JOHANNITER ®
Humanitarian Group - Texas

JHG Texas Movie Night
"Monuments Men"
July 26, 2014

www.jhgtexas.com

JHG Texas Calendar

Cultural Events

JHG Movie Night
Monuments Men

07/26

ALRC Lecture
Dr. Rasmussen
Luther then, Bonhoeffer Now

American Luther Research Center

10/02

JHG Lecture Series
Dr. Adam
Fall of the Wall

10/03

JHG Education
Dr. Crews
Heraldry

11/08

JHG Concert
SMU Opera

TBD

Jul. | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec.

Charitable Events

08/30

DOING THE MOST GOOD

Salvation Army
Collins Center

10/17

DOING THE MOST GOOD

Salvation Army
Collins Center

10/18

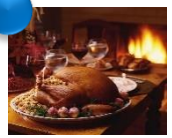
Dallas Ramps
Project

11/08

DOING THE MOST GOOD

Salvation Army
Collins Center

11/25



LSSS Thanksgiving
Drive

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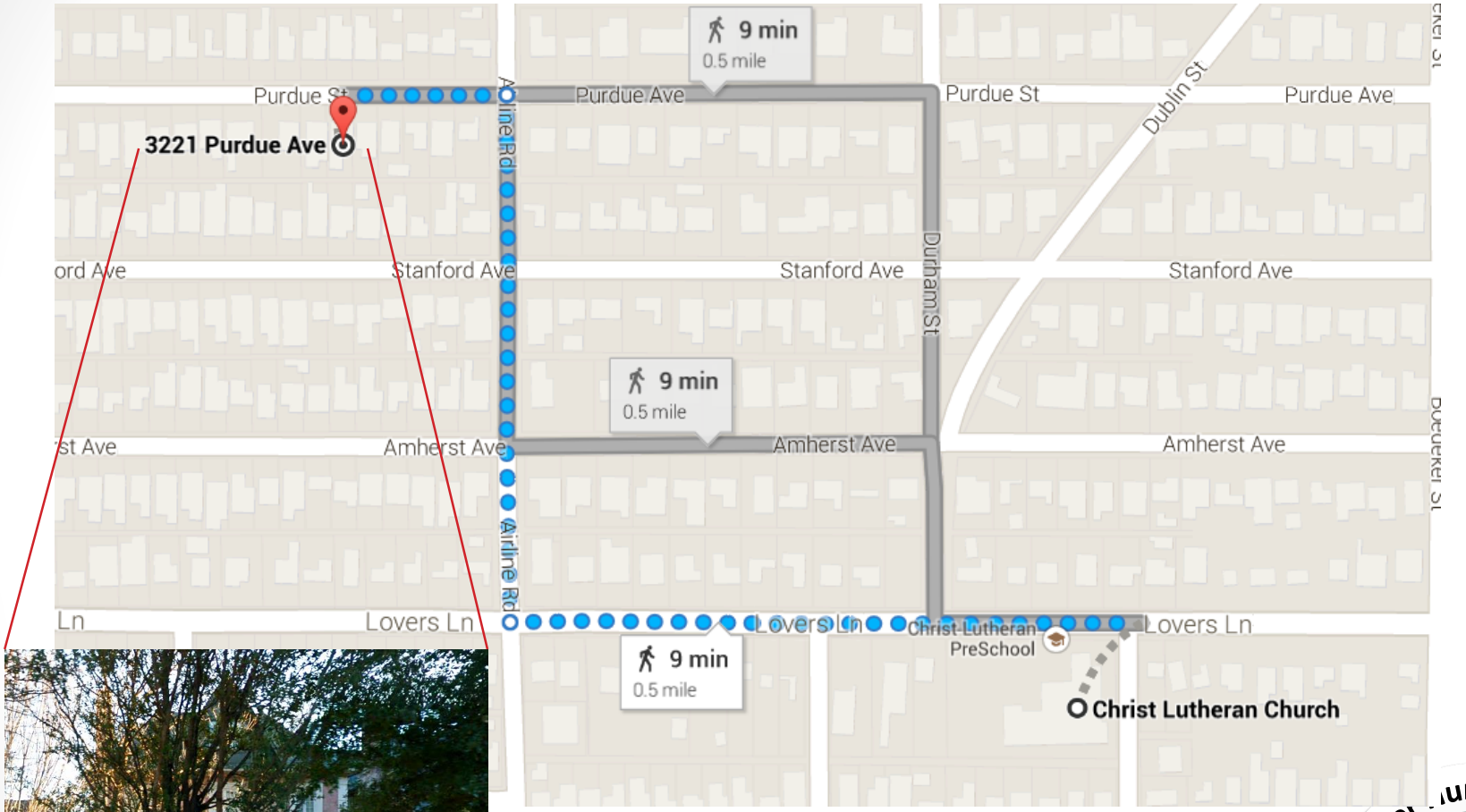
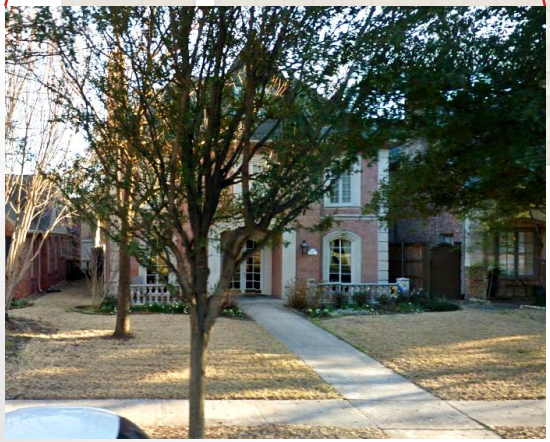
A Glass of Wine?





