building, which latter I inspected; was informed later, by Town Major, that it was proposed to turn building into a hospital for Indian troops.

Action taken: Advised Custode and Ing. Mazzoni (whom I afterwards met) to remove the contents of the Library, the Archivio, and remainder of the pictures to a place of safety, which they did the following day, with the aid of Servolini's assistant. Dr. Mambelli; informed Town Major of this and recommended that the authorities of the Indian hospital should be encouraged to respect the building.

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b. PALAZZO MERENDA. (Prop. Contessa Merenda): Via Diaz; the Contessa whom I interviewed, lives in a set of rooms on the ground floor; on first floor, five rooms constituting the more important part of the interior; only saw two of these, which were occupied by three British Officers, who were out at the time so I was unable to get particulars of their unit; were obviously treating the place well, and the contessa told me that she was on good terms with them; rooms contained some old

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pictures none of any great importance, and some stucco decorations; did not see other three rooms which were locked, but was informed that they were used to store the more valuable furniture etc., according to Servolini, the most important pictures were a large series by Pompeo Battoni, which the Contessa informed me had been placed in safety.

Action taken: Informed Town Major of the above facts, and recommend that the two rooms already occupied should continued to be used as Officer's billets, and if possible, the three other rooms on the first floor reserved for storing furniture.

2. On 3:XII:44 I visited in company with Capt. Humphrey Brooke, Archives Officer, Region IV, AC, the,

PALAZZO REGGIANI (Prop. Dr. Pietro Reggiani): Corso Garibaldi 45; Dr. Reggiani, who is (incidentally) Ispettore Onorario of Museum at Forlì and whom I interviewed, lives on the premises; assured me pictures and family archives were in safety; XIVth cent. building redecorated inside in the XVIIIth and early XIXth cent., on ground floor, hand some room entirely frescoed by Antonio Basoli (said to be dated 1808), slightly damaged by shell-splinters; important Bolognese Baroque staircase with stucco statues in niches and other decorations leading to Salone entirely frescoed by Flaminio Minozzi (b. 1735; d. 1817) and signed by him; other rooms of no interest, and obviously cleared of furniture and pictures; main part of Palace occupied by Hq. of 1st Bn, KRRC, the first floor being used as the Officer's mess and sleeping quarters; saw CO, Lt. Col. Alec Williams, who was most cooperative and allowed me to see over the building which was obviously being respected by his unit; Basoli room on ground floor occupied by OR's as living quarters.

Action taken: Recommended to Sergt. of section occupying Basoli room to take every possible care against damaging frescoes; gave Town Major's assistant, Lieut. Davis, a note on the palace and a photograph of the Basoli room, recommending, if possible, that good tenants should continue to be found for it (thereby ensuring its future preservation) and that both the Basoli and Minozzi rooms should be occupied by Officers.

3. I should like to record here the help given me by the Major Proctor Town Major, Forlì, and Capt. Howell, C.A.O. in making this inspection of the above palaces.

/s/ Edward Croft-Murray

/t/ EDWARD CROFT-MURRAY, Capt
MFAA Officer
Emilia Region

Copies to:
Major Proctor, Town Major, Forlì
Prov. Commissioner, Forlì Province
Capt. Harwell, C.A.O., Forlì

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

C o p y

13 December 1944

AMG - HQs RAVENNA Province

Subject: First Aid to Monuments.

To : Provincial Commissioner, RAVENNA Province

1. It is urgently recommended that the Genio Civile be directed to proceed at once with the following emergency of first aid to Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives, with a view to preventing further damage from the elements. It is understood that the Genio Civile shall in all cases collaborate with the Civilian Committee on Monuments appointed by you for this express purpose. As closely as possible the items are here listed in order or priority:

a. - S. Apollinare Nuovo. Examine roofs of central and side naves, repairing as needed to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls and roofs; close with emergency materials all broken window opening above mosaics.

b. - S. Apollinare in Classe. Examine, and repair as needed, roof of apse and east end of nave, to prevent seepage of water over mosaics; examine and ensure stability of walls of campanile and church including erection of temporaty bracing in wall where broken between windows; block window opening.

c. - Mausoleo di Galla Placidia and Church of San Vitale. Examine roofs for breaks in tiles and repair as needed to prevent over mosaics; block broken window opening.

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d. - S. Maria in Porto Fuori. Erect temporary barrier to prevent unauthorized access to ruins; protect and save remaining fragments of frescoes from further destruction by elements.

e. - S. Giovanni Evangelista. Repair roof over frescoed left chapel and treat plaster surface to save, if possible, remaining fragments of fresco.

f. - Duomo. Repair roof over Cappella del Sacramento and treat ceiling, if necessary, to save paintings by Guido Reni.

g. - Loggetta Lombardesca. Repair or stabilize trusses of roof to prevent collapse; new cover for roof as if sedondary priority.

h. - Palazzo Spreti (Archivio Notarile). Repair roof to prevent seepage of rain into rooms of Archivio Notarile on top floor.

i. - Biblioteca Classense. Examine roof and repair if needed to prevent seepage into library, block window openings against rain

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wherever books are endangered.

i. - S. Francesco. Examine roof and repair as needed to prevent seepage; determine stability of walls; replace broken front door with emergency blocking; construct temporary roof over left aisle; block window openings.

K. - S. Maria in Porto Città. Examine and repair roof to prevent seepage; examine vaults of apse and cupola for stability; block shell hole and window openings, especially lunettes in chapelsof left aisle.

l. - Museo Nazionale. In consultation with Sig. Savini, of the Soprintendenza examine cloister for structural safety and apply bracing if required beyond what is now in place.

2. It is believed that the measures listed above will take care of emergencies now confronting the monuments of Ravenna. For further repairs of a more permanent nature, the Genio Civile and or the Superintendency should prepare detailed advance estimates, with appropriate requests for extraordinary funds. Such projects will of necessity be deferred until more nearly normal conditions prevail.

3. If in the meantime, during absence of the MFAA Officer, any truly emergent situation should arise, it is recommended that every consideration be given to the advice of the Civilian Committee on Monuments, followed by such action as the urgency of the curcumstances may warrant.

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/s/ Norman T. Newton

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

Copies to:
SCAO, AMG 8 Army
SubC MFAA, HQ AC.
CAO RAVENNA ,
Committee on Monuments, Ravenna
File, MFAA Officer.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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

12 December 1944

Subject: Inspection of Archives and Libraries in Emilia and Marche.

To : Executive Officer, Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

Copy to: Director, Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Subcommission, A.G.

1. FORLI' (Visited December 1, 3 and 7)
Archivio di Stato.
A recently formed 'sezione' containing the Archives of the Comune and situated in the Palazzo dei Musei. The same building contains the Communal Library and Picture Gallery, all under the Direction of Professor Servolini. The best of the Archives and a large proportion of the books (about 15,000 volumes) were moved to the Chiesa Nuova, Vecchiazzano, about 3 km. from Forli'. The Museum and its remaining contents are intact.

2. The Chiesa Nuova has been damaged by shell fire and though its contents have not as yet suffered they are in a precarious condition. There is a hole in the roof and a side wall and all the windows are blown out. There is a good custode in charge and 'out of bounds' signs had been posted. The Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G. 8th Army, wrote at once to the Provincial Commissioner Forli' and the Genio Civile have been told to take immediate steps to make the building weather proof.

3. Servolini has secured the use of a truck from the Comune and will gradually bring back the contents of the church, but this will be a long job. Meanwhile attempts to requisition the Library for billeting purposes are being resisted through the C.A.O. Forli' (Capt. Harwell) and the Town Major.

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4. Archivio Notarile. In Via Maroncelli. The repository has been occupied by the 142 Regt. R.A.C. but most of the documents have been stored separately under the supervision of the staff and no damage by the troops was noted. The 2nd I/C of the Regt. (Major Fox) and the Adjutant were very cooperative and undertook to see that every precaution would be taken not to disturb the contents. The 8th Army notice warning against damage or removal was posted on the building.

5. The undersigned reported to the Fine Arts Officer A.M.G. 8th Army and at his request took the matter up with the C.A.O., Forli'. He recommended that as soon as the present emergency may permit the building should be cleared of troops and that in the meantime any subsequent unit occupying the place should be warned by the Town Major of their responsibility for the safety of the Archives: the civilian staff should also have access to the documents if necessary.

20905/C/1/9 6. RIMINI (December, 2)

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The Gambalunga Library, l'Archivio Storico Comunale and the Archivio Notarile are all housed in one building and are safe. Reports of the Fine Arts Officer, A.M.G. 8th Army, cover the repair work already effected at his instigation and of the occupation of a part of the premises by the civilian Post Office. One room of the Library contains books that are still damp and mildewed: prompt attention would preserve these from serious damage.

7. CESENA (December 3)
Minor repairs have already been effectued to the building containing the magnificent Biblioteca Malatestiana. A temporary home has been found here for the Archivio Storico Comunale which was in adjacent building damaged by bombs.

8. PESARO (December 4)
Notarial Archives in Via Barignani intact.

9. Cathedral Archives, reported by Bishop's secretary to be intact.

10. Biblioteca Oliveriana and Archivio Comunale are housed in the Palazzo Almerici, Via Mazza. Minor repairs have already been effected and in the absence of the Director a Commissario has been appointed, Professor Bonini. He is 81 years old but most active and intelligent and the work of drying out damaged books is well in hand. He reported that he had not been able to visit any of the 'depositi' and doubted whether the Fine Arts Officer knew of the whereabouts of these.

