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ARCHIVES- PROGRESS- REPORTS

Feb 1944 - Oct, 1945

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ACC DV 345

PROGRESS REPORTS

OCT, 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

HEB/fl

APO 394

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

20905/D/MFAA

27 October 45

SUBJECT: Archives in the Marche and Emilia.

TO : Director, M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission.

Accompanied by the Commissary of State Archives, undersigned has to-day completed a week's tour of the Marche and Emilia, undertaken with a view to letting the Commissary have first-hand information of the archives of these regions and to secure continuity of policy between the A.M.G. and Italian Government phases of control.

With the exception of Bolzano, Trento and Parma (and, of course, of Venezia Giulia), all the principal archives of Northern Italy have now been visited by the Commissary in company with one or other of your Archives Officers. It is felt that the handover of responsibility has thus been realistic and practical.

On the present tour much of the business transacted related to staffing problems etc. that are not the concern of the Sub-Commission. For the sake of completeness of the record, however, the following details are appended.

LACERATA, Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

All is well here. The Director (Dr. Ricci) has his archives back in position. He is to seek an assistant locally and also to explore possibilities of transfer of the Archivio Noterile and other archives to his Sezione.

ANCONA, Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

Condition bad. Repairs to the Palazzo del Tribunale, which houses the archive, are in progress and the material

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MACERATA, Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

All is well here. The Director (Dr. Ricci) has his archives back in position. He is to seek an assistant locally and also to explore possibilities of transfer of the Archivio Notarile and other archives to his Sezione.

ANCONA, Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

Condition bad. Repairs to the Palazzo del Tribunale, which houses the archive, are in progress, and the records safe from rain. But they are dirty, disordered and uncared-for: it is difficult to believe that the Director (Dr. Elia) has been as active as might have been expected of him.

FANO, Archivio Comunale.

All well.

FANO, Archivio Vescovile.

The Bishop described the difficulties he was experiencing in recovering and re-ordering this archive; the Commissary will take the matter up with Cardinal Mercati.

FORLI', Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

Deposits returned without loss.

MODENA, Archivio di Stato.

Archives are now in place again, and the Acting Director (Dr. Pascucci) has in an advanced state of preparation a list of the losses consequent upon German occupation of the deposit at Nonantola. These losses are not very serious.

On 22 October a ceremony was held at the Archivio di Stato in commemoration of the former Director (Dr. Braghirolli), shot by Fascists in August 1944. Dr. Braghirolli was not the first, and probably will not be the last, archivist to be murdered for his opinions.

The occasion had more than a sentimental significance. The ceremony was attended by the Bishop, Prefect and local notables, and underlined the renaissance of the Archivio. The Commissary pronounced a memorable oration.

RAVENNA, Sezione of Archivio di Stato.

Archives are in place. So is the Director of the Classese (Dr. Nediani), who appears rather unfortunately to be living in rooms that should properly belong to documents. His continuance in office seems doubtful and meanwhile, to confuse the issue further, the Prefettura have appointed the Conservatore of the Archivio Notarile (Dr. Matteucci) to be Director of the Sezione. The Commissary has the situation in hand, and time and he will no doubt clarify it.

LIBRARIES.

Undersigned saw both Superintendents (Prof. Fava and Prof. Stendardo), who report Torrechiera deposits from Bologna, Modena, Cesena etc. all returned in good condition to their original homes.

MONUMENTS & FINE ARTS STUFF.

Undersigned took the opportunity to meet again old friends among the Italian Monuments and Fine Arts personnel of Emilia Region. The following points may have some interest to the M.F.A. side of the house.

BOLOGNA.

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BOLOGNA.

The pictures from Bologna, and other, churches have been brought from their hide-outs by Prof. Sorrentino, and he's got a show of them in the Gallery. This is the exhibition. Major Croft-Murray and Dr. Gnudi planned way back. It is a swell show, and Gnudi's naturally like a dog with two tails about it. He deserves to be, after his honourable exile in Florence, and the grand job he did with us in the first days at Bologna.

FORLI'.

Prof. Servolini's hoped quite often that the Palazzo delle Raccolte would be de-requisitioned. It hasn't, but he goes on hoping. He's as full of ideas as ever (including one for a catalogue of the Piancastelli prints), and looks ten years younger than he did back in January.

MODENA.

Some of the Isola Bella stuff is on show in Milan, but the other pictures are being hung again. The Dosso Dossi altar-piece and Serafino de' Serafini thing from the Duomo are in dock in the Gallery for the restorers to have a crack at them; the work looked pretty good.

GENERAL.

Superintendency personnel are right on their toes. Seems as if Major Croft-Murray and Captain Cecil Pinsent did a pretty wizard job getting the Italian show going again. Both of them very beloved in these parts. The Italians have the impression that the M.F.A.A. set-up in Emilia Region functioned as a team. It did.

H.E. Bell major

H. E. BELL,
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer.

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H.E. Bell Major
H. E. BELL,
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

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

3rd September 45

20905/D/MTAA

SUBJECT: Archivi di Stato.

TO : Director, M.F.A.A. Sub-Commission.

1. Ever since the liberation of Rome, when Captain T.H. Brooke, then Archives Officer, was able to get into touch with Commandatore Re, contact between the Italian archives service and this Sub-Commission has been close. Under these circumstances it would be misleading to speak of a handover of responsibility, since problems affecting archives, even in areas under A.M.G. control, have always been dealt with on the basis of co-operation with the Italian authorities.

2. At the same time, the forthcoming transfer of most of Northern Italy to Italian administrative control will mean that full responsibility for the Archivi di Stato in that territory will pass to Commandatore Re.

3. Undersigned therefore thought it well to take advantage of the recent tour of Northern Italy, made with Commandatore Re in connection with the transfer of ministerial archives, to include visits to Archivi di Stato and Sezioni di Archivi di Stato, as follows - Alessandria, Bologna, Florence, Genoa, Lucca, Mantova, Massa, Milan, Modena, Pisa, Turin, Venice and Verona.

4. At all these Archives, Commandatore Re had full, and valuable, conversations with staffs, and he is therefore thoroughly acquainted with the special problems of each.

5. The following details may be added to those previously given in reports of Archives Officers:-

The Archivio di Stato at Massa was not reported on at the time of the capture of Massa, owing to Capt. McCain and undersigned being fully occupied further north and Capt. Brooke being posted to Austria. The building, which is new, ugly and unsuitable is in a sorry condition; extensive repairs, and a formidable acreage of glass, will be necessary before it is ready for use. Meanwhile, the archives

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The Archivio di Stato at Florence. The Superintendent is to be congratulated on having undertaken repairs to the roof; within three months of the termination of A.M.G. control he has been able to get well ahead with this work.

H.E. Bell

H.E. BELL
Major, A.E.C.
Archives Officer.

10 LUG 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

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

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 repositories in Northern Italy. The following visits were made, nos. 1. and 2. in the company of Commendatore Re, Commissary of State Archives.

1. BIMBA (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 reopening of the Sala di Mostra of the Archivio, to which there has been added a new, and very fine, exhibition of Senese bindings.

2. FLORENCE (Professor Panella, Director; Dr. Sartini, Vice-Director; Dr. Camerani; Dr. De Rubertis)

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 of ~~deposits~~ (at the Villa di Soli, GAGLIANO) 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 - though once again it must be said that no harm has come to the records.

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3. BOLGNA (Commandatore Mascelli, Director; Prof. Cencetti)

Re-ordering of the Archivio di Stato is proceeding satisfactorily, with the additional assistance of Dr. Neppi, recently appointed to this repository. Undersigned handed to Commandatore Mascelli an outline survey of conditions in archive repositories within his Superintendency; this survey was made on the basis of MKAA inspections.

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

Deposits of the Archivio Comunale have not yet been brought back from PRAGLIA, but ^{conditions} there are understood to be good.

The Ministry of Public Instruction has commenced removal of its archives from HQ., VENEZIA 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. VENEZIA (Comandatore Ronga, 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 Comandatore Ronga to submit to the Prefect an estimate of the cost of this work; this Comandatore Ronga has done.

Capt. Brooke, attached Military Government Austria, met Mr. Jenkinson in VENEZIA for consultations.

AE Bell

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

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, VENEZIA Region (attn.
 Maj. Norman Newton, MPAA Officer)
 Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region (attn.
 Capt. C.R. Pinsent, MPAA Officer)
 Lt. F. Hartt, FLORENCE.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, VENEZUELA Region (attn.
Maj. Norman Newton, MEAA Officer)
Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region (attn.
Capt. C.R. Pinsent, MEAA Officer)
Lt. F. Hartt, FLORENCE.

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

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO UMBRIA REGION
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION
A.P.O. 194

MONTHLY REPORT

5 March 1945

Subject: Report of Archives Officer for month of February 1945.

To : Director, Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives, A.C.

1. As mentioned in previous reports the Ministry of Interior have been compiling for some months a complete survey of the present state of Italian Archives. This includes not only the collections of primarily historical importance, but modern records of local government, judicial, financial etc, the safety of which has an immediate practical value.

2. Despite the difficulties of making such a stock - taking under present circumstances, The scheme has already more than justified itself by the very high proportion of replies received to the circulars sent out by the Ministry itself and the Ministry of Justice. So far as legal records in particular are concerned the returns are now complete for many provinces in Southern Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.

