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SALERNO PROVINCE

Jan - Feb. 1944

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
HEADQUARTERS, REGION II
APO 394

18 February 1944

Major Paul Gardner,
Division of Fine Arts,
HQ AMG Region III.

Dear Major Gardner:

Inclosed is a copy of the letter I have just addressed to Dr Maiuri, indicating that he may proceed with fencing off the Paestum necropolis area, that it may be marked "Off Limits", and that he and his assistants may continue to have full and free access to the area thus enclosed.

In view of the changing character of air operations, I think it would be wise to get specific approval of any further excavations, so as to be certain there will be no interference with what the Air Service Command may have in mind at some future date. This, too, is briefly covered by the attached copy of my letter to Dr Maiuri.

It will be appreciated if you will give Dr Maiuri any aid he needs toward interpretation of this matter. Of course the area in question is now under the Italian Government, but we must all be careful to avoid any activity detrimental to future military use of the airfield.

Many thanks for your letter of 10 February and for the news it conveys about your trip to the Salerno area with Dr Molajoli and Dr Ortolani.

On 7 February the SCAO Salerno sent to Drs Molajoli and Maiuri formal letters of appointment to Acting Superintendencies for Salerno Province. As this was done prior to 11 Feb, the turnover day, the appointments are all that was needed to make the ~~appt~~ services of the Superintendents valid. If you get any word of a desire on the part of the Italian authorities to change these appointments, do let me know.

Yours sincerely,

William F. Friedman

2229

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Yours sincerely,

Norman T. Newton

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
Adviser on MFA&A.

2229

P.S. Letter to Dr Maiuri is inclosed. Could
you have it delivered to him, please,

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
HEADQUARTERS, REGION II

18 February 1944

ECA/20/S&1

SUBJECT: Prehistoric Necropolis near Paestum Temples.

TO : Prof. dott. Amedeo Maiuri, R. Soprintendente alle
Antichità, R. Museo Nazionale, Napoli.

1. The Headquarters of allied troops in charge of the airfield near Paestum, where the necropolis was discovered, has indicated that they have no present objection to the following activities:

- a. The erection of a barrier around the site of the necropolis by the R. Soprintendenza alle Antichità, fully enclosing the actual site.
- b. The erection of a sign prohibiting entry and declaring the area "off limits".
- c. The free entry of the Soprintendente or his designated assistants for measurement, reconnaissance, etc., within the necropolis site.

2. When it is desired to conduct further excavation and research, it is suggested that a detailed request be made by the R. Soprintendente, through this office, so that permission for specific work may be obtained. This is of course not to interfere with any military use of the airfield. It is not anticipated that there will be objection to such further excavation, but in order not to impede military operations this office believes a new determination should be made when it is known exactly where the excavations would occur.

For the Regional Commissioner:

222B

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
Adviser on Monuments,
Fine Arts, & Archives.

Copies to:
Provincial Commissioner,

TO : Prof. dott. Amedeo Maiuri, R. Soprintendente alle
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2228

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
Adviser on Monuments,
Fine Arts, & Archives.

Copies to:
Provincial Commissioner,
Salerno Province.
Maj Gardner, Region III ←

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A.P.O. 394, U. S. ARMY

FA-15

10 February 1944

Major Norman T. Newton,
Division of Fine Arts,
HQ Region II AMG.

Dear Major Newton:

Thank you very much for your letter of 31 January. I have said nothing to Dr. Maiuri or Dr. Molajoli about their temporary appointments in Salerno Province and hope they will come through soon.

Dr. Molajoli, Dr. Ortolani and I visited Salerno a week or so ago. On the whole, we found what we saw in good condition. The local custodian of the Cathedral of Salerno reported that the roof suffered small damage and that this was being repaired by the Civil Engineers through the intervention of the Archbishop. Nothing else of importance was reported as being damaged in Salerno.

We visited also the important IVth century Church of S. Maria Maggiore at Nocera and found it intact but nearby bombs had loosened roof tiles and leaks had developed. Dr. Molajoli was to call this to the attention of the Civil Engineers of Salerno. The Church of San Antonio at Nocera was slightly damaged but not seriously.