11. The custody of this important Library and of the large collection of the Archives which includes an extensive series of local records the 'Archivio Metaurense della Provincia' is obviously too large a task for one man and a female assistant. A solution might be the creation of a new 'sezione' of the Archivio di Stato, with a Director of its own, to include the Communal Archives and the Notarial Archives. This plan was recently under consideration by the Ministry of Interior but is a matter for local authorities and the Commissario for State Archives to decide. Professor Bonini appeared to favour the idea and thought that there would be adequate accomodation in the Plazzo Almerici. (see also Report of Fine Arts Officer, Region 5, dated 13 November 44).

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12. FANO (December 4)
In the absence of the Director it was impossible to inspect the Federiciana Library and the Archivio Comunale, but Count Borgoselli who is the local authority on all such matters stated that everything was in good order. The loss to Archives is confined to those of the Cathedral which as previously reported by the Fine Arts Officer, 8th Army, are under the Compenile demolished by the Germans.

13. RAVENNA (December 6)
Archivio Comunale and Biblioteca Classense.
The building has suffered minor bomb damage but the contents are safe. A small number of the Incunabule (about 60 out of over 700) were sent to Veneto, but the remainder are walled up in the premises. The Archives and Manuscripts are said to be all 'in situ'. The Director died recently but several members of the staff were on duty.

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14. Archivio Notarile. On the top floor of the undamaged Palazzo Spreti. Some of the documents were moved to Fusignano, Via Romana 9, and the Director is with them. This place is still in German occupation. A report on this has been made to the Fine Arts Officer 8th Army and he has also been asked to protect the premises of the Archivio from requisition.

15. Cathedral Archives. The Archbishop's Archivist could not be found but a priest reported that both the 'Archivio Arcivescovile' and 'Archivio Capitolare' were safe: the best of them walled up in a basement.

/s/ T.H. Brooke, Capt.

/t/ T.H. BROOKE, Capt. R.A.M.C.
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report.
Deposits and Archives, FORLI.

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

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith supplemental report on deposits and archives of Forli, following up comments of 16 November.

2. Deposit at VECCHIAZZANO. In the Chiesa Nuova of Vecchiazzano is stored the cream of the Biblioteca Comunale of Forli (15,000 - 20,000 volumes), all evacuated archives from the Archivio Storico, and a considerable amount of shelving, book-cases, etc. The church has lost its windows and has two shell holes. To prevent damage by rain, Provincial Commissioner of Forli has been asked to have Genio Civile install temporary protection over all openings.

3. Deposit at SAN GIORGIO. In unharmed house of Parroco are about a dozen intact uncrated pictures from Pinacoteca Comunale and churches of Forli. The Parroco, Don Carlo ZOLI, says Germans were persuaded with some difficulty not to mine and blow campanile. After first saying they would remove all paintings, Germans finally took away on 28 October 1944 four of the smaller ones : Presepio by Federico Tedesco; Ritratto di Donna attributed to Lorenzo di Credi; Cesare Borgia by Venetian School; Donna col Liuto by Romagnole School. Receipt, signed by Lt DROESCHER(?) was left, dated 30 October. Receipt, in German, says paintings are being "removed to beyond Brenner Pass for return to Italian Government." Residing in Parish to supervise this deposit and that at Pieve Acquedotto is Antonio MANDELLI, of staff of Forli Pinacoteca. During summer of 1944, according to Parroco, authorities from Superintendency of Bologna removed (he believes to Veneto) one frame containing two paintings by Beato Angelico.

4. Deposit at PIEVE ACQUEDOTTO. In slightly shelled house of Parroco are numerous unharmed paintings (only a few crated) from Forli. Arciprete Don Attilio FUSCONI says he believes no paintings are missing but cannot be certain until MANDELLI completes inventory, as house was occupied by troops three days during battle. Adjoining church of Pieve Acquedotto, highly interesting although much restored, has suffered from shelling. When material and labor are available, it should be repaired, but there is no immediate danger of serious damage from rain.

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is stored the stock of the Biblioteca Comunale of Forli (15,000 - 20,000 volumes), all evacuated archives from the Archivio Storico, and a considerable amount of shelving, book-cases, etc. The church has lost its windows and has two shell holes. To prevent damage by rain, Provincial Commissioner of Forli has been asked to have Genio Civile install temporary protection over all openings.

3. Deposit at SAN GIORGIO. In unharmed house of Parroco are about a dozen intact unharmed pictures from Pinacoteca Comunale and churches of Forli. The Parroco, Don Carlo ZOLI, says Germans were persuaded with some difficulty not to mine and blow campanile. After first saying they would remove all paintings, Germans finally took away on 28 October 1944 four of the smaller ones : Presepio by Federico Tedesco; Ritratto di Donna attributed to Lorenzo di Credi; Cesare Borgia by Venetian School; Donna col Liuto by Romagnol School. Receipt, signed by Lt DROESCHER(?) was left, dated 30 October. Receipt, in German, says paintings are being "removed to beyond Brenner Pass for return to Italian Government." Residing in Parish to supervise this deposit and that at Pieve Acquedotto is Antonio MANDELLI, of staff of Forli Pinacoteca. During summer of 1944, according to Parroco, authorities from Superintendency of Bologna removed (he believes to Veneto) one frame containing two paintings by Beato Angelico.

4. Deposit at PIEVE ACQUEDOTTO. In slightly shelled house of Parroco are numerous unharmed paintings (only a few crated) from Forli. Arciprete Don Attilio FUSCONI says he believes no paintings are missing but cannot be certain until MANDELLI completes inventory, as house was occupied by troops three days during battle. Adjoining church of Pieve Acquedotto, highly interesting although much restored, has suffered from shelling. When material and labor are available, it should be repaired, but there is no immediate danger of serious damage from rain. 3099

5. Palazzo delle Raccolte Cittadine. Also variously known as Forli Pinacoteca, Biblioteca Comunale, and Museo Civico, since it houses all of these (see para 15, report of 16 Nov). Director Luigi SERVOLINI has returned, has assumed charge, and plans to systematize collections as early as possible, using communal transport to bring in paintings from deposits. Despite CAO's posted reservation against occupancy by troops, Town Major appears to have understood that approval had been given for quartering a Bath Unit. As previously reported, objection can hardly be raised against commune's continued emergency use of part of this communal property for hospital purposes. But occupation by billeted troops would seriously jeopardize safety of contents and desired restoration of galleries to normal educational use. As long as other accommodations are available in Forli, Palazzo delle Raccolte should most emphatically not be used for quartering troops. Position is to be discussed to-day at

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Forli with CAO, Capt Harwell, by Capt Brooke and Capt Croft-Murray.

6. Archivio Notarile. Building in Via Maroncelli, at present occupied by a British unit, whose 2nd i/c (Major Fox) and Adjutant expressed to Capt Brooke, Archives Officer, every willingness to cooperate in protecting these important documents. Attitude of troops is entirely proper; no evidence of damage. Bulk of documents is stored separately in a portion now boarded off. Protective notice is posted. Any subsequent units quartered here should be warned against disturbing the documents, which are important not only historically but also for current administration of commune. As soon as present emergency permits, the building should be permanently freed from all requisition. Responsible Italian officials should have right of access now.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to:

RC, Region Emilia (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO, Forli (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ AC (10)
MFAA Officer, Region Emilia (c/o PC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Inspection of Monuments, RAVENNA.

HQ ANG Eighth Army,
6 December 1944.
OI/132

TO : SCAO, ANG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of preliminary inspection of monuments and archives of Ravenna, made today by MFAA Officer and Capt Brooke, Archives Officer from HQ AC.

2. General. Although Ravenna has suffered from bombing and shelling, none of the mosaics appear to have been injured and total damage to important monuments is remarkably light. Germans did less widespread demolition than usual, but left mines and booby-traps that were being cleared today. No evidence has been seen of looting or damage by troops.

3. Cathedral. Direct bomb-hit in centre of nave; roof badly damaged; interior marred by fragments. Moderne chapel, with painting by Guido Reni, is undamaged. Stone pulpit in nave is slightly pitted but in no danger.

4. Battistero. Damaged; struck by one shell, which did not penetrate. Mosaics uncovered but intact.

5. S. Agata Maggiore. Roof of apse slightly damaged months ago and now repaired. Otherwise unharmed.

6. S. Apollinare Nuovo. Scaffolding reported removed from mosaics some time ago to lessen fire danger; windows still bricked and arch-supports in place. Near-miss shook plaster from ceiling of right aisle. No damage to mosaics; entire interior appears quite intact.

7. S. Apollinare in Classe Fuori. Only exterior examined; mines still to be cleared from approaches. Several shell holes in roofs of nave and aisles. Superintendency of Monuments reports all interior scaffolding and protection was left in place. Campanile struck several times but in no apparent danger.

8. Battistero degli Ariani. Still in its protective covering and without signs of damage. Could not be entered.

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8. Battistero degli Arieni. Still in its protective covering and without signs of damage. Could not be entered.

9. S. Francesco. One hit in roof of left aisle, without appreciable damage to interior. One hit (apparently bomb) in each of two cloisters of former monastery; not serious.

