

RG 331
 Entry 55B
 File ^{AMG 288} _{MFA} Reports
 Box 333

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 760238
 By VRS NARA Date 3/9/00

319985

CONFIDENTIAL

7. Augerville. (Loiret) (20 February 1945).

Owner: Balmagera Society. Lt. Colonel MacDonnel, G-5 Monuments Officer. SHAEF Mission to France, and Mr. Henraux of the Commission de Recuperation Artistique, have been acquainted with all the facts following discussion with G-5 Monuments Officer, Com Z. The building was watched over until recently by 2 enlisted men from Ground Forces Reinforcement Command. Colonel Potter, Commanding Officer, 9th Depot plans to release the building and will notify the Town Major at Orleans, who expects to use it for some other unit. The requisition, 1010AE4, was dated 30 September 1944, and was approved by the Prefect at Orleans.

Permission to open the vault containing works of art, is being awaited from Mr. Moer of the Swiss Legation. The regisseur, Mr. Duval, produced an inventory dated 13 October 1943, which he had refused to show on a previous visit. He has kept a file on real estate transactions during recent years. In the vault in the cellar for which he claims not to have the key (made by Maison Bobauchs, Paris) he placed valuable objects not shown in the inventory delivered to the Town Major. Included are more than 46 "very valuable" rugs, tapestries, paintings, silver and civilian clothes. M. Dornion, notary, stated to the undersigned on the telephone, that the rugs were purchased by Dr. Kopp two or three years ago. The Balmagera Society purchased the chateau in 1937 following a Mrs. Belmont's death in 1936.

3. Various reports originating in this headquarters are forwarded for completed files.

JAMES J. RORIMER,
 1st Lt., SR,
 G-5 Monuments Officer

List of Chateaux investigated from 25 August to 1 February

SEINE: Sceaux. Vincennes.

SEINE-ET-MARNE: Ardennevilliers; Beauvoisin; Bois-Boudran; Bourbon; Les Boulayes; Bousson; Breau; Le Breau; Champs; Courbaux; Coupvray; Courquettaine; Croissy-Beaubourg; Dauterive les Lys; Ferrieres; Fleury en Biere; Fontainebleau Palace; Fontainebleau Hotel de Pompadour; La Grange-Bleneau; La Grange-le Roi; Grogny; Grisy (Villemain); Guermantes; Joinville; Le Martroy; Le Monceau-Liverdy; Montereau; Montgauglaust; Nemours; Ozoir la Ferriere; Pomponne; Rantilly; Stanes; Vaux le Peril; Vaux le Vicomte; Vaux les Cernay;

SEINE-ET-OISE: Les Arceaux; Arbleville. Asnières sur Oise; Baille; Bevilliers-Bretteuil; Boissy Saint Leger; Les Bords de la Colle; Auvers Saint Geroges; Bouray; Bourdonne; La Colle; Chalo Saint Mars; Champande; Chambly; Champlatreux; Coudray les Monceaux; Courances; Courcelles; Courson; Dupierre; Dourdan; Ecouen; Eclimont; Essay at Claire Fontaine; Etampes; Gorbais (Neuville). Gillevoisin; La Grange; Gros-Bois; Jouarre; Jouy en Josas; Lendreville; Louveciennes; Malmaison; Le Marais; Meule; Mary sur Oise; Les Mesnuls. Le Milly; Montgermont; La Morvire; Nointel; Ormesson; Orny; Osny; Le Peage (Pavillion Saint); Le Petit-Mesnil (Meuil-voisin); Pierre; Poissy (Villa Felix); Pontchartrain; Prunay; La Queue les Yvelines; Rambouillet; La Roche-Guyon; Rocquencourt; Rosny; Abbaye de Royaumont; Saint Germain en Laye; Saint Jean de Beuregard; Saint Mesme; Sucy; La Tremblay; Versailles Palace; Versailles Hotel de Pange; Versailles Hotel de Polignac; Villarsceaux; Villette; Willeville;

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x. Chateau of Chateaufort-sur-Loire. (21 February 1945)
 Chateau used as a city hall. Church of St. Martial bombed in 1940. No roof remains; tower burned out.

y. Chateau of Courcelles. (20 February 1945).
 Chateau is in a run down condition and was not improved by German occupation. Furnishings, of no apparent historic importance, were maliciously damaged. Owner lives here in filth and poverty.

z. Chateau of Dampierre. (22 February 1945.)
 Owner: Marquis de Gansy. Chateau used by Germans, who did considerable damage to premises. Some objects may have been taken; the paintings remaining are not very important. 100 American Combat Engineers had a school here until 24 December 1944, but no damage was recorded. The original chateau was destroyed during the French revolution and the present building dates from the 19th century. The historic farm buildings have suffered no apparent war damage.

aa. Chateau of Ferolles. (21 February 1945).
 This chateau has suffered no war damage. The historic farm buildings require more attention than funds at the disposal of the Service des Monuments Historiques permit.

bb. Chateau of Ferte St. Aubin.
 Chateau said to be used as an orphanage. Was not visited.

cc. Chateau of Gien. (22 February 1945)
 Chateau used as the local Tribunal. Roofs are now being repaired following blast damage. 4 soldiers of an American unit of 100 soldiers and officers living in the Chateau for 1½ months from September, broke parts of the court table and modern chairs. A fire in the walls caused damage to one of the old mantelpieces. Some objects, of apparently little value, were given as presents to the local women by the soldiers.

dd. Chateau de Malesherbes. (20 February 1945).
 Owner: Prince Robech. Americans bivouaced in September 1944, were not in the chateau proper. Germans here in June 1940, May and June 1941, 1942 and 1944, burned and destroyed much furniture. Owner sent the best objects of art, including the tapestries in the long corridors to Paris for safe-keeping.

ee. Chateau of Neung-sur-Loire. (21 February 1945).
 Owner: M. Douchement. 120 Germans living in one wing of the building damaged furniture given by Napoleon and other historic furnishings. Place left in a very bad state of repair.

ff. Chateau of Olivet. (21 February 1945).
 Owner: M. Dillier. Germans here in 1940 and at various times in 1944 stole nothing, but did considerable damage. A shell hit one of the library bay windows. The books are now placed in adjoining rooms.

gg. Chateau de Rouville. (20 February 1945).
 Owner: M. d'Aboville. Germans here for 2½ months slashed one important painted portrait. General damage slight.

hh. Chateau of St. Denis-en-Val. (21 February 1945).
 Chateau in ruins. No war damage.

ii. Chateau of Sully. (22 February 1945).
 Owner: Marquis de Beausset. Chateau fired on by German guns in 1940. Windows, window frames, plaster and roofs damaged in bombing of Loire bridge in 1944. Reconstruction work under the Departmental Architect is being carried on. Works of art were sold by the owner, before they could be classified by the Service des Monuments Historique.

ij. Chateau of Vevre-la-Chatel. (20 February 1945).
 Chateau in ruins. Not damaged by present war.

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LISTE DES DOMMAGES CAUSES PAR FAITS DE
 GUERRE AUX EDIFICES CLASSES PARMIS LES MONUMENTS HISTORIQUES.

Dates	Edifices et parties endommagées	Causes	Observations
<u>ORLEANS- Juin 40</u>	<u>CATHEDRALE D'ORLEANS-</u> Emmarchements du peristyle Place Ste Croix Angle Sux-Ouest de la façade principale Vitreaux de l'ensemble	Bombardement d'Aviation " "	Repare. Non repare Reparés par pro- tection provi- soire. Les vit- reaux des bas- ses nefs Nord & Sud avaient ete prealable- ment deposees.
<u>Mai 1944</u>	Tour Nord - Beffroi et Cloches Toitures de la haute nef, versante Nord et Sux Toiture du transept, croisillon Nord, versant Sud. Toiture de la basse nef Nord, cote Ouest Voutes cote ouest des basses nefs Nord et Sud. Coupole de cuivre entre les 2 tours Verrieres de l'ensemble	" " " " " " "	Non repare-Echa- faudages en cours de montagi- pour déposer de pierres me- nacant de la tour Sud Non reparees. " " " " "
<u>Aout 44.</u>	Rose ouest de la tour sud Balustrade de la galerie de la façade ouest Balustrade de la partie superieure de la basse nef Sud, lere et 2eme channelles Toiture de la grande nef, versant Sud	Tir d'artillerie " " " " "	" " " " Protection pro- visoire en Gac partie assuree.
<u>Mai 44</u>	<u>EGLISE St AIGNAN</u> Verrieres et meneaux de la Gde Nef Verrieres des basses-nefs et des chapelles rayonnantes	Bombardement d'Aviation " "	Non reparees. " "
<u>Aout 44</u>	Verrieres de la chapelle du Capitulum	Tir d'artil- lerie.	" "
<u>Mai 44</u>	<u>EGLISE St EUVERTE</u> Verrieres de l'ensemble et me- neaux des fenetres dans le choeur et au transept Nord	Bombardement d'Aviation	" "
<u>Aout 44</u>	Toitures de la haute nef et du transept cote Sud Toitures de la basse nef Sud Contrefort et parement de la façade de la basse nef Sud	Tir d'artil- lerie " " "	" " " "

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Dates	Edifices et Parties endommagees	Causes	Observations.
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>EGLISE N.D. de RECOUVRANCE</u> Toitures de l'Eglise et de la Chapelle des Catechismes, en- gle Nord-Est Verrieres de l'ensemble	Bombardement d'aviation	Reparees Verrieres du XIV siecle du mur Est du chœur deposee anterieurement Protection provi- soire assuree sur l'ensemble
<u>Mai 44</u>	Verrieres provisoires de l'ensemble	"	Non reparaees.
<u>Aout 44</u>	Toiture de la haute nef, ver- sant Nord et versant Sud. Voute de la nef Toiture du clocher, cotes sud et Ouest	Tir d'artil- lerie " "	" " "
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>EGLISE St PAUL</u> Detruite partiellement	Bombardement d'aviation	Etaisements et pro- tection assurees
<u>Aout 44</u>	<u>TOUR St PAUL</u> Parties superieures de la Tour et de la tourelle de l'escalier	Tir d'artil- lerie	Non reparaees.
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>MUSEE JEANNE D'ARC</u> (dit Maison d'Agnes Sorel) Detruit partiellement	Bombardement d'aviation	Etaisements et protection assu
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>IMMEUBLES 39 & 41 rue du Tabour</u> Detruit partiellement	"	"
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>MUSEE HISTORIQUE dit HOTEL CABU</u> Detruit partiellement	"	"
<u>Aout 44</u>	<u>MUSEE DE PEINTURE (Ancien Hotel de Ville rue Ste Catherine</u> Partie superieure du Beffroi endommagee sur la face sud	Tir d'artil- lerie	Non repare.
<u>Juin 1940</u>	<u>CHAPELLE et CLOITRE DES MINIERES</u> Detruits partiellement	Bombardement d'aviation	Etaisement et protection as- sures.
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>IMMEUBLES Rue Royale-</u>	"	"
<u>Mai 44</u>	<u>Entierement detruits</u>	"	"
<u>Aout 44</u>	<u>IMMEUBLE 49 rue Royale</u> Toitures versant ouest	Tir d'artil- lerie	Protege provi- soirement
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>IMMEUBLE 11 rue Etienne D'let</u> Toitures et facade	Bombardements d'aviation.	Reparaees
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>PAVILLON Sud du PONT GEORGES V</u> Face Sud.	"	"
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>FACADES DE MAISONS REEDIFIEES</u> Place Abbe Desrovern- Toitures et facades	"	non reparaees la facade pan de bois detruite par incendie
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>IMMEUBLE 10 rue du Coulon</u> Entierement detruit	"	"
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>PAVILLON dit de JEANNE D'ARC</u> rue du Tabour Toiture et facade	"	Protection pro- visoire assuree.

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<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>HOTEL de la CHANCELLERIE et DEBUELE 59, Place du Martroi</u> Detruits partiellement	Bombardements d'aviation	Etaisements et protections provisoires assurees
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>MAISON dite du BON PASTEUR</u> ci-devant 9 rue Vieille Feignerie Detruite partiellement	"	Facade deposee pour recuperation
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>DEBUELE 211 rue de Bourgogne</u> Toitures	"	reparees.
<u>Mai 44.</u>	<u>MOTEL de LA MOTTE SANGVIN</u> Toitures et baies	"	Protection provisoire assuree pour la couverture et en cours pour les clotures des baies.
<u>Aout 44</u>	<u>ANCIEN EVECHE, actuellement BIBLIOTHEQUE MUNICIPALE</u> Toitures et facade sud et fenetre.	Tir d'artillerie	Non reparaees.
<u>Juin 40</u>	Divers immeubles entierement detruits ou partiellement detruits, mais dont la restauration a ete abandonnee, rue Ch. Sanglier, rue des Carmes, rue du Cheval Rouge, rue Muzene, rue Banner, etc....		Des fragments et vestiges ont ete mis a l'abri

GIEN

<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>TOUR DE L'EGLISE St PIERRE</u> -Partiellement detruite	Bombardement d'aviation	Non reparaees
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>CHATEAU</u> Toitures	"	
	Angle Nord-Est de l'aile Est, Escalier de la tourelle Nord-Ouest - Interieure et fenetres	"	Repaees en cours d'achevement
<u>Juillet 44</u>	Toitures et fenetres	"	non reparaees
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>DEBUELES 36, rue Gambetta</u> Tourelle dit de Jeanne d'Arc partiellement sinistres	"	Protection provisoire et etaisements assures.
<u>Juin 40</u>	<u>EGLISE St LOUIS</u> Facade partiellement detruite	"	Facade deposee pour reemploi.
<u>Juillet 1944.</u>	<u>DEBUELES 1 & 3 rue de l'Hotel de Ville</u> Facade et toitures	Bombardement d'aviation	Non reparaees.
	<u>DIVERS DEBUELES</u> partiellement detruits dont les vestiges subsistent en place ou ont ete mis a l'abri, rue des , rue Cambetta, rue de Bordeaux, rue G. Clemenceau, rue Jules Michaut etc..		

BEAUGENCY

<u>Juillet 44</u>	<u>EGLISE Notre Dame</u> Vitreaux et toitures	"	Non reparaees.
<u>Aout 44</u>	<u>TOUR St FERMIN</u> Facade et toiture	Tir d'artillerie	"

BEAUNE la ROLANDE

<u>Juin 1940</u>	<u>EGLISE</u> -Belvedere de la Toure	"	"
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HEADQUARTERS
 CIVIL CENSORSHIP
 EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
 APO 887 U.S. ARMY

12 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Use of the Chateau Wideville at Davron and the House
 of "La Vielle Tour" at Poissy.

TO : Brigadier General Pleas B. Rogers, Hq, Seine Section, Com Z,
 European Theater of Operations, APO 887, US Army.

1. Reference is made to letter, subject as above dated 6 February 1945, advising of complaints received regarding the use by my unit of the buildings and requesting an investigation and report of action taken.

2.. Investigation re Chateau Wideville discloses:

a. No report was made directly to the Commanding Officer, of the stained windows. Their disappearance was reported to Captain Tause of this unit last week. The windows had not been removed at the time this unit moved from Wideville.

b. Brass handles from the windows were reported missing shortly after departure. An immediate investigation at that time failed to disclose that they had been removed by any member of this unit. Investigation also fails to disclose that any member of the unit removed the water control key. It is reported that civilians have been permitted access to this building since it was evacuated by this unit.

c. The car belonging to the Count was removed from the garage with the permission of M. Desouche, his agent.

d. Permission was received to use the electric saw on the premises. At one time it had to be repaired but at the time of departure it is reported by the men operating it to have been in good working order.

e. The area was properly policed at the time of departure. The Town Major at Versailles was informed of the departure of this unit in advance, as was the agent of the owner with whom the owner requested dealings he had. The Town Major reserved the property for return use by this unit.

3. A showdown inspection of Enlisted Men of this unit was held this date to determine whether the stained glass panes could be found. Negative results were obtained. Officers of the unit have been questioned with complete negative results.

4. At the time of taking occupancy of the Chateau Wideville, it was in considerable state of disrepair and untidyness. Complete action was taken to make the premises habitable, including painting, general cleaning, lighting installations, and general repair. The chateau is in markedly better condition today than before occupancy by American forces.

5. Investigation re the villa "Vielle Tour" discloses:

a. This building was occupied by the Commanding Officer and seven of his staff from 23 November to 6 December 1945. At that time it was necessary to hurriedly evacuate the building owing to excessive flood conditions of the Seine River. Before the waters had completely receded, freezing weather set in, cutting off the water supply in the building. Before a cleaning detail could be sent in, the river again rose and at the present time the ground floor is again under three feet of water.

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b. The mantelpiece was damaged prior to occupancy. Four brick of the hearth were temporarily removed and will be replaced. The door on the ground floor was broken at time of occupancy and further swung out of line by the flood. The furniture is as it was found. Breakage of china consists of but a few pieces. Blankets were spread out on the floor to air but have never been used improperly.

c. The items presently removed from the house are under strict inventory by the Commanding Officer personally, and are being used by officers of the unit in a nearby villa.

d. Because of present flood conditions no investigation can be immediately made concerning the cement gate. The stone basin was broken by a boat during the December flood.

e. One door requires major adjustment before it can be securely locked.

6. With increased personnel arriving in the next three months, it will be necessary to occupy every available house and building in this vicinity. The Town Major is informed of this and agrees to keep the house under requisition for the Civil Censorship Detachment.

7. As soon as the Seine River recedes sufficiently to permit a cleaning detail to reach the house, it will be completely gone over and such small repairs as are necessary will be made. All items presently removed from the premises will be returned at such time as the building is again used as officer's billets.

8. Before final evacuation of La Vieille Tour by this unit, I should be happy to have Madame Pillot pass upon the condition of the house.

Herbert W. Winfree,
 Lt. Colonel, FA,
 Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS
 SEINE SECTION, COM Z
 EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
 U. S. ARMY

8 February 1945.

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Chief of Staff, Seine Section, Com Z.

1. Reference is made to letter, AG 007 OpGE, Headquarters European T of Opns, subject: "Use of Buildings, Their Contents and other Property by Military Personnel", dated 14 November 1944. The Palace of Fontainebleau is on the "Official List of Protected Monuments, France", issued by Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force. Paragraph 3 a. letter AG 014.1 OpGE, Headquarters Com Z, European T of Opns, subject: "Preservation of Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives", dated 1 October 1944, states: "Military personnel should not be quartered in places listed on the Official List of Protected Monuments".

2. The Palace of Fontainebleau is one of the most important historic structures in all of Europe and contains works of art of inestimable artistic and intrinsic value.

3. The French National Administration of Fine Arts has stated that in its opinion, the using of any part of the building for Military purposes (unless possibly for a hospital) makes the entire Palace subject to damage from enemy action. Following two fires caused by Allied

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Military personnel in the Henri IV buildings at Fontainebleau, the French Government has made representations to this Headquarters about the danger of fire. The Louis XV Wing (referred to as "the east section of the south wing" in attached letters), is an integral part of the Palace and entered through the main gates which, for protection, are locked at night and if left open would make supervision difficult.

4. Although it is recognized that the 32 rooms in the Louis XV wing are not themselves of great historic importance, the undersigned strongly recommends that General Rogers disapprove any attempt to requisition the Palace. It is also very doubtful if the French authorities would approve a requisition.

ROBERT P. HAMILTON,
 Lt. Colonel, GSC,
 AC of S, G-5.

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Chief of Staff, Seine Section, Com Z.

1. In letter, this headquarters, subject: "Billeting in the Hotel de Pompadour, Fontainebleau", dated 28 November 1944, after an inspection of the premises by the undersigned (following a request from the French National Authorities that the building be vacated), the undersigned wrote to the Engineer Section, Real Estate Section, Seine Section, that "in view of previous correspondence, and the fact that the Hotel de Pompadour is a historic monument and contains valuable works of art and books, it is requested that the Town Major at Fontainebleau discontinue the requisition as soon as Colonel Freehoff has vacated the premises". When Colonel Freehoff vacated the Hotel de Pompadour, the control of the building was returned to the owner.

