

C O P Y

October 31, 1946

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Tentative draft cable to OMCUS and USFA, to USIET for info.

Reurads cc 5664, P. 4485, ourad WK 81072. Subject Jewish cultural property. Objections made urads to Jewish proposals discussed by State Dept with Jewish groups.

Not minimizing force your points belived here that they do not fully consider effect on property rights from equitable standpoint of shifts of Jewish population in Europe. For instance Jews now in Germany and Austria and only to small extent same persons formerly resident there or their heirs. Therefore national and narrow legal viewpoint not adequate to deal with problem.

Agree to handling so far as feasible within framework internal German and Austrian restitution laws provided a large enough approach to problem of successionship. Believed that Trustee should be named successor in many cases.

Jewish groups propose and State Dept concur that without prejudice to other issues solution should be sought at present to following problems only:

(1) Adequacy of trustee as presently organized to represent all Jewish interests. State is satisfied with organization as described WK 81072 calling attention to fact that World Jewish Congress is international organization including Jews of eastern countries and Central Committee of Liberated Jews in Germany. Believed that with possibility additional members always open Trustee may be accepted as appropriate organization for immediate purposes.

(2) Turnover unidentifiable property now at Offenbach to Trustee. From info here believed that many books containing no name or bookplate can be readily determined to be unidentifiable as to ownership. Quadripartite recognition of Trustee is eventually desirable but disposition unidentifiable property need not wait, can be done by simple order of OMCUS.

(3) Admission to Germany and Austria of 3-man mission representing Trustee to take over unidentified property and to advise and consult with OMCUS and USFA and with German and Austrian authorities on implementation of restitution programs as regards cultural property. The proposed

(4) Immediate shipment YIVO collection. This was previously authorized by State Dept but was suspended pending consideration of entire question cultural property. Believed that ad hoc decision is justified on basis transfer of territory (Vilna) and Americanization of Yiddish Institute, now located New York. Shipment through Library of Congress Mission as proposed USPOLAD's 1004 of 12 April is authorized. Suggest Polish and Soviet restitution missions be advised informally of intended action.

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transl./am

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TO: Mr. Oberstaatsanwalt, Amtsgericht Berlin-Schöneberg,
Elsholzstrasse,

Schöneberg.

As one (1) copy of each book of the collection of modern Jewish authors, historians and politicians, formerly having been stored in the office of the left wing in the right wing of the building and now, for a short time, already removed to a temporary place in the right wing of the same, according to the attached copy of the letter of the Jewish Community of Berlin (Jüdische Gemeinde Berlin),

formerlly the "Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland", dated 27 June 1945, which is valid, as certified by the Vorstandsmitglied der Gemeinde, Dr. EHRLICH, even after the reconstruction of the Community, I have been charged with the restitution of the Jewish libraries having been seized by the former party offices to the Jewish Community. Based this authorisation I beg to make the following proposal:

By the former Reichssicherheitshauptamt, Amt VII, a special Jewish library including nearly all the seized public Jewish libraries and a great number of private libraries has been established in its office building at 12 Eisenacherstrasse. A great part of these books, especially the libraries having already been screened and fixed, and, in addition, a vast material not yet worked off have been removed, in August 1943, to an external depot of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt in Czechoslovakia because of the expected air raids. An other part has been destroyed by fire on 23 November 1943 in the building at 12 Eisenacherstrasse. At present there are only residues of the former Jewish Library at the Eisenacherstrasse which partially have been spared by the fire and, for the other part, are composed of new seizures. The Jewish Community of Berlin is, however, interested of the reception of these rests of the library. It is intended to remove these books to the area of 13 Joachimsthalerstrasse being the property of the Community and to establish them there as the basis for the reconstruction of a new library of the Jewish Community. Relating to these matters of fact I ask herewith, for the Jewish Community, for the release of these items having been former Jewish property and for the license of their removal to 13 Joachimsthalerstrasse. There are, especially, the following categories of books, card-indexes, etc., the former Jewish property of which has partially been identified by stamps and, partially, by witnesses:

1) The so-called Jewish Cultural Archive. This archive forms the first experiment of collecting the records regarding all Jews, semi-jews, etc., having been prominent, since the time of emancipation, on any field of public life. At present, it includes more than 14,000 names which have been collected by a number of Jewish specialists by a three years job. For the first, its supervision by a honorary specialist is taken into consideration, until we are successful, as we hope, in finding the attention of English-American circles for having it completed and published by a circle of new collaborators.