10. S. Giovanni Evangelista. Destroyed except for part of apse, pointed-arch portal, and campanile. Giotto frescoes are gone.

11. S. Maria in Porto. No damage in forward portion. Bombs in rear badly damaged Loggia del Giardino of former monastery.

12. S. Maria in Port Fuori. Could not be reached on this inspection. Local reports declare it virtually destroyed.

13. Mausoleo di Galla Placidia. No damage. Mosaics uncovered but intact.

14. Spirito Santo. Left aisle, reportedly a later addition, almost completely destroyed. No other damage either apparent or reported locally.

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15. S. Vitale. Intact, but sunken floor is covered by a foot of water, owing to lack of electric power for pumps that normally keep out underground water. There is no water around exterior of church. Mosaics uncovered but intact.

16. Palazzo Comunale. Undamaged; in use by AMG and municipal offices.

17. Palazzo dell'Arcivescovado. Undamaged. Local clergy say Archivio Vescovile and Musee del Duomo are intact.

18. Seminario Arcivescile. Undamaged.

19. Rocca Brancaleone. To be inspected later.

20. Museo Nazionale d'Antichità. Bomb hit in cloister has caused undetermined amount of damage. No other harm evident or reported by custode who is on duty. Director (absent; see para 31) is Superintendent CAPEZZUOLI.

21. Accademia delle Belle Arti. Bomb in cloister of adjoining Biblioteca (see para 22) damaged Mosaic Laboratory and some modern mosaics being worked upon therein. No other damage. Most of material from Pinacoteca is safe in vaults of building. Material formerly stored in Villa La Monaldina at RONCALCECI was brought back some months ago. At S. ALBERTO (probably [illegible]) are seven cases : two in house of Parroco and five in Municipio. All of above is reported by Custode and Vice-secretary, Attilio BUFFA, who is in residence. Director Ettore BOCCHINI is said to be blocked at Fusignano behind German lines.

22. Biblioteca Classense. Bomb hits in street and in cloister caused no damage to Biblioteca. Almost all material of library securely stored in vaults of building or in place. A few important volumes were transferred months ago to a deposit in the Veneto; precise data will be obtained. Archivio Comunale, housed with library, is intact in place. Above information is from one of staff, Lorenzo MINGHETTI. Former Director died recently; new appointment has not been made.

23. Archivio Notarile. In top floor of Palazzo Spreti. No damage; archives appear intact. Lower floors now used by Italian Patriots, without harm to Archivio. Director of Archivio is reported to have with him at FUSIGNANO (Via Romana 9) a small number of most important archives.

24. Palazzo Rasponi dalle Teste. Near miss in piazza jarred some applied ornament from facade. No damage except shaking by concussion.

25. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Closed. No damage except possible jarring by concussion.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 785026

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25. Palazzo Rasponi Murat. Closed. No damage except possible jarring by concussion.

26. Calchi. The so-called "Palace of Theoderic". No damage to structure on street. Excavation space to east has numerous bomb hits.

27. Tomb of Theodoric. Could not be reached today; local reports state Tomb is intact.

28. Tomb of Dante. Unharmed. Protective brick walls still in place.

29. Tomb of Braccioforte. No damage; superstructure and tombs intact.

30. Venetian Columns. Intact in Piazza; protective brick covering of bases is still in place.

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31. Superintendency of Monuments. Superintendent CARREZZUOLI is reported to be blocked behind German lines. Exact location and reason for leaving are not now determinable. His assistant, Arrigo SAVINI, is on duty, together with uniformed custode of Museo Nazionale (see para 20). Superintendent is said to be also Director of Museum. Savini states quarters of Superintendency are uninjured.

32. RECOMMENDATIONS. Detailed recommendations for priority of emergency repairs will be made after resumed survey. Problem of possible harm from troop occupation does not appear serious; full recommendations will follow detailed survey. The following premises should certainly be permanently reserved against any requisition except in case of the most urgent and compelling necessity : Museo Nazionale di Antichità and offices of Superintendency of Monuments; Biblioteca Classense; Accademia delle Belle Arti; Arcivescovado; Seminario; Archivio Notarile (top floor of Palazzo Spreti).

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to :

RC, Region Emilia (2)
PC, Ravenna Province (2)
AMG LO Can Corps (2)
CAO Ravenna (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ AC (10)
MFAA Officer, Region Emilia (c/o PC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

3034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject: Inspection of Monuments: DOVADOLA, CASTROCARO, TERRA DEL SOLE.

CA/132

1 Dec 44.

To: S.C.A.O.
A.M.G. Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of inspections made yesterday by Capt. Croft-Murray, of Region Emilia, at DOVADOLA, CASTROCARO and TERRA DEL SOLE.

DOVADOLA.

2. S. Andrea.

Romanesque church, remodelled in 16th Century; baroque alters and monuments within. Slight damage to roof of W end is being repaired by Sig BIANC, on whose property church stands. Parish registers and vestments in Sacristy are intact. Polish troops occupy attached farm buildings (former monastery) of no monumental value. No action required.

3. Rocca Sforzesca.

Interesting ruin above town. No damage.

CASTROCARO.

4. Ss. Francesco e Niccolo.

This and other churches were visited with Don Luigi SUBERGA, Capellano to Arciprete. Undamaged 17th century church of no monumental interest in itself. Stone pulpit, Palmezzano altarpiece, and other paintings are intact.

5. S. Niccolo.

Small 13th century building; remodeled 17th century interior, with remains of 14th century frescoes on west wall. Roof tiles loose above frescoes, with consequent possible damage from rain. Church is repository for furniture from bombed house of Signora Irene VESPIGNANI. She was advised to cover frescoes with available articles of furniture. She will have roof tiles replaced by local workmen as soon as possible.

6. Baptistry.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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6. Baptistry.

Undamaged circular structure of some interest. Contains intact early font in form of sarcophagus.

3093

7. Castello.

Imposing ruin above town; no damage. Resident custode conducts visitors.

TERR. DEL SOLE.

8. Palazzo Pretorio.

Handsome brick cortile undamaged; no other monumental value. Occupied without harm by British troops.

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9. Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo, and Palazzo del Capitano dell'Artiglieria.

Only facades on Piazza are of architectural interest. No damage. Interiors occupied without harm by troops.

10. Dogana.

Small 16th century brick Rocche, part of original town fortifications. Some damage to roofs by shellfire. Interiors, occupied by troops, are of no monumental value. No immediate action required.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, A.M.G. EIGHTH ARMY.

DISTRIBUCTION:

S.C.A.O., A.M.G. Main Eighth Army (1)
R.C. Emilia Region (2)
P.C. Forli Province (2)
C.A.O. Castrocaro (2)
C.A.O. Dovadola (2)
Sub-Comm. MFAA, H.Q. A.C. (10)
MFAA Offr, Emilia Region (c/o P.C. Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

COPY

EMILIA REGION
Monuments and Fine Arts Section

24 November 1944

Subject: Report on CASTEL DEL RIO and OSTA (Bol.)

To : Capt. Deane Keller, MFA&A Officer, V Army AMG

1. On 22:XI:44 I visited Castel del Rio (Map Ref. M. 0117), and contacted there the temporary C.A.O. Capt. CAWTHORNE (of Firenzuola) who was doing duty for Major BURBURY.

2. He introduced me to the Secretary of the Comune, Angelo GUZZONI, with-whom I visited the following monuments of CASTEL DEL RIO:-

(a) - Castello degli Alidosi. Until recently the Municipio: was assured that it was undamaged except for one or two small holes in the roof; only monumental part, besides important exterior, is good Renaissance Cortile with arcading and decoration carved niches; unit of Irish Rifles now quartered there.

(b) - Archivio Comunale. Housed in two rooms on first floor of Castello; Major Burbury gave orders to Sindaco and Segretario to remove material, for safety, to temporary Municipio, on left of Parish Church, and provided truck for purpose; Segretario was able to move what he considered to be the older and more important material and placed it in parish church in the first bay on the left of nave, which he considered to be safer that the temporary Municipio; remainder of Archives, including some XVIIIth century documents and the whole of the more recent material still in place but officers and O.Rs. of the occupying unit using the rooms as sleeping quarters; spoke to the C.O. who promised that, as long as his unit was there, the material would be respected; later met Capt. EVANS, Divisional Liaison Officer with AMG, who has been working with Major Burbury, and who explained to me that it had been necessary to discontinue the removal of archives by touck, as this interfered with military traffic at Castello; Capt. Evans also said that Major Burbury ordered, Sindaco to continue work with handcart, but Segretario did not tell me this when we visited Castello together; Capt. Evans assured me that when he visited Castel del Rio on 23:XI:44 he would urge the Sindaco to continue the removal of archives until completed. 1092

(c) - Parish Church. Of slight monumental importance: provincial XVIIIth cent. stucco work over two altars and picture

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of Virgin and Child by Lorenzo Suzzi (dated 1700); holes in roof of Apse and Naves, but no tiles off; interior in some disorders as mentioned in (b), part of Archivio Comunale deposited in first bay of left hand side; no means of closing church door; but "Out of Bounds" except for religious Services" notice put up to right of it; troops occupying Priest's house including room where Parish Registers are kept (according to Segretario).