3. The results to date certainly support the Commissario for State Archives in his belief that for the first time an exhaustive census of Italian Archives may be completed. The survey has made good progress as far north as Tuscany, and it should not be difficult matter in due course to extend it to the areas remaining to be liberated.

4. A satisfactory feature of the returns so far received is the very small proportion of loss or disturbance caused by the occupation of Allied troops. Such damage has in fact invariably only occurred where there has been previous destructions by war or enemy loot.

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5. It has been arranged with the Minister of Interior for the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini in the Viminale to be handed over for custody to the Archivio del Regno. This step was taken in consultation with the political section of A.C. and ends a responsibility which the undersigned assumed in June 1944.

6. Visits of inspection of archives and libraries have been made in Rieti and Palestrina.

T.H. Brooke, Capt. KRRC
Archives Officer
Fine Arts & Archives Division
Lazio Umbria Region

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

MONTHLY REPORT

5 February 1945

Subject : Report of Archives Officer for month of January 1945

To : Director, Sub-Commission for ~~Laquila~~ Region.
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives,
A.C. HQ.

1. A majority of the present archival problems concern matters of policy or incidents outside this region. The undersigned is therefor working more directly with the Subcommission, HQ Allied Commission.

2. Now that the central Italian archive service has had time to start setting its house in order two urgent problems have emerged: (a) the lack of trained personel (b) the possibility of regional objection to interference by the Ministry of Interior.

3. The personel question does not appear soluble at the present time. Salaries have never been high for this kind of work and such posts as that of "archivista" to care for the archives of some comune (sometimes of great antiquity and importance) were often held by persons of private means or other sources of income, local scholars or priests for example. In the economic conditions of today it is not easy to find persons who are able to give up their time in this way. On the other hand it is often impossible for a comune to find funds adequate to support these positions. The problem affects libraries, whose upkeep is almost always a charge on the comune, perhaps even more than archives, as there is a more obvious necessity to keep these open and available to the public. Typical of these circumstances is Gubbio, where there is a very important Library and Archivio in the same building. The Archivio was found being used as a storehouse and

its Director has not been present for months (he is working in Rome). The library is being looked after by a local schoolmistress for a salary of 400 lire per month. Similar examples could be quoted.

4. Regional objection to interference by the Ministry of Interior is centred round the Law (N° 2006 of 1939) for the "Nuovo ordinamento degli Archivi del Regno". By a characteristic piece of centralisation this brought all archives, including those of private individuals, under the control of Superintendencies answerable to the Ministry of Interior. From an archivists point of view, the Law is admirable, protecting as it does the loss of national records by neglect, deliberate destruction or sale. Local feeling may however be injured by the clauses dealing with the setting up in the capital of each province of a new 'Sezione' of the Archivio di Stato, where, with facilities to proper custody and research, all the most important local archives should be concentrated. In most cases these 'Sezioni' do already exist and others were in the process of being created. Among the most important of the latter was Perugia and in this centre there is significant opposition to the scheme. Proud of its historic records, the Comune is now reluctant to hand these over to a state controlled repository and tends to resist the proposal as a piece of fascist legislation that can now be set on one side. A separate report on this question has been submitted: it is important because it is likely to be met with elsewhere.

5. Three points stand out in the present archive programme of the Ministry of Interior. (a) The recall of Jews who were dismissed from the service following the racial Law of 1938. (b) An exchange of personnel between Sicilians who were working on the mainland and vice-versa rectifying an old grievance against Fascism. (c) The compilation of the survey of the present state of Italian archives.

6. In questions relating to modern archives of intelligence value the undersigned has continued to keep in close touch 42 (I.O.SS) and other organisations. The publication in "The Times" of London 3 January of the discovery by this division of the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini in Rome has focussed

some attention both on this collection and on the interest of the Fine Arts & Archives Officers in contemporary material.

7. Between 22-25 January the undersigned carried out inspections in Terni, Spoleto, Foligno, Perugia and Gubbio. He was accompanied by the Superintendent of Libraries of this Region. Separate reports have been submitted.

T.H. Brooke, Capt. KRRC
Archives Officer
Fine Arts & Archives Division
Lazio-Umbria Region- AMG.

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

5 January 1945

Subject : Report of Archives Officer, A.M.G.
for month of December 44.

To : Director Sub-Commission for
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives,
A.C. HQ.

and to : Executive Officer,
A.M.G., Lazio-Umbria Region.

1. In unison with the Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives the Ministry of Interior has undertaken to collect all data referring to war damages suffered by Archives in Italy. This central register will include not only the collections of special historical importance, such as the State Archives and Notarial Archives, on which much information has already been compiled but records generally, of institutions, legal and administrative, machinery etc., and including also important private collections.

2. Despite the difficulties of the situation the central archive administration (Ufficio Centrale degli Archivi di Stato) in the Ministry of Interior is functioning satisfactorily. Naturally the most important problems to be solved at the moment (e.g. questions of personnel) occur in regions still under A.M.G., but with the cooperation of A.C. these are being steadily cleared up. The Commissario for the State Archives left Rome for Florence on January 2 to confer with the Soprintendente for Tuscany and with Allied Fine Arts Officers.

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3. From November 28 to December 9 the Archives Officer visited certain towns in Tuscany and Emilia in the temporary absence of any archive specialist for those regions. Separate reports have been submitted on this mission.

T.H. Brooke, Capt. KRRC
Archives Officer, Division
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.

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

4 December 44

Subject: Report of Archives Officer for
month of November 44.

To: Executive Officer
A.M.G., Lazio-Umbria Region.

1. From 6 - 14 November a visit of inspection was made by Mr. Fred.W. Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, and Archival adviser to the State Department, Washington.
 2. During the course of his stay in Rome Mr. Shipman had numerous conversations with the undersigned and conferred also with Allied Intelligence personnel and officials of the Italian State and Vatican Archive Services. He also inspected various repositories of documents.
 3. Mr. Shipman paid particular attention to the machinery, of which this division is the organising centre, for the location and protection of Italian Archives. In a report to the Director, M.F.A.A., Sub-Commission, A.C., he expressed satisfaction with what had been done.
 4. A Statement on the work of the Allies for the protection of Italian Archives released by Mr. Shipman before his departure, appeared in the Corriere di Roma for 22 November.
 5. During the month the Regional activities on behalf of Libraries, formerly undertaken by the Education Division, passed to the undersigned. In this connection he is in contact with the Soprintendente for Libraries, (the Directress of the Vittorio Emanuele Library), with the Ispettore Generale, Prof. De Gregori and other officials of the Ministry of Public Instruction.
- The usual close touch has been maintained with the Commissario for State Archives and the Vatican.

6. On 24 November 2 considerable deposits of books, together with certain of the Cathedral Archives of Pontecorvo (about 5000 volumes), stored by the Germans in the neighborhood of Ceccano were brought to Rome by the undersigned and handed over to the Soprintendente of Libraries for repair and safe-storage. This has been the subject of a separate report.

7. On 28 November the undersigned left for temporary duty at Forlì.

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

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

1 November 44

Subject:

Report of Archives Officer,
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Division
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.G.,
for the month of October 44.

To:

The Director, Sub-Commission for
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives,
A.G.

1. The Gazzetta Ufficiale for 12 October published the Decree of 21 September signed by the Luogotenente abolishing the Committee for the Archivi di Stato e del Regno. This Committee was formerly attached to the Ministry of Interior and controlled the Italian Archive Service through the Department of the Ufficio centrale degli Archivi di Stato. During Fascism it contained representatives of the Fascist Party, the Ministry of Popular Culture, the Ministry of Corporations etc.

2. By a decree dated 13 October Comm. Dott. Emilio Re was nominated Commissario for the Archivi di Stato e del Regno "con l'incarico di proporre le misure necessarie per la revisione e il graduale riordinamento di tutto il patrimonio archivistico nazionale e per l'immediato recupero delle serie eventualmente allontanate dalla loro sede naturale." By this measure direction passes to the Soprintendente - the person best qualified to control and organize the Archive service in this critical period.

3. The close liaison which has existed between the undersigned and Comm. Re since 6 June is now particularly important for the territory outside this region and without direct contact with the Italian Government. There have been cases where the Directors of State Archives branches have left their posts for months, exposed

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3. The close liaison which has existed between the undersigned and Comm. Re since 5 June is now particularly important for the territory outside this region and without direct contact with the Italian Government. There have been cases where the Directors of State Archives branches have left their posts for months, exposed to loot and other dangers. This has happened at Livorno, Pisa and Ancona. While on the other hand at Florence, the director remained night and day in the building in a heavily mined and damaged area, protecting his charge at very considerable personal risk and discomfort. Comm. Re, working through the Allied Archive Officer has been able to deal suitably with both these examples. At Ancona a significant appointment has been effected. This repository was without any Di-

rector in September when visited by the undersigned and a Jewish Professor, Luzzatto, who six years ago was turned out of his employment in the Archivio at Pisa on account of the racial persecution and was found by the gax underground living in Arezzo in terrible want, was put in temporary charge. The Ministry of Interior has recently confirmed Professor Luzzatto's position as Director of this Archivio.

4. Further detailed information relating to Ministerial Archives transferred from Rome to Northern Italy was received in two communications from the Presidenza del Consiglio dated 6 and 27 October.