2) A pretty big quantity of pro-Jewish and Judaism literature having already been selected from the other books by the members of the Kulturamt Schöneberg. We ask herewith to leave these items partially emanating from other Jewish Communities to the Jewish Community of Berlin, preliminarily as a trustee, an other central office, at the present, not being existing after the former Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland had been dissolved.

3) A quantity of anti-Jewish and national literature having been selected in the same way and which the Jewish Community should like to have, too, for apologetic and other reasons. We ask to get one (1) piece of each volume of this literature, too, and

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we should feel obliged not to establish this material publicly and to give license for its use only in those cases where a serious and scientific aim can be proved.

- 4) one (1) copy of each book of the collection of modern Jewish authors, scientists and politicians, formerly having been stored in the cellars of the left wing of the building and now, for a great part, already removed to the ground-floor in the right wing.
- 5) A residue of the former Hebrew and Jewish dialect newspaper-archive of Vilna, at present also being stored in a niche of the hall in the ground-floor of the right wing.
- 6) All those books of non-Jewish contents, the former Jewish property of which can be identified by stamps, property remarks, dedications, etc.
- 7) Several cases containing Jewish manuscripts, first prints, pictures, rituals, etc., at present being stored in the so-called Irrgarten.
- 8) The whole of card-indexes, library-catalogues and respective cases and chests belonging to former Jewish libraries.
- 9) All book-shelves and chests of former Jewish property, especially several adjustable book-shelves and two (2) chests with wire-grates being stored to the right of the ground-floor hall and the property of the former "Lehranstalt der Wissenschaft für das Judentum zu Berlin".
- 10) A small cardex-case with private scientific remarks of a former member of the Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland, Mr. Dr. BRESLAUER, 29 Wielandstrasse, having been marked as his property by his name in writing.

Furthermore, we hereby note that there is a great number of furniture (writing-tables, chairs, etc.) at 12 Eisenacherstrasse, too, being the former property of the Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland and which the Reichsvereinigung was forced to cede to the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) as a loan. A great part of this furniture was by attached slips marked as the property of the Reichsvereinigung. Besides, eight (8) type-writers, three (3) of them being special Hebrew machines, the reprocurement of which should be of special importance to the Jewish Community.

In the so-called Irrgarten there are, furthermore, several private libraries of former Jewish property, f.ex. the library of the former Professor at the University of Giessen, Dr. Erich STERN, of the French author André Maurois, a.o., which before the siege were stored as a whole. The undersigned hereby declares himself willing to show these items, so far as the old arrangement hereby will not be disturbed, for their restitution to the proper owners.

Berlin-Charlottenburg, 17 July 1945.

/s/ Dr. Ernest GRUMACH.

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C O P Y

December 1, 1948.

Dr. Jacob Zuckermann
 UNESCO
 Unesco House 19 Avenue Kléber
 Paris 16 e.

Dear Dr. Zuckermann,

Captain Benkowitz has been good enough to tell us of your great interest in the fate of the books and other documents assembled at the Offenbach Archival Depot.

We are sure that you will understand that the Jewish people and its learned institutions, and more particularly the Hebrew University, are greatly concerned to have these books and manuscripts placed at the disposal of Jewish institutions and Jewish scholarship. It is little enough restitution to the Jewish people for its horrible and tragic losses during the war to have the Hebraica and Judaica now in Germany and Austria returned to the Jewish people for the purpose of building up its shattered spiritual and intellectual life.

Whatever be the fate of the thousands of books of general interest, we are certain that the world of education will be sympathetic to the desire of the Jewish people to have these Hebraica and Judaica restored to the people whose scholars and writers produced them.

We do not know if you are aware that the State Department of the United States has agreed in principle to the formation of a Jewish Trusteeship Corporation into whose keeping these books and documents are to be placed for final disposition as the Corporation sees fit. We understand that the detailed arrangements of this plan are now being worked out. We are sending you a copy of this for your information.

