

Höchstadt on Aisch, Sept. 14th 46

To
Lt. Heinrich
Museum, Fine Arts, Archives Officer
OMGGH

Wiesbaden

Re: Library of the "German Historical Institute in Rome", now~~d~~ at
Pommersfelden.

As we were told, You~~x~~ got an order from Berlin to secure the library of the "German Historical Institut in Rome" at a collecting point in Offenbach.

Since the evacuation of Rome by the axis powers in 1944, this institute is resident in the Castle of Pommersfelden in our district and has also its library there. It is up to now stored in boxes, but will be put into shelves in the Castle in the nearest future to serve, together with the Library of the "Monumenta Germaniae Historica "Reichsinstitut für ältere deutsche Geschichtskunde)", also resident in Pommersfelden and already in public use, as a high-ranking place for historical researches. All books are German property, gradually bought since the institute was established in 1886. Not one book is stolen from Italian public or private libraries.

There are, however, one library and part of another which are not German property, ~~at~~ in the barn of Oberköst near Pommersfelden (belonging also to the Castle). These are the library of the Austrian and part of the library of the Czechoslovakian Historical Institute in Rome, both seized in 1938 and 1939 due to the annexion of Austria and Bohemia and Moravia by the Reich. Of course, it would be very important to secure these books, about 80 boxes in all, for the real proprietors by bringing them to Offenbach.

As for the library of the German Institute, it is well under control of both Mil. Government and German officials. The competent Museum, Fine Arts and Archives Officer of Middle Franconia was well informed about it, inspected it several times and agreed to the measures concerning its storing and also the intention of its putting into shelves for use. We, therefore, do not think it necessary to transfer it to Offenbach; moreover the removal of these 40 000 books means a very hard work. We, therefore, would