5. From October 7 - 11 a tour of inspection was made in Umbria and Marche accompanied by Comm. Re and Professor Battelli in a car put at the disposal of the latter by H.E. Cardinal Mercati, Archivist to the Holy See. Other visits have been made to Velletri (October 3), Montecassino (October 18), Terni (October 31). Separate reports have been submitted on these activities.

W.B. Jones

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

4027

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Lazio-Umbria Region
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION

5 October 44

Subject:

Report of Archives Officer of
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Division
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.C.,
for the month of September 44.

To:

Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives,
A.M.C.

1. The Ministry of Interior, through the Ufficio Centrale
degl' Archivi di Stato, have assumed effective control over the
Archives in Italian administered territory. The closest cooperation
continues between the undersigned and the chief of that Department.

2. Regular contact has been maintained with G2 Advanced
Intelligence, AFHQ. The safety of the numerous deposits of modern
Archives in northern Italy depends largely on the co-ordination of
plans for their location and guarding through that organization.
The list of Ministerial Archives evacuated from Rome, mentioned in
previous reports, has been incorporated among the "objectives" of
primary importance, with certain exceptions, for which alternative
arrangements will be made. The list has been supplemented with con-
siderable additional information, notably from the Ministero della
Marina, who provided the undersigned with the most comprehensive sta-
tement of the whereabouts of Naval Installations and Records yet
available.

3. At the suggestion of the undersigned the HQ of A.M.C.
have requested the Italian Government to select suitable Archivists
from each of the Ministries to be held in readiness for the taking
over of Northern Italy. This is being arranged by the Presidenza
del Consiglio with whom the matter was discussed on 22 September.

4026

1. The Ministry of Interior, through the Ufficio Centrale le degli Archivi di Stato, have assumed effective control over the Archives in Italian administered territory. The closest cooperation continues between the undersigned and the chief of that Department.

2. Regular contact has been maintained with G2 Advanced Intelligence, AFHQ. The safety of the numerous deposits of modern Archives in northern Italy depends largely on the co-ordination of plans for their location and guarding through that organization. The list of Ministerial Archives evacuated from Rome, mentioned in previous reports, has been incorporated among the "objectives" of primary importance, with certain exceptions, for which alternative arrangements will be made. The list has been supplemented with considerable additional information, notably from the Ministero della Marina, who provided the undersigned with the most comprehensive statement of the whereabouts of Naval installations and records yet available.

4026

3. At the suggestion of the undersigned the HQ of A.S.C. have requested the Italian Government to select suitable Archivists from each of the Ministries to be held in readiness for the taking over of Northern Italy. This is being arranged by the Presidenza del Consiglio with whom the matter was discussed on 22 September.

4. A list of Fascist Confederations and Institutions transferred to Northern Italy with part of their Archives (with their present locality) has been passed to G2 Advanced Intelligence AFHQ.

5. The Archives of the Naval Headquarters (Supermarina) have been brought back in 4 truck loads under the supervision of the undersigned and restored to the Ministero della Marina. These documents were in an underground tunnel at Santa Rosa, a few kilometres

from Rome, and were in danger of serious damage from damp. The collection, which covers every angle of the naval war in the Mediterranean, was in disorder, but is being sorted and re-organized by officials of the Regia Marina. This work is progressing well but will take 2 - 3 months to complete. Valuable material has already been passed to an Intelligence Unit (NAAF, Bombing Survey Unit). The undersigned in a report dated 12 September to G2 Advanced Intelligence AFHQ, emphasized the special importance of these archives from an historical angle. The Italian authorities fully recognize this consideration and though willing to co-operate are afraid of permanent loss through indiscriminate handling of individual documents. To allay these suspicions, a return of certain material removed by Intelligence Agents in the early days of Allied occupation, notably Naval War Diering, once this material has been fully exploited, would be of considerable assistance.

6. A complaint was received from the Presidenza del Consiglio that the archives of the Confederazione Fascista degli Industriali in the Palazzo dello Assicurazioni Generali di Venezia, Venezia, had suffered damage and dispersal as a result of the Allied occupation of that building. In reply, it was pointed out that very careful arrangements had been made for these Archives by the Property Control Division, A.M.S. Region IV, and that the entire deposit had been moved to the library in the basement, where it is at present safe and in good condition.

7. A portion of the documents removed from the Archivio Ordinario di Muenolini by the Information Division of A.M.S. and the Bombing Survey Unit of NAAF have been restored to their original collection. It is hoped to secure the remainder 4025.

8. Two visits have been made, on 12 September and 1 October, to Velletri where valuable books and archives are being dug from the rubble of the Palazzo Comunale. Very satisfactory progress has been made with this work and the results are an object lesson for what may be achieved under the most difficult circumstances - provided local enthusiasts are available.

9. During September the Cortile of the Palazzo della Spienza, the repository of Archivi di Stato and Archivi del Regno and of other temporary deposits including books, etc. the library of

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7. A proportion of the documents removed from the Archivio Ordinario di Masolini by the Information Division of A.M.C. and the Bombing Survey Unit of H.M.A.F. have been restored to their original collection. It is hoped to secure the remainder **4025**.

8. Two visits have been made, on 12 September and 3 October, to Velletri where valuable books and Archives are being dug from the rubble of the Palazzo Comunale. Very satisfactory progress has been made with this work and the results are an object lesson for what may be achieved under the most difficult circumstances - provided local enthusiasts are available.

9. During September the Cortile of the Palazzo della Sapienza, the repository of Archivi di Stato and Archivi del Regno and of other temporary deposits including Books from the Library of Naples etc., has been used for a series of theatrical and musical performances organized by the Catholic Theatre League. Such a use of premises of this kind is not entirely satisfactory, but adequate precautions against fire have been taken and the Archives staff are regularly in attendance.

T.E. Brooke, Capt. R.N.S.C.
Archives Officer. R.F.A.S.
Lazio-Umbria Region, A.M.C.

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

6 September 44

Subject:

Report of Archives Officer of
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Division,
Region IV, for month of August 44.

To:

Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts
& Archives, A.C.C.

1. Two points of special concern at the present time are:
 - a) arrangements for the safeguarding of the vast number of deposits of Archives in Northern Italy.
 - b) collaboration with the Italian authorities, notably Comm. Dott. Emilio Re, for the care of Archives generally in allied occupied territory.

2. Since 13 August the Italian Government have taken a step which is particularly helpful from the point of view of b). The Soprintendente has been put in charge of the department in the Ministry of Interior (Ufficio centrale degli Archivi di Stato) from which the more important Archives depend. 4024

3. As a result of the circular mentioned in previous reports, followed up by repeated personal interventions by the Soprintendente and the undersigned, it has been possible to compile a detailed list of the present whereabouts of the Archives of the Italian Ministries removed from Rome by Germans or Fascists. This comprises 32 separate localities, with a much greater number of detailed addresses, where documents of numerous departments are to be found. With the assistance of this information it should be possible to make some provision against damage by troops or

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4. The second object of this circular - a survey of the Ministerial Archives (Archivi del Regno) remaining in Rome, has not as yet been so completely achieved, but certain of the replies, notably that from the Ministero dell'Aeronautica, are remarkably detailed compilations. Both the State Department in Washington and

Intelligence agents in Rome have shown themselves to be interested in this work.

5. A second circular has been prepared which aims at a similar survey of the 50 branches and Sections of the State Archives (Archivi di Stato). This has already been sent out from the Ministry of Interior to these branches in allied occupied territory. It is planned to follow this up later with similar action for legal and municipal Archives.

6. From 24 August - 4 September Mr. Hilary Jenkinson C.B.E., adviser to the War Office, London on the Archives work of the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission paid a visit to Italy and spent several days in Rome. His main purpose was to examine the working of the machinery established by himself for this theatre of operations and to see where it could be improved. He held conferences with various personnel of G2 Advanced Intelligence A.F.H.Q., with the Soprintendente degli Archivi di Stato e del Regno and representatives of the Vatican. The Archives Officer arranged his programme in Rome and also accompanied him on a 3-day visit to Tuscany.

7. A circular dated 4 August over the signature of the Acting Chief Commissioner, A.C.C., called attention to the A.A.I. rules governing the removal of documents from their original source and the injunctions against dispersal or destruction. Outside of the A.C.C. this was distributed to P.W.B., J.I.C.A., G.A.C. and other Intelligence agencies.

4023

8. Col. Renato Nani, a former employee in the Secretariat of Mussolini, who assisted the undersigned in locating important documents in Rome and who provided information as to the Secret Archives of the Race removed to the north, has been under arrest for 5 weeks for suspected Republican sympathies. The extent of his usefulness and the fact that his integrity was vouched for by reliable sources has been the subject of various representations.

9. Inspections of Archives in the provinces have been made at Alatri, Anagni, Frosinone, Ferentino, Palestrina and Poli. Prof. Giulio Battelli of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano and Comm. Dott. Emilio de' Medici accompanied the undersigned on these trips. The

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4023

8. Col. Renato Nani, a former employee in the Secretariat of Mussolini, who assisted the undersigned in locating important documents in Rome and who provided information as to the Secret Archives of the Duce removed to the north, has been under arrest for 5 weeks for suspected Republican sympathies. The extent of his usefulness and the fact that his integrity was vouched for by reliable sources has been the subject of various representations.