It would be very unfortunate indeed if the policy to which the principal Jewish organizations of world-wide influence have committed themselves were to encounter difficulties from other organizations. The policy which we hope to pursue would result in the speediest practicable transfer of most of these books and documents to Palestine and other places. We are anxious to enlist the help and sympathy of those who are in a position to explain this policy and our aims to whomever it may prove useful or necessary.

We are sure that you would want to be of help in whatever way you can in furthering this plan, especially by explaining our point of view in case this question should come up in UNESCO.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) J. L. Magnes
 President

CC/Rector

- Prof. Assaf
- Prof. Baneth
- Prof. Bergmann
- Prof. Euber
- Prof. Cassuto
- Mr. Dinaburg
- Prof. Gutman
- Prof. Scholem
- Br. Senator
- Prof. Weil

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**FERENC JÓZSEF
ORSZÁGOS RABBIKÉPZŐ INTÉZET
IGAZGATÓSÁGA
BUDAPEST, VIII., RÖKK SZILÁRD-UTCA 26.**

Budapest, 194- 1700 5158 1174

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בהתאמאות גודלה הצעיר לידה ספהרכט. שמו של פסחן מילא תפקידו בפואת איזה עזקה. אונטו מקרים אחדים פנו מונע מהפואת שטבונה לאחצאנז. יש לנו מקרים דיבריט אויגנינג אונז בלא שום ספק. גם לבן יונק ישאלות דבון עזך ורדק וזה חובל לפטור * אונטן. מטה וכמה ב". יש בטפריתנו ובטפריה טרוּם קוּיפַּן ז"ל^{שלה} שיש בהם אונז בלוני נזיע. ב". אונז בעירנגן, רובם כמלט נאלו. ב". היה שעוני במרתק אונז ומצענוט, לא חסר מהם אף אונז שנייה בו עזק. ב". על קוּיפַּן נחלקו ל' עני מונזונע: מלך היונר לאומן נטומ לגורוניה יהוד עם ב". בעלי הערך על טל הספריה-עלמאו. הונדרת ויזייר אונז בשרהו לבוזענט ונהלק הגרוע בערך נשאר בסכוון ולא נפאן קלוט. ב". בן נאטו ב". שווין ברוחנו כל פרוט מלוני ז"ל.

הזהלנו כבר לאלו ה ספריהם לארכץ ישראל וגט קבלנו אונוריים טהוותינו עם נסחים
אשרהנו ^השכננו לנו ורבענו קורית ספר וראינו מז סגד רבינו זהירוביץ שאומפינו
בארץ ישראל מטעם התהדרבו במקומות שוניים אגוז וקדצנו שנזכה גם לראות
לא היחסתו אלה גם אספני ואכם מלאיו מוכן צונלה באהלה גרויה כל והזקנות
שהופיעו בארצנו מכו שענינו כהני עברנו יזרע אם סמוך אגוז צוללה למתקנים ^ז
כהן ספריהם שהופיעו בעריכתו בירוחם חברץ ורשותם של ספר זכרון לפבורי אמדנו
ארונו גזען וזהו לנו להדרים עוד כזאת אשר זאסרי מורה נזיר לא אסף לאגוז
באהלו אשר גנו כז נבידת מורה לך אם תמלין לך שומר לפניו זכרון לפבורי פרום
בריגן גולדנער ^ז פעריזה ורשות גודל גאנטירון

בוגר, מוגל לך עכוזה פוריה ורונה לאנובטך

אודיטוריון מערבי

בברכה ג'ו

جیلیکس ۱۷

List of Libraries and Private Owners.

3. *Central Library of the Jewish Community*

AUSTRIA

4. *Central Library*

1. **Klagenfurt**

2. **St. Poelten**

3. "

4. **Wien**

5. "

6. "

7. "

8. *Central Library*

9. "

10. **Wiener Neustadt**

BELGIUM

1. **Antwerpen**

2. "

CHINA

1. **Shanghai**

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. **Budweis**

2. *Supervision of*

FRANCE

1. **Chalon**

2. **Belfort**

Central Library of the Jewish Community

Bibliothèque Israélite de M.