I Understand from Dr. Maiuri that the assistant at Paestum is already doing what he can at the discovery of the necropolis at the airfield. I plan to take Dr. Maiuri down to Paestum in the near future so that we can both check on the progress there.

The assistant at Paestum is continually appealing to Dr. Maiuri for advice and I believe the Doctor helps as much as

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he can and I have forwarded letters to Paestum for him.

As far as I know, everything is going well. With kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Gardner
Major, AUS.
Division of Fine Arts.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS REGION II
APO 394

31 January 1944

Major Paul Gardner,
Division of Fine Arts,
HQ Region III AMG.

Dear Major Gardner:

In accordance with our agreement, I enclose for your information copies of three letters written to SCAO Salerno on my return here from Naples. Naturally you will wish to keep confidential the matter of Dr. Maiuri's and Dr. Molaioli's appointments until they have been officially notified by the SCAO Salerno. But in the mean time you will know steps have been taken.

Before I left Naples I availed myself of the opportunity to meet Dr. Maiuri and Dr. Molaioli by going along with Tubby Sizer one morning when he called on them. What charming and able men they are! I explained to them that, while official responsibility for Salerno Province AMG matters could not be delegated by the KCAU Region II, you and I would be working together by informal arrangement, and I assured them they should feel entirely free to take up with you any matters involving Salerno Province. In view of your almost daily contacts with these gentlemen, this is the obviously sensible way. The matters they raise may prove to require an official communication to me, or you may be able to give final counsel on the spot; that I leave fully to your own good judgment. Of course there is nothing, either official or unofficial, to prevent my consulting you and my relying as I do completely on your personal opinion in all matters technical. I surely do appreciate your goodness in thus helping me to overcome some of the obstacles imposed by distance and the lack of transport out here.

2223

Fortunately, our methods in Region II are aimed at practicality with a minimum of red tape. Our Regional Finance Officer takes the view that the Italian law requires the State, anyway, to right war damages, no matter who may own the property. From the copy of the letter about the Cathedral Museum in Salerno you will see our general approach. Having ascertained in the field what the needs are for a given repair job, I normally dis-

1014

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Maj Gardner 3144

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cies involving only small amounts. Perhaps more major matters will develop in Salerno Province.

Dr. Molaioli raised the point that he would normally get funds for Salerno Province through the Intendente at Finanza of NAPLES, not of Salerno. Our Regional Finance officer, with whom I have discussed the point, sees no reason why this should not continue to be done for Antiquities as well as for Monuments and Galleries, especially in view of our desire to encourage the Italian authorities to follow as closely as possible the channels that are normal to them. Such procedure would not complicate the financial picture for Region II. Nor, so far as I can see, would it cause any other interregional confusion so long as you are not put into the position of seeming to make commitments for the KCAU of another Region, and so long as I have at all times a complete record so as to be able to advise my KCAU on what is going on and what has been appropriated either in Naples or Salerno for Fine Arts work in Salerno Province of the region. And surely we can take care of these points, can't we?

In any event it is of course understood that you and I will need to keep each other constantly informed, by memos and by copies of correspondence, as to what's doing in Salerno.

If I have failed to clarify myself in any of the above, do feel free to say so. With best wishes and again with many thanks for your kindness in extending aid, I am

Yours sincerely,

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Norman T. Newton

NORMAN T. NEWTON,
Major, Air Corps,
Adviser on MFA&A.

P. S. I understand that 15 Army Group has now gone out of existence. Does this mean that you of Region III now also come directly under HQ AMG (or ACC or whatever it happens to be today)?

Copy for May Pardon

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS REGION II
MATERA

28 January 1944

SUBJECT: Monuments and Fine Arts: Repairs to Museum, Salerno.

TO : SCAO, Salerno.

1. Reference: letter AMG/5/26, SCAO Salerno to ECAO Reg II, dated 10 Jan 44, subject Fine Arts and Ancient Monuments (copy attached):

2. Under the circumstances stated, the application of the Director of the Museo della Cattedrale di Salerno, for funds to repair actual war damage to the museum, should be favorably received. It is understood, however, that the work contemplated is only such "first-aid" repair as will prevent ulterior damage to the fabric of the museum itself or to the collections therein. To approve an application now for complete restoration would be establishing a policy inviting a flood of petitions for expenditures that can well await the post-war reconstruction period while more immediate needs are being met.