Residence of Nici & Andreas Bremer
3221 Purdue, Dallas, TX

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Anniversary of July 20th Plot

- Intended to end fighting on the Western front
- Suitcase bomb at Wolfsschanze
- Hitler only lightly wounded
- Over 110 conspirators lost their lives, 11 of whom were knights in the Order of St. John

Claus Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg

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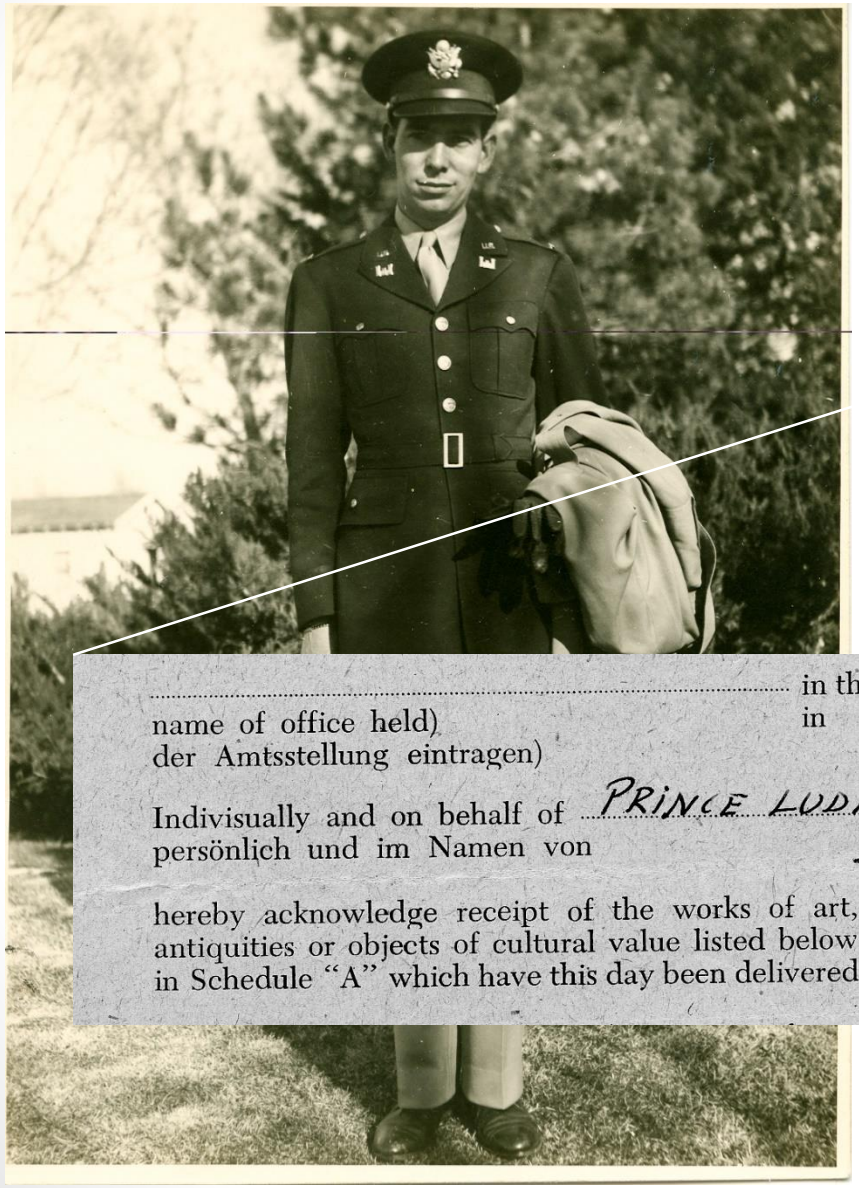
Monuments Man *Lt. Clyde K. Harris*



MILITARY GOVERNMENT — GERMANY
MILITÄRREGIERUNG — DEUTSCHLAND
SUPREME COMMANDER'S AREA OF CONTROL
KONTROLLGEBIET DES OBERSTEN BEFEHLSHABERS

Form of Receipt for works of Art, Antiquities or Objects of Cultural Value.
Empfangsbestätigungsform für Kunstwerke, Antiquitäten und Gegenstände von kulturellem Wert
and Undertaking for their Safe Custody.
und Maßnahmen für deren sichere Aufbewahrung.