Recommendation. That the Parish Registers be removed temporarily into the Church.

3. The following Monuments at OSTA were also visited:-

Ponte degli Alidosi: Fine XVth cent. "Devil's Bridge", (single arch) almost intact, except for part of parapet, which has been knocked into river; is used probably by military traffic.

Recommendation. The perhaps some notice be put at either end of bridge requesting drivers to take expecial care, though (it must be admitted) the very structure of the bridge itself, not to speak of the approach precludes any furious driving over it. It might also be advisable to limit the bridge to smaller traffic as the road across is very narrow: this would prevent any damage being done to the parapet.

(d) Parish Church of Osta. Of no monumental interest, though described in Touring Club Guide as Chiesa artistica; parish priest dead said perhaps to have been shot by the Germans; church occasionally visited by Arciprete of Castel del Rio; contents of Sacristy in some disorder; number of vestments (none very old, but some of good materials) and carved gilt candlesticks in open cupboard; some books including part of Parish Registers in another open cupboard; most important objects, a XIVth cent. bronze thurible, and an XVIIIth cent. copper-gilt monstrance, already moved to safety by Annunciata ROPA (who lives in cottage to right of Church); recommended to this woman that the should remove all remain in contents of Sacristy to her house and keep it undercover for the present; unit of Rifle Brigade occupying the entire premises including the Church itself; spoke to Lieut. Jones of this Unit, who wa most cooperative, regretting the necessity of occupying the Church and assuring me that his men would treat the building and its contents with respect.

Action taken: Informed Capt. Evans of circumstances, and he said he would send over a maresciallo of Carabinieri on 23:XI:44 to see that Annunciata Rona removed all the material to safety, Capt. Evans also suggested putting the Church out-of-bounds temporarily, after the present unit had moved out.

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Recommendation. That the Arciprete of Castel del Rio be take care asked to remove and take care of the more important objects and Parish Registers of this church, until such time as a new priest can be appointed and can live on the premises.

4. I should like to record here the prompt action and interest taken by Major Burbury in dealing with contents of the Archivio Comunale, the cooperation of Capt. Evans in ensuring continued safety of both it and the material belonging to the Parish Church of Osta, and the help afforded me during my visit Capt. Cawtorne.

/s/ Edward Croft-Murray

/t/ Edward CROFT-MURRAY
Capt.
MFA&A Officer, Emilia Region.

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

207/9

21 November 1944

Subject: MFAA - Montovolo, Riola, Lizzano in Belvedere, Volterra and Sitrep.

To : SCAO, AMG 5th Army.

GENERAL.

1. The situation north of Porretta on Route 64 is still indecisive as far as MFAA reports are concerned inasmuch as roads and other points are under direct observation of the enemy. Two rounds were fired at undersigned's jeep at a point northeast of Silla. Information at RIOLA indicates a number of rounds come in every day. Smoke pots are planted through Reno River Valley.

LIZZANO IN BELVEDERE.

2. Undersigned was unable to reach this place; bridges out and machinegun fire was heard. From reports of local inhabitants the church and Campanile are intact. From observation all along Route 64 undersigned believes that Germans have ceased blowing campanili, as they have done on the Pisan Plain.

MONTOVOLO.

3. a. Chapel of S. Catering is intact. This is a very small oratorio.

b. Pilgrimage Chapel - not seen. Said, by Custodian of Palazzo Mattei, Riola, to be intact. Parish priest at Vimignano also reports that a canvas and a statue from the Chapel have been stored carefully in an oratorio a kilometer or so down the mountain to the east. This place is called gli Sterpi. Since October 6th 1944 when the Germans left, 20 - 30 shells a day have been falling in the Reno Valley and adjoining mountain sides in the vicinity of this Sanctuary.

RIOLA

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RIOLA

4. Palazzo Mattei. Was an ancient castle of time of Ferdinand II a Rocca. In 1850 it was partially rebuilt and later in 1906 rebuilt some more in a crazy conglomeration of Moorish and Byzantine styles. Musch of the old castle remains, emerging from its moorish vestments like the granite substratum of New England from its covering of bush, grass and flowers. The towers were used as OPs by Germans and are now useful in the same way to Allied Forces. Ten shell hits on the Palace and much sacking by Germans are reported. Allied troops occupying parts of Castle do no great harm. The two most famous visits to the place in modern times were made by the present Lieutenant General of the Realm and by Pius IX who

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spent the night here. The present owner, Countess Giannina Mattei - Venturelli, is believed to be in Bologna.

VOLTERRA.

5. a. Major Robinson (B), P.O. Volterra, very kindly communicated with undersigned 3 Nov '44 about the Guarnacci Museum and the Pinacoteca in Palazzo dei Priori. The need is glass or oil paper covering for many broken windows. Undersigned visited Volterra and with Major Robinson found that the heavy rains and constant fog in the city had penetrated and left the Museum very wet and damp. The Etruscan tombs in alabaster and marble will not suffer, but there will be damage to books, wooden objects and textile stuff. Recommendations for window covering had been made in July by undersigned, along with a suggestion that a younger man replace Fantozzi who seemed too old to initiate the proper measures. This has turned out to be correct in fact. The Genio Civile took measurements; 100 sq. meters of glass or oilpaper are needed to cover the windows here and at the Pinacoteca. The open roof and windows on the top floor where the library is, have been bricked up and are in good shape. Since oiled paper is not a blocked material it is hoped that it may be obtained soon and put in place.

b. The windows of the Pinacoteca are badly boarded up. Rain comes in and the ceiling looks leaky. The Genio Civile will examine the roof and the windows will be covered soon it is hoped. The pictures have suffered since July. Part of the bad job of retouching on the Ghirlandaio "Christ the Redeemer" has fallen off, as have bits on the Signorelli works and a couple of Sienese things. Further damage observed consists in opening of cracks in certain pictures, warping of panels and frames. If the room can not be made weather-proof soon the whole collection should be moved. Major Robinson had had this notion mind before undersigned's visit. Interest of this kind on the part of a P.O. is much appreciated by MFAA Section.

3085

SITREP.

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signed, along with a suggestion that a younger man replace Pantozzi who seemed too old to initiate the proper measures. This has turned out to be correct in fact. The Genio Civile took measurements; 100 sq. meters of glass or oilpaper are needed to cover the windows here and at the Pinacoteca. The open roof and windows on the top floor where the library is, have been bricked up and are in good shape. Since oiled paper is not a blocked material it is hoped that it may be obtained soon and put in place.

b. The windows of the Pinacoteca are badly boarded up. Rain comes in and the ceiling looks leaky. The Genio Civile will examine the roof and the windows will be covered soon it is hoped. The pictures have suffered since July. Part of the bad job of retouching on the Ghirlandaio "Christ the Redeemer" has fallen off, as have bits on the Signorelli works and a couple of Sienese things. Further damage observed consists in opening of cracks in certain pictures, warping of panels and frames. If the room can not be made weather-proof soon the whole collection should be moved. Major Robinson had had this notion mind before undersigned's visit. Interest of this kind on the part of a P.O. is much appreciated by MFAA Section.

3085

SITREP.

6. a. Capt. Pinsent, MFAA Emilia, will visit Castel del Rio and get low-down on occupation of old Municipio there by 78th Div. The only possible harm will come from loss or damage to valuable Archives. Monte di Formiche remains as of the present date the only unvisited place in Protected Monuments No. 6 Booklet, but it is too hot at the moment and a visit would be useless.

b. Capt. Pinsent will help MFAA Officer Tuscany until the arrival of Capt. Enthoven.

c. MFAA Officer, Tuscany reported to undersigned that towards end of July two German trucks with trailers arrived at Marano S. Panaro, south of Modena, with unboxed pictures from a deposit now in Allied hands. Many frames were damaged in transit. A ball was held there by the Germans and 2 Titians were part of

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the decors. The place was too small to house all the pictures and some were left in the portico outside. As from the deposit at Guiglia, it is supposed that the pictures were again removed from this place. This report comes from a partisan who crossed the lines recently and came to MFAA, Tuscany office with the information. Pictures are from the Uffizi and Pitti Galleries in Florence.

d. Supt. (pro-tem) Sanpaolesi. More information of his Fascist and pro-German activities has come to notice of MFAA Officers. Undersigned will go to Pisa for a week or so, and the first item will be a thorough screening of this man by C.I.C. If he is a bad egg he will be removed immediately. The candidate to succeed him is Carli, at present working, with Niccoli, Superintendent in Siena. Undersigned will occupy himself with MFAA matters in Livorno, Lucca, Pistoia and Pisa.

e. Minister De Ruggiero was badly instructed on his recent visit to Florence. Although news of a visit to Capt. Noe, Education Officer, Tuscany, was printed in a Florentine paper, along with an interview with Superintendents Poggi and Rossi, it was with difficulty that MFAA Officer Tuscany finally met him. He did not visit AMG 5th Army Headquarters. There were many things that undersigned could have told him for the benefit of MFAA section in the Italian Government. The first visit in an Army Area by an important member of the Italian Government should be made to those officers in the Army in whose hands the Government therein lies. It is to be hopes that visits in the future will be better thought out by those responsible.

f. Lt. Giustiniani, AMG 5th Army, in command of Motor Pool will handle matter pertaining to jeep loaned to the undersigned by Allied Commission.