2. The Hotel de Pompadour is on the Supplementary Inventory of the Historical Monuments as of 28 May 1926. It was built by the architect Gabriel in 1749; the whole is intact with its panelling and sculptural fire-mantles. It contains unusually fine works of art, furnishings and a remarkable 18th century library. In view of those valuable works of art and possible future claims involved if the building is used for the billeting of some 50 officers, the undersigned recommends disapproval of the request made in Colonel Potter's letter of 5 February. When the Germans occupied it, only a few officers were located in the building.

3. Reference is made to telegrams dated 5 February and 7 February from the owner, Charles de Noailles.

ROBERT P. HAMILTON,
 Lt. Colonel, GSC,
 AC of S, G-5.

Translation of telegrams to Lt. Rorimer:

Telegram from Comte Charles de Noailles, 5 February 1945.
 Just received telegram from my secretary in Fontainebleau, Madame Jube, 100 rue de France, Fontainebleau, telling me that one of your Colonels insists on occupying Hotel Pompadour STOP Have wired her back to know if possible this Colonel's name and address STOP Should be ever so grateful if you could avoid this danger STOP Sorry to bother you like this STOP Sincerely.

Charles Noailles.

7 February 1945.

Visitors Hotel Pompadour have not come back STOP Colonel's name and address unknown.

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HEADQUARTERS
 SEINE SECTION, COM Z.

19 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Chateau de Suisnes.
 FROM : Lt. Hottinguer, Liaison Officer G-2/3
 TO : 2nd Lt. Rorimer, G-5, Seine Section.

1. On Saturday, January 20th 1945, I went to the Chateau de Suisne, near Coubert, to visit it and make a survey for the billeting of a company of the 22/5 Bataillon des Gardes Communications.
2. The Chateau was occupied by a unit of USA Engineers; at the time of my visit only about ten (10) men were billeted in a room on the right side of the main entrance. I found the house very dirty, the windows in some rooms were not shut and the snow was falling in. The room where the men lived was also dirty and looked as if it had never been cleaned. A stove was in a corner and the pipe went, I believe, through the window.
3. On a door, an "off limits" sign was hung, and naturally I did not go in that room.

Jean Hottinguer, Lt.
 Liaison Officer.

February 10, 1945.

Colonel BYRD
 Claims Officer,
 Rue de la Paix, PARIS,

Dear Sir,

I wish to call attention, officially, to your department of the damage done by American troops to the Chateau de Suisnes and its Park situated at Grisy-Suisnes, Seine et Marne. This property belongs to my cousin, the Countess Paul de Kotzebue and American citizen who is at present living at 740 Park Ave. New York City.

The Countess de Kotzebue left for America in November 1939 and I remained in France to look after this property. In June 1940 it was occupied by the Germans (inspite of the fact that we were not then at war) and a large part of the furniture was broken or taken away by them at that time. In September 1942 I was interned by the Germans at Compiègne and released on the arrival of the Americans in that region on Sept 1st 1944. During July and part of August 1944 the Chateau was again occupied by the Germans at at their retreat they took the best of the furniture, leaving the Chateau entirely empty. When I returned to Suisnes about the middle of September 1944 the place was occupied by a detachment of engineers on Pipe Line Service (about 120 men) and from around the 1st of Sept. 1944 to the 1st of Feb 1945 the Chateau has been continuously lived in by U.S.A. troops.

I was delighted to have the place of some use to our Army and naturally some wear and tear was to be expected, however, the last troop living on the place caused, it seems to me, unnecessary damage, particularly to the inside of the buildings by burning doors and bookshelves, making such enormous fires that the floors and marble fireplaces are ruined, in fact I have rarely seen a place treated so badly as left in such a filthy condition even by the Germans, and I have seen considerable, both in this and the last war.

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As the Chateau is classed as a "Monument Historique" Lieut Rorimer has kindly taken an interest in the property and was able to have the U.S.A. soldiers withdrawn. Last Sunday while I was at Suisnos, a French Captain came there and informed me that he was going to occupy the place with 80 French soldiers who guard the Pipe Line in that section. He informed me that the place was given him by American Officer in Fontainebleau. It is really difficult to understand.

In the first place I should prefer that the property be occupied by Americans if it must be used. Secondly with the French we shall not be able to have any fruit or vegetable garden (we had none last year because of the Germans) and thirdly, there is another vacant Chateau very near which would serve their purpose as well if not better. This is the Chateau de Villmin in the same village. It seems as if we had suffered enough.

I understand that the property was requisitioned through the "Entree Aide aux Forces Allieses" by Lieut Jacquemin, French Liaison Officer, with Civil Affairs, Seine-et-Marne, under the Number 10/10 S 272205-5 Houses. I have never received any bill of requisition nor ever been informed that the place was to be occupied either by the Germans nor from the Americans except this last time by the French Captain mentioned above.

A detailed account of the damage done to the property by the American troops is at present being made by a French architect and "huissier".

Trusting that your Service will be able to do something for us, I remain,

very sincerely yours,

/s/ JOHN D. SANFORD,
 General Secretary

Ho Det D1B1, Co C, 1st ECA Regt, 25 Oct 44, APO 568, U.S. Army.

TO: AC of S, G-5, Loire Section, Com Zone, APO 573, U.S. Army..

1. On 21 Oct 44, Lt. LOREN O. BISHOP from the Civil Affairs Office at Chartres, contacted Capt. GILMORE, 847 Ordnance Depot Company at Maintenon and together made a reconnaissance of the Chateau de Maintenon and the other German munition dumps in that area.

In all of our searching we could find no American ammunition of any kind; all of the munitions left were German and some packed in cases with French writing on them and no stamp on the small arms ammunition in these cases, appeared to be ammunition manufactured in French arsenals by the Germans or perhaps French pre-war ammunition.

Some of the storage locations contained new mines and booby trap devices and also fuses and one aircraft bomb. These devices were located in a dump in the woods near the Maintenon railroad station outside the town.

Munitions behind the Chateau (which is in the village of Maintenon) had been bombed by allied aircraft and some dump locations exploded and some not. These locations are now dangerous to touch or move in any way. A Russian soldier, RESTIPIENKO, SACHA, by name (probably a TODT worker) was killed last week while accompanying Capt. BERNET, French FFI at Chartres, on an inspection of the dump. The 847 Ordnance Depot Company fired a volley at the burial service, upon request by the French.

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From French sources of information and by observation, it was learned that American units in the vicinity had been trucking off empty German cases to use for tent floors and firewood. Since these cases were German abandoned property, the act of taking them can not be called pothievery. Lt. BISHOP was unable to learn of any other articles being removed from the grounds of the Chateau.

The Duc de Noailles was not at home and was thought to be visiting in Paris.

2. Remedial action:

a. All entrances to the grounds of the Chateau had been previously barricaded by 847 Ordnance Depot under the supervision of Capt GILMORE. In spite of the fact that none of these dump locations are within the camp area of 847 Ordnance Depot they were all placed off limits to its troops. Capt GILMORE agreed to post the grounds of the Chateau "Off Limits to all Troops" in order to prevent injury to American troops and the further removal of wood from the grounds.

b. The Secretary to the Mayor of Maintenon was instructed that since there was no American ammunition located in the dumps around Maintenon that the responsibility for safeguarding and disposing of the German and French munitions located in these dumps would rest with the French authorities.

For the Commanding Officer:

/s/ LOREN O. BISHOP,
 1st Lt. CMP.

SEINE ET MARNE DETACHMENT
 1st ECAR, Seine Section, Com Z.

14 Feb 1945.

SUBJECT: Specialist Report, Monuments & Fine Arts, Dept. of Seine et Marne.

TO : CO, G-5, Seine Sec, Com Z, LPO 887, U.S. Army.

1. One-third of the nave vaults of the Eglise St-Aspais in Me;un collapsed with its supporting north wall on Wednesday, 7 Feb, 1945, between 2300 and 2400. (See Specialist Reports dated 16 Nov., 30 Nov., 14th Dec 1944).

2. Attached hereto is a copy of M. Bray's complete report to the Directeur General des Beaux-Arts, Bureau des Monuments Historiques.

3. Since the date of M. Bray's report more of the vault has fallen, and it seems that the pillars of the south side of the nave have been shaken. It is feared that the entire nave vault may fall with the supporting south wall; also it is possible that part of the west facade may crumble.

4. M. Paquet, the Inspector General of Historical Monuments in Paris is expected within a day or two to make the decision as to what steps will be taken to demolish the dangerous sections.

5. Meanwhile the Rue du Miroir, which is contiguous to the potentially dangerous sections, has been barred to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and evacuation of the people in neighboring houses is being considered. Also, Rue St. Aspais, which is contiguous to the east facade, is being made a one-way street with traffic moving north to south, in order to minimize the vibrations set into motion by heavy traffic - vibrations which could effect a premature collapse.

6. The Military Police have been advised.

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SEINE ET MARNE DETACHMENT
 1st ECAR, Seine Section, Com Z.

21 Feb. 1945.

SUBJECT: Specialist Report; Monuments & Fine Arts, Dept.
 of Seine et Marne.

TO : AC of S, G-5 Seine Sec, Com Z, APO 887, U.S. Army.

1. Concerning the Eglise St.-Aspais at Melun, Inspector Paquet's decision, after seeing this structure on Thursday, 15 Feb 1945, is to reinforce the weakened sections, the work to be started shortly.

2. Meanwhile all precautions have been taken to prevent injury to anyone. That which was promised in para. 5 of Specialist Report dated 14 Feb 1945, has been implemented;

For the Commanding Officer;

FRANK GLAZER, 39573551,
 Pfc, Seine et Marne Det,
 I/C Cultural Institutions.

 L'Architecte en Chef de Seine-et-Marne
 Monsieur le Directeur General des Beaux-Arts
 Bureau des Monuments Historiques.

Seine-et-Marne

Melun J'ai l'honneur de vous rendre compte que
 j'ai ete alerte hier 8 Fevrier au sujet de l'ecrou-
 lement, au course de la nuit precedente, d'une partie
 Eglise St. Aspais de la nef de l'Eglise St. Aspais de Melun.

M'y etant rendu ce matin, j'ai constate que
 les deux premieres travées du cote Nord de la Nef se sont effondrees du
 haut en bas entre la facade Ouest et le pilier entre la 2eme. et 3eme.
 travées, avec le premier pilier, entraînant la chute des voutes hautes
 de ces deux travées et d'une partie des voutes des deux travées du bas-
 cote correspondant. La charpente de la nef au-dessus, maintenue par la
 sabliere qui arcesiste, est restee en place.

D'autre part, les piliers du cote Sud de la
 Nef qui etaient depuis longtemps boucles du fait de la poussee des
 voutes du bas-cote Sud paraissent avoir ete ebranles et des fissures av-
 déplacements horizontaux d'azzises sont apparus a la hauteur du cheneau
 sous les fenetres hautes.

La cause de l'effondrement des deux premieres
 travées Nord est vraisemblablement due au fait que l'incendie, en bout
 des Orgues et de la charpente de la fleche et du beffroi du clocher que
 de sont effondrees en flammes dans l'Eglise, ou calcine plus
 profondément qu'il n'en avait l'apparence, le pilier entre ces deux
 travées.

D'autre part, a la suite de la destruction de la couverture
 du bas-cote Nord, les voutes de ce bas-cote sont restees trois mois
 exposeses aux intemperies, la chape de ciment que j'ai fait executer
 pour leur protection n'ayant ete terminee qu'avant les dernieres gelées

Il est probably que les materiaux garnissant les reins de la
 voute et les nervures de cette voute, non encore asseches de
 l'Humidite dont ils etaient impregnes, ont gele et exerce sur ce
 pilier une poussee qui en a detruit l'equilibre, de ja compromis par
 sa desagregation par le feu.

Aucun indice toutefois ne faisait prevoir cet ecroulement
 et ni moi-meme, ni les ouvriers occupez dans l'Eglise au pied meme
 de ce pilier, n'aviens percu aucun mouvement dans cette partie de
 l'Edifice, dont l'equilibre a pu etre rompu par les trepidations dues
 aux convois de poids lourds militaires qui passent dans la rue voisine
 ou par des explosions de bombes que lachent parfois sur la foret, au

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J'ai cru devoir, la suite de son accident et étant donné les désordres constatés, prendre les dispositions immédiates suivantes.

1°- En ce qui concerne les travaux effectués: construction d'un mur bouchant la 5ème arcade du bas-côté Nord pour parer à la poussée de cette arcade vers l'Ouest sur le 2ème pilier reste isolé de ce côté. Quand le déblaiement sera terminé, des étalements seront exécutés pour parer à tout mouvement des parties hautes.

2°- En ce qui concerne les mouvements d'accentuation du bouclage des piliers Sur-exécution d'étalements horizontaux ou travers de la nef au droit de chaque pile, au niveau des retombées des voûtes des bas-côtés sur ces piliers.

Etant donné le danger que présente l'état de l'Edifice pour la circulation dans les rues voisines, Monsieur l'Ingénieur en Chef des Ponts-et-Chaussées de Seine-et-Marne que j'ai vu à cet effet a bien voulu accorder à l'Entrepreneur, sur un stock dont il dispose, le bois nécessaire pour ces étalements, bois qui étant donné la pénurie actuelle de bois de construction, aggravée par la crue de la Seine qui a noyé toutes les scieries des environs et la grande difficulté des transports, l'Entrepreneur aurait eu de grandes difficultés à se procurer et à amener sur place.

Je compte vous adresser incessamment des photographies de la partie effondrée et des parties menaçantes et je vous tiendrai au courant de ces travaux de consolidation pour l'exécution desquels je crois devoir demander l'ouverture d'un crédit d'urgence de:

Maconnerie - déblaiements.....	40.000,00
Charpente.....	50.000,00
Ensemble.....	90.000,00
Imprevus 10%...	9.000,00
	<u>99.000,00</u>
Soit: <u>104.000,00</u>	Honoraires 5%.. 4.950,00
L'Architecte en Chef.	<u>103.950,00</u>

HEADQUARTERS
 ADVANCE SECTION
 COMMUNICATIONS ZONE
 APO 113

600/1

12 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Fortnightly Report, MFA&A

TO : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, Hq Advance Section, Communications Zone, APO 113, US Army.

1. This report covers the period 23 February to 7 March 1945.

2. Concern with questions relating to protection of historical monuments, mainly Belgian chateaux, and with requests and complaints of Belgian owners, continues to be the dominant activity. Five representations of owners for special action were handled during this period. They were as follows:

a. 23 February 1945. The Countess of Beaufort and the Count Cornet d'Elzius requested certification of their chateau at LIBOIS and St FONTAINE, respectively, as historical monuments unavailable for billeting. Copy of special report, Chateau of LIBOIS (K-1925) is inclosed.

b. 27 February 1945. Major Bailie-Reynolds (Brit) Monuments Officer, Supreme Hq Allied Expeditionary Force Mission (Belgium), telephoned this office to request action concerning the Chateau Ancien Priore d'Anseremme. This Chateau had already been visited 1 Jan 45

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and a paper stating it was not to be occupied by any Allied military personnel left with the concierge. An attempt had been made by a unit of 15th Army to occupy the chateau; after protestation of the Countess de Meus d'Argenteuil, this unit was withdrawn under supervision of Captain Everett P. Lesley, Jr, MC, Monuments Officer of the 15 Army. When visited, the chateau was unoccupied and all furniture had been returned undamaged. A sign ("Historic Monument - Off Limits") was placed at the entrance of the chateau, and Supreme Hq Allied Expeditionary Force Mission (Belgium) informed by telephone call of the action taken.

c. 4 March 1945. A letter, Hq Communications Zone, ETO, dated 2 March 1945, was received by this office directing report of action taken regarding protection of Chateau of LOUPPY-sur-LOISON, Department of the Meuse, France. 1st Lt Russell L. Carleton of Civil Affairs Detachment D4C2 was requested to visit said chateau and take necessary action. He reported by telephone call that he visited the chateau 5 March 1945, found no troops present and left a letter stating the chateau is on the Supreme Hq Allied Expeditionary Force Official List of Protected Monuments for France, and is not available for billeting or military use.

d. 5 March 1945. A letter of the Baron Kervyn de Lettenhove, transmitted by Major Richard Wagner, Commanding Officer, CA Detachment ClB1, requested placing of his chateau of Houdomont in a protected category, and stated as precedent that the German Feldkommandant had granted it similar protection gratuitously. The chateau was visited 7 March 1945, found to be a monuments of two-star (**), importance, and accordingly added to the list of chateaux to be protected. A sign ("Historic Monument - Off limits") was affixed.

e. 7 March 1945. Ferdi Comte d'Aspremont requested inspection of his father's chateau at Barvaux-Condroz to note recent damage. This request was declined on grounds that reports had already been made on the case, and that the Claims Officer did not consider it necessary to note further new damage resulting from the exposed condition of the chateau; he stated that an estimate of further damage made by the Count's architect-appraiser would be accepted. A claim for damage to the chateau amounting to approximately sixty-five thousand dollars (65,000) has been lodged with the Claims Officer, this headquarters. Copy of these reports are attached.

3. During this period inspections were made of other chateau, mainly those for which protection has been requested by the Belgian Ministre d'Instruction Publique. In addition to those noted in para 2, supra, signs ("Historical Monument - Off Limits") were placed on the premises of the following on the dates indicated:

a. 27 February 1945. The four royal chateau of Ciergnon, Ferageffe and Villers-sur-Lesse. Necessary documents for these were also given to M. Reginster, Regisseur of the Royal Domaine. Although the Belgian government has placed the "Royal Chateau d'Ardenne" on the list for which special protection is requested, this Monuments officer declined to grant it any consideration whatever. The building has for years been used as an hotel by a commercial firm, which either bought it or rented it after the death of King Leopold II, its original owner. It is now occupied by a "Triumph" headquarters

b. 5 March 1945. Chateau d'Horion. On this date, that chateau of Lexhy, at Horion-Hozemont was also visited. The proprietor, the Countess Jeanne de Boretgrave d'Antone declined any sort of special protection for her property, and firmly insisted she desired to have American troops billeted there, as she had voluntarily requested billeting shortly after liberation. At the request of the Monuments Officer, the Countess signed a statement to the foregoing effect; a copy of this is attached.

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c. 7 March 1945. Chateau d'Andoy.

4. As indicated in previous report for 22 February 1945, publicity for the activity of this section in preservation of monuments has been sought through the assistance of the Public Relations Office, this headquarters. Photographs were taken of the placing of signs at the Abbaye of Floreffe, the Chateau of Hermalle-sous-Huy, and Villers-sur-Lesse, the royal chateau of the Duc de Brabant. It is the intention of the PRO, this headquarters, to attempt placement of these photographs in suitable Belgian periodicals or newspapers, with the view of informing the Belgian public that positive action is being taken to accord protection to their monuments, if not to private property. In view of recent editorials in the Belgian press (cf. editorial "L'Evenin", circulated by letter, this headquarters, file 10 014.1 OpCC, 3 March 45) such a procedure has been deemed desirable by higher headquarters, as indicated to me by Captain Ralph Hamnett, Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives officer, G-5, Hq Communications Zone, during his visit of 25 February 1945. Prints of these photographs are attached.

5. In answer to a request made 20 Dec 44, through the office of Civil Affairs Detachment A1F1, to officials of LIEGE, a report pertaining to the works of art belonging to the City of LIEGE was furnished this section. A copy of this list is attached. A request of the Royal Museum of Arts and History to photograph certain sites in Greater LIEGE, processed by Captain Hancock, MFA&A Officer, G-5, Hq First US Army, and Commanding Officer, CA Detachment A1F1, has come to the attention of this section. For reasons of tactical security, G-2 this headquarters, declines approval of this request, but will entertain its re-submission after 1 April 1945.