Date 28 DEC 1945
Datum
Place WOLFSGARTEN, EGELSBACH
Ort

I, MARGARET PRINCESS OF HESSE AND THE RHINE holding the office of
Ich, (name in BLOCK CAPITALS) in folgender Amtsstellung (insert name
(Name in großer Druckschrift) (Bezeichnung

of office held) in the (City, town, village) of (insert district)
der Amtsstellung eintragen) (Stadt, Gemeinde, Ort) (Bezirk eintragen)

and I, holding the office of
und ich, (name in BLOCK CAPITALS) in folgender Amtsstellung (insert
(Name in großer Druckschrift)

name of office held) in the (City, town, village) of (insert district)
der Amtsstellung eintragen) (Stadt, Gemeinde, Ort) (Bezirk eintragen)

Individually and on behalf of PRINCE LUDWIG OF HESSE AND THE RHINE
persönlich und im Namen von (Name of institution or public body)
(Name der Gesellschaft oder Behörde)

hereby acknowledge receipt of the works of art, antiquities or objects of cultural value listed below in Schedule "A" which have this day been delivered
bestätige hiermit den Empfang der in der Liste „A" bezeichneten Kunstwerke, Antiquitäten und Gegenstände von kulturellem Wert, die heute übergeben wurden

,, LIEUTENANT HARRIS
von (insert name of officer, including unit, making delivery)
(Namen des Offiziers [einschließlich der Einheit], durch den die Uebergabe erfolgte, eintragen)

It is understood and agreed that the delivery of such works of art, antiquities or objects of cultural value is for the purpose of safe custody, and that the said works of art, antiquities or objects of cultural value will be kept under adequate guard and proper conditions at the address shown in the said Schedule, and will be delivered against detailed

Es ist vereinbart, daß die Uebergabe dieser Kunstwerke, Antiquitäten und Gegenstände von kulturellem Wert zwecks sicherer Aufbewahrung erfolgt und daß diese unter ausreichender Bewachung und unter angemessenen Bedingungen an dem in Liste „A" angegebenen Platz aufbewahrt werden müssen und daß diese Gegenstände nur gegen Einzelheiten angebende Empfangsbestätigung den Anweisungen

name of office held) in the (City, town, village) of (insert district)
der Amtsstellung eintragen) (Stadt, Gemeinde, Ort) in (Bezirk eintragen)

Indivisually and on behalf of PRINCE LUDWIG OF HESSE AND THE RHINE
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arian Group
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Beginning of a Fairy Tale

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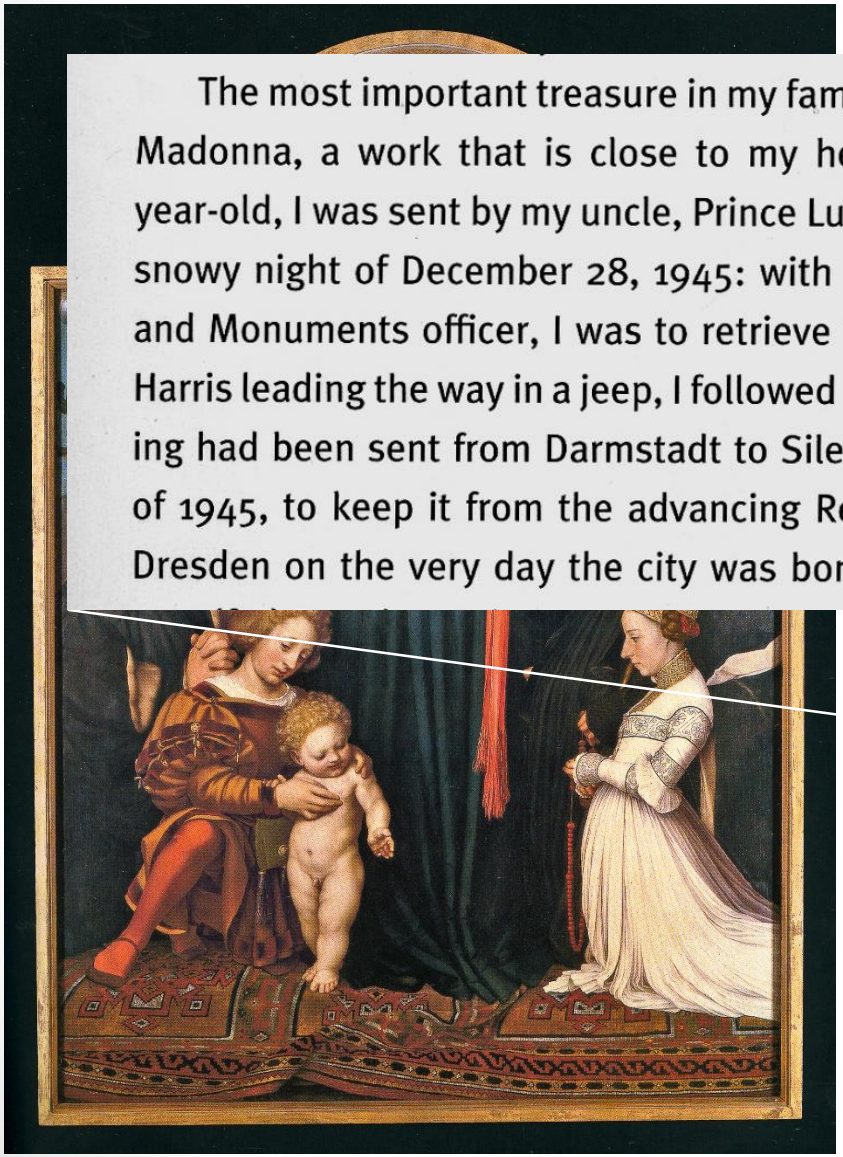
The Famous Holbein *Madonna*