/s/ Deane Keller, 3984

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

Copy to: Chief of Staff,
Director MFAA Section,
HQ Allied Commission.
P.C., Bologna Province.
P.C., Pisa Province (attn. P.C. Volterra).
P.C., Florence Province (attn. Lt. Hartt).

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SUBJECT:- Further Supplementary Report, Monuments of RIMINI and CESENA.

HQ AMG Eighth Army,
19 November 1944

TO: SCAC, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary of developments relating to monuments of Rimini and Cesena, supplementing reports of 11 October and 1 November, respectively.

RIMINI

2. Visit of Prof Levagnini. As Inspector for Direzione Generale delle Belle Arti, Prof Emilio LAVAGNINO was enabled to work at Rimini from 8 - 14 November, checking monuments and works of art. He will submit a separate report to his superiors and to Subcommission on MFAA, HQ AC. He seemed to find damage and loss at Rimini much less than Italian reports had indicated, and had no requests to make for steps beyond what had already been done.

3. Protection of Materials. The Royal Engineers have been requested, at Army level, to prevent removal of materials from Arco d'Augusto and Tempio Malatestiano.

4. Tempio Malatestiano. Examination by Ingeniere Comunale has established that structural stability of walls of Tempio is sufficient to await the major reconstruction that may be desired by Italian Government at a later date. In the meantime, temporary roofing would accomplish no commensurate protection and might indeed endanger stability of walls. MFAA officer wishes to emphasize again his belief that ultimate restoration of this monument is an operation of such magnitude as to require decision and supervision by Italian authorities from Rome.

5. Biblioteca Gambalunga. Repairs to roof over library have been completed by Ingeniere Comunale. Authority was granted for use of portion of ground floor by Post Office, with armed guard constantly on duty. Vice-director Dino RAVAIOLI has begun work of reordering library.

6. Deposits. It has been determined that Dr Carlo LUCCHESI last May removed from Madonna delle Grazie the important items previously stored there, and took them with him to the village of Torricella, near Marcattino Mercatale. He still has them there in undamaged safety. Illness for the present prevents him from returning. Less valuable items have been retained by Prof Ravaioli (see para 5) and are being held in safety at the Biblioteca Gambalunga.

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CESENA

7. Biblioteca Malatestiana. Roof damage has been completely repaired, and C.C Major Mitson-Harris has given commendable aid to Director VANTAGGI, under whose supervision the stored material of Libraries and Archivio Storico is being brought back from Madonna del Monte. Custode SBARAGLI continues his excellent work in residence.

8. Madonna del Monte. In the light of tentative estimates submitted through CAO, Madonna del Monte was again inspected 19 November by MFAA officer and by Capt Croft-Murray of Emilia Region. In conference with Major Mitson-Harris, the following was agreed upon :

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(a) Church proper is sole element of any monumental importance. Repairs to remainder of monastery buildings is not within scope of MFAA. Cement has already been made available for repair of holes in cupola to protect Masini frescoes. Careful examination by Ingeniere TELLARINI has determined no practicable way, within availability of materials, to give further temporary protection to band of Longhi frescoes high on three sides of nave. Complete rebuilding of damaged roof would accomplish this, but such an operation is neither justified nor possible at this time. Longhi frescoes are not in serious jeopardy.

(b) Ingeniere Tellarini will first exhaust existing possibilities to determine availability of two large cross-beams, and feasibility of progressive reconstruction of roof by friars of monastery, who have claimed to be able to accomplish this with salvaged material if beams were provided. MFAA officer considers their assertion courageous but patently over-optimistic.

(c) When pressure of immediate duties permits, Tellarini will prepare a detailed engineering estimate of materials and costs for reconstruction of roof over church proper. This estimate, with request for extraordinary funds, will then be submitted through PC Forli for consideration at Regional level. The project is recognized as a long-term one.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to:
RC Emilia Region (2)
PC Forli Province (2)
CAO Rimini (2)
CAO Cesena (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ AC (10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (c/c PC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

Subject: Inspection of Monuments, FORLI.

OA/132

16 Nov 44.

To : S.C.A.O.
A.M.G. Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of preliminary inspection of Monuments of FORLI, made today with aid of Capt. GROVE-MURRAY of EMILIA Region.

2. GENERAL.

Monuments of FORLI have suffered relatively light damage; most of this was from shelling and German mining. While German shelling has diminished, it is still possible that more damage may occur.

3. CATHEDRAL.

Of minor architectural merit. Left side of choir damaged by German mining of campanile. Main structure virtually intact; no injury to monumental portion. CUPOLA with frescoes by CIGNANI seems quite intact. Wooden crucifix will be moved under cover from partly demolished sacristy. Cathedral authorities say Tesoro and Archivio Capitolare had been removed to safety.

4. S. ANTONIO VECCHIO.

Restorations in progress were stopped by outbreak of war. No longer used for services. No damage.

5. S. BIAGIO.

Important frescoes by MELOZZO and PALMEZZANO are intact but endangered by leaks from damaged roof. Tomb of Barbara Manfredi retains protective covering without apparent damage. Movable paintings have been transferred to storage.

(a) Recommendation: Necessary simple repairs to roof above Melozzo-Palmezzano frescoes should have immediate attention of municipal Ufficio Tecnico. Early protection can prevent serious injury to these important paintings.

6. CHIESA DEL CARMINE.

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6. CHIESA DEL CARMINE.

Entirely intact inside and out, including unprotected portal and baroque organ gallery. Bishop may designate this church temporarily as Cathedral.

7. S. MERCURIALE.

Germans attempted without success to ruin handsome brick campanile of 1180; remaining mines and booby-traps are still to be cleared. Restored main body of church slightly damaged by shells. Portal still covered by protective brick wall. Movable paintings were transferred to deposits. Cupola decorations by POCCETTI are intact and seemingly in no danger.

8. S. PELLEGRINO.

Small shell hole in wall of apse and two in roof and not in position to cause serious further damage from rain. Repairs will be needed, but are not of high priority.

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9. SANTISSIMA TRINITA.

Campanile undamaged. Rest of structure has no monumental importance. Roof badly damaged above high altar, but this repair does not come within the scope of Monuments Officer. Paintings over side-altars are safely in place except 15th-Century triptych which is being moved to sacristy.

10. PALAZZO DEL PODESTA.

Property of the Cassa di Risparmio. Facade on piazza is intact; roof severely damaged. Repair of latter is of secondary priority, as further injury from elements does not appear probable.

11. PALAZZINA.

Internally redecorated as Casa del Fascio in recent years; now occupied temporarily by Municipio and C.A.O. Windows broken; roof damaged, with some injury to top-floor ceilings. Repairs should be determined by necessity for municipal functioning; monumental values are not in danger.

12. PALAZZO COMUNALE.

Seriously shaken by German demolition of Clock Tower at rear; further damage to roof by shellfire. Major reconstruction needed throughout to facilitate municipal use.

(a) Recommendations - Sole item of monumental importance needing early attention is roof over great Salone with wall decorations by BIBIENA. These wall surfaces should be protected from rain as soon as possible.

13. ROCCA DI RAVALDINO.

Somewhat damaged and shaken by shelling, especially throughout roofs. NO immediate action needed.

14. CASA CANTONI.

Undamaged. Only ground floor loggia on street is of architectural merit.

15. PALAZZO DELLE RACCOLTE CITTADINE.

Structure on Corso (Via Emilia), housing since 1921 the assembled Pinacoteca, Musei Civici, Biblioteca Comunale, and Archivio Storico. Placed Out of Bounds by prompt action of C.A.O., Capt. HARWELL. Intelligent and energetic custodian, Mario MESTRI, has remained constantly in residence. Director Luigi SERVOLINI is believed to have been blocked at VILLAFRANCA. Most important items from all collections were removed to deposits at SAN GIORGIO, PIEVE ACQUEDOTTO, and VECCHIAZZANO. According to custode, further transfers from these deposits to unknown localities were effected by BOLOGNA Superintendency in May 1944; Germans had already removed from SAN GIORGIO four canvases for which they had left a receipt.

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(a) Recommendation - All possible aid should be given to Custode Maestri (and to Director Servolini on his return) in clearing littered rooms and repairing roof to prevent eventual damage from rain. Except for cited hospital use, requisition of these premises should be permanently avoided.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

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MFAA Offr, Emilia Region (c/o P.C. Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

3081

IL CORRIERE DI ROMA — Domenica 5 Novembre 1944

Gli archivi di Ravenna

Dove sono gli Alleati? Dove sono gli avversari? — Fra le paludi a sud di Ravenna — dicono i bollettini di guerra, che non sono mai sembrati tanto brevi e misteriosi per chi segue con trepidazione questa ennesima degli opposti eserciti sulla terra già cara alle pacifiche Muse.

— Quali paludi? — si chiede il lettore che le cerca invano sull'Atlante. Forse gli uragani di questo tristissimo Autunno sono i colpevoli? Forse le esigenze di guerra hanno tagliato o danneggiato gli argini e sparsa la morte ove prima rideva così serenamente la vita? Chissà...

Fu già palude in questi luoghi, ma in tempi lontani; poi Teodorico, gli Arcivescovi, Federico II, i Papi e sopratutto il popolo romagnolo con il proprio lavoro senza soste, mutarono in spighe le canne.