6. In line with the desire of the MFA&A Officer, G-5, SHAEF, to explore the reaction of the Roman Catholic clergy to war - and incidental damage to church buildings, an audience with Bishop Charue of NAMUR was had 25 Feb 45. The audience lasted for about forty-five minutes and will be commented on separately in a special report to be prepared immediately after this fortnightly report has been expedited.

7. Contacts have been maintained with the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Officers of the First US Army, the Ninth US Army, and the Fifteenth US Army. A conference with Captain Hancock, G-5, Hq First US Army was held 4 March 45, at which time discussion was made of problems of mutual interest, pertaining mainly to occupancy of chateaux, and to the question of documenting the recent damage to the City of LIEGE. Contact has also been developed with Captain Lopper of Civil Affairs Detachment A1F1, particularly with regard to the projected photographing of his area.

DANIEL J KERN,
 1st Lt. CMC
 MFA&A Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
 ADVANCE SECTION
 COMMUNICATIONS ZONE.

600/1

24 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Special Report, Chateau of LIBOIS (K1925)

TO : ACOS, G-5, Hq. Advance Section, Com Z. APO 113, U.S. Army,

1. Major RICHARD F. W GNER, Commanding Officer, Civil Affairs Detachment C1B1, NAMUR, telephoned this office at approximately 1100, 23 February 45 to request the assistance of the MFA&A officer in a matter brought to his attention by the Claims Office, this headquarters.

2. He stated that the Countess of Beaufort and the Count Cornet d'Elzies were in his office on an apparently urgent matter. The Countess requested official assistance for the removal of troops at present occupying her chateau at LIBOIS. She resides at present at 23 Rue Joseph II, BRUSSELS, and had interviewed the American Ambassador, the Honorable CHARLES E SWYER, concerning the matter. The Ambassador,

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according to the Countess, advised her to interview the Claims Office in NAUR, which in turn directed her to Major WIGNER's office.

3. Major WIGNER requested the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Officer to bring two (2) signs ("Historic Monument - Off Limits") to his office for placement on the premises of the chateaux belonging to both the Countess of Beaufort and the Count of Elzius, after verification of the chateaux' status as historic monuments had been made. This request was complied with immediately, and the departure to the premises concerned, in transport furnished by the Count of Elzius, was begun in less than an hour after the original telephone request for assistance was made.

4. The Chateau of St FONTAINE, the property of Count d'Elzius, was inspected first. The substructures of this chateau date from the early Middle Ages, there is on the premises a chapel of great antiquity parts of which date from the ninth century, as well as a shrine to St Hubert, an early Roman structure at least 1,000 years old. The present chateau dates largely from the eighteenth century with some modern repairs. No troops at present occupy the chateau. During the recent German offensive, several occupations were made by American troops, with no apparent damage or any for which the Count desires to press a claim. A sign ("Historic Monument - Off Limits") was left here, as well as a typed memorandum, signed DANIEL J KERN, 1st Lt. CIC, stating that the chateau is an historic monument, and under the provision of letter, AG 007 OpGE, HQ ETOUSL, subject "Use of Buildings, Their Contents and Other Property by Military Personnel" dated 14 November 44, is unavailable for requisition and/or use by Allied military personnel.

5. The Chateau of LIBOIS was visited next. A platoon of colored American troops, under the command of 2nd Lt. RICHARDSON, also colored, is occupying the subsidiary buildings of the Chateau and using one room of the chateau as a day-room. Two rooms bore "Off Limits" signs, signed by Lt. RICHARDSON, who informed me that the floors above the first floor were also "Off Limits". The Countess informed me that this is the second occupation, a detachment of white American Troops having occupied the chateau during the recent German offensive. The Countess will furnish complete identity of this unit at the next interview. Lt. RICHARDSON stated that his detachment was sent to the chateau under orders of Lt. Colonel WALLACE V R FRETTS, CE, Commanding Officer, First Battalion, 1317 Engineers attached to Advance Section, Communications Zone, with headquarters at EPTINNE (P1495).

6. Before leaving for EPTINNE with the Count and the Countess a superficial survey of the premises was made. The troops have placed a straddle trench, surrounded by a fly, on the gravelled court south of the chateau; under orders to prepare the place as a Prisoner of War Enclosure: they have barred two large gateways and placed barbed wire and chicken wire over windows and a gateway leading to the courtyard; they have emplaced two wooden mounts for machine guns on sloping tiled roofs surrounding this courtyard, causing the displacement of a number of tiles over an area in total of approximately six square meters. The two rooms marked "Off Limits", referred to in par 4. supra, were inspected as a result of the prior inspection; the floors in both rooms are lacking several small sections of parquetry, a hole has been burned in one floor (fire caused by heat from stove placed in front of fireplace) a chandelier has been torn from the ceiling of one room. The overall picture is extremely bad, the marble stairs being rather dirty (less so, the Countess stated, under this occupancy than during the prior one), and the entire building drafty from the constant ingress of troops. It is inconceivable that the premises can be used as a Prisoner of War Enclosure without causing definite damage to the chateau; the area to be assigned to the two hundred and fifty (250) German prisoners being so small for this number that the guards and other servicing troops will most certainly attempt to use the chateau for quarters. The chateau and its dependances, which include a church and two farms, all date from 1720. A sign ("Historic Monument - Off Limits") was left with the game-keeper's son for use after the departure of the troops. A memorandum, similar to the one given Count d'Elzius for his property, was given to the Countess of Beaufort for her use.

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7. Colonel FRETTS was not present at his headquarters at EMPELINNE when an interview was sought at approximately 1645. However, the matter was discussed with his Executive Officer, who stated he would inform the Colonel of the action taken by the MFA&A Officer, and would relay his request that troops be withdrawn. Further, this officer stated that for administrative reasons it was contemplated that the troops were to be withdrawn from the Chateau of LIBOIS 25 February 45. A written message from Captain LOWRY, Town Major of NAMUR, requesting that the commanding officer of the detachment occupying the chateau contact said Town Major at his earliest convenience was delivered by the MFA&A Officer to Lt. RICHARDSON, who stated he would get in touch with Colonel FRETTS the evening of 24 February 45 and proceed to the Town Major's office.

8. The Countess of Beaufort stated that the American Ambassador to Belgium had assured her he would grant her request his personal attention; that he would proceed to the chateau by way of NAMUR in a few days; that he would have accompanied her 24 February 45 except for some very urgent affairs.

9. This MFA&A Officer informed the Countess he would return to the Chateau of LIBOIS within a few days to ascertain what action had been taken, and that he would confer with the Town Major of NAMUR and the Real Estate and Labor Branch, Engineer Section this Headquarters, with the view of placing her property in a status as unavailable for troop occupancy.

DANIEL J KERN,
 1st Lt. CAC
 MFA&A Officer.

ALBERT CHEQUIERE
 Architecte
 15, Rue de L'Arsenal,
 NAMUR

CHATEAU DE BARVAUX EN CONDROZ
CONSTIT du 26 janvier 1945

Le 26 janvier 1945, je soussigne Albert CHEQUIERE, Architecte, demeurant et domicilié à NAMUR, 15 Rue de L'Arsenal, a la demande de Monsieur le Comte d'Aspremont Lynden, propriétaire du chateau de Barvaux en Condroz, et sur l'indication du Lieutenant Daniel J. Kern de l'armée des Etats Unis, lequel était présent lors de ma visite, me suis rendu au chateau sus-indiqué; celui-ci avait été incendié le 2 janvier 1945 au matin, alors qu'il était encore occupé, suivant ce que m'a déclaré le propriétaire, par les soldats américains qui étaient sur le point de s'en aller.

Comme je l'ai constaté, l'incendie a dû se déclarer dans les combles, c'est à dire dans le grenier sous la grande toiture du chateau toiture entièrement brûlée ainsi que les charpentes et toutes les boiseries à partir du deuxième étage du chateau, étage dont les planchers et les poutres sont également entièrement brûlés. Ce qui indique nettement que le feu est venu de la toiture, c'est que certaines poutres en chêne restées dans leur position, sont brûlées sur leur face supérieure et les deux faces latérales, mais pas la face inférieure. Les Brisés, en mansard légèrement cintre, sont brûlés de l'extérieur, car l'enduit intérieur en plafonnage sur isolant en ardenne montre des surfaces intactes sous l'isolant brûlé; ceci indique que le feu venu du plancher des combles supérieurs sous la toiture, s'est étendu par une coulée de flammes venant entre toiture et plafond. Mais le plafond et son contregitage sous le plancher n'ont pas résisté et en s'effondrant ils ont mis le feu au deuxième étage; le plancher de ce étage, en s'effondrant lui-même dans le grand hall sur l'escalier principal a abîmé complètement, soit par le feu, soit par la chute des matériaux, toute l'ornementation reconstituée de l'ancien, appliquée contre les murs ou sur montages en bois et plâtre, ainsi que le grand escalier en chêne lui-même -

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Toutes les salles du premier etage du chateau ont reçu l'eau d'extinction de l'incendie, les debris des ouvrages superieurs, et ont ensuite été recouvertes de neige qui y subsiste encore actuellement lors de mes constatations preliminaires. Tous les planchers en chene de cet etage sont recouverts et ne seront plus reutilisables, meme s'ils ne sont pas brules. Tous les enduits, plafonds et contreplafonds et les ornements en platre seront également a remplacer pour la plus grande partie.

Quant au rez-de-chaussée, flanqué sur chaque aile de cote d'une partie d'entresol, toutes les pieces y sont abimees par l'eau; les ornements en platre ou en stuc, les parquets en chene, les trumeaux decoratifs des cheminées, ont beaucoup souffert. - Les enduits sur murs et ceux des plafonds de memo.

Ces dommages devront être soigneusement examines. En ce qui concerne les cheminées la plupart sont de tres beau marbre d'anciennes couchés qu'on n'exploite plus de nos jours. Il semble que les foyers devaient y être allumes avec des produits degageant de tres grandes chaleurs. Au surplus, dans des locaux des sous-sols et de l'entresol la fumee que l'on constate sur les enduits et sur les badigeons, indique qu'on employait des feux divers tres intenses, sans precautions. Dans le sous-sol une chaudiere pour la circulation d'eau chaude a été allume sans s'occuper qu'il y eut ou non une circulation d'eau dans les elements.

De mes constatations, confirmees par les declarations du proprietaire, il resulte que, sauf les escaliers, les chassis vitres qui fermaient tout le chateau a tous les etages, et les portes du deuxieme etage, aucune boiserie n'était encore posee. Des portes en chene non placees et des portes en chene placees au deuxieme etage, ont pu, sauf quelques unes, être retirees du sinistre grace a la vigilance des sauveteurs, qui ainsi ont soustraits une grosse partie d'elements combustibles a la destruction.

J'ai constate également que toutes les tuyauteries des installations sanitaires sont excecutees, mais seulement quelques appareils étaient places. Neuf lavabos en faience blanche, un evier en gros, un bidet en faience blanche, un C.C. syphonique, sont brises. Trois baignoires ont été remplies de materiaux de toutes sortes et l'une d'elles a été renversee.

Toute la tuyauterie en castrope du reseau d'eclairage electrique était terminee, sauf le tirage des fils. Il y aura lieu d'examiner jusqu'ou cette installation aura été abimee soit par l'eau entree dans les tubes soit par l'humidite ambiante des lieux.

Les vitreries des chassis non brules ont souffert sous l'effet de la chaleur de l'incendie.

Tous les ouvrages detruits et endommages vanaient d'être reconstruits depuis 1942, et le chateau devait être termine et en etat d'habitation pour 1945.

Tous les materiaux étaient de premiere qualite et de la meilleure origine, ainsi qu'en font foi et les factures et mes constatations sur place; aucune vetuste ne peut être envisagee.

Fait et signe a MIMUR, le 27 janvier 1945.

(signed)

Lexhy,
 Horion-Hozemont.

5 - 3 - 45.

Je soussignee, Comtesse Joane de Boretgrave d'Altone certifie ne mettre aucune opposition a l'occupation du chateau de Lexhy par des troupes Americaines. Je ne desire pas avoir d'affiche interdisant l'accès du chateau aux troupes Americaines.
 par procuration s/ Comtesse Joanne de Boretgrave d'Alt

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Translation:

I, the undersigned Countess Jeanne de Borctgrave d'Altonc, certify that I make no opposition to the occupation of the chateau of Lexhy by American troops. I do not want to have a poster forbidding access to the chateau to American troops.

s/ Comtesse Jeanne de Borctgrave d'Altonc

Administration Communale
 de LIEGE

LIEGE, le January 22nd 1945.

RUE HORS-CHATEAU, 5.
 Telephone: 110.59 et 254.11.

BUREAU

des

BEAUX-ARTS

To: Lt. Colonel DIGGS
 Commanding Officer,
 Civil Affairs Detachment A1F1
 LIEGE.

OBJET:

Subject: Damaged Monuments

1. Your letter of December 23rd (1st Lt. Daniel L Kern)
2. Our letter of January 4th.

Dear Sir,

According to my letter of January 4th I beg you to find herein enclosed the general report of historic buildings, public monuments, paintings, drawings, and sculptures belonging to the city collections, damaged by the war up to December 31st.

Further damages will require an additional report that we are busy preparing

Sincerely,

Auguste BUISSET
 Echevin des Beaux Arts de
 la Ville de Liege.

I. WORKS OF ART BELONGING TO THE CITY OF LIEGE

a) taken by the Germans:

Donnay Auguste	Birch Trees
Donnay Auguste	In the Ardennes (winter scene)
Donnay Auguste	Apple tree in Bloom
Montigny	In Evening.

b) taken by unknown persons under the German occupation

Unknown	Landscape on Canvas (Large Tower)
Unknown	War Scene
Unknown	Mediterranean Shores.

c) destroyed as a result of the war

- 1) City Hall in Angleur (bombed--May 25, 1944).

Paercls W.	Port (canvas)
Paercls W.	Marketplace in Liege, 1933 (sketch)

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(e) CAICAR (E 0050) Church of S. Nicolas).

- (i) Behind chief altar.
- (ii) Behind altar in North aisle.
- (iii) Deposit in ground floor of Tower.
- (iv) Stadtarchiv, Hanselaar Str.

(f) KRANEN-BURG

- (i) Behind chief altar in the church.
- (ii) Stadtarchiv.
- (iii) Priest's House (near Church).

PERSONNEL

9. A conference with MFA&A Officer, Ninth US Army, was held at Maastricht on 5 March 1945.

10. Lt. Col. Geoffrey Webb, MFA&A Adviser, SNAFF, came to WALBECK on 15 Mar; Cleve and Wissel were visited on the 16th and the deposit in the Monastery at Cleve inspected.

POLICY

11. The following order was issued by Second Army on 15 March:-
 "A16. Confidential. Churches, Cathedrals, Shrines, or other houses of worship will not repeat not be used for secular purposes except for temporary shelter in emergency for wounded persons, or by local arrangement for religious services for creed or faith to which they have been consecrated. Ensure instrs issued accordingly to all units."

12. An ARO, No. 331, was issued on 7 March 45, and attention is directed to this in Second Army Military Government Policy Instruction, No. 101 dated 22 March 45. This ARO states the reasons for regulations for the preservation of monuments, etc in Germany; orders all measures consistent with military necessity to be taken to safeguard them and prevent their deterioration; orders Military Commanders to ensure the buildings on the official Military Government List are not used for military purposes except in cases of operational necessity; that they are closed and put out of bounds to all troops; and take all practicable steps to prevent looting or sacrilege, etc. It orders finds of caches to be reported to the nearest Mil Gov Det and the building to be posted Out of Bounds; forbids the sale or purchase of works of Art in GERMANY and orders the reasons for the preservation of monuments, etc, in Germany to be explained to all ranks.

INSPECTIONS

13. The following monuments were inspected on dates bracketted. MRs apply to North West Europe 1:250,000 GSGS 4042 Sheets 2a and 3a and 3.

(a) CIEVE (E 8055) (28 Feb, 6, 7, and 15 March 45).

- (i) Stiftkirche. Mid-fourteenth Century building, extended, restored and largely rebuilt through succeeding centuries. A brick building of six Nave bays, twin West towers, three choir bays and apse, North and South choir and nave aisles, North and South porched entrances, chapels off the North choir aisle and modern sacristies off the South choir aisle.

CIEVE was bombed from the air in Oct 44 and again heavily on 7/8 Feb 45; the latter was an eliminating operation.

The building is shattered. The whole of the West end including the two towers is razed to within a few feet of ground level.

The North nave arcade is intact, and the South nave arcade whole, but with multiple fractures. Approximately 50% of the choir bays and apse is demolished.

Furnishings, including the 18 cent, benching, are destroyed. The vault of the North Porch is intact but the traceried window over and doorway are destroyed.

The vaulting and roofs of choir and apse are destroyed, and also of the nave except the beams and principals, which remain in position. The chapels of the North choir-aisle remain with two tombs protected by boarded enclosures filled with sand. These tombs, one of Count Adolph I and his wife, appear to be safe. This chapel is protected by built up windows and arch between the two chapels. The metal plates from the tomb in the adjoining chapel were removed prior to the destruction of the church, and are reported to be at REDBURG (E 8353).

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The two chief altar retables had been protected with boarding and subsequently removed by the German authorities and left in the North porch owing, it is reported, to lack of transport. Both retables have suffered minor all-over damage. All detachable carved panels and parts have been removed and deposited in the monastery at CLEVE. The modern sacristies on the South of the church are totally demolished.

A fine brass Candelabra which had been dismembered and boxed in the chapel off the North choir-aisle was also removed for safety to the repository formed in the monastery.

The church archives were recovered from the sacristy safe, which had been blown. Boxes of archives had been withdrawn and were scattered and sodden among the general debris. These archives date from the 14th cent. All were collected and deposited in the monastery at CLEVE.

- (ii) Schwannenburg. The buildings were seriously damaged during the bombing of CLEVE.

(b) KRANENBURG (E 8156) (2 Mar 45)

- (i) Church, 13/14 cent brick building generally fully restored nave of five bays with choir and octagon apse. The chief altar retable carved and painted wood panels is protected with boarding - part of this covering has been shot away - the panels at the base of the retable are unprotected, uninjured, and appear to be modern work. An iron receptacle behind the chief altar contains statues - this has not been opened for examination. A stone gothic shrine at the entrance to the choir (South side) appears to be modern work and is protected by boarding. A wood gothic shrine against the wall of the South aisle is also enclosed with protective boarding, and may be an ancient example.

The church as a whole is a wreck. All roofs and vaulting are destroyed and the floor is deep in heavy timbering and other debris. All stone traceried windows are destroyed. The West tower with slated timber to most storey and dwarf spire is standing but with all-over damage, the vault below is intact. The tower is scarred by shell-fire with a severely damaged angle buttress.

The sacristy on the North of the Choir entered from the North aisle has been pillaged and the safe blown and emptied.

Exteriorly all slating and timbering of the roofs are destroyed.

The South aisle chapel is destroyed. The South portico is destroyed, but the inner 13th cent. entrance to the church has escaped injury other than the upper traceried spandrel over which is destroyed.

The retable of the altar in the North aisle has its carved groups missing, also its right hand folding door, doubtless removed for safety; their whereabouts are not at present known. There is a priest, Pastor Höynck, Kirchplatz 24, KRANENBURG, now at the Refugee Centre, BEDBURG.

- (ii) Stadtarchiv. The town archives were found in a detached brick tower to the South East from the church, probably a part of the old wall of the town. They appeared to be undisturbed, and a notice was posted on the door.
- (iii) Priest's House (near the church) contains in a back ground floor from a considerable collection of late 16th and 17th cent books - a notice was posted on the door.