The most important treasure in my family's art collection is Hans Holbein the Younger's Madonna, a work that is close to my heart for very personal reasons. As a nineteen-year-old, I was sent by my uncle, Prince Ludwig, on an unforgettable adventure on the cold snowy night of December 28, 1945: with the help of Clyde Harris, an American Fine Arts and Monuments officer, I was to retrieve the Holbein Madonna from Coburg Castle. With Harris leading the way in a jeep, I followed in the back of an American army truck. The painting had been sent from Darmstadt to Silesia for safe storage during the war. In February of 1945, to keep it from the advancing Red Army, it had been transferred to Coburg via Dresden on the very day the city was bombed. The painting was spared the flames that

If there is anything that gives me more pleasure than collecting art, it is the delight of shar-

collections of both the Darmstadt and the Kassel branches of my family have been shown together side by side. I am very enthusiastic about this, even if the tragic air crash of 1937, which led to the extinction of the Hesse-Darmstadt branch of the family, still occupies my thoughts. For myself and all subsequent generations, the merging of the art collections of both branches of the Hesse family means a gift, but also a responsibility, part of which I see as being fulfilled by the exhibition in Portland.

The most important treasure in my family's art collection is Hans Holbein the Younger's Madonna, a work that is close to my heart for very personal reasons. As a nineteen-year-old, I was sent by my uncle, Prince Ludwig, on an unforgettable adventure on the cold snowy night of December 28, 1945: with the help of Clyde Harris, an American Fine Arts and Monuments officer, I was to retrieve the Holbein Madonna from Coburg Castle. With Harris leading the way in a jeep, I followed in the back of an American army truck. The paint-ing had been sent from Darmstadt to Silesia for safe storage during the war. In Febru-of 1945, to keep it from the advancing Red Army, it had been transferred to Cob-Dresden on the very day the city was bombed. The painting was spared the fl-engulfed Dresden only because its transport truck was parked in an open p-nearby Herrenhut. We found it in the Coburg Castle dungeon, where by lu-spared in both the Polish looting and the American bombardment of the-Coburg, our truck caught fire. Lacking tools, it was impossible to release the-crate was lashed and nailed to the truck bed, and the fire extinguishers-failed. We finally suffocated the flames with sand and earth, and I was able t-ily treasure to Schloss Wolfsgarten intact. At that time I never would have-that I would one day accompany this most important family painting on its ju-West Coast of America—this time carefully packed with all the latest safety pre-

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The Crown Jewel Heist

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT
STADTKREIS FRANKFURT A/MAIN
Dist. E – 6, 2d Mil Govt Bn (Sep)
APO 758, US Army

RSH/UKH/bh

Frankfurt a/Main, Germany, QM 6869

(MFA&A) 6 May 1946.

SUBJECT: Request for Investigation.

TO: Commanding General,
United States Forces European Theater
APO 757, US Army.

THRU: Commanding Officer
2d Mil Govt Bn
APO 633, US Army.

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations, the undersigned desires to submit the following information, and requests that, if considered warranted, an investigation thereof be conducted by The Inspector General.