Da Virgilio, da Plinio, da Strabone, dai poeti e cosmografi antichi e medioevali sappiamo che qui era l'immensa Valle Padusa.

Ma Ravenna sorgeva allora, come Venezia oggi, su tante isolette unite da ponti. Le valle era ricca di pesci e di uccelli di palude e fra i canneti celavano i nidi branchi di cigni che solcavano lenti e maestosi le acque immote. E queste echeggiavano delle loro grida, al che gli stagni medesimi erano loquaci, come dice Virgilio nell'*Eneide*.

Ma da allora ad oggi troppo grano, troppi frutti sono cresciuti su l'antico fondo vallivo e con stupore sentiamo parlare di una nuova Padusa cosparsa di armi arroventate, invece dei cigni innocui e delle spighe mature.

* * *

Giustamente diceva un recente articolo su un giornale romano, che delle nostre città si parla solo quando sono travolte dalla guerra, poi un pauroso silenzio le ricopre: poche notizie, frammentarie e spesso inesatte, ci giungono a stento da qualche viaggiatore.

Ciò fa supporre le cose più

que papiri del nucleo originario conservato prima della guerra nell'Archivio Arcivescovile, alle ottomila pergamene provenienti dai vari Archivi conventuali e raccolte nell'Archivio Storico Comunale, ai settecento e più incunaboli, alle migliaia e migliaia di manoscritti della Classense e dell'Archivio Notarile che sono una così vasta e preziosa miniera di storia sul più lontano Medioevo, sul turbato periodo comunale, le Signorie, i Papi, gli Arcivescovi, i Principi, gli Imperatori e tutto il popolo. Non se ne è parlato in questi giorni, eppure quanti studiosi, venuti anche dai luoghi più lontani, hanno attinto a queste fonti, talvolta senza neanche citarle, qualche volta addirittura portandosi via i documenti esaminati, come... pegno del loro interessato affetto! Per tale motivo da qualche tempo l'entrata e la ricerca in questi locali era come... l'ingresso alla Mecca per gli infedeli.

Saggia disposizione che bisognerà applicare anche per il futuro, se si vorrà salvare questo così prezioso e fragile tesoro alle generazioni che verranno.

Ma intanto un più vasto pericolo minaccia l'immenso edificio d'arte e di storia che nessuna mano potrebbe riedificare se una arma ignara lo demolisse.

Allo scoppio della guerra le «capsae» furono vuotate e le mille e mille pergamene raccolte in casse vennero depositate in luoghi sotterranei ove più difficilmente l'offesa aerea poteva raggiungerle. Simile alla fortuna delle creature umane anche la guerra è mutata, senza per questo essere meno feroce. Forse ora il pericolo non è più dall'alto ma dalle cose circostanti, gli uomini, le armi e la più terribile nemica: l'acqua.

Già i volumi dell'Archivio Notarile la provarono qualche secolo fa: erano conservati allora al piano terreno del palazzo di città e sembravano ai sicuri, ma

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• • •

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Ciò fa supporre le cose più tristi, le rovine più paurose anche dove ancora tetti e cupole si levano intatte o quasi verso il cielo.

A questo pensavo leggendo quella prima invocazione accorata e l'altra, del Ministro della Pubblica Istruzione, che l'ha immediatamente seguita.

Entrambe hanno invocato la reciproca comprensione da parte degli opposti eserciti: infatti gli splendidi mosaici, così diversi da quelli di ogni altra città, così mutevoli dall'alba al tramonto per le tessere che, disposte irregolarmente, riflettono in modo vario la luce che or le colpisce in pieno, ora le cela nell'ombra, preoccupano quanti, artisti, studiosi o modesti cultori del bello, li hanno visti più volte o solo ne hanno sentito parlare. E gli alabastri, i marmi, i capitelli, quegli strani campanili esarcali, rotondi, dalle linee purissime, mirabili alle luci rosate dell'aurora, ai raggi sanguigni del tramonto od al più vivido chiarore del plenilunio, non sono meno preziosi del corteo imperiale che splende in San Vitale o delle mistiche processioni che avanzano immobilmente sulle mura ariane di Sant'Apollinare. Opere di sogno, offerte d'amore che fiorivano in epoche turbate come questa di oggi, in periodi di pace incerta o di guerra furibonda, di ribellione disperata o di ferreo dominio.

Fiorivano quasi un inesprimibile desiderio di paradiso perduto ed intravisto fra le palme e gli agnelli pascolanti sui verdi prati delle absidi.

Umile offerta di artisti che non lasciavano la loro firma in fondo all'opera ma lasciavano tutta l'opera come loro firma.

• • •

Sì, si teme e si trema per l'arte di Ravenna. Ma che sarà degli altri più celati tesori che quelle mura racchiudono? Le ossa di Dante che la carne distruggendosi sopra, nei secoli, senza la trasformazione chimica per l'acqua e la terra, ha coperto di un velo rosso, come una fiamma che splenda nell'oscurità? E quale destino può colpire l'Archivio della Santa Chiesa Ravennate, come lo chiamavano i notari di mille anni fa?

Il nostro pensiero si volge alle undicimila pergamene ed ai cinquemila documenti d'arte e di storia che nessuna mano potrebbe riedificare se una mano ignara lo demolisse.

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Già i volumi dell'Archivio Notarile la provarono qualche secolo fa: erano conservati allora al pianterreno del palazzo di città e sembravano al sicuro, ma una paurosa inondazione li sommerse in parte. Vari scritti si cancellarono, altri fogli ne soffrirono nelle fibre; poichè essi sono come gli uomini vivi, anzi come tutto ciò che vive con noi ed oltre noi: simili ai piombi delle vetrate medioevali od ai legni antichi, anche le carte e le pelli conciate mille anni fa hanno avuto una nascita e possono avere una decadenza, si ammalano, soffrono e muoiono. Cosa avverrà di esse ora che si parla di paludi?

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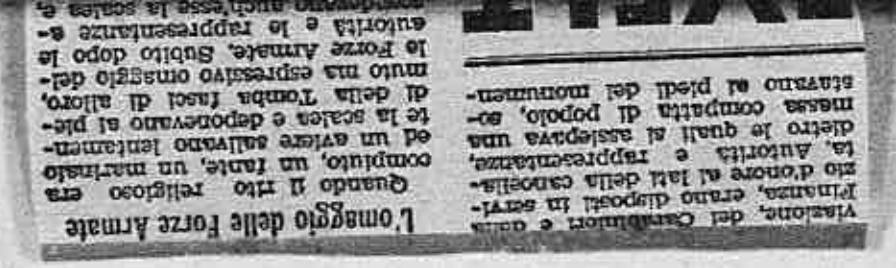
Sulle carte di donazione anteriori al Mille gli Arcivescovi della Santa Chiesa Ravennate scagliavano le maledizioni più spaventose su chi avesse offeso gli edifici, i beni od in qualche modo fosse andato contro la loro volontà. Erano le «formule imprecatorie» di Giovanni X, di Pietro VI... Aleggiano forse ancora, minacciose come nubi temporalesche, sui luoghi che amarono? Ma varie civiltà confluirono in Ravenna: la Romana, la Germanica, la Bizantina... Essa appartiene al Mondo, il Mondo la rispetti dimenticando odi e vendette.

E' augurabile che appena liberata venga reso noto lo stato delle reliquie d'arte e di storia e si prendano immediati provvedimenti in caso di pericolo. Ciò è richiesto non solo dall'Italia ma dalla società umana: l'arte e la storia sono patrimonio comune a tutte le genti e deve essere impedita per quanto è possibile la dispersione, la distruzione volontaria od involontaria di tanti tesori, di cui solo oggi gli Italiani sentono appieno il valore e la nostalgia: oggi che si stanno perdendo.

Sia salva Ravenna con le sue memorie, abbia Dante nel suo «ultimo rifugio» la quiete che gli fu negata in vita, dalle discordie dei concittadini ed il Sole delle epoche remote splenda, ancora nelle bionde pergamene in cui rivivono noti ed ignoti i lontani cultori del sapere umano.

FULVIO CROSARA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026



L'omaggio delle Forze Armate

Quando il trio religioso era compiuto, un fante, un marinaio ed un aviere sallvano lentamente la scalea e deponevano al piede della Tomba ignoto ignoto una espressivo omaggio delle Forze Armate. Subito dopo le autorità e le rappresentanze e-

Viaggione, del Governatore e delle Finanze, erano disposti in servizio d'onore al lato della canonica. Autorità e rappresentanze, dietro le quali si assiepava una massa compatta di popolo, assistano al piedi del monumen-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

20905/c/2n9

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report on Monuments, CESENA.

HQ AMG Eighth Army,
1 November 1944
CA/132

To : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Further inspection of monuments at Cesena was done today, supplementing report of 29 October. Notation regarding comments was left for Major Mitson-Harris at his office.

2. Madonna del Monte. Severely damaged by bombing and shelling. According to the Superior, Germans maintained here, despite protests of Benedictines, an OP and wireless station for defense of Cesena. Convent quarters, about two cortili, damaged in many places in walls and roof. Church walls still intact; roof demolished over nave; lantern struck but still intact; minor cracks in vaulting of dome. Pavement and carved choir-stalls only slightly marred. Crypt intact with sarcophagus-altar. Also intact are cellar vaults, in which are stored most valuable codices from Biblioteca Malatestiana and Archivio Storico of Cesena, and most important paintings from church, including Christus by Francia.