(c) SCHLOSS NOYLAND (E 975?) (1 and 7 Mar 45)

Owner Freiherr von Steengracht. An imposing towered and moated castle occupied by troops at the time of both visits. The building has suffered severe damage from bombing and shell fire. The apartments contain several elaborate traditions chimney pieces, good chairs and other furniture and paintings, for the most part more or less damaged. The Schloss had been thoroughly sacked. The family archives were scattered among the debris; the metal covered chest had been broken open. The archives were collected by MFA&A Officers, First Cdn and Second Army, brought away and deposited in the Monastery at Cleve. No trace of a collection of paintings once possessed by the owner was found. Several paintings of minor importance are seriously damaged or destroyed.

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(d) HANSELAER (E 0140) (1 and 22 Mar 45)

Church. Small brick building, practically undamaged, but in a general mess. There are good and interesting altar retables of minor importance. Notices were posted on the doors. At a second visit all civilians, including the parish priest, had been compulsorily evacuated, the church was locked, and the FA&A notices were in good order.

(e) COCH (E 0243) (2 Mar 45)

- (i) Church S. Magdalen, one of the largest in the Neder Rhine, is a wreck. Stone traceried windows and roofing are generally destroyed by bombing and shell fire.

The vaulting of three bays of the South aisle of the choir and nave, (with the exception of two bays), are demolished. The interior of the building is a mass of masonry, brick debris, and roof timbers.

A small, probably 17th cent, statue of Our Lady near the South entrance is uninjured. The organ is destroyed.

The greater part of the North aisle wall is demolished, as well as one complete pier of the North nave-arcade.

A roof group on the wall of the North aisle is uninjured. The pulpit is damaged but remains in position, and is repairable. The tower and timber spire still stand, although holed in several places by direct hits.

The outer archway of the South porch is severely damaged and the spandrel tracery over destroyed, and the raking verges of the gable scarred. The fate or whereabouts of the 15th cent statue of S George is not known. Monuments notices are posted on the site.

- (ii) Stadtarchiv. The archives were found in a state of disorder in the wrecked Redhuis and were collected by FA&A officer, First Cdn and Second Army, taken and deposited in the Franciscan Monastery at Cleve, together with sundry minor objects from the Heimat Museum, and including the silver plaques, Königsvogel and fine three figured terminal of S. Sebastianus-Brüderschaft.

(f) BOXMEER (E 7640) (3 March 45)

Carmelite Monastery. See Report for month ending 21 Feb 45. Revisited on 3 Mar. Monks now in possession. Consulted Pater Hendr. Mulders, OC, Pater Xaverius Lutz, OC, and two Carmelite brothers. Notices posted at the first visit on 19 Dec 44 were in good order.

(g) KAICAR (E 0050) (1 and 21 Mar 45).

- (i) Church, S. Nicolas. 14/15th Cent brick building famous for its seven altars and retables, choir stalls, candelabra and other objects of interest.

The interior is relatively complete - the general vaulting exists except that of the South choir chapel, which is destroyed and the roofing fallen in. The chapel itself is wrecked; a painting of the Crucifixion remains in position undamaged. There is here no indication of the customary pillage. Windows throughout are destroyed or damaged.

The two principal retables from the High altar (Jan Joest) and altar of S George are built up in brick enclosures behind their respective altars and appear to have escaped injury. The whereabouts of the retables of the Seven Dolours and Holy Trinity is not known - possible in the Tower repository, or built in with those already mentioned.

A two-panel painting, SS Jacobus Major and Minor, hangs uninjured in the South Aisle. The Baptistry window is destroyed, and the vault has a large hole in it. The ground floor of the Tower has its open arches bricked up and forms a repository; the vault is intact. In it are stacked the carved choir stalls and other furniture, paintings, statues and a fine "marianum" - all appear to be in good order.

The 18th cent benching in the Nave is intact as well as the crucifix over the North doorway, organ and gallery, pulpit, 17th cent confessionals in the North aisle; painting Annunciation and four other paintings and another old confessional in the North choir chapel. The sacristy off the South choir chapel is locked, and appears to be undamaged and not interfered with. With regard to the exterior, the South of the

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building exhibits little damage. The tower balustrade is largely destroyed and the belfry heavily scarred by shell fire. The Nave and choir roofing, both timbering and boarding, is damaged at junction of choir and nave, and the slating throughout disturbed or removed by blast. The North exterior has the North West angle of the tower seriously damaged and scarring from shell fire over the North entrance.

The West front has the large windows on either side of the tower destroyed, and the tower masonry is heavily scarred by shot and shell.

Notices were posted on the building. At the later visit on 21 Mar the Tower was in military use as an OP, and the personal belongings of the clergy, which had also been stored in the Tower, had been pillaged. There is a KAICAR priest, Kaplan Joseph Stoffels, Herrenstrasse 318, Kalcar at the Bedburg Refugee Centre.

- (ii) Stadtarchiv, Henselaar Str. The stadt archives appear for the most part to be undisturbed, and notices were posted pending further action. Troops were living in the cellars. It is recommended that the premises be cleared of troops and put out of bounds.
- (iii) Rathaus. Erick building severely damaged. The centre octagonal staircase turret is intact but the North wing is for the most part demolished and the roofing and upper storey of the South wing. The ground floor vaults are intact.

(h) XANTEN (E 1241) (12 to 25 Mar)

- (i) Cathedral S Victor. This building described in Blue Guides as "One of the most beautiful Gothic churches on the Rhine, with two earlier Romanesque towers" and was famous for its carved retables, ch stalls (1300) and treasure - is now a wreck. Of the two towers the North tower has lost its top storey and timber spire, the South tower and spire are complete, but the entire West front of the building is scarred and holed by many direct hits. The plan consists of a nave and choir of eight bays with two Western towers and apsidal East end. There are on the North and South double aisles of eight bays, and the church has always been famed for the number of its altars. On the North side are the cloisters and adjoining buildings, and on the South the sacristies. The main walls stand and are much scarred. All the stone tracery windows, roofs and vaulting are destroyed as well as the furniture. The North side west end of nave clerestory is destroyed. Two short ranges of stalls, three seats each, survive. The choir is deep in masonry debris. Behind the chief altar is the frame of the principal retable (Victorschrein, with the carved heads removed and protected by light wood framing and wall board. Also stored here are two coffins with bones, and a wood gothic chasse (one end missing) and a wood altar. In North wall of choir is a damaged, elaborately carved entrance to stairway. The tabernacle of the chief altar was forced open, and thrown among the debris. The wrought iron screenwork of the choir is in reasonably good order. The altar of S. Catharine in the North aisle has an 18th cent painting holed in five places. The altar to the North of this last has the painting destroyed disclosing an ancient wall fresco. A confessional (18th cent) in the North aisle is damaged but capable of repair.

The cloisters and surrounding ranges of building are generally ruined, and have suffered like the Dom from bombing and continued shelling. Half the vaulting of the West cloister is destroyed; five wall-tombstones are intact. In the North cloister, four carved relief wall panels are uninjured, and other two damaged. The entire cloister abutting on the church is demolished and doorway to church damaged. The ground floor of the rooms adjoining the North cloister is intact and the two easternmost rooms were formed into a repository by WPA&A officer, Second Army - these rooms are at present dry and weather tight. Illuminated service books found in the end room were brought away for safety, and have been put in the custody of Kaplan Erich Bensch, Henselaar, Hettenerstr, bei Dyr. The SOUTH Tower is relatively uninjured. Exterior of the apse is practically undamaged other than the destroyed glass of the windows. The church has been pillaged; every cupboard forced including those in the altars.

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There are two altar retable frames placed against and face towards the wall of the SOUTH aisle - damaged slightly by the removal of several backing boards by pillagers. The 14th cent ranges of choir stalls were removed by the church authorities before the bombing of XANTEN.

The SOUTH Entrance to church had a protective scaffold and boarding, but is damaged considerably. In a ground level passage from the EAST cloister through the East range of buildings and bricked up on the cloister side were found about four retable frames and two altars and the painted and framed lunette (crucifixion) from the Victorschrein. The East cloister, vaulting and roofing, is destroyed and traceried arcade damaged and out of truth - a number of carved wall tablets remain, and others are broken and among the debris. The NORTH cloister - the vaulting is damaged and much of the ribbing broken away, but the brick panels for the most part have held, two bays of the arcade are destroyed and carved wall tablets broken and among the debris. The West cloister has all vaulting except in two bays destroyed and the arcading damaged. The cloister sacristy is destroyed, the interior filled with debris.

The easternmost room of the North cloister building was evidently a museum and contains three cases of stained glass from the windows, a number of Roman Pots, several pictures from the Dom (numbered 89, 90, 92, 99) and other minor objects, small statues, a wood head of the Virgin, and unopened packing case 3'1" x 1'9" x 9", three unopened parcels (two in paper and one in linen wrapping), one unopened portfolio, etc, etc. This part of the building has suffered from shell fire and the NE angle is unstable, fractured on both faces from ground to roof. Below this range of building are vaulted cellars in use by occupying troops. At the West end of the cellar is a small space bricked in containing about eighteen cases of probably stained glass from the Dom windows - this enclosure was not entered or the cases interfered with.

In the Cathedral the retable of the altar "Mirificae Crucis" in the South Aisle is intact - a relic "Lig SS Crucis" in a standing silver cross was removed for safety to the monastery at GELDERN. The statues on the piers of the nave arcades have generally escaped serious injury.

The Sacristies on the SOUTH of the choir have tracery of stone windows damaged, but the painted vaulting appears to be sound. In them are carved fragments, twenty or more old antependia, quantity of altar lines, ambry containing 7 missals, thuribles, portable torches, vestments, lacquer reliquary lined with bones etc, lying about in a tumbled mass. Sacristies appear to have been pillaged but much of the damage and confusion may be attributed to shot, shell and blast.

The small room adjoining the easternmost room in the cloister (North range) was formed into a repository and books from the Decanat Library were removed from the severely damaged house and stored here.

The stone carved Stations of the Cross near the South porch of the cathedral have suffered damage, but are repairable. The life size calvary had been protected with boarding, but is largely destroyed.

A priest of XANTEN, Gerhard Terhorst, Kaplan u. Pfarrverwalter, XANTEN, Kapitel 13 and Herr Peter Schmithu XANTEN, Marsstr No. 74 were interviewed at the Refugee Centre, BEDBURG on 23 March. Herr Schmithusen is an archivist. They state that the cathedral treasure was organized into groups i.e. gold, ancient, valuable for normal use, altars, vestments, manuscripts, etc - that the most important, including the archives, were removed in Sept 39 and that only the Bishop of the Diocese (MUNSTER)

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knows their whereabouts. They also state that the Township had little in the way of archives. Kaplan Terhorst states that a baroque altar and the choir stalls are stored in the cellar of the brewery in Johannes Janssen Strasse and the 12th cent bronze gabled form reliquary placed in the tabernacle of the church at LUTTINGEN. MFA&A Officer, Second Army, removed the unopened tabernacle from LUTTINGEN and deposited at the monastery GELDERN (ISSUM Road); neither Brewery no J. Janssen Strasse could be identified.

(ii) Clervertor

The town gateway on the cleve road. Brick gateway with pointed archways and 4 storeys high, angle turrets, staircase turret and high pitched slated roofing. To the North of the Main Tor are flanking round towers. The brickwork generally has suffered minor damage only from shot and shell. The SW turret is damaged by a direct hit and the roof-boarding and slating is damaged.

(iii) Gotisches Haus

In the Markt. The facade is scarred but not seriously and top centre pinnacle is shot away. All glass of windows is destroyed, and the living rooms have been pillaged and are in great disorder - other wise the building can be reinstated

(iv) Protestant Church (near (iii))

A late 18th cent building. Old pulpit destroyed, roofing damaged and slating destroyed. Interesting old organ with carved trumpeting angels damaged. Relatively the building has escaped serious injury.

(v) Michaelskapelle

Has totally disappeared - the only traces found on the site were a few worked stones. The centre of the site is marked by a large bomb crater.

i WALBECK K 9623 (10 Mar 45)

(i) Church. A restored 15 th cent foundation with statues of S. Christopher 15th cent and S. Sebastien (Baroque) - and is undamaged.

(ii) Archives. The Pastor and Burgomaster (apptd by Mil Gov) states that modern parish registers (from about 1808) are in the cellar of his house at WALBECK, and that early archives were removed to the interior of the Reich some years ago and not in connection with the war.

(j) GENNEP E 7846 (6 Mar 45)

(i) Stadhuis. Brick building with stone dressings and steep pitched slated roof of 17th cent; heavily damaged by shell and SA fire; all glass destroyed; roof seriously damaged by direct hits; brickwork SE gable largely destroyed and chimneys at both ends of building shot away. The building can be repaired. There are two unopened safes.

(ii) Catholic Church. West Tower and spire. All slating blasted from roofs and steeple, and brickwork generally severely damaged by shell fire. The N aisle and plaster vault and all windows destroyed. The pulpit is intact, also the organ, except for perforated pipes. Sacristy inaccessible on account of the debris which fills it.

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(iii) Kerke (near Stadhuis). Classic building 18th cent. Old pulpit wrecked. Roof partly wrecked and slating destroyed. Interesting organ with carved angels is damaged and repairable. The building has suffered from shelling and SA fire.

(k) MARIENBAUM E 0645 (7 Mar 45)

Church, St. Brigatta. Brick and stone dressings - gothic building with classic nave arcading. Spire and all slating and fleche at junction of nave and choir are damaged. Building is scarred generally by shell fire. The interior is undisturbed other than window glass blown out and the mass of debris. The Shrine of O. Lady is intact, also two old crucifixes, two 18th cent staves, choir stalls and fine 18th cent retable. On the N of sanctuary is an ancient painted wood sacrament house uninjured. A large glazed shallow wall case containing many relics has the bottom centre pane of each of the three sections broken, and the centre objects apparently stolen.

(l) SCHLOSS HAAG E 9927 (13 Mar 45)

A moated modern house with 17th cent dependances and towers, and extensive quadrangle of stables and farm buildings - was bombed and largely wrecked on 28 Feb 45 and occupied by the Irish Guards on 9 March 45. The buildings were plundered. The owner Graf von und Hoensbroech and Gräfin, are living in rooms in the dependances allotted to them by the military unit in occupation. They state that the arches and tapestries were sent across the Rhine for safety. The best of the furniture and objects of importance have been collected into a room about 25' x 20' on the first floor and placed out of bounds and sealed by Mil Gov Detachment 213. The Gräfin states that the Schloss held no works of art other than those belonging to the family. She also states that they have some paintings with them in the dependances and others in the cellars of the schloss but none of importance. The premises were inspected with Major A.J. Elsey, RE, the officer commanding the occupying military unit.

(m) LUTTINGEN E 1242 (25 March 45)

Church. Brick vaulted building with West stone faced tower. Interior generally in good order except the sacristy which has been entered by breaking the door from the sanctuary and, which had been pillaged. The organ is intact. Two early 18th cent paintings in organ loft, one a little damaged (two tears). Topmost storey of tower and timber steeple destroyed by shell fire. In view of the report that the tabernacle contains the 12th century Bronze reliquary from the Dom at XANTEN, it was brought away unopened and deposited at the Monastery at Geldern (on the Issum Road). The parish priest of Luttingen is said to have taken the tabernacle key with him when he was evacuated into Germany.

(n) SCHLOSS WINNENTAL E 1336 (20 Mar 45)

House proper was gutted by fire, cellars beneath are intact. Owner, F. Smitz, wine factor. No indication of any deposit of works of art was found. Troops occupying the outbuildings.

(o) VEN E 1235 (20 Mar 45)

Church, brick. Steeple of West tower and the W facing of tower destroyed. Stone work of all windows destroyed. The building is wrecked the N aisle destroyed with caulking and roofing throughout except vaulting of S aisle and choir, which exists, together with main timbers of nave roof. Tabernacle on altar broken open. Carved panels of altar retable are missing. Sacristy received a direct hit and is a wrecked mass of furniture, altar ornaments, vestments. Sacristy safe had been forced and still contains brass candlesticks, incense boat, pyx, font, aspergoria, etc. A large press containing vestments remains undisturbed.

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CONFIDENTIALINFORMATION

14. The following GERMAN Nationals were consulted in connection with MFA&A objects.

BEDEBURG Refugee Centre

Gerard Terhorst, Kaplan u. Pfarrverwalter, KANTEN, Kapitel 13.
 Herr Peter Schmidhusen, Stadtober Sekretar, KANTEN, Marsstrasse
 Ludwig Deimel, Priest of Pfarrkirche CLEVE.

KEVELAER

Anton Leuker, Curator, Heimat Museum, Kevelaer.
 Erich Bensch, Kaplan, Kevelaer, Wettenerstr Bei Dyx.

GELDERN

Dean. Gerard van Heukelum, Pfarrer in GELDERN, Deckant.
 Dr Eilhelm Schlagemann, Rector, Diocesis MUNSTER, Geldern.
 Wilhelm Gründmann, Rector in GELDERN Monasterium.

SCHLOSS HAAG

Graf and Grafyn von und Hoensbroech.

WALBECK

Johannes Böhrs, Lommen, Geldernstrasse H 15, Rector and Burgomaster
 of WALBECK.

CALCAR

Chaplain Joseph Stoffels, Kalkar, Herrenstrasse, 318.
 Pastor Hoynck, Kranenburg, Kirchplatz, 94.

15. PUBLICATIONS

The undermentioned documents have been received.

From G-5 Ops Branch, SHAEF.

Addenda to 2nd Edit. of Repositories of Works of Art in GERMANY
 SHAEF/IA/751/2/21 of 13 Mar 45.

Addenda II do do do do do do

SHAEF/G-5/IA/751 of 19 Mar 45.

The undermentioned documents were distributed.

Copies of MFA&A Notices (ENGLISH & GERMAN) 100 copies to each

Copies of MFA&A Notices (ENGLISH & GERMAN) supplied to MFA&A
 officers, First Cdn and Ninth US Armies.

JAE. DIXON-SPAIN
 Squadron Leader,
 (MFA&A)
 Second Army.

Mar 1945.

16. Receipts, of which the following are copies, were completed in respect of objects deposited at GELDERN and KEVELAER.

Rheinprovinz RB DUSSELDORF
KOERS (Kreis)
Dei Dom zu DANTEN

All books were dirty and more or less stained through exposure to damp.

1. Missal, handwritten, many illuminated initials. Tooled leather on wood covers. Leather binding damaged. Upper clasp only. 044 x 031 x 008 m.

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2. Choir book, Antiphonale, handwritten, 222 pp, initials blue and red no pictures, marked in pencil "A2". Tooled leather on oak covers. Metal corners, clasps missing. 042 x 130 x 008 m.
3. Bible, printed black letter, handwritten and illuminated initials, Prologue in bibliam - Regum CIII.
4. Bible, all as last. Prologus to end of Liber Ecclesiastici. (NB: Both 3 and 4 clean and in good condition. Clasps missing. Tooled leather on oak binding. 033 x 022 x 009 m. (Nos 3 and 4 are from the Decanat Library)).
5. Antiphonale, handwritten, illuminated caps, slight shading chiefly outline. Late kalender and other insertions. Full illuminated and margins front page "Ad te levavi" Cardinals' arms. Covers leather on boards. Ornamental metal angles and heavy studs. Clasps missing. 042 x 030 x 009 m.
6. Antiphonale, handwritten, illuminated floriated caps gold background late insertions and repairs. Tooled leather on wood covers. Backed cover. Once clasp only. 045 x 031 x 008.
7. Antiphoner, handwritten, illuminated caps, front page capital and floral margins. Modern insertions. Tooled leather on heavy oak covers. Metal corners and clasps. 5 heavy studs back and front. 045 x 033 x 012 m.
8. Antiphonale, handwritten, caps red and blue with outline filigree work. Generally much stained and faded. Tooled leather on wood covers. Good condition, clasps missing. Metal corners, 4 studs front, 3 back. 043 x 032 x 012 m.
9. Choir book, handwritten. Many small illuminated caps, generally red line work. Leather on wood cover boards. Metal corners, one clasp. 043 x 033 x 010.
10. Three office books, handwritten, illuminated initial caps. Much stained and discoloured by long exposure to damp - half bound in boards. 037 x 025 x 003 m.
11. Antiphonale, handwritten, many illuminated initials (floral) and margins. Later additions. Tooled leather on heavy oak covers. Metal corners, studs, clasps. On paper slipped in written "Kranenburg 1558". Binding (date) Anno 1790. 043 x 035 x 011 m.
12. Choir book, handwritten, illuminated initials red and blue - floral and linework. Repaired, stained, faded. Leather on oak boards. Metal added corners. Clasp defective. 042 x 032 x 010 m.
13. Psalter, handwritten, illuminated initials red and blue - floral and linework. Repaired, stained, faded. Leather on oak boards. Metal added corners. Clasp defective. 042 x 032 x 010 m.