Fleischmann, Waller, Schlesinger, Villa Elmer

Bibliothek des Bundes Jued. Jungwanderer

Glueck, Leopold, Oberkantor und Religionslehrer

Denkblätter, La, Organe pour l'entente Israélitische Allianzverein du Sud-Est

3 Rue de l'Art de Trieste

Guedemann, M. Dr., Rabbiner und Prediger der Israel. Kultusgemeinde

Schlossberg, Jacob, Israélite Orientaliste

59 Rue d'Auteuil

Singer, Erwin, Taborstrasse 52 b

Feuer Rabbinique, 9 Rue Gambetta

Zentralbibliothek, Verein

Eduard Reyer-Bibliothek, Tuchlauben 13

Zentralbibliothek, Iie Wildpreßmarkt 2

(Buchbinder R. Hlawicka) XV. Viktoriag. 2

Jevi, Graedl & Reitels

Schlescha, Adolf (Kaufmann), Kaisersteing. 6

Mikor Maurice, Grand-Rabbiner, Rue Vauvenargues

Bruxelles, Librairie, Place de l'Odéon 4

et Séances Lectures

Kahan, S., Somerstr. 29

Schule, Israélitische, Bibliothèque Alte Com

2. Société des Femmes Juives, 17 Rue St. George

Central Library

Christiansen, B.

1060 Christiansen 50 Juives Rue de P.

Centre Séparatif, L'Urgent social, Association

des déshérités

Volkssbibliothek, jüdische

Gelehrte, 8.

Breviers, Artisan

Bibliothèque Populaire de Ch.

Lycee de B. Bibliothèque

List of Libraries and Private Owners.

3.	Gournay en Bray	Vatrei Loueur de livres a g.
4.	Marseille	Consistoire Israelite de M.
15.	Mulhouse	Feldstein, Jules, Moenchsberg, Villa Simnet
16.	Paris	Katzstein, Judie Alliance Israelite Universelle
17.	"	Sinclair, Paul Bibliotheque etrangere
18.	"	Consistoire Israel. de la Circonscription
19.	Augsburg	Kremer, S (Kanter) Danubien, Le, Organe pour l'entente
20.	Berne	Schumann, des pays de l'Europe du Sud-Est
21.	Berlin	3 Rue de l'arc de Triomphe
22.	Berlin	Loch, Mary Ch, u.Co.
23.	"	Adler, Dr.
24.	Ecole Rabbinique, Paris	Ecole Normale Israelite Orientale, Aufrecht, 59 Rue d'Auteuil
25.	"	Gesellschaft der Juedischen
26.	"	Gemeinde, Federation Zioniste de France
27.	"	Gemeinde der Juedischen
28.	"	Gibert, Librairie Classique
29.	"	Levi, Grand - Rabbin
30.	"	Bloch, Je. Dr. Nationaliste 27
31.	"	Liber, Maurice, Grand-Rabbin, 9 rue Vauquelin
32.	"	Miller, Simon
33.	"	Lipschutz, Librairie, Place de l'Odeon 4
34.	"	Gutenberg 28 rue Lamartine
35.	"	Horn, Peter-Nordau, Max
36.	"	Horn, Ursu Seminaire Israelite, Bibliotheque Alb. Cohn
37.	"	Hiller, Dr. Societe des Etudes Juives, 17 rue St. Georges
38.	"	Jacobsen Talmud Torah
39.	"	La Chretienne, Union Chretienne de Jeunes Gens de P.
40.	"	London, Gru Union temporaire, Liege social. Association declaree.
41.	"	Montefiore, David Etatliche Education
42.	Strassbourg	Scharff, S.
43.	Weissenburg	Dreyfuss, Arthur
44.	"	Schneller Buchhandlung, Novialstr. 16
45.	"	Stein, Leo, Neuerstr. 6
46.	"	Weinberg, Max, Schriftleiter, Syffleusserstr. 12
		Reisberg, Leopold

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List of Libraries and Private Owners.