Recommendations : Except for insuring continued impermeability of cellar vaults, repairs are not of highest priority. When material and labor are available, temporary roof should be erected over nave of church, especially above wall surfaces. Repairs to convent quarters, while doubtless advisable, are not within scope of Monuments Officer.

3. Biblioteca Malatestiana. See Palazzo delle Scuole in report of 29 October. Custode Agostino SERAGLI was found in residence. Director Alfredo VALENTORI was injured by German truck and is not yet able to work without difficulty. All quarters in this wing [illegible] the Palazzo delle Scuole are intact; they were not entered by either German or Allied troops. Museum collections, including coins, are intact. Shell hole in roof of Biblioteca Piana (left by Pius VII) but no harm to books. Fifteenth-century room of Biblioteca Malatestiana, with fine walnut reading-desks, is intact; codices from this collection are safely stored at Sanctuary of Madonna del Monte (see para 2). Paintings of Pinacoteca Comunale are safe : a few were moved some time ago to Palazzo Comunale (see report of 29 Oct); remainder are stacked in corridor of Biblioteca Malatestiana. Shelves of Biblioteca Comunale, adjoining Biblioteca Piana, are unharmed and in good order.

3079

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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a. Recommendations : Except for insuring continued impermeability of cellar vaults, repairs are not of highest priority. When material and labor are available, temporary roof should be erected over nave of church, especially above wall surfaces. Repairs to convent quarters, while doubtless advisable, are not within scope of Monuments Officer.

3. Biblioteca Malatestiana. See Palazzo delle Scuole in report of 29 October. Custode Agostino SERRAGLI was found in residence. Director Alfredo VANTADORI was injured by German truck and is not yet able to work without difficulty. All quarters in this wing adjoining the Palazzo delle Scuole are intact; they were not entered by either German or Allied troops. Museum collections, including coins, are intact. Shell hole in roof of Biblioteca Piana (left by Pius VII) but no harm to books. Fifteenth-century room of Biblioteca Malatestiana, with fine walnut reading-desks, is intact; codices from this collection are safely stored at Sanctuary of Madonna del Monte (see para 2). Paintings of Pinacoteca Comunale are safe : a few were moved some time ago to Palazzo Comunale (see report of 29 Oct); remainder are stacked in corridor of Biblioteca Malatestiana. Shelves of Biblioteca Comunale, adjoining Biblioteca Piana, are unharmed and in good order.

a. Recommendations : This highly important group of libraries, picture-gallery, and museum has almost miraculously escaped severe damage. The opportunity to effect complete salvage, by repairs to slightly damaged roof, should be acted upon at the earliest possible moment in cooperation with Ingeniere TELLARINI. When more normal circumstances permit, material now at Madonna del Monte should be brought back to Biblioteca under supervision of Director Vantadori. Requests through Education Officers (some already granted), for permission to conduct sightseeing parties through building, may be granted providing responsibility for safeguarding is clearly explained.

3079

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4. Archivio Storico. Undamaged building now being cared for by Vigili del Fuoco. All material stored at Madonna del Monte. It should be brought back at earliest opportunity.

5. Archivio Notarile. Securely contained behind locked doors on ground floor under Biblioteca Comunale and Biblioteca Piana. Posted Out of Bounds.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to :

RC Emilia Region	(2)
PC, Forli Province	(2)
CAO Cesena	(2)
Subc MFAA, Hq AC	(10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (c/o PC Bologna)	(5)
Major Newton	(2)

1378

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Inspection of Monuments, CESENA.

HQ AFG Eighth Army,
29 October 1944.

OA/132

To : SCAO AFG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary report of preliminary inspection made today at CESENA.

2. General. Considering its key position, Cesena has not suffered heavily. Commendable steps regarding monuments were taken early by the CAO, Major Kitson-Harris, who had Out of Bounds signs placed on all listed monuments. The Ingeniere TELLARINI, communal engineer, has proved competent and energetic, with special concern for monuments.

3. Cathedral. Undamaged except for blasted windows. Archives unharmed. Treasury safe in hiding locally.

4. S. Domenico. Hit by shells in roof of nave and in left side. Facade intact. Debris already partly cleared. Series of indifferent paintings over altars seems in no present danger.

5. Palazzo Comunale. Roof hit by shell; repairs already ordered. No other damage. Collections of paintings and Roman fragments are intact.

6. Palazzo del Ridotto. Structure of no particular merit. Occupied without harm by Church of Scotland. No apparent damage.

7. Palazzo Chiaramonte. Struck by some fifteen shells, causing collapse of part of first floor facing inner cortile. Property of Prince Urbani; custode in residence.

8. Rocca Malatestiana. Some damage from shells, but not serious. Normally contains prison, this use continues.

9. Palazzo delle Scuole. Palazzo is in three sections, with important Biblioteca Malatestiana on west, inaccessible from central portion. All doors and windows of Biblioteca closed, barred, and posted; access could not be gained by MFAA Officer on this visit. External inspection discloses no evidence of war damage. Central portion of Palazzo contained school rooms, now prepared for occupancy by hospital unit. Occasional books in cases (mostly textbooks) are securely locked and in order. Small school museum and physical laboratory are in separate rooms with doors nailed shut by NCO in charge. Palazzo slightly struck at rear by shells; damage not serious. Continued occupancy by hospital will do no harm but will be a protection.

Geo. Leighton

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AFG 8 Army.

Copies to :
RC, Emilia Region (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO Cesena (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ ACC (10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (c/o PC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

20903/C11/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Inspection of Monuments,
SAVIGNANO and
S. MAURO P.SCOLI

HQ A.F.C Eighth Army
19 October 1944.
OA/132

To : SCAO, A.F.C Eighth Army.

1. Monuments of Savignano and S. Mauro Pascoli were inspected today. Both places are severely battered from continued shelling.

SAVIGNANO

2. Roman Bridge. Demolished by Germans.

3. Palazzo Comunale. Badly damaged by shellfire. Tower demolished; fell partly into charming 18th-century Theatre, destroying part of roof. Theatre can be repaired; roof repairs will be started when materials and labor are available. Older portion of Archivio Comunale, housed in Municipio, is buried under debris of collapsed walls; Sindaco will have material recovered during removal of debris.

4. Accademia dei Filopatridi. Building damaged in top floor and roof. Lower rooms, housing united Biblioteche Comunale ed Accademica are remarkably undamaged. Excellent Libraries are almost intact and only slightly disturbed. Director Dottie SORRENTI is already putting collections in order and checking inventory. He reports, among determined losses, small collection of coins and the valuable Noto Tachigrafiche of Circlano Amati, one of the founders of the Academia. Library building is being used as Municipio; it will thus be protected. Debris now being cleared from the floors; roof repairs will be started at earliest possible moment. Lt Brownstone, CAO, and the Sindaco will both exert pressure on this. Value of these libraries is fully appreciated locally.

5. Villa di Rigno. Badly battered by shelling. Some rooms are relatively intact, they will be occupied by administrator of property, Giovanni VALDUCCIO. Present occupancy by troops is necessary and not objectionable to administrator. All articles of monumental importance had been removed in collaboration with Superintendency prior to hostilities. Major repairs are needed but can hardly be considered of high priority.

SAN MAURO PASCOLI

6. Chapel in Palazzo

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2. Roman Bridge. Demolished by Germans.

3. Palazzo Comunale. Badly damaged by shellfire. Tower demolished, fell partly into charming 13th-century Theatre, destroying part of roof. Theatre can be repaired; roof repairs will be started when materials and labor are available. Older portion of Archivio Comunale, housed in Municipio, is buried under debris of collapsed walls. Sindaco will have material recovered during removal of debris.

4. Accademia dei Filodrammatici. Building damaged in top floor and roof. Lower rooms, housing United Biblioteche Comunale ed Accademica are remarkably undamaged. Excellent Libraries are almost intact and only slightly disturbed. Director Baldis BOLLARINI is already putting collections in order and checking inventory. He reports, among determined losses, small collection of coins and the valuable Note Tachigrafiche of Girolamo Amati, one of the founders of the Accademia. Library building is being used as Municipio; it will thus be given protected. Debris now being cleared from top floors, roof repairs will be started at earliest possible moment. Lt Brownstone, CAO, and the Sindaco will both exert pressure on this. Value of these libraries is fully appreciated locally.

5. Villa di Dogma. Badly battered by shelling. Some rooms are relatively intact, they will be occupied by administrator of property, Giovanni VALDUCCIO. Present occupancy by troops is necessary and not objectionable to administrator. All articles of monumental importance had been removed in collaboration with Superintendency prior to hostilities. Major repairs are needed but can hardly be considered of high priority.

SAN MARCO PASCOLI

6. Chapel in Piazza. One chapel, of no architectural importance, appears to have had framed painting hung on wall above altar; painting removed, but nobody in locality seems to know when or by whom. Also in Piazza is small shrine, which is said to have had 16th-century fresco on wall. Small fragment of fresco is visible but no recovery is possible.