The above named books were handed to me and I undertake to be responsible for them until I receive further instructions from a responsible officer of the Allied Military Government or of the Bishop of the Diocese.

(sgd) ERICH BENSON KAPLAN
 Date: 27. III. 1945.

Witness J.E. DIXON SPAIN. Sqdn Ldr.
 MFA&A, Second Army at KEVELAER 21 Mar 45.

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Conferred with Town Major, Major McDonald-Buchanan (S Gds) re use of chateaux on the protected list, the danger of using Derle or Trombone oil burners in buildings as only intended for outdoor use; & possible derequisitioning of 8/9 place van Artevelde at Ghent (see later inspection & report).

25 March. Ghent to HINGENE & lunched with the Agent, Melle Tiellmans. Inspected interior of Chateau (prop; duc d'Ursel), much of which must date from the time of Louis XVI & the 1st Empire. The Salon aux glaces is a well proportioned room in the Louis XVI taste. Most of the reception and principal Bedrooms are beautifully furnished & decorated with old chintzes and Chinese wall papers. While, it is understood, pictures of value were removed to a safe place in Bruxelles during the earlier part of the war, the rooms were left furnished, although 3 rooms were set aside for papers, documents, library books and various other things the owner wished to leave locked up. During the occupation by a British unit between 7 Oct and 6 Dec 1944, these rooms were broken into, left in a state of disorder and a good many things of value taken. Most of the objects - period furniture etc. were recovered by Mil Police and the Claims & Hirings Offr at Antwerp has the matter in hand. In addition the house has suffered from blast by near buss bomb explosions. I recommend that it be placed out of bounds as the contents are of period interest and have already deteriorated by mil. occupation. Returned to Ghent.

26 March. Ghent to BRUGES & met M. Max Winders, as arranged. Visited Town Hall and int. the Town Clerk whom I last saw in Bruxelles when we were inspecting their Memlings. He informed us that in 1942 or '3 the Boches removed the bronze part of the British 1914/18 War Memorial at Zeebrugge either to exhibit or melt down or both.

The Mayor registered a complaint but the Boched replied pleading mil. necessity. Most of the base was left. (see later interview with OC 130 CA Det re other Memorials); We inspected the Town Hall & noted the fine Gothic Hall of the XVI; of good proportion & with an attractive ceiling. The building has a remarkable facade; but the stone is crumbling & much of it is due for replacement. Also we inspected the

Palais de Justice, 1725, with an interior Courtyard, a fine but austere XVIII building.

Also called on Dr Joseph Daudricourt, the Head of the Hospital Directorate of Bruges. Bruges has for many centuries been foremost in the care of the sick, the aged and the poor. The Hospital of St Jean was the fortunate recipient of some of Memling's finest pictures, either presented by him or by one of his friends such as ven der Rijst. The magnificent Chasse de Ste Ursule by Memling was presented to the Hospital by brothers Rijst and Floreins, according to inscription on the contemporary frame. Bruges has a Hospital and 4 Hospices for aged men & women. It also has a special foundation - dating from the 1300 - of 400 small houses in which old people can live free. These institutions are all looked after by the one Hospital Administration and includes the Beguinage (see later Inspection) which let to a Convent. The Hospital & Hospices are served by brothers & sisters of various Catholic Orders who get their board, lodging & clothes free but are not paid, the continuation of a medieval custom. At the Hospital there are 100 sisters.

Later we visited some of the God huizen or Maisons Dieu for old people in the rue de Persil. After that

the Chapelle de Jerusalem, a replica of the chapelle de la Sepulchre at Jerusalem: XV/XVI; fine window glass & tomb. intact

the Church of St Anne: brick; c. 1630, with fine panelling 9' high, with figures, round nave, an arcade or jube in black or sang-de-boeuf marble dividing nave from choir. Beautifully carved stalls & panelling to choir.

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Noticed many interesting period Flemish houses along the canal in "Lang Rije". An insistance if not a peculiarity in Bruges style of architecture lies in perpendicular lines added to the facades and arcading of windows. The Seminary, XVIII; extensive rather than interesting; partly burnt by Boches.

Chapel N.D. de la Poterie. This has also a handsome arcade or jube in black & white marble, c. 1650, dividing nave from choir. Unfortunately the XIV statuette of the Ste Vierge & Child was covered up and no means of persuading the Director of the Hospital to uncover it until Sat. when I shall not be here. Inspected the Hospital which is mainly for old & in some cases mentally deficient old women cared for by Sisters of the St Augustine Order.

Next inspected houses in the Spinolarci: van Zyck Plants; Musée des Archives; and many period facades here: Biskajers Plants. La Maison Noire, and abandoned chapel (XVI-XVIII) with a spirited St George and Dragon over door. The Beffroi: Gruuthuis, now a Museum.

Church of N.D. It is from this Church that the info theft of Mich. Angelo's Virgin and Child & II pictures took place on the night of 6/7 Sept last. We had a talk with the Verger concerned but obtained no further information. Here is a beautiful black marble tomb-stone with bas-relief figures of man in armour and on each side his 2 wives, all in attitude of calm prayer, in late XVI costumes. Dog rest at their feet. The man's fam. name was Faberkerke; his wives' respectively Vallidolid & Ideghen. Their shields complete the monument.

After supper OC 150 CA Det Col Norman-Down showed me what had been saved of the various Zeebrugge Memorials now reposing in his Office. (They are for the 1914/18 war).

1. The Vindictive Memorial. The bronze plate is complete & in good condition
2. The Submarine C3 bronze Memorial is complete with its top, incised stone & central bronze coat-of-arms. The original masonry can be got at to complete & re-erect it when required. (It will be remembered that the C3 breached the mole at Zeebrugge).

Both these Memorials were rescued by Belgian patriots who dismantled them during the occupation, hid them and then handed them over to Col. Norman-Down when his Det. came to Bruges. I have suggested we might get in touch with Sir Fabian Ware's Organisation as presumably it is their responsibility to have these Memorials restored in due course.

As regards the Zeebrugge Memorial alluded to in the conversation with the Town Clerk, (the Memorial for the British who fell here) This, Col Norman-Down said was demolished in Feb 1942 and the bronze part said to have been despatched to Berlin addressed to the War Museum (Kriegs Halle) on 15 April 1942. Some of the Granite blocks he thinks were sold; others are i/c of the Belgian Police Commissariat. Some 30 granite blocks remain & include the sculptured & incised blocks around the base of the pedestal. (vide Fortnightly Report 150 (P) CA Det Bruges for period ending 25 Jan 1945).

27 March. Bruges with M. Winders to see the City Architect, M. Verien to get further information about the local chateaux.

DAMME: inspected the XV Hotel de Ville which commemorates amongst its statues adorning its facade the marriage (at Damme) between Margarit of York and Charles the Bold. Damme at that time was the port of Bruges before the river had silted up. (1468).

The Church had its West end sealed off after a fire more than 100 years ago. It dates from the XIII. The tower is intact apart from a shell scar (1944) on wall & there is a shell hole in one of the arch-fillings to that part of the nave that has been abandoned. The most striking thing in the interior is the carved organ case which is a jewel. Small and beautifully carved it stands on the jube which now forms one of the ends of that part of the Church used for services. There is a carved Pulpit, 1675, and two carved Confessionals with figures (late XVII) of some interest.

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LIESSE LICHHE. Inspected the magnificent XIII/XIV Basilica, built of brick & stone. Suffered in sept/Oct about a dozen shell stikes on N. wall and holed in places but not very serious. Shells came from direction Zout. Some of the holes already mended. (The Church but the way was damaged in 1914/18 and had to be considerably restored).

The interior is in brick & of a dark grey stone, & is of great beauty in its proportions. The nave is very lofty but the two pairs of nave pillars are short; they have typical XIII capitals. The triforium is merely ornamental and is continuous above the nave arches and round the transept & choir, all in the same dark grey stone that forms a pleasing contrast to the brick. Round the walls of the aisles there is XIII arcading up to 9' high. Tall gothic arches support the tower near the entrance and again at the transept where they span a greater width.

What seems remarkable about the design of this Church is that almost from whatever spot one stands, practically the whole of the interior can be seen. This seems due to its great width & to the fact that there are only two nave pillars on each side to obscure the view, the tower being supported on immense brick buttresses which occupy much space, their shape & size being mitigated by each buttress being lined by pillars & arches in the usual grey stone. Here is an amusing XVII carved pulpit & another delightful small carved Organ case.

The roof of the Church has been damaged & temporarily repaired.

L'ancienne ABBAYE de TER DOUST now a farm house which with the building was added to and used by the Boches as a Remount or Cavalry Depot. The additions are unsightly. The original buildings consist of the present farm house, dated 1632, with red & white shutters characteristic of Flanders with an interesting stone doorway with 3 masks on it inside. The Barn Or Grenier is a large structure, dating from the latter part of the XIII, and measuring c. 60 m. long with a 24 m. span. The latter is taken at two elevations as shown in sketch; the roof being tied together with cross or wind braces. There are 9 divisions with 8 principal ties. The 2 brick ends have arcaded & buttressed facades (see photos).

There are a large number of enemy shells, live detonators, fuses & bakerlite hand-grenades in the outbuildings & gate-house which are a danger on account of fire to the historical barn & should be removed to a safer place.

We then visited the Chateau of Ternbergen near JOELKERKE, a moated red brick & stone reconstruction by the architect Schadde in 1880. Prop M. van Coehoën, who has 4 old pictures that depict how the chateau looked at various periods under its various owners who seemed to have views as to how it should be reconstructed. Documents take the building back to 1480. Not suitable for military occupation & fully utilised by Prop.

Chateau de KOEDEKERKEN at St Andre. A small brick chateau, moated, with XVI entrance, part of tower & foundations XV, rest rebuilt, modern. Prop baron Kervijn de Lettenhoven. Shown over int. by Serg. i/c occupying troops belonging to 61 Mech Equip Platoon RE. Interior not interesting. Furniture put away in some locked rooms. No action but as in previous cases lect protective Notice.

Deposited M. Winders at Brussels Station as he had to return to Bruxelles.

Inspected VOGESLANG Chateau (not on list but on invitation of OC Det there). A modest building of c. 1800, in stucco brick, with classical decorations. Some nice period banisters but otherwise not of M & FA interest. No action.

With the same officer inspected TILLEGEM Chateau; a medieval structure of interest with a central Gatehouse and two flanking towers. Recently restored. Handsome carved banister to staircase. All in good condition outside - a few tiles replaced after blast damage. Has been occupied by Boches; now by 113 Rd Const RE Coy (Lt Young i/c). Interior which is unfurnished has some XVIII period fireplaces & a few plain panelled doors & overmantels of the XVIII. I asked occupants to remove nails from these. No further action. Left protective Notice.

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To Thorout & inspected Wijnandael Chateau chiefly known as the place where the Belgian King signed his surrender in 1940. Moated & medieval in aspect but modern. Partly occupied by Prop. H. Matthieu de Wijnandael & partly by the 3 BAD, RAOC Officers Mess which seems to be a satisfactory & amicable arrangement. Some windows broke by blast when Boches blew Am. Dump in '44. No action.

(In passing through Thorout noticed a rather pleasant but unpretentious Town Hall dated 1717, intact).

ZEDLEGHEM. Inspected Church (Mon; Classe) which has a Gothic Brick tower (XIV?) with a recently restored buttress. Locked but appeared intact. Returned to Bruges.

28 March. Bruges. With Major Mason (130 CA Det) & inspected the Archers/ building of the R. Soc. of St Sebastien (Arquebusiers' Guildhouse), who started their exploits during the first crusade 1196. Inspected documents, members rolls dating back to XIV, etc & the following things of outstanding interest:-

King Archer's Collar, with gold falcon pendant on gold chain (1609):

King Archer's Sceptre in silver & gilt, crowned by falcon & 4 Rams' Heads on sceptre (1609).

Vice Presidents' and in silver & gilt, with finely engraved figure of Henri IV (1609):

A silver Marker, dated 1717, with engraved disc with arms of Margaret of Burgundy:

The Duke of Gloster's silver & gilt arrow; 1656:

There are paintings of various eminent members including Charles II of England who was elected King Archer in 1656 - he had his Court here at Bruges during the Commonwealth.

The building itself is of interest with its XV tower and the grounds where the contents are held. The exhibits were put away in safety during the war & have only recently. The building itself is of interest with its XV tower & the grounds where the contests are held. The exhibits were put away in safety during the war & have only recently been brought out.

Chateau de MAELE: prop baron Charles Gilles de Pelichy of 22 Wolfhageser, Bruges. Probably the most interesting Chateau in this district with an excellently preserved medieval tower (or gatehouse) in brick & stone. Rest XVII or XVIII with some good period XVIII fireplaces, panelling & an unusual tiled fireback depicting King William III of G.B. mounted. Occupied by 1 Offr (Capt GRG Wood) & 7 ORs of the 125 CA Det (Rd Transportation). See FR & recommendations.

Via Haldegen, across the Leopold Canal where trucks & village on N. side near Dutch frontier have been much damaged by battle or bombing, through Aardenburg (also shot up) to

SLUIS: badly damaged by battle, about 90% houses rendered uninhabitable. Modern Church badly damaged. Stadhuis (Mon. classe) hit by bombs; tower largely demolished; rest of building gutted by fire & badly damaged. What is left of Tower is fissured. Doorway with stone statuette of figure of Justice intact but one kneeler (a bead) to eyebrow over door missing, the centre & R. hand ones OK. I was informed that the battle here started on 5 Sept, that our air bombardment was on 11 Oct and that the place was entered on 1 Nov... returned to Bruges.

19 March. Bruges to Oostkamp & inspected Chateau de Gruuthuis. Prop Orsel fam... 213 GT RASC Coy in occupation since end of Oct 44; took over from Canadiens; occupied previously by enemy troops. Int. CO & Capt Middlestone. A house built in 1888, well appointed with excellent reception & bedrooms en suite, of which 4 are furnished. Ground floor occupied by Officers Mess, anteroom & Offices: First floor Officers sleeping quarters & some NCOs. 2nd floor ORs. Stables occupied by heavy transport. The only period building is the Gatehouse. No action providing present arrangement. stands of Officers occupying most of first

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& second floor. Roof OK; but a few windows broken by blast.

Returned to Bruges & visited the Beguinage where there has been some damage to window glass & roofs when bridges were blown in Sept 44. Houses mainly of XVII & XVIII - but some earlier in design & possibly in structure - form 3 sides of a square green planted thickly with trees and bursting with daffodils. On fourth side the Church (reb 1605).

Cathedral of St Sauveur: an impressive brick-built XIII structure. Triforium a continuous gallery. A carved organ case of some beauty with many figures. Here is a very swager brass lecturne, adorned with small brass statuettes representing the Four Evangelists supporting the central column on pedestals, 4' high. All intact.

Various period houses were also inspected & St Pieters Kerk: here the carved organ case is mounted over a Madonna & child on a black & white classical Jube (c.1650). A XIII Church with original nave & transept pillars & capitals. On rather a primitive design.

Bruges. Int. the Town Major re use of Chateaux in Bruges area and am in agreement with him that none of them are of sufficient importance to warrant their being put out of bounds to troops providing used as at present.

Inspected the Belfry & the Halles, now occupied by ADOS Store Depot 3 BSA who supply W. Flanders. Fire precautions appeared to be adequate. Also visited: - La Chapelle de St Sang where the ceremony of kissing the relic was taking place.

Ancienne Groffe, the old Municipal Record Office, now a Court of Law. boarded up for protection & much of it closed.

Called on the Architect M. Callebout 31 Boulevard Elizabeth (near Elizabethpoort) for special information about the stolen M. Angelo statue. He was ill, but I saw his wife and she promised that he would write when he was well. Inspected the Jesuit Church in Jacob St.. All Monuments intact and those that are covered up likely to be freed of their encumbrances at an early date particularly in view of the procession of the Holy Blood that is due to take place on the first Monday in May. Then to

ROUBAIX, reported to HQ L of C (CA) and int. Capt Glazebrook re the de-requisitioning of certain Chateaux on the official 21 A Gp list: responsibility of H & FA for Netherlands Dist. future L of C boundaries. Agreed that I should probably move to Ercde at a fairly early date.

AVELCHEM, inspected Chateau which consists of two buildings on each side of the road and facing each other, period c. 1690; now known as the ST Jan Berchmans Landbouw school: it is run by the clergy & full of pupils. No damage. Returned to Ghent & reported to 320 CA Det..

1. March. GHEENT. inspected some more period buildings including those in panlei; Int. Assistant Town Major & inspected the basement of 8/9 place on Artevelde. No case for de-requisitioning (see Report) Then to

HULST (Holland) & inspected the Church of St Willibrod (Mon. Hist.) and the Stadhuis (Mon. Hist); Latter an XVIII building of two floors with a XV/XVI tower crowned with an XVIII Belfry in three stages. Armorial designs on stone staircase. All intact. St. Willibrod late XV or XVI church with nave pillars & capitals typical of the Gothic of that period. Complete ambulatory, with chevet chapels and apse. Some interesting black marble sepulchral stones with coats of arms on floor of transept & aisles. This building is a fairly large Church or basilica of good proportions with very lofty nave, interrupted by a very low transept arch dividing nave from choir; latter same height as nave. Arches of choir continued round E. end in a half circle, giving a clear view of chevet chapels. Tower and spire damaged by battle in Sept '44 & spire taken down: some balustrading shot away and tracery of tower damaged.

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Tower has a few shell scars and buttress damaged. Body of Church intact.

St NICOLAS: a town with some attractive period Flemish buildings looking onto the Grande place not far from the Church of St Nicolas. Visited the following:-

Church of St Nicolas (Mon Hist): the tower is early (IV) but the interior is late Gothic (it was rebuilt in 1695 & enlarged in recent times). Triforium much reduced to a flat 3-bay balustrading. A little damage to glass windows.

No 43 Schuilplaats: a brick & stone house, dated 1637; Flemish style. The Stadsbibliotheek, early XVIII, in stone, & next to no 46 Schuilplaats, a handsome late Gothic building called apparently the Griffie.

The Town Hall overlooking the Schuilplaats is a handsome late Gothic building, now used as the Palais de Justice. All buildings intact.

Returned to Bruxelles.

Methuen.

Major.

MFA&A Officer.

3 April 1945.
 Bruxelles.

HQ L of C (CA) attd 210 CA Det.

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ANNEXURE XI
 SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
 ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
 MISSION (BELGIUM)

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TO: Lt. Col. G. Webb, MFA&A,
 SHAEF MAIN G-5

FROM: Major P. K. Baillie Reynolds, R.A.
 MFA&A SHAEF Mission (Belgium).

REPORT ON THE PERIOD 1 JAN - 28 FEB 1945

1. This report covers a period of 2 months for the reasons given in para 2(a).

2. PERSONNEL

(a) Major P. K. Baillie Reynolds went on 9 days leave on 12 Jan 45 and responsibility for his work was taken over by Capt. B. LaFARGE, MFA&A Officer, SHAEF Mission to the NETHERLANDS. Major Baillie Reynolds' leave was however extended on compassionate grounds and he did not return til 12 Feb. Capt. LaFARGE carried on during all this period.