2. On or about 7 April 1946, 1st Lt Clyde K. Harris, MFA&A Specl. Officer, this detachment, was informed by the Princess Sophia of Hesse that an exceedingly valuable collection of Jewelry, that had been found on or about 6 November 1945 at Schloss Friedrichshof, KRONBERG, (near FRANKFURT A/MAIN), Germany, by members of the US Army, was now apparently missing. The circumstances leading up to this declaration was as follows:

a. During the Allied bombings in October 1944 the jewels were buried beneath the floor in a remote section of the under-cellar of the castle to safeguard them from destruction.

b. Prince Wolfgang of Hesse, a mason from Bad Homburg, and presumably Herr Ludwig Seiss, the family chauffeur, were present when the jewels were buried. It may be assumed that no other persons had knowledge of the disposition of the jewels.

d. In the latter part of May or the early part of June 1945 the castle was requisitioned by Headquarters Command, USFET, and made into a country-club for Allied Officers. This installation was supervised by Captain M.H. Nash, WAC. It is believed that practically all the original servants were retained on the staff, including the estate manager, Herr Heinrich Lange, but no members of the family were allowed to enter the area.

e. On or about 5 November 1945 a secret wall in the cellar was found which, when broken into, was found to hide a large cache of wine. From the information the Lt Harris has been able to collect, it appears that the staff was called together at that time and told by Captain Nash that if anyone knew of other items secreted in the castle she must be informed. At this time, apparently, the location of the jewels was divulged, for on or about 6 November 1945 the jewels were located and excavated.

f. It has been impossible for Lt Harris to ascertain just who was present at the time the jewels were excavated, but presumably among those present were Captain Nash, Sergeant Carlton, the then mess sergeant, Herr Weidmann, a locksmith, and probably Herr Weiss. Apparently, the boxes containing the jewels were taken to Captain Nash's rooms and a high ranking officer was supposed to have been summoned. Colonel, identified as Colonel Durant, did arrive shortly afterwards and it is reported that he stayed at the castle for two days. No German civilians saw the jewels unboxed except one man, Herr Weidmann, the locksmith, who claims to have seen them spread out on a table in Captain Nash's room. The next day the servants and other personnel of the castle were instructed that if anyone called Captain Nash she was not to be disturbed, and it is reported that she locked herself in her room for the entire day.

g. On hearing that the jewels had been found, the estate manager, Herr Lange, went to see Captain Nash to ascertain the disposition of the jewels and to request a receipt. It is understood that Herr Lange was told merely that the jewels had been found and were perfectly safe, and that he should tell the Landgrafin of Hessen-

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMY & NAVY

Something Borrowed . . .

Princess Sophie von Hesse could hardly be expected to face a second marriage undistressed by at least one trifle from the storied family jewel chest.

She had consulted her mother-in-law, Princess Margarete, of the German House of Hesse, about the sentimental privilege. The 54-year-old sister of Kaiser Wilhelm II had hesitated; there were complications. Friedrichshof, her turreted, 80-room castle near the Hessian town of Kronberg, was overrun with American officers who seemed to be using it for a *Ritz-Ambi* while she existed in an eight-room cottage near by. There was a person in charge at the Kronberg castle—a self-assured female captain named Nash. She would have to be asked about the royal heirlooms. Unfortunately they had been buried in a lead-lined box in a hole in the wine cellar.

In April Princess Sophie went to Kronberg. But Captain Nash had returned to the U.S. and none of her successors knew anything about the priceless jewels. In the subcellar was nothing but a litter of wine bottles, and an empty hole. Princess Sophie then complained to the U.S. Army. Where were the jewels?

The Chase. Last week the Army had the answer. The Hesse heirlooms, including fistfuls of diamonds, ruinous old emeralds, gemmed bracelets, solid gold service pieces, a red plush autograph book engraved in 1869, and a multikarat Bible—a wedding gift of England's Queen Victoria to her daughter and Crown Prince Frederick William of Prussia—were on exhibit in the Army Public Relations directors' office in Washington. The Army valued them at $3,000,000. While newsmen stared and photographed them, the Army told fantastic lots & pieces of the story of their recovery.

The Army's Criminal Investigation Division had narrowed the suspects to four members of Kronberg's substrata: WAC Captain Kathleen B. Nash, 45, of Phoenix, Ariz.; Colonel J. W. Durant of Falls Church, Va., whom Captain Nash had just married; Major David F. Watson of Burlingame, Calif.; and a prowling corporal who had discovered the cache under bottle room of nine old wine. Both the Durants were on terminal leave.

After a month of hide-&-seek, Mrs. Durant was traced to the home of her sister in Hudson, Wis. MPs surrounded the house but Mrs. Durant slipped out the back door, fled by taxi and train to Chicago. She and her husband, and at 5 p.m. on June 2 both registered at the La Salle Hotel. At 2 a.m., just 46 hours before fire cropped their third-floor room (*Time* Dec. 16), MPs awakened them. Hours later they confessed.

The Stolen Locker. Following Mrs. Durant's directions, MPs searched the house in Hudson, found some $500,000 in miscellaneous loot. The family was using a 38-piece, solid gold table set in the kitchen. But the most valuable treasure, the $2,500,000 worth of loose gems, was still missing. Colonel Durant had put them in the hands of a fence. Finally, he telephoned the stolen goods dealer, told him the jewels were hot. After an hour the fence called back. Following his directions, Durant led MPs to a dime-to-the-slot locker in Chicago's Illinois Central Station, pulled out a cheap, pasteboard letter box and opened it. There was a dazzling pile, gathered from all the ruling houses of Europe.