9. Inspections of Archives in the provinces have been made at Alatri, Anagni, Frosinone, Ferentino, Palestrina and Velletri. Prof. Giulio Battelli of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano and Comm. Dott. Emilio Re accompanied the undersigned on these trips. The deposit of State Archives evacuated from Rome to Cerveteri has also been visited.

Under

T.H. Brooke, Capt. K.N.R.C.
Archivist,

Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives
Division, A.M.G., Region IV.

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~~SECRET~~ *Revised*
Donna R. Smith
10/10/45
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

REGION IV
MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES DIVISION

3 August 44

Subject: Report by the Archives Officer, Rome Region,
for the month of July, 1944.

To : Sub-Commission for Monuments, Fine Arts
& Archives, A.G.C.

Via : Chief Executive Officer, A.M.G.
Region IV.

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

- I. Policy.
- II. Modern administrative archives.
- III. The Archives of Mussolini.
- IV. Tours of Inspection.
- V. Conclusions.

I. Policy.

4022

1. The Archives officer, Rome Region, is charged with the safeguarding of all organized deposits of documents not only from the point of view of their historical value but of their importance to Italian life and administration. The protection of such collections is also complementary to the interests of Allied Intelligence Units.

2. The nature of these duties is not always fully realized and attention is called to this fact in a report dated 14 July ("Responsibility for the Custody of Archives"). This detailed some of the confusion that had occurred in Rome and pointed out the precise terms of the Archivist's authority as laid down in A.A.I. Adm.-Instruction No. 10, of 30 March 44.

3. There is now a welcome (though by no means as yet general) tendency to consult the Archives officer in all cases where the safety of documents is threatened by movement or other interference. A good

example was the action of the Director of the Property Control Division, Rome Region, A.R.C. (Major Shriver) in connection with the Library and Archives of the former Confederazione Fascista degli Industriali.

4. What is still urgently required is a wider appreciation of the necessity for correct procedure in the removal of documents from their original source for Intelligence or other necessary purposes. This procedure is laid down in an A.R.C. Intelligence Instruction No. 38 of 4 June 44 and requires the channeling of all such removals through a central register, the Documents Section C-2, Advanced A.F.H.C. The dangerous habit of regarding such regulations as avoidable "red tape" might well result both in unnecessary loss of documents and unnecessary difficulty for Intelligence agents in tracing vital material. The extreme instance of an important document leaving the country without further formality was brought to the attention of the Regional Commissioner and the draft of a circular is under consideration by the Executive Commissioner, A.R.C.

5. It is necessary often to emphasize the strictness of Italian Law in the matter of archives and the desirability of bringing Allied action into line with this. The penal code carries a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment for any person convicted of wilful damage or dispersal to public records. Equally important is the provision (under Law No. 2006 of 1939 art. 13) for the impounding by the State of the correspondence and papers of Public Officials at death. The archives officer raised this point in a Memorandum dated 23 June 44 to C-2 A.R.C. Rome Region, in connection with the arrest of certain Fascist Gerarchi. The publication in the press of alleged extracts from Giano's Diary again calls attention to it. As was pointed out in an article printed by L'Unita on 27 July there is at the present moment an important amount of similar material remaining in private hands, quite improperly so. The point has been discussed with the Public Relations Division of A.R.C.

II. Modern Administrative Archives.

4021

1. The problems affecting these archives were discussed in general in the "Memorandum on Archives in Rome during the first four weeks of occupation" submitted on 2 July 44.

2. Following discussions on 4 - 5 July between members of the Italian Government, the Superintendente of the Archivio del Regno, and the undersigned, a circular dated 22 July has been sent out to all Ministries over the signature of Prime Minister Bonomi. This document emphasizes the value of archives for the life of the country and orders a detailed survey of their present condition. Replies are expected before 10 August 44.

3. The Archives officer has made numerous visits to the Italian ministries following their return to Rome. In every case the heads of Departments are well aware of the importance of strict custody. In the

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Ministry of Corporations has asked for the transfer of the Archives of the latter, pointing out their essential administrative value. The Archives officer has supported this request subject to certain precautions. It may be observed that these Archives were barely saved from destruction by the intervention of the undersigned during the occupation of the Ministry of Corporations by the Hq. of A.C.G. (see separate report dated 25 June 44).

5. The premises of 4 of the central Ministries continue in occupation by Allied Units. (See previous report for June).

6. In the Ministry of Aeronautica occupied by the Hq. of A.A.I. there was looting among the Archives by Allied troops in the first week of July. Repositories were broken into and ransacked for valuables, resulting in dispersal, if not loss, of important documents. The incident was a grave one as the occupying unit had given every assurance that the Archives would be well protected. Following a report by the undersigned dated 11 July, it is understood that the Director of the Air Force Sub-Commission, A.C.G. (Air Vice Marshall Bowen-Buesarlet) took strong measures to prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

III. The Archives of Mussolini.

1. The secret Archives of Mussolini, which are among the most important collections of their kind in the world, (having for more than 20 years been maintained with the most scrupulous completeness and care) are thought to be still in the north of Italy. The most recent information as to their precise whereabouts and the details as to their storage etc. has been reported by the Archives Officer to G-2, Advanced Intelligence, A.Z.H.A. A message has also been passed, calling attention to the unique value of this material, to the partisans working in the area (through the appropriate A.C.G. channels). It is hoped in this way to provide for some possibility of their safety in the event of a sudden collapse of enemy resistance.

2. The small amount of miscellaneous papers, printed works, etc. (some of considerable value) remaining in the Palazzo Venezia has now been re-united with the Archivio Ordinario of Mussolini in the Viale. This collection remains under strict guard. With the approval of G-2, A.Z.H.A., Rome Region, an Italian official, Col. Mani, who has worked closely with the Archives Officer for the safety of these documents, has been put in charge, to arrange the papers and supervise any necessary access to them.

3. The Intelligence Officers working for the Bombing Survey Unit of W.A.A.F. found certain valuable material for their purpose among these papers and are making copies of this. 40-9

4. The Information Division of A.C.G. who were given permission to remove certain books of reference on the recommendation of the undersigned, have also carried away a quantity of archival material which is unsuitable for inclusion in a reference library of that kind. It is hoped that all

this may be returned to its proper place immediately with the exception of a single file, which, because of its special importance, has been forwarded direct to Washington.

(Note. The Archive Officer though appreciating the intentions of the Information Division has protested strongly against the serious mishandling of these documents).

IV. Tours of Inspection.

1. From the 3 - 6 July the Archives Officer together with Com. Superintendente of the Archivio del Regno, and Prof. Sattelli of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano made a visit to Naples and Salerno, stopping at various war damaged centres en route.

The two most important results of this tour were:

- a) The circular sent out by Prime Minister Scelvi, mentioned above (under II., 4).
- b) Circular letters sent out by Cardinal Magliana, Secretary of the Vatican State, calling attention to the necessity of safeguarding Ecclesiastical Archives and asking for statements, in individual cases, as to their present condition.

Important experience was also gained of general archive problems in a ruined town such as Yellistri and a destroyed building such as the Cathedral at Caserta.

2. On the 12 July the same party visited Viterbo, Montefiascone, Albano and Orvieto. The important collection of documents exhumed from the Archivio di Stato at Rome to the church of the Agostiniani at Orvieto were found intact and in good condition. Their present custody is satisfactory but it would be advisable to bring them back to Rome before the winter. 3 - 6 lorries would be required for this purpose.

3. On 21 July the same party visited Fivoli and inspected the Cathedral Archives, Notarial Archives and Town Archives: the best of the latter are under the rubble of the bombed library, and steps were taken to implement the rapid rescue of this deposit.

4. These "combined operations" are a particularly useful development and promise good results for the work that lies ahead.

V. Conclusions.

1. The Archives officer has the very fullest cooperation from the various sections of G-2 Advanced Intelligence, A.F.M.C. and from Rome Region, A.M.C., G-2. He has also worked closely with the Intelligence officers of the Bombing Survey unit of M.A.A.F., an organization which is widely concerned with the general safety of Archives.

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2. The Information Division of A.C.G. have recently come into the picture with their desire to act as a central bureau for the exploitation of Archives by Allied officers. Their original intention to form a collection of documents in the Hq. of A.C.G. has now been modified and it is hoped that the dangers apparent in such a scheme may be avoided. It was perhaps unfortunate that such a project was ever started without a preliminary study of the existing regulations. Until satisfied that these will be strictly adhered to under all circumstances the attitude of the Archives officer is of necessity one of vigilance.

3. Much help has been received from the Italians, and the general willingness to collaborate continues to be a feature of the work in Rome. The assistance of the Soprintendente of the Archivio del Regio, Comm. Emilio Re, is outstanding.

/s/

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

4018

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ROME REGION
APO. 394

Restricted

Josephine
K. G.
18/10/45

2 July 44

Subject: Memorandum on Archives in Rome during the first four weeks of occupation.

To: Chief Executive Officer,
A.M.G. Rome Region.

For convenience this Memorandum is subdivided under the following headings:

- I. Archives of the central Italian Ministries.
- II. Archives of Mussolini.
- III. Archives of Fascist Institutions.
- IV. Historical Collections.
 - a. Lay Archives.
 - b. Ecclesiastical Archives.
- V. Conclusions.

I. ARCHIVES OF THE CENTRAL ITALIAN MINISTRIES.

The Law in Italy guarantees special safeguards for the Archives of the Central Government.