7. Casa Pascoli. Birthplace of the poet, Giovanni Pascoli. Badly shattered by shelling. Contains momentoes of the poet, moved here some years ago from Municipio. House in great disorder, with some evidence of ransacking. Material does not appear of great intrinsic worth, but association with Pascoli is of value. Small unit of New Zealand troops now occupy ground floor rooms and small garden, without disturbing partly demolished upper floor. Responsibility for occupancy and importance of house and collections was explained to troops. Their presence is for the moment a sound protection.

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As soon as operational situation permits, further billeting should be prohibited. Sindaco was urged to initiate first-aid measures and systematic clearing at earliest possible moment; message was left for C.O., Lt Outhet, with Lt Brownstone at Savignano.

3. Palazzo Comunale. Architecturally unimportant. Damaged by shells. Archivio Comunale disturbed by both German and Allied troops, according to Segretario Comunale, Avv. Alfredo GIOVANETTI, who has already begun straightening up. Losses do not appear serious. Small Museum and Library moved to Casa Pascoli some years ago (see Item 7).

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFA&A Officer,
AFHQ 8 Army.

Copies to :
HC, Emilia Region (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
C.O., Savignano (2)
C.O., San Mauro (2)
Subc MFA&A, HQ ACC (10) ✓
MFA&A Officer, Emilia Region (c/o HC Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Supplementary Report on Monuments of RIMINI

HQ ANG Eighth Army
11 October 1944
CA/132

TO: SCAO ANG Eighth Army

1. Herewith report of inspections supplementing report of 25 September.

2. General. There has been some German shelling and bombing of Rimini since 25 Sep, but no additional damage of any consequence has occurred. With the slow return of civilians and the establishment of local government, steps have been taken toward needed repairs. Conference was had 10 Oct with the Ingeniere Comunale, Virginio STRAMIGIOLI. Materials and labour are still needed in large part for purely military purposes.

3. S.Giuliano. This church, omitted in first inspection, is itself of no particular importance. It was struck twice by shells; damage not serious. The Veronese canvas from the high altar and the polyptych by Bitino da Faenza weere both removed to safety by the Superintendency of Bologna in 1940.

4. S.Maria della Colonnella. On Via Flaminia toward Riccione; scene of bitter fighting. Badly damaged throughout; all walls pierced and shaken; roof gone; apse partly demolished. Portal in right side severely shattered. No immediate steps are indicated. Fortunately the church appears to be of little architectural importance.

5. Arco d'Augusto. Construction crews were stopped from removing marble and brick as material for repair of roads; 86 Area has been asked to ensure safety of the Arch and its supports. Communal engineer has in hand project for blocking and supporting archway.

6. Tempio Malatestiano. Communal engineer is to inspect for necessary bracing and will present estimates for any possible immediate protective work.

7. Museo and Pinacoteca. Canadian workshops unit continues its exemplary protective occupation.

8. Biblioteca Giambalunga. Doors to Library and Archivio have been bricked up. Estimate is being prepared by communal engineer for

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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8. Biblioteca Giambalunga. Doors to Library and Archivio have been bricked up. Estimate is being prepared by communal engineer for repairs to roof. Commune is seeking competent person to put in charge in absence of Director Lucchesi, who has not returned to Rimini and whose whereabouts are still unknown.

9. Santuario della Madonna delle Grazie. This convent was at last discovered. Being on the S. Fortunato ridge, SW of Rimini, it has suffered severely, as the entire feature was a line of determined German resistance. Two Franciscan friars, returned and in residence, say deposit of material from Rimini was moved in May 1944 from here to an unknown place by Dr. Lucchesi and some helpers. Some information was obtained from Ing. Stramigioli in Rimini.

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NORMAN T. NEWTON,
MAJOR, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to :

RC, Emilia Region (3)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO, Rimini (2)
Subc MFAA, HQ ACC (10)
MFAA Officer, Emilia Region (c/o PC, Bologna) (5)
Major Newton (2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

SUBJECT :- Inspection of Monuments, RIMINI.

HQ AMG Eighth Army,
25 September 1944
OA/132

TO : SCAO, AMG Eighth Army.

1. Herewith summary of preliminary inspection made at Rimini today.

2. General. Rimini has suffered the consequences of being a key city in the enemy's defenses; it has been bombed heavily, mined, shelled, and fought through. There is considerable evidence of ransacking and looting, but at present only conjecture can assign this to any particular troops, German or Allied. There are almost no civilians in the town, and no responsible Italian officials. Damage to monuments has been very severe. Thereabouts of Dott. Carlo LUCCHESI, Director of museum and library in 1937, is as yet unknown.

3. Arco d'Augusto. Badly shaken by near-misses and by blast at base of north side of archway, but still standing. Most of protective covering is blown loose. Entire structure will need careful bracing and compacting throughout; the need does not appear immediate.

4. Ponte d'Augusto. Undamaged.

5. Tempio Malatestiano. Badly damaged. Apparent direct bomb hit demolished most of SE end. Roof timbers remain, but without covering, over front part of nave. All walls jarred, with serious distortions causing bulges and cracks throughout structure, even in portions remaining erect. Brick protective walls still in place around exterior base and on interior piers. Facade intact but shaken; side walls standing but bulged. Six main chapels, although jarred and cracked, are standing. Brick protective wall remains in first right chapel, but frescoed main wall behind it is badly cracked. Adjoining doorway, believed to lead to small chapel with fresco by Piero della Francesca, is intact and locked.

a. Recommendation. Repair of this, the most important building in Rimini, is a major operation to be done only under skilled direction. At earliest feasible moment, compet-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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a. Recommendation. Repair of this, the most important building in Rimini, is a major operation to be done only under skilled direction. At earliest feasible moment, competent engineer should inspect it and provide bracing for any portions in danger of early collapse. Further reconstruction must await calmer days.

6. S. Agostino. Slightly damaged by shell fragments; probably shaken. Vertical crack in left side is obviously old. Campanile lightly struck but apparently secure. All doors closed and locked; interior does not seem injured.

7. Tempietto di S. Antonio. Appears quite intact despite blast of near-misses in Piazza Giulio Cesare.

8. S. Girolamo. Direct bomb hit some months ago caused complete collapse into basement or lower church. Debris remains in place; it obstructs nothing and need not be removed. No present action required.

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9. Chiesa dei Servi. Exterior walls intact. Roof shaken by blast and fragments, but baroque ceiling remains in place. Paintings have been removed. Interior is considerably upset; doors have been broken in; looting has probably (but not certainly) occurred.

10. Palazzo del Podestà. Exterior is only slightly damaged. Some breakage internally; roof undoubtedly shaken. Post Office on ground floor structurally intact but in great disorder. This will presumably be one of first buildings to be repaired for communal use.

11. Palazzo Comunale. Brick 13th century portion (Palazzo dell'Arengo) externally sound, internally shaken, with considerable breakage and disorder. Not yet being used as Municipio. Adjoining stone 16th century portion (Palazzo Garampi?) half demolished, apparently by direct bomb hit and mines. Reordering and repairs to both portions will presumably be started early for municipal convenience.

12. Palazzo Lettimi. Contained offices of various Fascist Agencies. Direct bomb hit demolished northerly half of palace. Remainder severely shaken internally but street wall of this appears sound.

13. Castello Sigismondo. Some damage from hits to walls and roof but generally intact.

14. Torre dell'Orologio. Undamaged.

15. Statue of Paul V. Stone base slightly chipped; otherwise intact.

16. Museo and Pinacoteca Comunali. Badly damaged throughout by direct bomb hits and shelling; can be repaired. Galleries of Pinacoteca appear to have been cleared some time ago; no evidence of recent removal. In Museo are some heavy stone Roman fragments standing in place and affixed to walls. All other material had apparently been removed to storage; in absence of all civilian personnel from Rimini, exact status cannot now be determined. Canadian workshop unit occupies without hamm large courtyard behind building, ground floor loggia and lower floor of outbuildings foward south. MFAA Officer explained values to NCOs in charge and feels presence of unit is a protection.

a. Recommendation. When present occupying unit moves out, these premises should not be further occupied. Communal government, when organized, should give high priority to systematizing both Museo and Pinacoteca, under competent supervision, and to weatherproofing portion of roof for reception of whatever material is recoverable from still

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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17. Biblioteca Giambalunga. Occupies ground floor of Palazzo Giambalunga; upper floors apparently used for school purposes. Also on ground floor is Archivio. Building shaken but not severely damaged; large doors on street (and smaller inside entrances to Biblioteca and to Archivio) had been forced open. Some disorder from apparent ransacking but volumes and boxes are almost entirely in place.

a. Recommendation. MFAA Officer closed all doors as tightly as possible, placed timbers across them, and posted temporary written Out of Bounds notices. Capt Marsham-Townshend,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785026

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CAO, was asked to have doors securely festoned and permanent Out of Bounds notices posted. When civilian personnel returns and communal government is organized, the careful re-ordering of both Library and Archives, under competent supervision, with systematic checking of inventory, should have high priority; both are of great value to the life of the Commune and of considerable general scholarly importance.

18. Communal and Notarial Archives. Present condition unknown and undeterminable, except as given above in para 17.

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
MFAA Officer, AMG 8 Army.

Copies to :

RC, Region IX (2)
PC, Forli Province (2)
CAO Rimini (2)
MFAA Officer, Region IX (c/o PC Bologna) (5)
Subc MFAA, HQ ACC (10)
Major Newton (2)

3073