In her cottage near Kronberg, weary Princess Margarete was happy to forego the details to get the jewels back. Even Princess Sophie, who had gone ahead with the wedding, found blushing for lack of decoration, felt a little better about the red-faced U.S. Army.

But the Army was not supposed. The ham-handed amateurs, who had blundered into crime because a corporal could not be moderate in his looting, would be court-martialed.

FOOD

One Promise Met

At last the U.S. was sprinting in the race with world famine. Exports of U.S. grain exceeded U.S. promises for the first time during the last third of May. But early sluggishness had imposed a stiff handicap. To be as good as its word, the U.S. needs to ship abroad 1,712,407 tons during June, triple its improved performance for May. The box score:

	Jan. 1-May 31	May 28-31
Promises Made	4,647,004	209,800
Shipments Sent	1,964,000	165,000

THE CONGRESS

Going, Going . . .

Price control by OPA was never dealer than in the bill which finally reached the Senate floor this week.

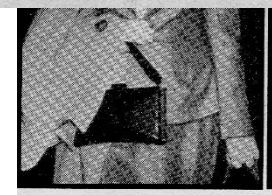
A Banking & Currency Committee majority had done the job. Its bill abolished all ceilings on meat, livestock, dairy and poultry products, booted the lid on clothing, household appliances, automobiles and farm machinery, and eased controls over restaurant meals and hotel rents.

It rallied for a three-man Price Decontrol Board with the power to override OPA and cancel price regulations on any commodity. As a kicker, the Secretary of Agriculture could increase the price of farm products without consulting OPA. Under these terms, a clause extending OPA until June 30, 1947, was on its invitation to its own wake.

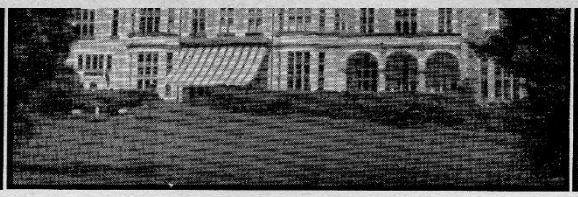
Committee Chairman Wagner of New York along with three other Democratic dissenters rushed into print a vigorous minority report:

"The bill . . . writes the death sentence for effective price, wage and rent stabilization. . . . The law of supply & demand will blow the price bubble up further and further until at length it will burst."

Economic Stabilizer Bowles called the bill "an outright fraud . . . a monstrous



CAPTAIN DURANT



KRONBERG'S FRIEDRICHSHOF CASTLE
They bobbled the baubles.

Associated Press, International
COLONEL DURANT

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Harry Ettlinger and Robert Edsel

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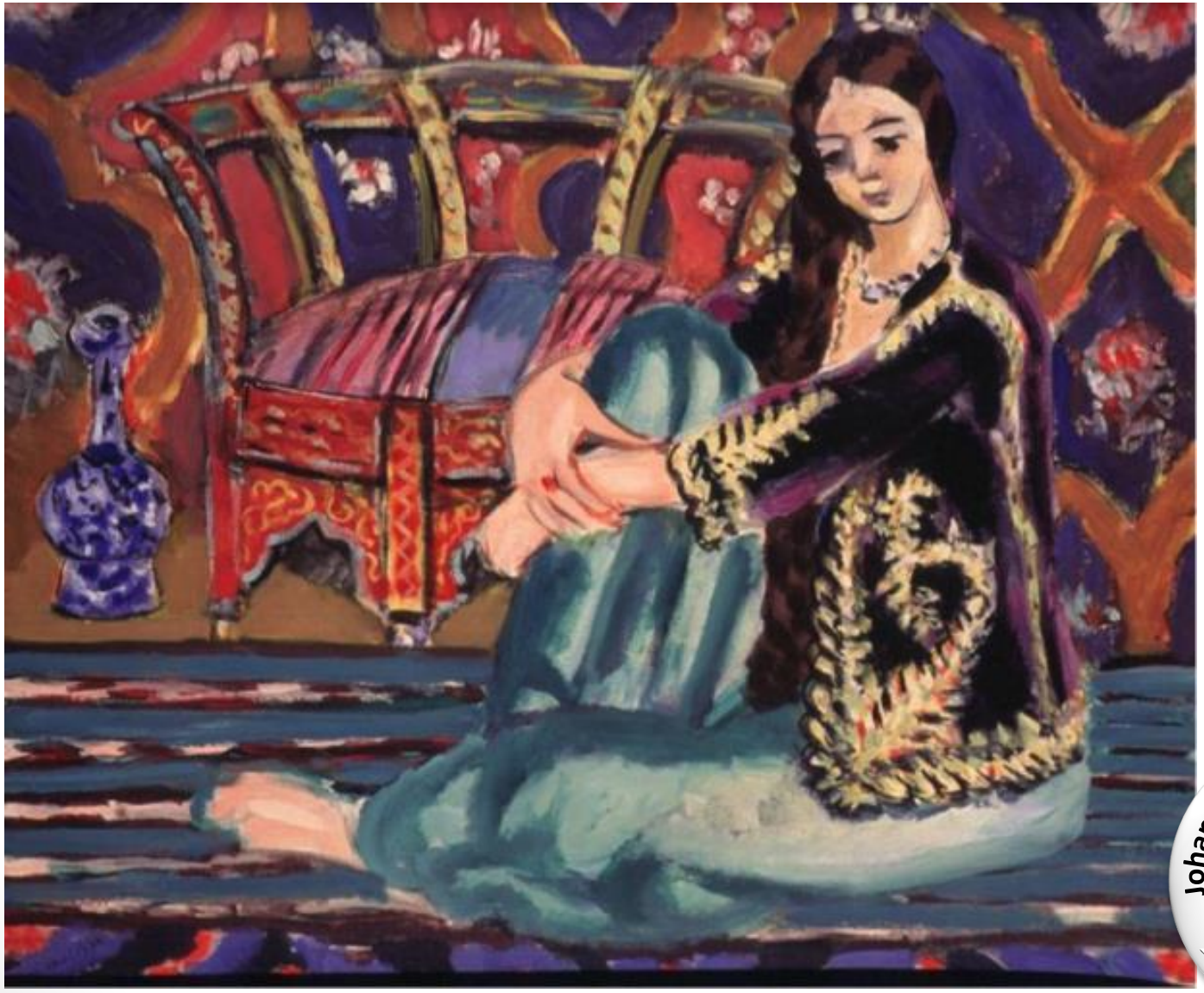
Matisse Returns to the Rosenbergs