(b) Major Baillie Reynolds was admitted to No. 8 (Br) Gen. Hospital on 18 Feb and returned to duty on 1 March.

(c) Major Lord Methuen, Scots. Gds, MFA&A Officer, HQ L of C, having arrived in BRUSSELS, the arrangement described in Nov Report para 1(b)(v) is now terminated.

3. DEPOSITS OF GERMAN WORKS OF ART FROM AACHEN. (December Report para. 3). On the retreat of the enemy from the ARDENNES it was found that the Deposit at AMBLEVE (P-8996) remained almost intact. The building in which it was housed had been damaged but the objects had suffered very little. The form of receipt having been agreed upon during December, the deposit was transported to BRUSSELS by US Army transport. The material has now been deposited at the Cinquantenaire Museum and has been photographed and inventoried.

4. DAMAGE TO MONUMENTS BY ENEMY ACTION.

(a) ARDENNES Battlefield. Reports so far indicate that on the whole, damage to monuments on the official list has been surprisingly light.

(b) Flying-bomb attacks. Both in ANTWERP and in LIEGE most of the monuments on the official list have hitherto escaped destruction, though not damage. The MUSEE PLANTIN-MORETUS at ANTWERP has suffered damage to the 18th century facade, and considerable blast damage inside.

5. OCCUPATION OF CHATEAUX BY TROOPS.

A. General.

(a) On 11 Jan Baron CARTON DE WIART, President of the Commission Royale des Monuments et des Sites, called upon the Head of the Mission to protest against the damage being done to chateaux requisitioned by Allied Armies.

(b) As a result of this, a letter was sent the same day by the Head of the Mission to 21 Army Group, 12 Army Gp and HQ Comm Zone, drawing attention to the injury to the reputation of the Allied Armies caused by carelessness and vandalism in requisitioned chateaux, and asked for stricter precautions and supervision, and, if necessary, for the issue of fresh orders.

(c) On 26 Jan the Minister of Public Instruction addressed a similar protest to the Head of the Mission, and the Directeur General des Beaux-Art submitted a list of 178 chateaux "pour lesquels la Commission Royale des Monuments et des Sites a ete sollicitee et qui presentent un interet artistique ou historique pour notre pays".

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(d) The substance of this Mission's letter of 11 Jan was forwarded to lower formations by 21 Army Group on 17 Jan and by Comm Zone on 29 Jan. A renewed order on the subject of occupation of chateaux was issued by ADSEC COMM ZONE on 25 Jan, and a new order conferring greater authority on MFA&A Officers was issued by 1 US Army on 4 Feb.

(e) On 4 Feb the Mission submitted to SHAEF a list of 181 Chateaux, embodying almost the whole of the list submitted by the Directeur General des Beaux Arts, for which some special protection was requested in the matter of quartering of troops.

(f) On 20 Feb an order AG 000.4-2 GDS-AGM was issued by SHAEF restricting the occupation and use of all chateaux included in an appended list. The list is that submitted by the Mission on 4 Feb.

B. Particular Cases.

(a) On 5 Jan I visited the Chateau of LA BANETTE, near WAVRE (J-785416). This was requisitioned at 2 hours notice by British troops on 21 Dec 44 and the occupants ejected. It was converted into a strongpoint, in anticipation of a German thrust across the Meuse, loopholes were knocked in the walls, trenches dug across the drive, trees felled, road blocks established. The troops left on 2 Jan 45, leaving the interior in utter confusion, and having pillaged cellar, larder, kitchen, bed rooms. The matter was reported to 21 Army Group. The chateau is of about 1700 and was modernised in the early 19th century. It is of no great artistic importance.

(b) On the same day I visited the chateau of BONLEZ (J-8538) about the occupation of which by US troops some complaint had been made. The troops I found there were not the first occupants and were not responsible. The C.O. appreciated his responsibility, and was taking great care of the house, which is a fine one, and included in the recently issued list (para 5(a) (f) above).

(c) Complaints were made as to the occupation of the chateaux of

HEYLISSEN, Brabant	K-0643
NOISY, near Celles, Namur	P-0685
LAVAUUX ST ANNE, Namur	P-1172
VEVE, Namur	P-0484

The first three are included in the new list (para 5(a) (f) above, the last two are Demeures Historiques. In no case does the damage appear to have been at all serious.

(d) The Chateau de CHIMAY (O-5567) a monument on the official list, was occupied by troops without, apparently, the proper authority. Inspection indicated that the occupation was not causing damage and the troops were not removed.

(e) The Chateau of BARVAUX-CONDROZ (Namur P-2496) and of PAILHE (Liege K-2416) have been burnt down as a result of occupation by troops. It is understood that enquiries are being held. Both these chateau are included in the new list - rather too late.

P. K. Baillie Reynolds
 Major, R.A.

19 Mar 45
 PKBR/thp

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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
 ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
 MISSION (BELGIUM)

SFB/G-5/1319

FORTNIGHTLY CASUM NO. 14.
 UP TO 1300 HRS 19 MAR 45.

E X T R A C T

* * * *

MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS

23. A suggestion has been made to SHAEF that the owners of all chateau which are included in the list, referred to in Fortnightly Casum No. 13 para 28, should be provided with a notice to that effect, which could be shown to troops intending occupation. This would be to follow the German practice and might stop irregular and unauthorized requisitioning.

24. Investigations have now been concluded into the alleged damage done to the Chateau de Steen at ELEYT J-7268 by US troops (See Fortnightly Casum No. 6). Inquiry has shown that the US troops in question were not responsible and that the owner has withdrawn the allegations.

25. The photographic section of the laboratories of the Museum Royaux des Beaux Arts planned two expeditions for the fortnight beginning 1 Mar to complete records of the monuments in the ANTWERP and LIEGE areas. Clearance was obtained for the operators, but at the last minute the LIEGE expedition was cancelled at the request of the US army authorities.

26. The deposit of works of art from AAC EN (see Fortnightly Casum No. 13 para 29) has now been fully inventoried and photographed. It contains nothing of outstanding value.

* * * *

G. W. E. J. ERSKINE,
 Major General,
 Chief of Mission.

21 Mar 45.

CASUM NO 85 to 24 MAR 45.

E X T R A C T

* * * *

MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS

20. Com/Z has been asked to consider the termination of military occupation of the chateaux of GODINNE O-9698 and Bois-Lombut at BOSSELIES J-6513, in both cases at the request of the Belgian authorities. The latter is not included in the SHAEF List of 20 Feb. Complaints have been received from Belgian sources as to the military occupation of the chateau of VIEUX-JONCS K-4551, HELISSEN T-0643, LAVAUX STE ANNE P-1172 and HARZE K-2006 and have been transmitted to Com/Z. Approval has been received from SHAEF for a written notification of protection to be supplied to the owners of all chateaux on the SHAEF List of 20 Feb.

* * * *

G. W. E. J. ERSKINE,
 Major General,
 Chief of Mission.

RG: 331
 Entry 55B
 File MFA&A Reports
 Box 333

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 760238
 By VRS NARA Date 3/9/00

320023

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEXURE XII
 MFA&A PERSONNEL - March 1945

SHAEF

Lt. Col. GEOFFREY F. WEBB, (BR), Adviser
 Lieut. CHARLES L. KUHN, USNR, (US), D/Adviser
 Capt. L. BANCEL LaFARGE, AC (US)

TWELFTH ARMY GROUP

Lieut. GEORGE L. STOUT, USNR, (US)

FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY

Capt. WALKER K. HANCOCK, Inf., (US)

THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY

Capt. ROBERT K. POSTY, CE, (US)

NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY

Capt. WALTER J. HUCHTHAUSEN, AC, (US)

FIFTEENTH UNITED STATES ARMY

Capt. EVERETT P. LESLEY, QMC, (US)

COMMUNICATIONS ZONE, UNITED STATES ARMYOISE BASE SECTION

2nd Lt. ROGER A. CLARKE, AC, (US)

SEINE BASE SECTION

1st Lt. JAMES J. RORIMER, AUS, (US)

ADVANCE SECTION

1st Lt. DANIEL J. KERN, CAC (US)

SECOND BRITISH ARMY

S/Lt. J. E. DIXON-SPAIN, RAF, (BR)
 Capt. C. F. WILLMOT, (BR)

FIRST CANADIAN ARMY

Capt. F. HARBORD, (BR)

BRITISH LINE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Major The Lord METRUEN, Scots Guards, (BR)

SHAEF MISSION (FRANCE)

Lt. Col. A. J. L. McDONNELL, (BR)

SHAEF MISSION (BELGIUM)

Major P. K. BAILLIE-REYNOLDS, RE, (BR)

SHAEF MISSION (NORWAY)

Capt. GUTHORM KAVLI, (Norwegian Liaison Corps)

C O N F I D E N T I A L



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Public Relations Office
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(OMGUS - 4 - 78)
Berlin, Germany
30 April 1947

FOR INFORMATION OF CORRESPONDENTS.

The following was released in Wiesbaden, 1700 hours, 29 April 1947:

WIESBADEN, 29 APRIL 1947:—An estimated \$10,000,000 collection of books, rare manuscripts, and stage costumes, buried by the Nazis in a Hessian potash mine, has been safely removed to the Marburg University library, despite a continuous, 11-month-old smoldering fire in one of the mine shafts.

The collection, hidden by the Nazis when invading armies began to tighten the ring around Germany, consists of Berlin's 1,400,000 volume Prussian State Library, generally regarded as one of the world's four greatest libraries, the Marburg University library, the Bonn University library, the Duesseldorf city library, and several miscellaneous collections. Theodore Heinrich, Office of Military Government, Hesse, fine arts chief, who supervised the year-long removal mission, estimated the total number of books at almost 3,000,000 volumes. Included in the art treasures were 100,000 music manuscripts, 10,000 unique Oriental manuscripts, and costumes of the Prussian state theater.

According to Heinrich, 1,000 men were required to transfer the Berlin books, which included 30,000 rare editions, to the potash mines at Heimboldshausen, Hesse, on the border between the present U.S. and Russian zones of occupation.

When the mine was opened by U.S. combat troops, local citizens heard that it was filled with clothing. After invading the mine, they returned dressed like guests at a masquerade ball—in costumes which once graced the Berlin stage. Heinrich disclosed, however, that almost all the costumes were finally returned.

Marburg University officials were ordered to evacuate the collection, so that the mine could resume potash production for the Hessian economy. Thirty-five specialists, sent to limit the mine-site and start the arduous task, were immediately confronted with a smoldering fire in one of the shafts housing the Marburg University library. Sealing off the burning area, too far underground to permit the use of fire-fighting equipment, the group began clearing the contents of the other shafts. Fire in the one smoldering shaft destroyed over 50,000 books from the Marburg collection.

At the end of almost one year of continuous labor, Heinrich was able to report complete evacuation. Interim storage will be at the Marburg University student library, and several of the works will be placed in the Dr. E.Y. Hartshorne memorial browsing room. Dr. Hartshorne, former Office of Military Government, Hesse, university education officer, was shot and killed while riding along the Autobahn near Muernberg last August by a jeep-driving German posing as an American.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

320024

JEWISH SOCIAL STUDIES

JAN 1946

TENTATIVE LIST OF JEWISH CULTURAL TREASURES
IN AXIS-OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

BY THE RESEARCH STAFF OF THE
COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION

Introductory Statement

After preliminary negotiations extending over a number of years the Conference on Jewish Relations took the initiative in setting up a commission of leading Jewish scholars and educators in America to investigate the manifold, complex problems of the cultural reconstruction of European Jewry after the devastation of the Second World War. In the spring of 1945 this Commission secured the active collaboration of the Cultural Committee of the Joint Distribution Committee and of the American Association for Jewish Education. More recently it obtained a grant from the American Jewish Committee. Representatives of many other national Jewish organizations have likewise become actively associated with its work.

It is planned to have the Commission serve as the central research and co-ordinating body for all American activities in the field of European Jewish cultural reconstruction and work in close co-operation with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives of the Jewish Historical Society in England and other national and international organizations. According to its original "Terms of Reference" it proposes to accomplish the following purposes:

To constitute, together with similar bodies, an Advisory Council to the United Nations in the restoration and/or reconstruction of the cultural aspects of European Jewish life and in the rehabilitation or redistribution of such Jewish cultural institutions (libraries, museums, schools, archives, etc.) as have been destroyed or confiscated.

Vol. 8 JAN 46

320025

2. To serve, in collaboration with governmental or intergovernmental agencies, as a Board of Trustees to take charge of and administer Jewish cultural institutions and properties formerly owned by communities now dispersed or by agencies now liquidated.
3. To serve as assessors in the presentation of claims for indemnities in respect of Jewish cultural properties.
4. To prepare plans for the redistribution and re-allocation of Jewish cultural material, where desirable.
5. To assist in the reconstitution of the Jewish school system and in the re-establishment of centers of Jewish higher education (seminaries, university courses, etc.).
6. To serve as an advisory body to see that Jewish needs and interests are properly represented in any more comprehensive educational programs that the United Nations may introduce into former Axis or Axis-occupied countries.
7. To supervise the presentation of material relating to Jews in any educational programs (textbooks, college curricula, etc.) which the United Nations may introduce into former Axis or Axis-occupied countries.
8. To undertake or assist in the training of personnel for Jewish cultural reconstruction in Europe.
9. To take such other measures as may be deemed desirable for the advancement of European Jewish cultural life in the postwar period.

The term "cultural reconstruction" is not to be interpreted in any too narrow a sense. The work of the Commission will of necessity impinge upon the wider fields of communal reconstruction. The Commission wishes to concentrate its attention, however, upon such institutions as libraries, museums and archives and upon all phases of Jewish education. In view of the wholesale destruction of Jewish life and property by the Nazis reconstruction of Jewish cultural institutions cannot possibly mean mechanical restoration in their original form or, in all cases, to their previous location. The Commission intends, in collaboration with other agencies of good will, to devise if necessary some new forms better accommodated to the emergent patterns of postwar Europe. Ultimately it may also seek to help redistribute the Jewish cultural treasures in accordance with the new needs created by the new situation of world Jewry.

While never losing sight of these ultimate major aims, the Commission has decided to concentrate first upon certain immediate tasks of research so as to ascertain the necessary basic facts for its own guidance

and for that of other Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. The lack of readily available, reliable data concerning Jewish cultural treasures in the European countries before they were overrun by the Nazis has long been felt as a serious obstacle to intelligent action. Certainly only such data, supported by documentary evidence, may enable the agencies of the United Nations and Jewish communal leadership to identify and to ascertain the present location of those treasures which had been looted by the Nazis and to evaluate the complex problems of restoration and reparation. By maintaining direct contact with several hundred former rabbis, educators, social workers and communal leaders of the formerly Axis-occupied countries who now reside in the United States and by securing whatever information could thus far be obtained from Jewish army chaplains, press correspondents, the personnel of the Joint Distribution Committee and others now active in the European countries, the staff of the Commission has been able to accumulate a considerable body of valuable materials concerning both the former and the present status of these cultural treasures. Information on the present state of these treasures, however, is as yet insufficient to warrant publication.

Even in submitting to the public the following *List* of these cultural treasures known to have existed before the Nazi occupation, the Commission fully realizes its tentative nature. There undoubtedly are many serious omissions and, despite all genuine attempts at avoiding them, some inaccuracies in detail. But it is felt that the publication of such a list may in itself serve as a vehicle for implementing the information on both the conditions before the war and the present state of affairs. It is hoped that additions and corrections of this *List* will be forthcoming from readers here and abroad and incorporated in a supplement to be published before very long.

The *List* includes only movable treasures, such as books, documents or museum pieces. Such important antiquities as synagogues and cemeteries, though indubitably among the most characteristic Jewish communal and cultural institutions in all ages, have not been listed, for their location and present fate are easily ascertainable on the spot. Much information on these institutions, however, has been gathered by the staff of the Commission and will soon be made available to interested agencies.

This *List* has originated from a brief compilation prepared by the

320027

staff of the Hebrew University. The Research Fellows of the Commission, Dr. Hannah Arendt (in charge of the entire project and especially of the West-European areas), Dr. Adolf Kober (Central Europe), and Dr. Raphael Mahler and Dr. Jacob Shatzky (Eastern Europe), working under the guidance of a special subcommittee of the Committee on Research, headed by Prof. Alexander Marx,¹ completely revised that compilation and amplified it greatly by both additional data and fuller documentation. They were aided greatly not only by the magnificent resources of the large New York libraries but also by some valuable information accumulated in the offices of the American Jewish Committee, the World Jewish Congress, the Joint Distribution Committee, the Federation of Jews from Central Europe and other organizations. Certain significant data have also been secured from former officials of the institutions here listed. Some of these persons have taken considerable pains in fully answering pertinent questionnaires. Working under great pressure to complete this undertaking in time for immediate use the research staff of the Commission and the members of its subcommittee have earned the gratitude of all groups and persons interested in this project.

In the presentation of this *List* the authors have decided to begin with the German collections and to enumerate the collections outside of Germany in the alphabetical order of the countries involved. This division suggested itself because of Germany's position as the main enemy country, the great importance of its collections and the fact that ultimately much of the looted treasures from other countries will doubtless be located in some of its caches.

The principal collections of each country are placed at the head and are followed by local collections arranged by communities in alphabetical order, while smaller libraries and other minor collections are grouped separately at the end of the enumeration for each country. Some outstanding private collections, marked by an asterisk (*), are also listed. All other collections were publicly owned by either the Jewish community

¹ Prof. Freimann, in particular has proved very helpful in supplying new and reliable data from his own unmatched knowledge of European libraries. Mrs. Rachel Wischnitzer has lent her expert assistance in verifying the data concerning museums and art collections. The Research Fellows were also aided by certain directives emerging from the work of the Committee on Legal Problems, headed by Prof. Jerome Michael, and the Committee on Co-operation (also concerned with educational problems), headed by Prof. Horace M. Kallen.

TAK TO KONSERVIR

as a whole or by a Jewish association or foundation. Details as to the latter type of ownership, however, are given only for Germany and Austria, where they are likely to prove very useful in connection with claims for restoration and reparation. Names of institutions are, with few exceptions, given in the original language. Such exceptions proved unavoidable wherever the literature available in New York failed to mention the original name.

The Appendix is devoted to the important collections of Jewish books, art objects, documents, etc., known to have been included in some of the larger general libraries, museums or archives. The arrangement here follows the classification of the main list. Some scattered collections of Hebrew manuscripts, archival documents, books or antiquities, are likewise listed separately at the end of each country included in the *Appendix*, while details concerning the previous owners are again supplied for Germany and Austria alone. The *List* concludes with a full index of place-names. With the aid of this index, it is hoped, any reader will be in a position to ascertain all the cultural treasures of a particular locality recorded under the respective subdivisions.



Since, as is well known, the Nazis transferred many Jewish book and art treasures from public and private collections to the various institutes organized for antisemitic research, it was deemed advisable to compile a special list of some of the major institutes of this type established in various countries. This list of Nazi institutes follows below.

GERMANY

a. Reichsinstitut für Geschichte des neuen Deutschlands, Forschungsabteilung Judenfrage in MUNICH.

Owned by the State.

Founded in 1936, headed by Walter Frank, the Reichsinstitut established the Jewish division under the direction of Karl Alexander von Mueller.

Publication: *Forschungen zur Judenfrage*, 6 vols. 1936-1941.

b. Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage in FRANKFORT-on-the-Main.

Owned by the Party.

Founded in 1939, opened in 1941 as "Aussenstelle" of the Hohe Schule. The Hohe Schule was planned as an international "central institute of National Socialist research, teaching and education."

In 1941: 350,000 volumes which included among other collections the Hebraica and Judaica of the Municipal Library of Frankfurt, the Archives of the House of Rothschild and the Archives of the Alliance Israélite Universelle.