3. The Direttore should be required to prepare, in duplicate, an estimate for the needed work, a formal request for funds, and a letter explaining the project's importance. These should be submitted by him to the Intendente di Finanza, who will transmit them with his recommendations to the Provincial Finance Officer, Salerno, for approval.

By order of Lt Colonel MCCARTHY:

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E. G. FRICKER,
Lt Colonel,
Chief of Staff.

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS REGION II
NAPLES

29 January 1944

SUBJECT: Appointment of Acting Superintendents for Antiquities and for Monuments, Salerno Province.

TO : SOAO, Salerno Province.

1. Upon the recommendation of the Regional Adviser on Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives, it is desired that the following acting appointments be made for Salerno Province if no reasons to the contrary exist at Provincial HQ:

2. As Acting R. Soprintendente alle Antichità: Prof. Dott. Amedeo MAIURI, of Naples. His office is in the R. Museo Nazionale, Naples. He is at present Superintendent for Antiquities in the other provinces of Campania; it is understood that the incumbent for Salerno, Dott. Roberto Vighi, has been absent in occupied territory (Rome?) since before the Allied invasion. It is understood, however, that the present appointment on an acting basis is not to be construed as prejudicial to Dott. Vighi's tenure if post-war determination proves his absence to have been in good faith.

3. As Acting R. Soprintendente ai Monumenti: Dott. Bruno MOLAIOLI, of Naples. His office is in the R. Museo Nazionale, Naples. He is at present R. Soprintendente alle Gallerie for all the provinces of Campania, including Salerno; he is acting also for Monuments in that part of Campania that is in Region III. It is understood that the present incumbent for the Monuments of Campania, Arch. Dott. Giorgio Rosi, is absent from territory under Allied control. This acting appointment also should be understood to be without prejudice to Dott. Rosi's tenure if later consideration justifies his continuance in office.

4. If no objections exist, it is desired that these appointments be published to the gentlemen named and to any others concerned. Copies of the announcements should be sent to this headquarters, addressed to the attention of the Regional Adviser on Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives.

G. H. W. Caffery

1017

Copy for Maj Gardner

1. Upon the recommendation of the Regional Committee, it is desired that the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives, it is desired that the following acting appointments be made for Salerno Province if no reasons to the contrary exist at Provincial HQ:

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G. H. McCaffrey
G. H. MCCAFFREY,
Lt Col, Inf,
RCAG.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS REGION II
MATERA

ECA/20/Sal

30 January 1944

SUBJECT: Prehistoric Necropolis near Paestum Temples.

TO : SCAG, Salerno.

1. In the construction of an airfield near the Greek Temples of Paestum, US Army officers uncovered what has proved to be an important prehistoric necropolis. The discovery was reported to Dr. Amedeo Maiuri, Royal Superintendent for Antiquities, at the Naples Museum, and some of the objects found were delivered to him. It is understood this was done by Major Lawrence Cook.

2. The resultant good will created by this demonstration of Allied Forces' interest in and respect for cultural values has had a profound effect upon the Italian authorities. An opportunity now presents itself to further the good reaction, as well as to serve the interests of civilization, by conducting what appears to be a most important find. 2221

3. It is accordingly desired that permission be obtained from the combat forces responsible for the above-mentioned airfield:

- a. To fence off the actual site of the necropolis, either through a barrier erected by the AAF or through permitting the R. Soprintendenza alle Antichità to enclose the site.
- b. To post the area thus fenced off as CWP LIMITS.
- c. To authorize Dr. Maiuri, or his assistant at the Paestum Museum, Giuseppe Barattucci, to enter the enclosed area for reconnaissance, measurement, etc.
- d. To authorize Dr. Maiuri, as soon as military considerations allow such action, to commence systematic excavation of the site.

4. SCAG Salerno is therefore requested to take the necessary steps to obtain, if possible, the permission outlined.

Copy for Maj. Gardner

1019

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4. SCAC Salerno is therefore requested to take the necessary steps to obtain, if possible, the permission outlined. A report on the inquiry will be submitted in triplicate to this headquarters at the earliest feasible date.

By order of Lieutenant Colonel MCCARTHEY:

E. G. FRICKER,
Lieut Colonel,
Chief of Staff.

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