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Adele Bloch-Bauer Finally Returns

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Turner’s Glaucus and Scylla

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Honoring the Heroes

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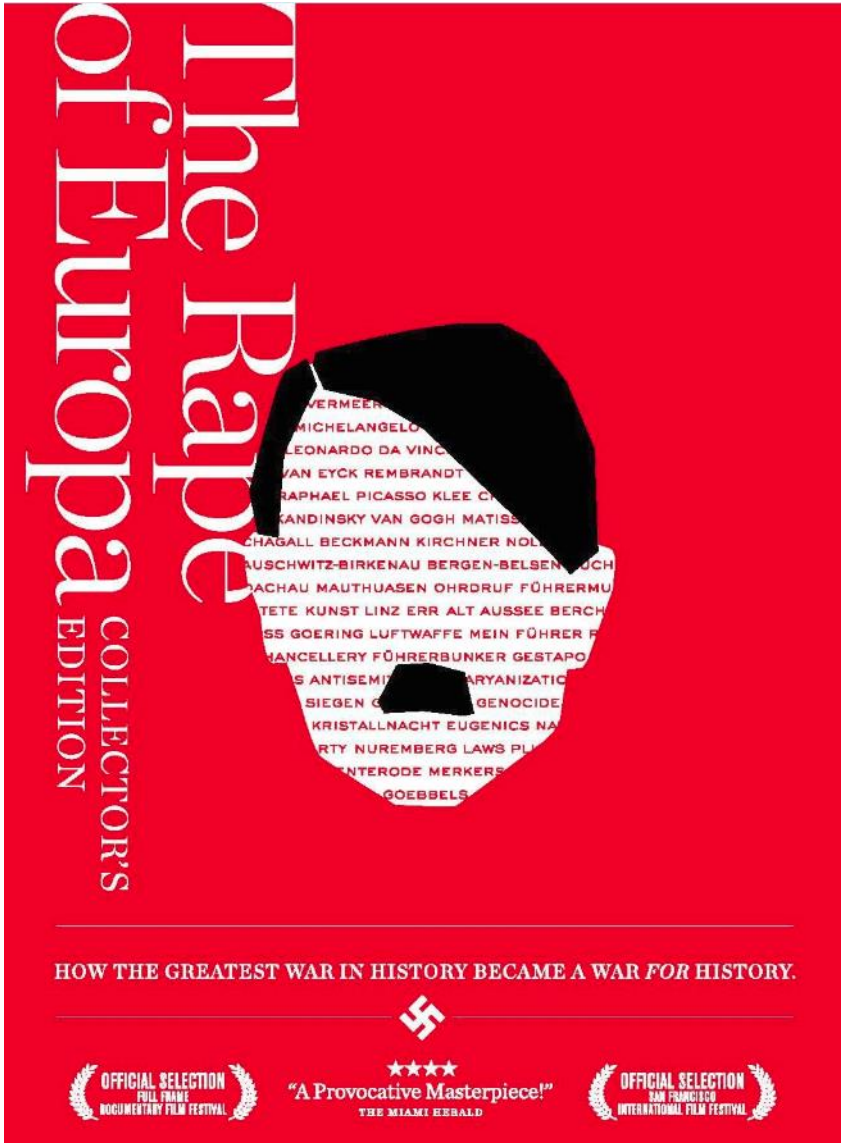
Robert Edsel's Documentary