Director: Alfred Rosenberg. Chief of the Research Division: Dr. Wilhelm Grau.

Publication: *Der Weltkampf* (quarterly). (Die bisherige politische Monatsschrift "Der Weltkampf" ist von . . . dem Verlag der Hohen Schule erworben . . . worden. Sie erscheint hinfort . . . als wissenschaftliche Viertelsjahresschrift.) First issue April-September 1941.



320030

56

See 4047

CAD

25 March 1946

Dear Luther,

This is about the disposition of problematic "Jewish books" (e.g., books collected by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg either relating to the "Jewish question" or from Jewish owners, regardless of subject matter) now at the Offenbach Archival Depot near Frankfurt. No doubt you have already heard, possibly more than you want to, about this matter, perhaps through Dr. Carter. Possibly Sardy has been there since I last saw him, and he may take it up with you. Officially, I have nothing to do with the matter any more (thank Heaven), but I am trying to expedite what seems to me, from a front seat, to be an excellent if radical solution. The whole depot is now in charge of Capt. Seymour Joseph Posenze, as director, and he is doing a very capable, energetic job; he has cleaned up that problem in a little over a month, and now has all in order, with a staff of 135 people.

First, Posenze will sort out and return to the countries from which they were taken (with the possible exception of the IWO library, now subject to argument) all the material whose source is determinable.

I understand that the "legitimately acquired" nucleus library of the Hebe Schule zur Erforschung der Judenfrage is subject to confiscation as Nazi property and is hence being turned over to the Library of Congress Mission.

NOT
P.M.
P.M.

There will remain, about June first, a residue of books whose source cannot be determined, probably over 500,000 vols. (if Posenze's figures differ, take his). Posenze will leave and return to the U.S. about June 1, and he would like to clear up everything by then. The decision on who gets this indeterminate stuff is hot. NFA and A doesn't want any part of it. There is an organization which does want, not the books themselves, but the problem. You can help, if you will.

The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction published just recently what appears to be a very thorough and interesting list, entitled: Interim list of Jewish cultural treasures in Axis-occupied countries (Special Issue, I think, of Jewish Social Studies Quarterly) New York, 1946. The intro-

Section to this list contains a detailed statement of the functions of this commission (as they see it), including, as I remember it, the solution of just such problems by bringing together the various Jewish interests concerned.

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320031

TRIAL
OF
THE MAJOR WAR CRIMINALS
BEFORE
THE INTERNATIONAL
MILITARY TRIBUNAL

NUREMBERG
14 NOVEMBER 1945 — 1 OCTOBER 1946



PUBLISHED AT NUREMBERG, GERMANY
1948.

320032

This volume is published in accordance with the direction of the International Military Tribunal by the Secretariat of the Tribunal, under the jurisdiction of the Allied Control Authority for Germany.

VOLUME XXI

OFFICIAL TEXT
IN THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PROCEEDINGS
12 August 1946 — 26 August 1946

320033

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION: EUR

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ROB-X
Paraphrase before communicating to anyone.

1589

London

Dated June 5, 1946

TOP SECRET

Rec'd 4:45 p.m.

SECSTATE

Understand only allow to EUR

5736, June 5, 6 p.m.

TOP SECRET

Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber called today and speaking frankly set forth among others following views which are reported as of possible interest and as indicating tone his conversations with British authorities.

One. CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Gruber expressed surprise and concern at outcome Czech elections stating he would go into question thoroughly upon return Vienna and discuss conclusions with Erhardt. He felt Benes had made too many political concessions to Moscow in return for early evacuation Red Army and was now paying for it, and hazarded opinion that election was manipulated by Communists particularly in rural districts where Communists dominated councils are in control. Results, he added worsened Austria's position by increasing its encirclement by Communist dominated states.

Two. TIROL. While sincerely appreciative of US attitude at Paris on Austrian matters, he urged strongly early return of Austrians in Tirol to Austrian political life stating their votes might be absolutely necessary in immediate future years to balance possible growth Communist and pro-Soviet voters in Austria proper. He felt concessions offered by Austria in economic sphere would compensate Italy and emphasized Austria's need for Tirolean fruit and vegetables. The chief political reason for Austria's claim cannot be made known to Russians who seek increase rather than decrease in Communist influence in Austria.

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JUN 21 1946

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741.63/6-546

RG	59
Entry	OPF (1945-46)
File	#741.63/7546
Box	# 3989



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78

~~TOP SECRET~~

-2- 5736, June 5, 6 p.m., from London

~~thus Vienna government must depend on goodwill US and UK governments in this vital matter.~~

Three. EVACUATION. Evacuation occupation forces matter primary importance. Gruber's numerous talks with Russians at Vienna on this subject have convinced him that Russians are not prepared to withdraw bulk Red Army from Danubian regions including Austria until Soviet gains in Southeastern Europe have been consolidated. Official Poles in talks on same subject with him have given two years as their estimate period Moscow will retain troops in Eastern and Danubian Europe. If large scale occupation lasts that long, Russian infiltration in Austria will be most serious.

Four. TIME. Austrian people seek persistently to maintain Austrian way of life but time in immediate future is working against them. Soviet infiltration into Austrian economic and political life grows every day large scale occupation continues. Deterioration food and economic conditions work in Communist favor. Prestige government and its support by Austrian masses depend upon early relief and concrete support from west. Austria is small country, it experienced infiltration by Nazis and now is undergoing a not entirely dissimilar process infiltration by Soviets. It must be realized that time is governing factor in handling by western powers of Austrian question.

In conclusion, Gruber expressed feeling appreciation attitude General Clark, Erhardt and US forces adding if it were only question American occupation matter would not be of such great urgency.

Sent Department 5736, repeated to Vienna as 96.

HARRIMAN

WTD

~~TOP SECRET~~

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BOX	# 3989

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 BY: [Signature]
 DATE: 3/7/00

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 By ITB NARA Date 12/1/99

RG 59
 Entry Lot # 58072
 File # 412
 Box 7

File 412

CONFIDENTIAL

L/GER - Col. Raymond

October 18, 1954

Fr

WE - Mr. Freund

German External Assets

At the end of last week the Austrian Government renewed its expression of concern that the new arrangements with the Federal Republic might not adequately protect their interests with respect to German external assets. Further they proposed that the Federal Republic now renounce all its claims to these assets in favor of Austria and that the Federal Republic compensate all its nationals for their losses by this transfer. They added that the principle of mutual waiver of claims should be maintained and that they would be willing to arrange for the return to German owners of small private properties.

This was communicated in cables 1022 from the Department to Bonn and 826 from Vienna to the Department repeated to Bonn as 67. We have had no reply. The Austrian Embassy approached GER this morning again and seemed content with assurances that Chapter 6, particularly Article 3, would remain in force. They continue to hope that more specific and detailed agreements may follow.

Would you please ask Reinstein to send to us as soon as possible his reactions to the two reference cables. When we have this reaction we shall communicate with Vienna either making proposals to our Embassy or asking for their suggestions. It may be desirable at that time to suggest to our Embassy that there are certain issues such as individual US claims which the US would like to have satisfied by Austria as a quid pro quo for the adjustment of the German assets question.

EUR:WE:HGApling:emh

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The so-called Bonn Agreements of May 26, 1952 contained certain clauses concerning German property in Austria, clauses which, in our opinion, gave full legal security neither to Austria nor to the Western Powers against unjustified German claims. We have called these facts many times to the attention of the Western Representatives in Vienna.

In continuation of the London Conference there are, at present, discussions in Bonn between the Western Powers and the German Federal Republic concerning the finalization of the Agreement on the re-establishment of the German sovereignty.

It is of the greatest interest for Austria to know whether on the occasion of these discussions it is intended to issue a new text concerning the German property in Austria or whether the text of the old agreement will remain unchanged.

In our opinion, in order to protect the legal security of Austria as well as of the Western Powers, the German Federal Republic should issue a binding statement in the line of the following principles:

1. The German Federal Republic acknowledges the transfer to Austria of the assets in Austria of the former German Reich.
2. The German Federal Republic commits herself to pay compensation to German citizens whose property in Austria has been seized for reparations by the allies or has been converted into Austrian property.

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Authority MD 887208By TB NARA Date 12/1/99

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- 2 -

3. The German Federal Republic solemnly declares not to claim assets transferred, by any measures whatsoever, since 1945, including former German private property, even though it may not have been claimed by Austria so far.

We have been informed that in the last days the Bonn Government has asked that full restitution be made by the Western Powers of all German property in the Western occupation zones of Austria. We are informed that this request so far has been rejected.

We would be glad to know whether this information is correct.

320040

AVS

MEMORANDUM

January 25, 1954

SUBJECT: Estimated Participation of "German Assets" in the Austrian Economy.

Attached is a schedule compiled by this Division estimating the percentage participation of German owned industries in various fields of economic activity in Austria.

By reason of the complex nature of the German holdings and the changes which have occurred since the end of the war, which may make it questionable whether all of the production capacity should be considered as "German assets", the estimates are necessarily rough approximations. The nationalization of a substantial part of the industries in Austria was not taken into consideration. Production figures with respect to German assets in the Soviet Zone are almost impossible to obtain so that reliance must be placed upon past performance, present estimated capacity, and comparison with similar enterprises in the other zones. It was assumed that the German participation in the Soviet Zone is approximately equal to that in the U.S. Zone with the exception of heavy industry and mining, which are concentrated in the U.S. and the British Zones. Oil production and refineries are also exclusively in the Soviet Zone.

The following factors were not considered:

- 1. Partial German ownership.

All firms having a direct or indirect German majority interest were considered as German, e.g. the holdings of Creditanstalt were considered as German, although the Creditanstalt is not ordinarily considered as a German asset. By reason of the peculiar facts surrounding the acquisition of Creditanstalt shares after the Anschluss from a point of view of actual technical German ownership of the shares it could be considered approximately 85% German owned. If possible restitution claims are considered it may only be considered approximately 9% German.

- 2. Restitutions and possible restitutions have been disregarded.

~~A considerable number of the smaller German assets were restored to their former owners under the Austrian restitution laws. These restitutions were usually of real estate and did not affect the production capacity of the German enterprises. Nevertheless there are a few exceptions, e.g. the shares of Steyr-Daimler-Puch, the largest manufacturer of trucks, sporting fire arms and farm machinery in Austria, are almost entirely held by "Bank der Deutschen Luftfahrt", the bank of the former German Air Force. However, Creditanstalt has at one time~~

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claimed restitution of approximately a 74% interest in Steyr. It is doubtful whether this restitution will ever be formally filed or recognized because of numerous difficulties.

3. No fields of industry except those mentioned in the attached schedule have been taken into consideration.

Certain fields such as agriculture, food processing, textile manufacturing and distribution, and the field of retail business, although important for Austria, were not included because the German participation in these fields is small. Housing projects, forest land, dwelling houses, and German mortgages against real estate were not considered although substantial German interests exist in these categories of property. The chemical industry was also not considered although it has a substantial German participation.

4. Improvements and expansion of German owned industrial units since the end of hostilities have also been disregarded.

After 1946 there were considerable improvements of "German assets" especially in the steel and the aluminum industry. Some of the expansions and improvements were financed with ECA Dollar funds or counterpart funds. Operating profits also contributed to their financing.

W. Loehr
Legal Division
RD&R Branch

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Box	7

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By: JTB
NARA Date: 12/11/99

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SCHEDULE

	A	B	C
Heavy Industry (steel, aluminum, heavy machinery and equipment)	70%	90%	25%
Mining (iron ore, coal, non ferrous)	90%	90%	5%
Building Construction	35%	35%	10%
Light Industry	15%	20%	5%
Production of Electricity	35%	50%	20%
Electric Products and Equipment	40%	40%	5%
Mineral Oil, Production	93%	-	-
Mineral Oil, Refining	80%	-	-

- A. Share of "German asset" participation in total Austrian production.
- B. Share of "German asset" participation in production in U.S. Zone as compared to total production in the U.S. Zone only.
- C. Share of "German asset" participation in U.S. Zone with relation to production in all of Austria.

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 File # 2412
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 By: TR NARA Date: 12/11/99

320043

As such control of this office he is also Deputy Chief of Military Govt. /In his first capacity he is custodian of my art depot in Salzburg - which he has used as a requisition dump for officers homes and clubs. He is of course a great favorite with the Generals, being among other things a good poker player. Efforts on my part to protect the art depot in Salzburg from these inroads have been without avail - I have not been able to get a letter out of this Division. (This man's name is Vernon Kennedy - he was formerly in Labor circles in California and then with UNRRA).

After the excesses between July 46 and Oct 47 I tried my best to tidy up files and straighten out hopelessly fouled-up cases. The Austrian Govt (which had no reason to believe in the sincerity of a restitution program by USFA (having already suffered at the hands of US personnel) greeted me with thinly veiled hostility. I worked diligently and earnestly to overcome this feeling and finally succeeded in convincing them that I was as anxious to protect Austria's cultural heritage as that of any other nation. From that time on they gave me unqualified support. If only I had had one-half the support from this headquarters! I know that ordinarily Colonels and Generals only know what is reported up to them and any little officer along the way can block information from getting to them. However, USFA must bear the ultimate responsibility, although the direct responsibility for this fiasco must rest on the first responsible officer, and unfortunately he is my first chief - the chief of this Branch. I am sure he is a brave, capable combat officer but surely a worse choice could never have been made for a chief of a Restitutions Branch. He is a WP graduate but culture and diplomacy are only things he has read about (he is much the same kind type man as McJunkins in Germany, who has not only every nation in Europe gunning for him but has not the support of a single man working for me -- I would give McJunkins the edge on polish but neither man seems to be acquainted with "diplomacy").

Before you decide that I'm just a frustrated woman (and I frankly admit that I am) let me say there is French looted fine arts in the General's villa in Salzburg, Dutch fine arts in the General's villa in Inns, a French looted painting in the Officers Club in Salzburg -- all definitely identified and included on claims but I have not been allowed to reveal that I have found them; A-Lt. Col. returned to the States recently from Salzburg taking with him 26 oriental Hungarian rugs -- McKee (my chief) refused to let me write the Provost Marshall of his Army Post to investigate. I was only allowed to write the officer a nice letter of inquiry. The Salzburg Gold Coin Collection was looted while in the possession of the Military Detachment of Hallein, Austria; several truckloads of fine arts were brought to Vienna by General Clark (for his quarters here) from Castle Klesheim in Salzburg; seven paintings were stolen from Lauffen Mine, including a Rubens and a van Dyke, while under protection of US personnel; seven valuable engravings four of them by Durer, were stolen from Alt-Ansee saltmine while under protection of US personnel. Most of these have had no investigation -- but, all is carefully documented by the Austrian Govt.

The Austrian Govt has been trying to get permission for a year and a half to send an expert with me through high-ranking officers villas and clubs to see what fine arts are being used there, as most of these places were taken over intact from the Germans. I have stressed time and again that it would not be necessary to remove anything but museum items found. Permission has never been given. I have never been able to get such a request out of this division. The lack of support, sympathy and interest on the part of my Branch Chief and the Division Chief (who have assured the big boys above that they will see that they

Box	17
File	17/12/47
Entry	17/12/47
RG	59

DECLASSIFIED
NO 968071
AUTHORITY
By 75 NARA Date 12/29/99

320045

GOLD TRAIN DOCUMENT REVIEW

BOX 38

DESCRIPTION:
(choose applicable)

Art Team Other: _____
Gold Team
Financial Assets Team

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

*Search advice to onibus/USFA,
distribution policy, Austria
MFA & A epts.*

CONTENTS:

(circle if applicable)

1. Gold Train documents (take all)
2. Other items returned to Hungary
3. French returns to Hungary
4. Allied Communications re: returns to Hungary
5. Rules applicable to Austria (ex. Field manual, treaty, regulations, Presidential orders)
6. MFA&A practices re: Austria
7. **Other Contents:**

Is there any document relating to the identifiability of materials on the gold train, such as lists of property or owners or references to such lists? (take all)

320044-050: Tucker

DOCUMENTS REQUESTED:

(By Bates Number)

*31911-092: Hung. art
319153: Hung. Gold Train
319161-162: Hung. rest.
319181-182: rest.
319215-232: Chronol. of Aust.*

*319211, 280: rest. procedures
284: _____
319285-289: _____
319357-362: _____
319388-394: renewals
319396: vandalism*

Reviewed By: _____

MM

Date: _____

05/15/03

Bus

cc: WE - Mr. Allen

CONFIDENTIAL

514.02 AAE
Fr

GHA - Mr. Margolies

April 13, 1955

A/AM - Ardelia R. Hall, Arts and Monuments Adviser

Restitution of Looted Art in Austria.

The September 1954 memorandum from EUR to A on the "Organizational Location of the Arts and Monuments Adviser" has recently been brought to my attention.

I should first explain, that there are no objects of art remaining under US control in the US Zone of Germany awaiting transfer to the Federal Government of Germany. The German Government received in 1951 microfilm of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives (MFAA) records in the Central Collecting Points (CCP) necessary for the continuation of cultural restitution under the contractual agreement. The date when the records were microfilmed is given on the back of each CCP folder.

You may also wish to consider the following brief review of the history of the transfer of 967 items to US control in Austria from the Munich CCP and the attached relevant documents.

~~Cultural restitution in the US Zone of Austria, since the end of the war, has been severely restricted by the fact that no specialist MFAA officers were retained in the employ of USFA and no documents on the Nazi confiscations and art transactions were available in Austria. Nazi art, including the Hitler collection stored at Alt Aussee in Austria and the Goering collection found in the tunnel at Berchtesgaden in Germany, was transferred in the summer of 1948 to the Munich CCP for processing and restitution. The Munich CCP was the center in the US Zone of Germany for external and internal restitution of Nazi-confiscated art. Objects transferred from Austria were restituted at the Munich CCP in the name of the "Commanding General of USFA."~~

The Austrian Government received the assurance in 1948 that art moved for administrative purposes from Austria to Munich would not be turned over to the German authorities but would be retained under US control and would be returned to Austria (see photostat of letter from General Balmer, Deputy Commissioner of USFA, to Dr. Krauland, Federal Minister of Property Control and Economic Planning, dated 16 August 1948; attachment 1)

The Austrian

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Box 7
File # 1291
Entry Lot # 58072
RG 59

320048

By TR NARA Date 12/11/95
Authority JPD 887208
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The Austrian Government, USFA, and USCOA between 1948 and 1952 made repeated requests and protests to HICOG and the Department, concerning the Balmer agreement. The Austrian protest is summarized in one of the Austrian notes dated May 9, 1949 (attachment 2). Mr. Coburn Kidd, GER, received the note at the time and participated in the lengthy consideration given the problem in the Department.

In 1952, a residual group of 967 paintings was transferred under Department instructions from the Munich CCP to Salzburg, following the withdrawal of the last American MFAAA officer from the CCP. The American position was summarized in the HICOG despatch No. 326 of March 4, 1952 (attachment 3) and again in the HICOG statement of January 11, 1952 (attachment 4).

~~The 967 items were to remain under direct US control and the Austrian Government took the physical custody. The American Embassy in Vienna reported that "the Austrian Government...prefers this arrangement in order to prevent any pressure on the part of Germany" (Despatch No. 1486 of March 18, 1952; attachment 5).~~

The American position taken by the Department and repeatedly explained to the Austrian, German, and claimant governments, has been that the transfer was made in accordance with U.S. commitments and that the restitution of the identifiable items would be continued. In principle and practice, the US Government has always recognized its obligations to restore looted property to claimant nations.

A word should, perhaps, be said about the violent and unnecessary controversy which raged around the return to Austria of these 967 items. It unquestionably began with the general and mistaken notion that a large number of looted objects of art would remain unidentified and that the unidentified holdings would represent extremely valuable assets from which millions of dollars might be realized. This mistaken idea was current in Vienna as well as in Munich. The art authorities, however, who have dealt with the objects have known better. There is no gold mine here, only a comparatively few second-rate looted objects to be restituted.

