

# Conte Galeazzo Ciano Diaries and Related Material

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the  
Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R.  
Gardner, 2011

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## Collection Summary

Title: Conte Galeazzo Ciano Diaries and Related Material

Span Dates: 1939-1946

ID No.: MSS15818

Creator: Ciano, Galeazzo, conte, 1903-1944

Extent: 1,400 items; 6 containers; 2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and Italian

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Italian statesman. Photostatic copy of Ciano's diary and publication material for the book *The Ciano Diaries* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., 1946), edited by Hugh Gibson, including editor's transcript, setting copy, corrected galleys, and other printed matter relating to its publication.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Ciano, Galeazzo, conte, 1903-1944.

Ciano, Galeazzo, conte, 1903-1944. *The Ciano diaries*. 1946.

Gibson, Hugh, 1883-1954.

Hitler, Adolf, 1889-1945.

Mussolini, Benito, 1883-1945.

Ribbentrop, Joachim von, 1893-1946.

### Subjects

Fascism.

World politics--1933-1945.

World War, 1939-1945--Italy.

World War, 1939-1945.

### Places

Europe--Foreign relations--1918-1945.

Europe--Politics and government--1918-1945.

International relations.

Italy--Foreign relations.

### Occupations

Statesmen--Italy.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The diaries and related material of Conte Galeazzo Ciano, Italian statesman, were given to the Library of Congress by Doubleday and Co., Inc., in 1955.

### Processing History

The collection was arranged and described in 1955. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

## Copyright Status

It is the researcher's responsibility to determine requirements of domestic copyright laws and international treaties and conventions.

## Access and Restrictions

The collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Conte Galeazzo Ciano Diaries and Related Material, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1903, Mar. 18	Born, Livorno, Italy
1925	Graduated in law, University of Rome, Rome, Italy, having worked as a drama and art critic on a Roman daily paper while a student
1925	Entered Italian diplomatic service
1925-1930	Stationed at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; then as secretary of Italian legation at Buenos Aires, Argentina; and later as consul general, Shanghai, China
1930	Married Edda Mussolini, daughter of Benito Mussolini, and became an ardent Fascist
1932	Became minister from Italy to China
1933	Became chief of Benito Mussolini's press office
1935	Became secretary of state for press and propaganda, Italian government
1935-1936	Served in Italian air corps during Ethiopian War
1936-1943	Became minister of foreign affairs
1943, July 25	Took a leading part in the coup d'état against Benito Mussolini
1944, Jan. 11	Executed by a Fascist firing squad

## Scope and Content Note

The diaries and related material of Conte Galeazzo Ciano (1903-1944) span the years 1939-1946. The collection consists of an incomplete set of positive photostats made from the microfilm of the original diaries and working papers relating to their publication as *The Ciano Diaries*, in 1946, by Doubleday and Company, Inc., edited by Hugh Gibson, an American diplomat.

The original diaries of Count Galeazzo Ciano, Benito Mussolini's minister for foreign affairs, were smuggled out of Italy by Countess Edda Mussolini Ciano shortly after her husband's execution in 1944. She sold the serial rights to the Chicago *Daily News*, which published the diaries in an abridged form. She then consented to have them microfilmed; the positive photostats of the originals included in this gift were made from that microfilm. The location of the original diaries was not determined at the time the collection was donated to the Library of Congress in 1955.

The dates covered by the Doubleday edition of the diaries are January 1, 1939-December 23, 1943; the dates for the working materials are 1944-1946. There are periods in the diaries for which there are no entries. There are also gaps in the photostats. Entries for January 2-13, July 27-30, and August 1-16, 1939; June-November, 1942; and with a few exceptions, 1943, are missing.

The diaries include records of Ciano's meetings with Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, German foreign minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, foreign ambassadors, and other political figures during the war period.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Editor's transcript of diaries
BOX 1	Pages 1-500
BOX 2	Pages 501-952
BOX 3	Setting copy of diaries as sent to press
BOX 4	Photostats of original diaries (incomplete)
BOX 4	1939-1940
BOX 5	1941-1943
BOX 6	Corrected galleys, map used for end papers, and clippings and printed matter relating to the publication of the diaries