These in theory should be transferred after a certain date to the repositories of the Archivio del Regno, in the Palazzo della Sapienza and other buildings, under the custody of the Soprintendente of the Archivio di Stato and the Archivio del Regno. In this respect however the practice in Rome has been somewhat different from that in London or Washington. A number of the more important Italian Ministries (Foreign Affairs for example) have made no transfer of their Archives since the formation of the present kingdom, while even the newer Fascist Ministries such as the

401

Ministry of Corporations have retained within their buildings important deposits from earlier organisations, which may date from 1848.

In considering therefore the protection of the "National Archives" of Italy it is necessary to pay attention to individual Ministries not only from the point of view of their important current Archives (Archivi correnti) but also often for the vast quantity of earlier material (Archivi di deposito) contained in elaborate and hitherto well administered repositories.

The special dangers during the period of the war and more particularly the last 12 months may be summarized as follows:

(A) Removal by German or Fascist Authorities.

A general policy of removal to the North of a considerable proportion of the more important recent Archives was carried out by all the Ministries before the arrival of the Allies in Rome.

The amount moved varies considerably: in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for example very little remains for the period 1933-43; the Ministry of Public Works on the other hand has lost comparatively little. At the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance transport difficulties saved a proportion of the Archives that were already crated and stacked for evacuation.

In one important instance, the Ministry of Justice, it is reported that the evacuated Legal Records were bombed and in large part destroyed en route to the North.

In spite of these removals the amount remaining in situ in the various Ministries was of sufficiently gigantic size to upset more or less completely the plans that had been made by "S" Force for the exploitation of these Archives for Intelligence purposes, as will be noted later (see below under (B)).

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Remedy. The natural objective - the capture intact of all evacuated documents and their return to rightful custody - remains for the future and can only be realized in part.

In the meantime an important preliminary is the preparation by individual Ministries of a comprehensive

statement with precise lists of the missing classes, files etc.

I have discussed the situation at length with Comm. Dott. Emilio Re, Soprintendente of the Archivio del Regno, and on 15 June a member of his staff, Prof. Mascotti, was sent to Salerno with a letter addressed to the Presidenza del Consiglio pointing out the desirability of a circular to be sent to each of the Ministries asking for such returns. Further developments are expected after the discussions at Salerno during the visit planned for Comm. Re and myself in the coming week.

In the immediate future it will be necessary for me to collaborate closely both with the Italian Authorities and our own Intelligence Forces, who, working from a different angle, have a special interest in the saving intact of these important Archives.

In addition, as a vital factor in their immunity from unnecessary dispersal or loss, it will also be necessary to interest other Allied Military personnel at a high administrative level, as it is only from such quarters that sufficiently strong discipline in the matter of document - containing buildings can be enforced.

(B) Deliberate destruction for Salvage.

During the acute war - time paper shortage in Italy the same demands have been made for wholesale destruction of Records as confronted the Archivists of England and possibly other countries.

Concessions have been made and the normal regulations governing the salvage of less important material are considerably relaxed. "Scarti" (lists of documents specially condemned to destruction) have been numerous. 4015

Remedy. It is important that the legal authority vested in the officials of the Archivio del Regno in the matter of "Scarti" should be enforced and their normal peace-time control restored.

This is essentially an Italian administrative question, but in the meantime, purely as an emergency measure, the matter was raised in the letter mentioned above sent to the Presidenza del Consiglio on 15 June. It was pointed out

that it would be desirable to avoid further "scarti" for the time being.

(C) Negligent Custody.

In these times there is a danger that a subject of rather "long term" interest such as the conservation of Archives should be treated with less than usual respect. The necessary regulations for technical "custody" are apt to be relaxed and even physical mishandling allowed to go unchecked.

It would be incredible normally for an ordinary commercial business to set up its stalls and paraphernalia among the Archives of the Kingdom, but such is at present the case in the Archivio of the Ministry of Public Instruction, where space has been found for the "beached out" Tobacco Monopoly. When I visited these premises on June 25 I found customers queuing up among the records. They were under no sort of control and several of them were smoking.

The possibility of similar casual neglect elsewhere in the future is a factor to be considered.

Remedy. In the instance quoted above the removal of the cigarette vendors will no doubt be effected; in the meantime guards and reasonable fire precautions have been secured, but it will be necessary for the Italian Government to insist on general discipline in such matters.

(D) Requisitioning by Allied Units.

4014

The premises of three Italian Ministries have been requisitioned by various Allied Units; these are:

- a. The Ministry of Italian Africa. (803 Military Police Battalion).
- b. The Ministry of Popular Culture. (P.S.N.)
- c. The Ministry of Corporations. (HQ. A.C.C.)

The occupation of the first two buildings was effected without any loss of Archives, thanks to the co-operation of the Units concerned. Colonel Downing of the 803 Mil.

Police Battalion reported personally to me before allowing anything to be moved and went to great trouble in organising the safety of the contents of the building. P.W.B. on their own initiative arranged for the safety of the Archives of the Ministry of Popular Culture and were prepared to find accommodation for "refugee" deposits from the Ministry of Corporations across the way.

Unfortunately the occupation by the HQ. of A.C.C. of the Ministry of Corporations is a very different story. It was not effected without some (though fortunately slight) loss of Archives. The episode has been the subject of a separate detailed report by myself.

Remedy. It is evident that special risks are attendant in the requisitioning of buildings at a very high level of authority. Such requisitions often side-track the normal channels, and are carried out with urgent haste.

I had an arrangement with the Real Estate Section of Rome Region, A.M.G., for access to their lists of requisitioned buildings. The Ministry of Corporations only appeared on their lists after a long delay and the Fascist Party HQ. (see below under III) requisitioned as a Fifth Army rest centre has never yet appeared.

Nothing can be done on my part except to emphasize the important principle involved and the danger (from the point of view of the prosecution of the war) of the casual dispersal of Archives, even deposits that superficially may appear of little value. The jeopardised contents of the Ministry of Corporations were in point of fact required for intelligence purposes by several different organisations. +

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* Note. The occupation of a fourth Ministry, Aeronautica, by the HQ. of A.A.I., came to the attention of the Archive Officer too late for details to be included in this report. This again was an example of the Real Estate Section, Rome Region, lacking the necessary information.

(E) Removal of Archives for Allied Intelligence purposes.

Before the fall of Rome this danger had been given much consideration and plans were drawn up by "S" Force (with specialist Archival advice) to control the exploitation of Archives by a system of passes and a careful record of all removals, with a view to their eventual return.

The amount of material remaining in the various Ministries however was so great that "S" Force were not prepared to deal with it in the way they had expected. It was obvious that searches would have to be conducted in the Archives in situ instead of by removal, a result that was eminently satisfactory from my point of view.

Of all material collected by "S" Force, the lists of which I have examined carefully, only a very tiny proportion is Archival, affecting 3 Ministries, and I am satisfied that in the case of those few items the original rules have been adhered to.

(F) Other dangers.

Various other potential dangers have existed or exist: for example damage by bombardment, damage by Anti-fascist demonstrations, damage by civilian paper looters, damage by deliberate removal of incriminating documents etc. It is unnecessary to discuss these matters further as no examples have as yet come to light.

II. ARCHIVES OF MUSSOLINI.

4012

Of vital importance from many angles are the Archives of Mussolini (Archivi della Segreteria del Capo del Governo). These comprise:

- a. Archivio militare segreto.
- b. Archivio riservato (including Archives relating to the Royal Family).

g. Archivio ordinario

The original searches made by "G" Force in the Palazzo Venezia, the Villa Torlonia (the Duce's private residence) and other localities did not succeed in tracing any of these deposits and it was at first thought that they had been transported bodily to the north.

On June 12th however, with the help of the Soprintendente of the Archivio del Regno, Comm. Emilio Re, I was able to discover the whole of the Archivio ordinario intact in the Viminale. This collection alone contains more than 100,000 files of personal correspondence covering a wide variety of family and other interests and is of considerable historical importance. I placed it under guard and reported to "G" Force.

Of the Archivio militare segreto and the Archivio riservato it is not proposed to give further details in this report. Important information has been acquired and passed to the Chief Security Officer A.C.C. (Col. Young) who approves of the present handling of the problem.

III.

ARCHIVES OF FASCIST INSTITUTIONS.

4011

Apart from the Archives of the Duce, Rome formerly contained other large collections of purely Fascist Archives which have a certain importance if only from the point of view of the history of the last 20 years, e.g.:

- a. Archives of the Partito Nazionale Fascista
- b. Archives of the Gran Consiglio
- c. Archives of the Tribunale speciale
- d. Archives of the Gioventù Italiana Littoria, the Balilla, and other military and youth organisations.
- e. The Nostra della Rivoluzione Fascista.

(Note. This Exhibition contained not only documents of special interest relating to the Fascist movement but Archives, selected for their historical importance, from earlier periods including the Risorgimento and the Great War.)

The eventual preservation and custody of the above material, were it to have survived intact, might have presented a somewhat embarrassing problem for the future Italian Archives, but it would appear likely that force of circumstances will result in a very drastic reduction in the size of these particular deposits.