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Most Wanted: Raphael Sanzio

Portrait of a Young Man

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Most Wanted: Caravaggio

Portrait of a Young Woman

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Most Wanted: Sandro Botticelli

Portrait of a Man

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Most Wanted: Cranach the Elder

Kurfuerst Johann Friedrich von Sachsen

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Most Wanted: Lovis Corinth

Tyrolean Woman with Hat

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Most Wanted: Otto Dix

Elsa, the Countess

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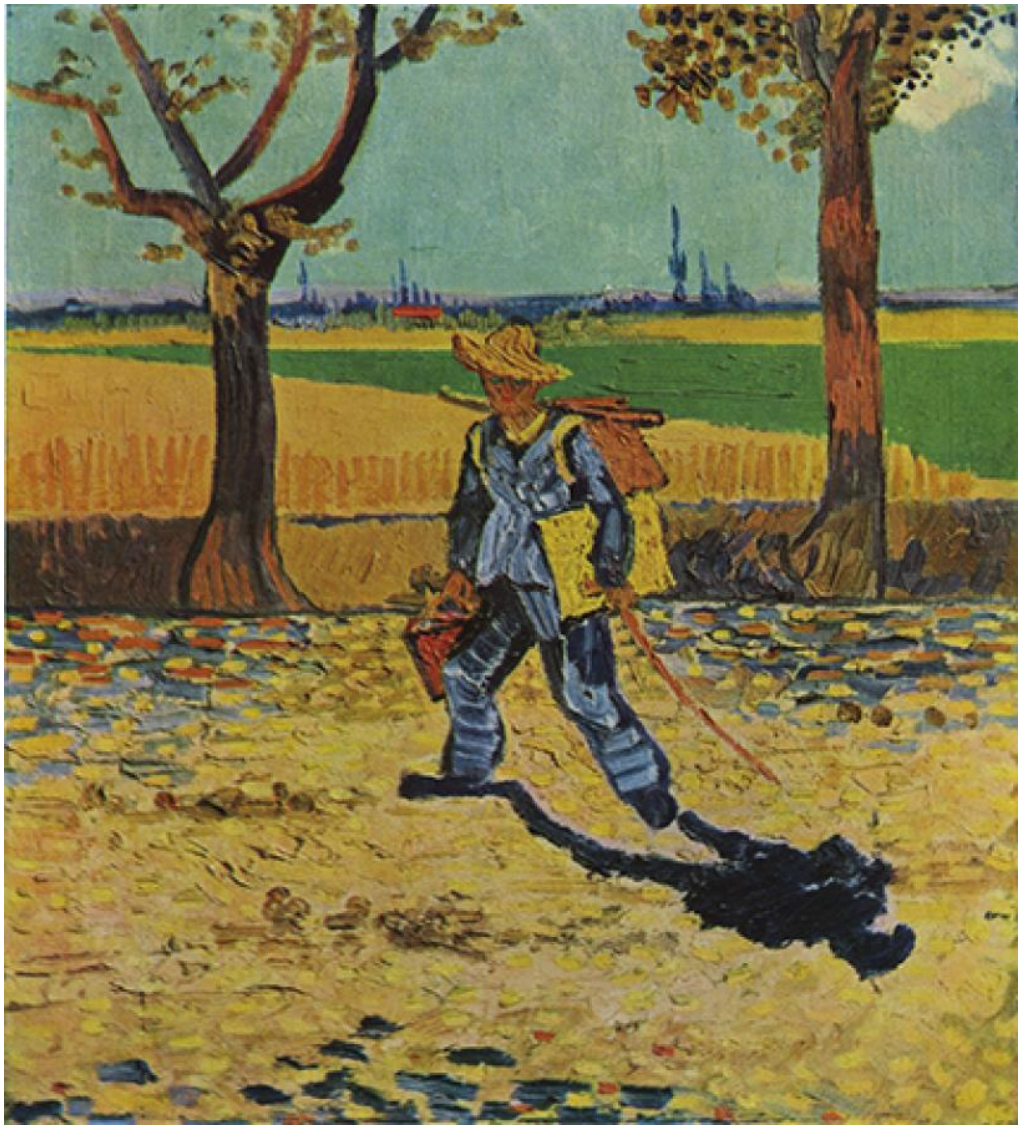
Most Wanted: Vincent Van Gogh



Vincent on His Way to Work

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Most Wanted: Egon Schiele

Boats Mirrored in the Water

Johanniter Humanitarian Group TEXAS

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Humanitarian Group - Texas

JHG Texas Movie Night
"Monuments Men"
July 26, 2014

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