The controversy originated in Munich with information and interviews given the press by a German employe and the present director of the Munich CCP, Dr. Hoffmann. The exaggerated value of the 967 items was deliberately fostered and the assertion made that they are "unquestionable German property" (attachment 6). Professor S. Lane Faison of Williams College, who was the director of the Munich CCP at the time, wrote that Hoffmann's statement that "es sich um einwandfreies deutsches Eigentum handle" was an absolute falsehood, and later that he was not yet far enough away to be indifferent to the Germans in Munich making monkeys of the US. The German

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misrepresentation that

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Entry Lot # 58072
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Authority: NND 827208
By: JTB
NARA Date: 12/11/99

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misrepresentation that the paintings were a gift to Austria appeared in all the leading newspapers in Germany and New York. However, the official NICOE statement of January 11, 1952, (attachment 4) correcting the Hoffman publicity, received little notice in the German press, but was published in the leading American art journals.

The NFIAA records and negatives have now been assembled in the Department from Frankfurt and Kansas City (on loan from the Army). Dr. von Boyne, Chairman of the Treuhandverwaltung, and Rose Valland, Chief NFIAA officer of the French Government are cooperating in the identification of ownership. A reply to an inquiry from Dr. Otto Demus, President of the Austrian Bundesdenkmalamt was made on April 8, 1955 (attachment 7) giving him the assurance that the prospect of completing the restitution within six months now appears favorable and that it is also hoped that restitution and movement of identified items from the salt mine in the mountains can be arranged during good weather before the end of summer.

The sole objective of the Department, I believe, should be to assist in the conclusion of the restitution of these items as rapidly and quietly as possible.

Attachments:

1. From General Balmer, 16 August 1948.
2. From CIA:EL Dulles May 11, 1949 and from Austrian Minister, May 9, 1949.
3. From NICOE No. 526 March 4, 1950 (Confidential)
4. The Transfer of Residual Works of Art from the Munich GCP to the US authorities in Austria.
5. From Embassy, Vienna No. 1486, March 18, 1952 (Restricted)
6. MUNCHNER MERKUR, August 30, 1951: clipping and translation.
7. To Dr. Demus, April 8, 1953.

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cc: A. W. Fates, C. W. Fidd, W. W. Allen

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7	BOX
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 NARA Date: 12/1/99
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(Classification)

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM AMEMBASSY, VIENNA

1466

March 18, 1952

DESP. NO.

DATE

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

Air Pouch

PRIORITY

42

REF Dept's A 1530, Feb 20, 1952

1 Enclosure

For Dept

Use Only

SUBJECT: Transfer to USCOA of Unidentified Works of Art from former Central Collecting Point, Munich

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Attached (enclosure 1) is a copy of the receipt for the art objects returned by HICOG to USCOA on January 18 and January 22, 1952. This receipt was not furnished by USCOA at an earlier date as it was necessary to unpack, catalog and examine the items. It has been determined that all of the items as set forth in the list furnished by HICOG were received at Salzburg.

These items, in accordance with previous instructions from the Department, will remain under direct U.S. control and the Austrian Government will only have physical custody for purposes of care and preservation. The Austrian Government has been so informed and prefers this arrangement in order to prevent any pressure on the part of Germany.

Dr. Otto Demus, President of the Austrian Bundesdenkmalamt (Office for Monuments and Fine Arts), has examined the shipment and is generally responsible for the care and custody and Dr. Erika Doberer, art specialist of the Austrian Bundesdenkmalamt, stationed in Linz and Salzburg, is directly responsible.

At the present time the objects are stored at the Franziskanerkirche and Neue Residenz, Salzburg, except for the Rudolf Alt Collection which has been stored in the vaults of the Dorotheum at Salzburg. The Austrian Government has agreed to store and take appropriate measures for the preservation and security of the art object.

The objects are not insured against fire except for a nominal insurance for the objects stored in the Dorotheum vaults. In the opinion of the Bundesdenkmalamt the danger of damage or destruction by fire is very remote in view of the place of storage. Art objects under the control of the Austrian Government are not normally insured.

Walter Dowling
Acting High Commissioner

W. JOEHR/n

REPORTER(S)

RESTRICTED

PREPARATION TIME

INFORMATION COPY

Box 17
File *1/15/52*
Entry *LOT 6214*
RG *59*

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NO 968071
By *12/29/75*
Authority *12/29/75*

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(Classification)

Enclosure to Despatch 1486
Amembassy Vienna to Dept
dtd March 18, 1952

March 18, 1952

RECEIPT FOR ART OBJECTS

Receipt from the United States High Commissioner for Germany is hereby acknowledged on behalf of the United States High Commissioner for Austria for 967 art objects as itemized in the list enclosed with the letter from the Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany dated January 30, 1952. The list is undated and entitled "List of Unidentified Items". These art objects were received at Salzburg on January 18 and January 22, 1952 and are the unidentified residue of the items transferred by USFA in 1945 and 1946 from repositories in Austria, principally the Alt-Aussee salt mines, to the Central Collecting Point at Munich.

Witness:

Office of the United States
High Commissioner for Austria
By:

WALTER Q. LOEHR /s/
WALTER Q. LOEHR /e/
Chief, R D & R Branch
Legal Division, USCOA

ERIC GIVEN /s/
ERIC GIVEN /t/
Legal Division,
R D & R Branch, USCOA

RESTRICTED

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Entry Lot 6211
File / Austria
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By TS NARA Date 12/29/95

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Authority NND887403
By IE NARA Date 12-9

RG 59
Entry Cent. Dec. Files 1954
File 863.44
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AIR POUCH
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FROM : HICOG BONN 2609
TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. DESP. NO.
REF :

13 For Dept.	ACTION IIA	DEPT. DCR EUR GER OLI L
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SUBJECT: Works of Art Returned to Austria

Reference is herewith made to the transfer of 967 art objects from the Central Collecting Point in Munich to the custody of U. S. authorities in Austria. As will be recalled, the basis for this transfer was an administrative agreement made between the commanding generals in Austria and Germany in 1945, which subsequently grew into a commitment to the Austrian government. This commitment provides that the unidentified portion of the collection of art objects transferred from the Alt-Aussee and other Austrian repositories to the Collecting Point in Munich be returned to the custody of U. S. authorities in Austria for further disposition.

The following remarks and recommendations are made in order to assist the Department in determining what form this disposition shall take. In this connection, certain points should be taken into consideration:

a) The transfer has given rise to much adverse publicity, not only in the press, but in political and professional circles as well. In replying to criticism, our position is weakened by the fact that we cannot defend the action by referring to established restitution laws and practices, and that our only justification is that we had to fulfill a commitment made by military authorities in the early days of the occupation. Public opinion in Germany is still indignant over the affair, and is likely to remain so until a better solution is reached.

b) This is all the more regrettable since German art experts readily concede that the artistic and commercial values of the objects are only moderate (a fact which, however, has never been admitted in the press). Nevertheless, the collection contains a number of pieces which the Germans would like to have returned for sentimental reasons, e.g. the Lembach portrait of Perfall, an early Corinth. In each of these cases exhaustive efforts have been made to trace their history in order to establish ownership, but without success. It is unlikely that further investigation of these and other objects will yield better results, and it is greatly questioned whether the value of the items warrants any additional expenditure of time and money.

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The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

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Authority <u>NND887403</u>
By <u>IE</u> NARA Date <u>12-9</u>

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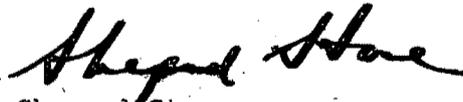
2 HICOG BONN 2609

c) In all probability, the Austrians are not satisfied with our action either, as they expected the shipment to be both larger in size and higher in value. Above all, they were hopeful that the objects would be turned over to them with as few strings attached as possible. Instead of this, they have merely been transferred to the custody of U. S. authorities in Austria, which does not, however, release the Austrians from the obligation to go on with the process of identification, for which they are by no means well equipped.

d) Informal discussions, both with German and Austrian officials, have led us to believe that there is potential good will in responsible circles on both sides, and that a satisfactory disposition of these objects can be arranged at a conference table, with the assistance of U.S. advisors.

e) In the course of informal discussions with German officials concerned with cultural restitution, it has been pointed out by us that the Austrians during the Anschluss had contributed through taxes towards the costs of the Hitler collection, and that they were consequently entitled to recover their share of that portion of the collection which is not subject to restitution. This idea might well form the basis for discussions, and a system might accordingly be worked out for a fair division of the objects. Whatever decision is reached must, of course, respect the rights of claimants to individual objects, under existing external and internal restitution laws.

f) Should the Department accept these suggestions, it is recommended that U. S. representatives be instructed to sound out both sides, to ascertain the areas of agreement. A very likely person for this function might be Miss Ardelia HALL, who has announced her intention of visiting Austria and Germany in the near future. Depending on the outcome of the preliminary discussions, a meeting might then be arranged between delegates of both countries, with U. S. representatives present in the role of mediators. The results of such a meeting would then be submitted to the Department for its final approval.



Shepard Stone
Director, Office of Public Affairs

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Authority NND887403
By IE NARA Date 12-9

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Entry Cent. Dec. Files 1954
File 863.44
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OUTGOING AIRGRAM

1879

Department of State

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CLASSIFICATION

1879

HICOG,

FRANKFORT.

A-1555, November 16, 1951

1. Reference HICOG Memorandum of Conversation, October 8, 1951,
Subject: Disposition residual items from so-called "Alt Aussee" collection
of cultural objects; HICOG telegram No. 2475, September 12, 1951.

It is assumed that the shipment of 970 paintings of undetermined
ownership from the Alt Aussee repositories will be made by HICOG to USCOA
as soon as it is possible to do so. In view of the publicity given the
shipment in Germany, no transfer of residual cultural property in Austria
from US control to that of the Austrian Government will be approved for
the present.

Two copies of a Memorandum of Conversation with Mr. Thalberg of the
Austrian Legation, Washington, November 8, 1951 (enclosure 1) and two
copies of a Department instruction to the American Legation, Vienna, of
even date (enclosure 2) are attached.

2. Reference HICOG despatch No. 1091, October 15, 1951,
Subject: Return of German-owned works of art from Austria; Vienna
despatch No. 571, October 17, 1951, Subject: Alt Aussee art objects.

As stated in the Department instruction to the American Legation,
Vienna (enclosure 2), the return of the Alt Aussee items to USCOA should
not be made conditional upon the return of the Kassel, Kiel, and Lubeck
paintings. The Department will forward a separate instruction to the
American Legation, Vienna, with all available data on these collections
and request its consideration of the desirability of taking steps at the
present time to restore these collections to the German museums.

Enclosures:

- 1. Memorandum of Conversation, November 8, 1951
- 2. To Legation, Vienna, of even date.

REPEAT TO AMLEGATION, VIENNA (Enclosure 1 under Transmittal Slip.)

OEX:ICD:ARHall;ah

11/14/51

WEBB, ACTING

GEA - Mr. Baker

GAI - Mr. DeLong

WE Mr. Collier

S/S-CR
NOV 16 1951 P.M.

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Checked by phone ARH

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Authority NND887403
By IE NARA Date 12-9

WJVS



DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

2250

NO.: A-431 May 22, 1956

SUBJECT: Cultural Restitution

TO: The American Embassy, VIENNA

863.441/8-1055

This Document Not to be Returned to
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Central
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Reference is made to the Embassy's despatch No. 160, August 10, 1955.

A list of an additional sixty-five (65) works of art for which evidence has been found identifying the source of each one and making restitution possible, is enclosed. These objects are among the works of art in Nazi collections found in Austrian repositories following World War II. The items bearing Munich Central Collecting Point numbers are among the 967 objects, hitherto unidentified, which were returned to Austria from the Munich Central Collecting Point in January 1952 and released to the Austrian Federal Government on July 22, 1955.

The Department of State is continuing to aid the Austrian Federal Government in the identification of former ownership. Information relating to each of the 65 objects listed supports the restitution of 33 items to Austria, 10 items to France, 19 items to Germany, and 3 items to Hungary.

Property cards, photographs, and documentation for the 65 objects are being forwarded, registered, under separate cover for transmission to Dr. Otto Demus, President, Bundesdenkmalamt, Hofburg, Vienna I.

DULLES

Enclosures: *attestations*

List of Paintings, Sculpture, etc., in Austria recommended for restitution...

Under Separate Cover:

Photostatic copies of property cards, photographs, English translation of documentation for 65 works of art.

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DRAFTED BY: ARH
AM: ARHall:mm 5/22/56

APPROVED BY:
AM: ARHall ARH

CLEARANCES: Chapin
WE: Mr. Compton
Cleared by phone ARH

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File # 863.44

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Authority NND887403
By IE NARA Date 10-9

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

8732

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NO. 1

A- 442 May 25, 1956
SUBJECT: Cultural Restitution

TO: The American Embassy, VIENNA

863.441/5-256

Reference is made to the Department's instruction A-431, May 22, 1956.

The enclosed "List of 50 Paintings, etc., in Austria-Documentation to follow" and all available photographs of the 967 works of art transferred from the Munich Central Collecting Point to Austria in January 1952 and released to the Austrian Government on July 22, 1955, on enclosed lists, are being forwarded, registered, under separate cover, for transmittal to Dr. Otto Deans, President, Bundesdenkmalamt, Hofburg, Vienna I.

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Enclosures:

sent sealed

- 1. "List of 50 Paintings, etc., in Austria-Documentation to follow" and list of (33) photographs.
- 2. List of (150) photographs of objects among 967 works of art sent from MSCP to Austria in January 1952.

Under Separate Cover:

- 1. "List of 50 Paintings, etc., in Austria-Documentation to follow" (2 copies).
- 2. Photographs (33) and list.
- 3. Photographs (150) and list.

Handwritten notes and initials

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5/25/56
MAY 25 1956 P.M.

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863.441/5-2556

DRAFTED BY:

AM-ARHall: *ART* 5/25/56

APPROVED BY:

AM: Ardelia R. Hall *ART*

CLEARANCES:

WE-Mr. Chapin *ART*
Cleared by phone

DEPARTMENT FILE COPY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

1869

OFFICIAL USE ONLYNO: A-19 July 19, 1955SUBJECT: Cultural RestitutionTO: The American Embassy, VIENNA

Reference Department telegram 144, July 15, 1955.

Summary report on "Removal of Holy Roman Regalia from Austria to Germany in 1939 and US restitution in 1946 to Austria" is enclosed. Photostat copies of all documents quoted in report can be made available, if desired.

Photographs of cultural objects, photostated property cards and information relating to former ownership from these documents in verification of claims for all items as listed in A and B of above telegram are prepared in sequence #1-23.

The photographs of objects under A, stored in Salzburg made in Salzburg in 1952 were never received, and regret we have no photographs to send of these Salzburg items. Photographs of objects stored in Linn made in 1952, however, were received and are enclosed. Photostats made from documents in the "Linn File" which is a microfilm copy of documents relating to Hitler's acquisitions for his proposed museum at Linn, are only legible under a strong magnifying glass. Each entry, however, has been carefully checked with the microfilm.

A photograph of Munich 13311/8 recommended for restitution in 1952 by the Bundesdenkmalamt is also enclosed.

The Embassy is requested to make this material available to the appropriate official of the Austrian Government to assist in the restoration of cultural property to the rightful owners in accordance with the telegram under reference.

HOOPER, ACENE

- Enclosures: 1. Summary report on Holy Roman Empire Regalia (2 copies).
2. Objects approved for restitution Nos. 1-23.
3. Photo of Munich 13311/8.

OFFICIAL USE ONLYDRAFTED BY: A/AM:ARHall:lgr - 7/19/55APPROVED BY: A/AM: Ardelia R. HallCLEARANCES: WE: Mr. Compton
Cleared in substance

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION COPY

REGALIA

REMOVAL OF HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE FROM AUSTRIA TO GERMANY IN 1938 AND US RESTITUTION IN 1946 TO AUSTRIA

From Nazi Documents in Department of State (NCSF Folder No. 261).

(Photostat copies of these documents can be made available, if desired.)

1. DR. KONRHAUSEN, Director of the Germanisches National Museum in Nürnberg to WILLY LISSEL, Lord Mayor of Nürnberg, dated May 9, 1938, on transfer of regalia to Nürnberg from Vienna Hofburg as a gesture to Hitler.

2. LAWRENS to LISSEL, June 18, 1938, tells him that Hitler approves transfer and gives official order that LISSEL and Professor BRUGMANN have the power to transfer regalia from Vienna to Nürnberg.

3. Memorandum regarding the "German Regalia" kept in Vienna Hofburg and claimed by the city of Nürnberg, page 8, reference to published "Guide to Treasure Rooms of Hofburg," by Albert WEINELCHENBERGER, 6th Edition, (Wien Verlag der Kunsthistorischen Sammlungen, 1937) pages 66-96, items total 32".

4. Official German receipt of transfer of 29 objects of the regalia plus 3 small boxes containing pearls of Imperial Government from Vienna to Nürnberg, dated Vienna, August 29, 1938. It was signed for Austria in Vienna by Ernst KALPENBRUNNER for BRUNNEN-ANWART (both of whom were tried in the International Military Trials at Nürnberg) and by WEINMANN (the Nazi collaborationist art dealer, then head Abteilung III in the Reichsstatthalterei). It was signed for Germany by LISSEL, BRUGMANN, and KONRHAUSEN (see document 1 and 2 above).

U. S. Restitution Receipts.

U. S. receipt for transfer from Germany to Austria: No. 629 dated January 4, 1946 signed by Andrew Ritchie (U.S. MPA & A officer, Representative of Commanding General, USPA) for 29 objects plus leather box. (These items are the objects of the regalia listed in the German receipt of 1938, except for 3 small boxes of pearls.) Paragraph 2 reads, "The Commanding General (USPA) agrees to hold the objects listed on Schedule A in custody in accordance with directives from higher headquarters."

Reference to Austrian receipt dated January 5, 1946 in Embassy telegram 3200, June 29, 1955. (A copy of this receipt is

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not in the Department.) Austrian Government agreed collection "will be held as custodian pending determination of lawful owner thereof."

Department of State Comment.

The Holy Roman Empire regalia was restituted to Austrian Government on January 5, 1946, prior to the following US directive of March 4, 1946 which authorized restitution from Germany to Austria of cultural property removed from Austria after March 12, 1938.

SWCC Directive, Telegram No. WARR 99226, March 4, 1946 to USPA, Vienna:

1. "Subject directive applies to restitution from Germany to Austria..."
2. "Items subject to restitution... a. Works of art and cultural works of ...historic value... (wording of COMSEC S.C. Regulations, Title 12).
3. "Property mentioned in subparagraph 2a above shall be restored to the government of the country from which it was taken or acquired in any way, whether through commercial transactions or otherwise, upon submission of satisfactory proof of its identifiability by the claimant government, provided acquisition occurred during the respective periods of occupation detailed in subparagraph 4b below..."
- 4b. "The property in question was taken--from Austria during the period 12 March 1938 to 15 May 1945--"

(Note: The date given in the above cable is March 12, 1938. It is, however, believed to be an error and the date should read March 12, 1939.)

The German Bundestag in 1952 passed a resolution that the Holy Roman Empire regalia and crown jewels, referred to as the "German insignia and crown jewels in Vienna" were designated as NOT falling within the scope of external restitution." A memorandum by the Arts and Monuments Advisor was immediately prepared on January 9, 1953 pointing out that the German claim to the regalia was unfounded.

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Considering the reference to the claim in Embassy telegram from Vienna No. 3809, June 29, 1955, if the claim for Holy Roman Empire regalia is still being pressed upon the Austrian Government by German authorities, I would recommend that the English translation of the Nazi documents on the plans for its removal to Germany under Hitler orders should be published in order to clarify the circumstances of the transfer and justify U. S. restitution.

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