The dangers listed under I above have here worked with striking results. The Archives of the former Fascist Party Headquarters in the Foro Mussolini is an illustration of what may occur. Its most valuable portion was removed to the north; what remained was found by "G" Force in confusion, with documents piled feet high in room after room. It was impossible to do more than remove a selection for intelligence purposes and guards were posted to protect the remainder for later examination. Almost immediately the whole area was occupied by a combat unit; the Chief of the Engineer Section, 5th Army (Brig.-Gen. Bowman) signed for responsibility to G2 Rome Region for the safety of the Archives, but probably without his knowledge these were carried away in lorries to an unknown fate. The incident has been the subject of a special report by myself to the Chief Executive Officer, Rome Region (Col. Ames).

The Mostra della Rivoluzione Fascista was looted by a democratic mob on 6 June and when entered by myself, its contents were in disorder. In a courtyard there were the remains of a considerable bonfire, evidently of papers. I think however that the more important documents had been removed to the north sometime last year as I have seen correspondence relating to this in the Intendenza della Pisanza. An Intelligence Officer from F.W.B. who inspected the premises on my advice removed certain Archival Material for which he has given me a receipt. The building has been under guard since 7 June. 401

The Archives of the Tribunale Speciale were mostly carried away to the north; what remained were in sealed rooms in a guarded building. I found that most of these seals had been broken, reportedly by a drunk soldier, but it appears without damage to the contents.

As to what remains in the Foro Mussolini, chiefly the Archives of the S.I.L., Palilla etc., a Lt. Cross of the occupying unit, HQ. Air Force Rest Camp, is now taking a personal interest in the saving of whatever may be possible. There is a first rate underground repository and documents are being cleared from the various rooms into this. Unfortunately, before my arrival a proportion had undoubtedly been destroyed.

I found some being burnt and others on a stinking refuse heap.

IV.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

a. Lay Archives.

No damage has been reported to any of the collections of State, Notarial or Family Archives within Rome Region.

Among the collections deposited in the Vatican are the Archivio Castani, Archivio Borghese, Archivio Barberini and Archivio Respighiosi.

The Archivi di Stato, which contain deposits from the 10th century and other material of the greatest importance are under magnificent supervision in the Palazzo della Sapienza. A few cases of documents were evacuated to the Church of the Annunziata at Orvieto and this has been reported to the Officers of the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission working with the 8th Army and also to the C.A.C., Orvieto.

The Archivio Aldobrandini was evacuated to the family Villa at Frascati; the building was damaged by shell-fire but the Regional M.F.A.A. Officer (Lt. Cott) reported that the Archives are intact.

b. Ecclesiastical Archives.

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The Ecclesiastical Archives in Rome Region have been similarly immune, but in a wider field I have been able to make some progress with an important project that has been under consideration for sometime. This is for the Church Authorities to circularise the Dioceses with a request for information as to damage to Archives, with a view to co-operation with the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission in the matter of first aid and repair.

10

On June the 10th I prepared a short report on the conditions of Ecclesiastical Archives in occupied territory and the problem involved. This was forwarded to the Vatican by Comm. Re.

On the 20th June I had a long audience in the Vatican with H.E. Cardinal Mercati, Prof Battelli of the Archivio Segreto Vaticano, Don Mauro Inguarez, Montecassino Archivist, the Prefect of the Vatican Library and Comm. Re were also present. The immediate results of this conference have been:

1. A circular letter dated 23 June from Cardinal Mercati to the incumbents of all churches in the war affected areas of Lazio, calling on them to have special care for their Archives and to report any damage to the Allied Authorities.

2. A plan, to materialize during the coming week, for co-operation between Prof. Battelli (from the staff of the Vatican), Comm. Re and myself in a visit to Salerno and Naples. In the course of which it is hoped to formulate a precise policy for the future protection of Church Archives, after an inspection of the damage in such places as Capua and Benevento, where the salvage has been in progress for some time.

This co-operation between officials representing the Lay and Ecclesiastical Archives, which has been a little difficult since the Concordat took away from the Soprintendente his earlier supervisory duties vis à vis Church Archives, is an important development.

V.

CONCLUSIONS .

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1. The promise of useful work in the field of Italian Archives is primarily the result of the help I have received from the Soprintendente, Comm. Re. Without the collaboration, which officials everywhere are ready to offer, little could be effected.

2. On the Allied side my liaison with "G" Force was invaluable and I continue to work in close touch with Col. Fischer (G2) and Capt. Barcroft. This is important not only for Rome, but for developments further north. I have also co-operated with other organisations interested in the conservation of Archives, the Intelligence Section of P.W.B.

and two Air Force Officers Flight-Lt. Coar and Squadron-Leader Angles, who are working on a mission for the Bombing Survey Unit, R.A.A.F., in researching for evidence of bomb damage.

From the angle of guards and police, the Deputy Chief of security, A.M.G., Rome Region, (Major Battersby), besides being helpful in providing personnel for these jobs, has insisted on rigorous discipline in the handling of the various deposits of Police Archives.

3. My experiences in Rome have emphasized the importance of numerous personal inspections. Loop-holes in the general arrangements for the safeguarding of Archives are apt to be important (the unguarded Archivio Mussolini is an obvious example). In the first 14 days in Rome I was much handicapped by not having any transport particularly with the telephone not working.

4. At the present time the chief menace to the safety of Archives are requisitions of buildings at a high level of military Authority (see under I (D) and III above).

T.H.B.

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

4067

*Copy to War Office Adviser on
Monuments & Transmissions &
Delay Penetration by.*

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APC 394

Subcommission for Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives.

THB/rjj

20905/MTAA

8 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Archives.

TO : The Director, MTAA & A Subcommission, ACC.

1. I arrived in Rome with Lt. F.B. Cott.

2. I have had three long interviews with Com. Emilio Re, the Superintendent of the Archivi di Stato for Central Italy, who has the widest possible experience of Archives and is anxious to help in every way.

I have given him a summary statement of the work already done along the lines laid down by Mr. Jenkinson and he has examined the list of Archives (to which he has made several useful additions for the city of Rome, but fortunately none of prime urgency). He is distinctly impressed with the work of the Subcommission.

3. Main points are under urgent consideration.

a. The securing of information as to the whereabouts of evacuated Archives. So far as Rome itself is concerned, only a small quantity of the Archivi di Stato were moved; to the Cathedral of Orvieto - and the other important collections, apart from certain recent records removed by the Germans or Fascists, are all either in situ or in the Vatican. But undoubtedly there has been considerable evacuation projects carried out in other important centres and information should be available from the Ministry of Interior, when this building can be entered. At present "G" force are in full possession.

b. Plans for first aid and salvage in the towns most affected by the war. For example, Terracina, which I visited with Lt. Cott, where three collections of Archives are either buried under debris or disordered by blast.

c. Plans for survey of Ecclesiastical Archives in connection with the war.

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b. Plans for first aid and salvage in the towns most affected by the war. For example, Terracina, which I visited with Lt. Cott, where three collections of Archives are either buried under debris or disordered by blast. 4006

c. Plans for survey of Ecclesiastical Archives in collaboration with the Vatican along the lines already proposed. Com. Re is a personal friend of Cardinal Mercati, the Vatican Librarian and Archivist and is meeting him at an early date. I am preparing a short report on the state of such Ecclesiastical Archives as the Subcommittee has been able to inspect for the Cardinal's information. In this connection I have kept Mr. Carroll informed of the position and I anticipate an interview with the parties interested shortly. At the first opportunity I shall mention the question of 'Tesorii', in liaison with Lt. Cott.

3. In view of the fortunate absence of war damage in Rome itself, I decided that from the point of view of inspections (a very difficult task in the present absence of any transport) my first concern must be the various collections of Modern Archives, supposedly under the protection of "G" force. One of the first places I visited was the collection of Fascist Archives, books, etc. which are preserved as part of the "Mostra della Rivoluzione Fascista" in a section of National Gallery of Modern Art. I found that the building, which was without guards, had been broken into the day previously by a band of Communists who have removed certain objects. The exhibition rooms had immediately been closed by the civil authorities and I have not as yet had an opportunity to enter and examine the damage. After covering

vast distances of Rome on foot I succeeded in securing guards for the entire building, with the Art Gallery portion and the Exhibition portion which should at least prevent further displays of current political fervour.

I am continuing to make further inspections of similar institutions. Later on I shall visit collections such as the A. Notarile, A. Capitolini and the various important family Archives, none of which I judge to be in immediate danger.

4. The entire contents of the Archivio at Montecassino are reported by Com. de as being intact in the Vatican, transported there by the Germans. I have seen a list of the various classes of documents, codices etc. which Com. de assures me are complete. I have asked Mr. Carroll to verify this, a necessary precaution before the release of this important news. I believe all the more valuable portions of the Library is similarly safe.

5. I am in touch with Major Gave of "S" force and also the Deputy Chief of the Public Security Section AMG, Major Battersby, and am reasonably confident that the plans previously agreed on for the safeguarding of archives during their exploitation for intelligence or police purposes are being carried out.

6. I have reported to Col. Ames on the difficulties of carrying out my duties without transport and have emphasized that the responsibility for any damage similar to that in the Fascist Exhibition rests with those responsible for the present distribution of vehicles.

7. Two points of a non-archival nature for the information of the Subcommission:

a. Nearly 700 boxes of books of the National Library at Naples (including one of the B. Croce's collections) found by the Germans at Teano were transported to the A. di Stato at Rome (Pall. della Sapienza) and are safely stored away there.

b. The magnificent library at Frascati (building destroyed) had been previously evacuated to the Vatican.

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405

/s/ T.H. Brooke

~~For the Director~~

Capt., ARRC.
WFAA Sub-Com.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

1 May 1944

MEMORANDUM: Italian Archives.

TO: Brigadier M. S. Lush, C.B.E., M.C.

FROM: Hilary Jenkinson.

In continuation of my memorandum dated 12 April 1944, I venture to summarise the conclusions reached during my recent short tour with Captain Brooke in Calabria and Sicily, during which we inspected or received reports concerning thirty Repositories* of Archives in eight towns and several temporary places of deposit.

(1). I have visited hardly any town in which I did not find serious trouble of some kind which needed attention; a building was damaged and nothing had been done by the (Italian) Provincial or Communal Authorities for its repair; the Archivist had disappeared and no one had taken his place; some thousands of volumes had become wet and no steps had been taken to dry them; and so forth.

(2). Many of these Archives were not of a nature to come to the attention of the specialists of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission.

(3). In no case had the problem, or the fact that a problem might exist, been brought to the attention of the Regional or Provincial Commissioner.

(4). A good (Italian) Archivist might do, and in some instances has done, much to improve the situation. A notable case is that of Dott. Gentile, Director of the Archivio di Stato at Palermo and Superintendent of Archives for the whole of Sicily, who has printed a general report on the state of the various Archivi di Stato in Sicily as a result of the war, and was prepared at my request to interest himself not only in his special charge--the Archivio di Stato at Palermo--but in all non-ecclesiastical Archives in his Region. 4004

(5). Even to so good an Archivist as Dott. Gentile, I was able to suggest a number of directions in which further activity was required, and to point out one case of neglect (in his own town) which was imperilling thousands of important volumes. And most of the Archivists or other official custodians very definitely required stimulation and the promise of official support.

* Making in all about 70 Repositories on which I have reported during my mission to Italy.

(6). There was no case which we reported to the Regional or Provincial Commissioner in which he was not able to promise support and practical assistance.

(7). For the safeguarding of the purely modern Archives (those of Local Courts, Police, Land Registries, and so forth), so important for Intelligence and Economic purposes, practically no special provision exists.

The result is to confirm my opinion that there is more than full-time work for all the Archives specialists we are likely to have attached to A.C.C.. It is necessary that they should be in touch with all Regional and Provincial Commissioners and with the more important Italian Archivists; that they should personally inspect as many as possible of the Listed Archive Repositories; and that as the Army advances they should follow as closely as circumstances permit. They should, in addition, maintain our present close contact with the Intelligence Sections from the special point of view of safeguarding modern Archives.

I am also confirmed in the opinion that it is most desirable to forward for the information of all Regional and Provincial Commissioners the short Memorandum and Lists of Archives Repositories to which I have already called your attention.

I was impressed with the desirability of making experiences in Sicily (in regard to Archives as in other matters) the basis for definite policy elsewhere, and am hopeful that arrangements I was able to make at Palermo not only with Dott. Gentile, but with Mons. Pottino (in regard to Ecclesiastical Archives) may result in something like an adequate survey of Archives in Region I as they have been affected by the war.** The recent use by German propaganda of stories of alleged looting by American troops from Sicilian Archives shows that this has, apart from other considerations, a measure of political importance.

As I hope to go to England shortly, I have put on paper (copy attached) a summary, agreed by Major de Wald, of the duties of Archivists posted to A.C.C.; for the guidance of Capt. Brooke and, I hope, Capt. Ellis. I shall try to visit the latter on my way home.

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** It is desirable that another visit should presently be made to Sicily for the purpose of gathering up the information thus compiled and making some further inspections.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394HJ/hd
32
(33 copies)

SG 314.8 (12 Apr 44).

12 April 1944

MEMORANDUM: ACC Archives

TO: Brigadier M.S. Lush, CBE, MC, Executive Commissioner

FROM: Hilary Jenkinson

I have recently brought nearly to a conclusion my List of Italian Archives. This was a first requirement and in the absence of any assistant I have had to spend a large part of my time up to now upon it. The posting of Capt. Brooke, who can take over the last stages, has made it possible for me to turn to the question of safe-guarding Modern Archives; which hardly come within the scope of the M.F.A. and A. Sub-Commission, but which do form part of my charge and have been much on my mind. The arrival almost at the same time of Mr. Shipman, Librarian to President Roosevelt, who comes over with a special instruction to report on this subject, has made it opportune to resume conferences which I had previously had with Major Cave and we have reached certain conclusions. I have also been able to confer with Mr. Shipman about the general question of Archives in relation to the work of A.C.C.-- what has been done and what is possible; bearing in mind the fact that it may presumably be necessary to base procedure elsewhere on experience here. Mr. Shipman, as I understand, was to have been sent from America, under an arrangement made last December, in much the same capacity as that in which I came from England; and it seemed proper, therefore, to discuss with him the whole situation as it has shaped itself during my mission here.

(1.) The List. This contains items included in the printed list of Monuments (to be issued with 'Administrative Instruction No. 10') but in a slightly more detailed form and with many additions. In particular an Introductory Note (which you have seen) and a short Appendix will, I hope, give some indication of the very large number of accumulations of Archives which for various reasons cannot be included in the List, and of the places where they may be found.

In the conversations I have been able to have with Regional Officers I have found that they all (very naturally), raised the question of the nature and position of the Archives for which protection was desired; and I should like to arrange for the circulation from time to time, for the information of Officers concerned, of the Introductory Note and Appendix with the part of the List relevant in each case. It is arranged under Regions.

(2) Modern Italian Archives. In company with Mr. Shipman I have had a long conference with Major Cave; when we formulated a note of our conclusions, a copy of which I was asked to shew you. Briefly we were of opinion that the arrangements already planned by G-2 Advanced Intelligence, with certain small modifications, some information which Mr. Shipman and I can provide and some liaison with M.F.A. & A. Sub-Commission, should make it possible, without

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SG 314.8 (12 Apr 44).

creating extra machinery or extra work, to secure for Modern Archives of all kinds a measure of protection similar to that which we hope will be given to ancient ones as a result of 'Administrative Instruction No. 10.'

This is of course the most immediate matter. Certain larger questions such as the ultimate fate of Archives which it is found necessary to remove from their repositories for Intelligence and Operational purposes, are matters of policy to be discussed later. If it is found possible to implement what we have proposed in our Note, the Modern will have been linked up with the Ancient and the whole field of Italian Archives will ~~then~~ be, in my opinion, covered. A reasonable measure of protection will thus be made possible, (subject of course to the unavoidable needs and chances of War) and it will remain to see that the means provided are utilised.

(3.) The Work of Archivists attached to A.C.C. It seems clear that this cannot be entirely linked to that of M.F.A. & A.; there is the connexion with Intelligence and it is desirable that there should be some liaison with the Archives Department of A.C.C.; on which also I have, as you know, been working. The solution--short of creating a special sub-section--seems to be to ~~attach~~ the Archivists to M.F.A. & A. but with an instruction that the other two Sections have some call upon their services when necessary and they have the duty to keep in touch with the other Sections' work.

As regards immediate work there is plenty to be done (even if Captain Ellis returns, as I hope he may) in inspection of Archives, in the perfection of the Lists, and (I suppose I may add) in preparation for possible work on the same lines in other fields. There is, in fact, work for more than two and Mr. Shipman is anxious to arrange for the completion of the establishment as originally authorised by the appointment of at least one more Archivist, from America.

I think you concurred when I suggested the other day that I should continue to advise from London and should presently come on another visit, to this I can now add that I should propose to keep in close touch with Mr. Shipman, who represents not only the President but the head of the Archives At Washington.

Arthur Jenkins

4001

MEMORANDUM TO MAJOR DE WALD
M.F.A. AND A. SUB-COMMISSION.

I have just heard that my transport has been arranged for tomorrow morning; and as I may not be seeing you for a week I think I had better report that I have completed the first draft of the List of Archives for the Southern Regions and had it typed: I hope to leave a copy, starred, for your information. That for the Central Regions is already in your hands.

I have also nearly completed and had typed the Draft List for the Northern Regions (I expect to have at least Emilia, Liguria, Lombardia and Veneto done before I go). It should therefore be possible, with little delay, on my return, to revise the List as a whole, add a few prefatory notes and put it in hand for mimeographing. I hope that, imperfect as it will be, it may still prove a useful addition to your works of reference.

In this connection, I should like to add that my work on these Lists, compiled from very insufficient data, has confirmed and emphasized the feeling I expressed initially that no precautions for safeguarding Italian Records can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory if they do not include a general intimation, conveyed by the medium of orders as widely as possible, that all organized accumulations of written papers or books, whether they seem old or not, and whether they do or do not figure specifically in lists, must be protected from unnecessary disposal or destruction. Please make any use you may think proper of this considered opinion.

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Hilary Jenkinson

Hilary Jenkinson

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

HJ/bmg

20905/11AA

1 March 1944.

MEMORANDUM to The Director, M.F.A. & A. Subcommission.

The Special Questions relating to Archives.

1. I have now, I think, in hand up to a point the preparation of a list of places where Archives are or should be deposited. The list compiled by the American Council of Learned Societies, and issued (August 1943) by the Archives Department at Washington, and the new Section 17 of the Civil Affairs Handbook (which apparently derives from it most of its information on this subject), with some details which I have been able to supply from other sources, will make possible a list which I think there should be no difficulty in incorporating in your Office List; and which it will be possible to grade so that selected items from it, not too numerous, of Archives of the first importance may figure in the printed list which, as I understand, you hope to have issued to all Units above a certain strength. I am carrying on with this work with the aid of Sig. Filangieri and hope to have it roughly finished in a few days.

2. There are, however, a number of serious gaps in it: specially in regard to

- i. Ecclesiastical Archives;
- ii. Notarial Archives;
- iii. the Archives of Semi-Public Institutions such as Universities and other Learned or Professional Bodies, the great Banks etc.;
- iv. Private Archives (whether of Individuals or Corporations);
- v. the Archives of Local Authorities not forming part of the deposits in Archivi di Stato or Archivi Provinciali; and
- vi. the purely Modern Archives of Provincial Branches of Central Administration for the purposes of taxation, Land Registration and so forth.

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- v. the Archives of Local Authorities not forming part of the deposits in Archivi di Stato or Archivi Provinciali; and
- vi. the purely Modern Archives of Provincial Branches of Central Administration for the purposes of Taxation, Land Registration and so forth, of local Courts and Police, of Fascist Organisations, of all the very numerous Federations, Confederations, Corporations, Unions, Syndicates and the like to which Italian Law gives a quasi-public character, and of the Commercial and Trading Corporations to which also the same Law assigns a certain public interest.

3. Obviously not all of these Archives concern your Sub-Commission. On the other hand you will see that as an Archivist I can hardly draw a line anywhere at which my interest can be said to end; and in connexion with the other part of my mission (that relating to modern Foreign Office Records) I have had occasion to see that there are various Sections of A.C.C. which, though not concerned with Archives as such, have a strong interest in the preservation of certain of the categories of modern Archives named above.

4. In this connexion I wrote for Major Cave, of the advanced Intelligence Section, a Memorandum of which you have a copy; in which I expressed strong agreement with the suggestion which he had made to me that there should be an early meeting of

representatives of Sections interested to discuss possible measures of protection.

5. In the same Memorandum I called attention to the special danger to which Archives are subject owing to their unique character, to their easy destructibility, to the fact that they may be damaged almost as irretrievably by dispersal as by actual destruction, and to the general ignorance, even among men who might be expected to appreciate the possible value of a picture or sculpture, of the possible value of these stores of papers or registers; especially when these are not obviously antique.

6. I took the opportunity of a conversation with Brigadier Lush yesterday to press strongly this point: because I see no possible way of dealing with the danger, in view of the enormous quantity of such Archives, except the preparation of a very short and simple explanation of the possible value of old papers and a similarly brief explanation of the way in which, with little trouble, they may be safeguarded when they are found in buildings which have to be occupied for military purposes; coupled with strict orders for the execution of such recommendations. Brigadier Lush asked me to prepare some notes of this kind to be added to an order which, as I understand, is actually in preparation concerning the protection of Ancient Monuments.

7. In this connexion it is perhaps worth while to interpolate, in reference to the danger from looting, dispersal or destruction by Civilians, a suggestion (already made in the American compilation) that advantage might be taken of Article 351 in the Italian Penal Code which provides severe penalties against 'any one who takes away, suppresses, destroys, disperses, or spoils ... documents ... which are expressly kept in a public office, or in the custody of a public official, or of any employee who renders public services ...'. The Italian conception of what constitutes a public record is very elastic.

8. Such an order, or clause in an order, as I have suggested in special relation to MSS. would, of course, have value not only in regard to Modern Archives but also for the safeguarding of the more ancient ones with which your Sub-Commission is concerned and to which I now return.

9. Ecclesiastical Archives. There are or should be in or in the neighbourhood of (presumably) every ancient Cathedral Biscan Archives containing series of Registers (Registri), Records of Visitations (Visite) and miscellaneous persons

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 in the neighbourhood of (presumably) every ancient Cathedral
 Diocesan Archives containing series of Registers (Registri),
Records of Visitation (Sante Visite) and miscellaneous pergamene
 and other Records. The lists I have cited make only sporadic
 mention of such Archives (presumably in cases where publication
 or some personal experience had brought them to the knowledge of
 the compilers); but it is difficult to believe that they do not
 exist in large numbers. Unfortunately no published Guide to or
 List of this category of Archives makes it possible to do more
 than add perhaps from personal knowledge a few names to those
 appearing already in the lists.

On the other hand, since presumably all ancient Cathedrals
 will figure in your General list, it may be possible to
 meet Archive requirements sufficiently by means of an
 agreed mark against each name; or perhaps by a general
 note to call the attention of your Regional Officers to
 the fact that Archives of this kind are to be expected.

* Guide to the Preservation and Use of Key Records in Italy
 prepared (October 1943) by the Office of Economic Warfare and
 Treasury Department at Washington.

The above remarks may be repeated in regard to the Chapter Archives (Archivi Capitolari) which one would expect to find at many Cathedrals and which are often very important, though not containing such regular series as the preceding.

As to Parish Registers--obviously no attempt can be made to list them. But they are by no means unimportant and, as in England, may date from the 16th century.

In most cases one would think that the Parroco should have had little difficulty in keeping his small store of these intact--I gather that Italian Parishes do not usually hold other documents. But it appears that there have already been observed cases of dispersal so that perhaps here again a general note might be advisable.

10. Archives of Local Authorities (Provinces and Towns) not deposited in Archivi di Stato. For the Provinces I propose that the names should be added to your General list: the number is small and besides it may well be found in some cases that though their own Archives are comparatively modern these Authorities have accepted deposit of important Archives (those of families for example) of much more ancient date.

As to Towns (which may, of course, have small but very valuable accumulations of ancient date) we may receive some help from the institutions of Archivi Storici Comunali which seems to have been encouraged in recent years. A number of these are cited in the American lists.

Apart from making, possibly, a few additions to these I fear (though I am making some further research) I shall be able to suggest no measure save that of the general note.

11. Notarial Archives. These are very important and of late years there has been a strong tendency either to bring the older series into the Archivi di Stato or to create a special Archivio Notarile for those of a given town or district. Several such Archivi Notarili figure in the American lists I have used: but again their appearance is, I am afraid, sporadic. Once again there is, so far as I have yet discovered, no General List of, or Guide to, such Records.

I am having some research made in the Library of the Archivio di Stato here into this matter and may be able as a result to add a certain number of names. Apart from this I can suggest, I am afraid, no measure save

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12. Semi-Public Archives (Universities, learned or Professional bodies, Commercial concerns etc. of ancient date) and Archives of Private Persons or Bodies. In spite of the deposit of many great accumulations of Semi-Public and Private Archives in the Archivio di Stato there must be still large quantities remaining in the hands of their original custodians: and in many cases (especially that of Family Papers) there is no obvious means of tracing them.

I am afraid the same remarks as those I have made regarding Notaries hold here again. I can only hope to mention specifically those known to us and make, once more, a general note.

29/2
/44

HILARY JENKINSON

12
115/bmpHEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

27 February 1944.

20905/MFAA

One purpose of this second interim and very informal report is to ask you, if you can find means to send them reasonably quickly through official channels, to obtain from my office and despatch to me the few (quite small) leaflets I will list at the end of this letter. Perhaps you could at the same time let the Deputy Keeper have some information of my progress, such as it is; in which he has naturally some official interest.

I arrived here (as you will have inferred if my unsigned letter has reached you) very soon after I last wrote -- just a week ago; and have been busy since then in making contacts with numerous persons (including my Italian correspondent) in regard to both aims of my mission, and in getting down to the question of producing a graded list of Archive Repositories. In regard to the more ancient of these I have found, I am glad to say, much more than I had ventured to hope for in the new Section 17 of the Civil Affairs Handbook which appeared in January and in a related American Compilation prepared for the American Council of Learned Societies which I discovered in another Section. There are still gaps, notably in the case of Ecclesiastical Archives, Notarial and other Semi-Public classes, and modern Archives generally. For the last named, which are of course by no means unimportant but the connexion of which with this Sub-Commission seems in most cases doubtful, it may be possible to do something by means of liaison with other Sections of A.C.C.: with whom I have, in fact, already been in touch to that end. However, the above is perhaps enough to show you the way the work is shaping: I shall know more about it, I hope, in a few days. Upon making enquiry about Captain Ellis I found that he had been absorbed by yet a third Archive interest--that which deals or proposes to deal with the Archives of A.C.C. itself. It is an important matter (and one upon which I have promised to

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 give any help I can, if time allows) but not that for which
 we assigned him! However, the question of his employment has
 unfortunately become of no practical moment; because he has
 been, I am sorry to say, invalided owing to a severe return of
 his previous trouble--dysentery. I was just too late to see
 him in Hospital. I hope to have got some way on with the matter
 of the list in a few days; and in about a week from now Bailie
 Reynolds has kindly arranged provisionally a tour for me.
 Weather has been very bad but we hope for improvement after
 February.

(6 copies);

- The things I want are
- (a) E.R.A. Memorandum No. ... (First Aid for Damaged Records);
 - (b) " " No. 7 (2 copies); and
 - (c) P.R.O. 'Schedule' (any good representative recent
 Schedule of Departmental Records).

It. Col. Sir Leonard Woolley
 Hotel Victoria
 Northumberland Avenue
 London W.C.2.

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