1.	Abterode	Fleiss, Margret
2.	Alzey	Franko, Jakob, R. Buchhandlung, Carlstr. 26
3.	Ansbach	Katzenstein, Juda
4.	"	Minmann, Paula
5.	Assenheim	Quellen, Freimaurerloge "Deutschland"
6.	Beerfelden	Joel, Leon
7.	Berlin	Guttmann, Prof. Dr. Rabbiner
8.	"	Kraemer, S (Kantor)
9.	"	Lachmann, Anna, Seefahrstr. 42
10.	"	Ehrmann, J. Lehrer
11.	Bergedorf	Loeb, Mary
12.	"	Schlesinger, Dr. Max
13.	"	Adler, Dr.
14.	"	Aufrecht, Arthur
15.	"	Seminar, Juedisch-Theologisches Seminar
16.	"	Gemeinde, Bibliothek der Juedischen
17.	"	Vereinigung, Breisacher Pionierische
18.	"	Gemeindebundes, Bibliothek des Deutsch-Israelitischen
19.	"	Schuster, Julius
20.	"	Bloch, J. Dr., Kastanienallee 27
21.	"	Elberg, Simon
22.	"	Gurowitsch, Boris
23.	"	Herz, Peter, Emserstr. 22
24.	"	Herz, Ursula, Charlottenburg
25.	"	Hiller, Dr., Friedenau, Haenleinstr. 3
26.	"	Jacobsen, Dr.
		Lachmann, Georg, Bendlerstr. 8
		Landau, Grigor. Adolfowitsch, Schamargendorf
		"Monatshefte, Sozialistische" Redaktion
		Perutz, M.
		Sanne's Buchhandlung, Novalisstr. 16
		Stein, Leo, Hauchstr. 6
		Weinberg, May, Schriftleiter, Kyffhaeuserstr. 12
		Weissberg, Leonhard

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27.	Bonn	Kunz, Margret
28.	Breslau	Brandeis, Jakob, B. Buchhandlung, Carlstr.26
29.	"	Freund, Felix
30.	"	Freund, Paul
31.	"	Grossloge Freimaurerbund "Deutschland"
32.	"	Guttmann, Prof. Dr. Rabbiner
33.	"	Lachmann, Anna, Sadowstr.42
34.	"	Max u. Comp.
35.	"	Pinkuss, Dr. Herrmann
36.	"	Praetorius, Franz
37.	"	Seminar, Juedisch-Theologisches Seminar
38.	"	Vereinigung, Breslauer Zionistische
39.	Brueckenau	Schuster, Julius
40.	Buedingen	Stern, Johanna
41.	Burgeinn	Heinemann, A., Dr., Wolfgangstr.37
42.	"	Heinemann, Emma
43.	"	Heinemann, Marta
44.	"	Wohltätigkeitsverein, Israelitischer
45.	Darmstadt	Bezirksschule, 2. Juedische
46.	"	Gesangverein, Israelitischer
47.	"	Schule, Juedische
48.	"	Wolff, Otto, Wilhelmstr.26
49.	Dortmund	Wendriner, Ruth, Rosental 12
50.	Dresden	Wolfsohn, A. Oberkantor
51.	Einbeck	Stern, O.
52.	Ellwangen	Ballenberger, I.
53.	Emmendingen	Wertheimer, Ida
54.	Erfurt	Hirschfeld, Moritz, Dr.
		Ehrentritt, Julius, Sandweg 10, IV

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55. Erfurt Salzberger, Moritz, Dr., Rabbiner 26
 56. Essen Friedmann, Eduard, Stadtoberrabbiner
 57. " Gottschalk, N. II., Weberstr. 25
 58. " Schartenberg, Else
 59. Frankfurt/M. Ackermannschule, Lehrbucherei der
 60. " Adler, Nathan, Langestr. 5
 61. " Agudas - Israel - Jugendgruppe
 62. " Aulerwerkstatt, Juedische, Fischerfeldstr. 13
 63. " Ausschuss zur Verbreitung Juedischer Volks- und Jugendschriften
 64. " Bauer, David, Boernerstr. 29
 65. " Beer, Hugo, L. Loge, Bibliothek der
 66. " Biema, Carolina v. Herz und Hoffnung
 67. " Bier, Max, Schuhfabrik Schenkenhausen/Berndorf
 68. " Bier, Nathaniel, M.
 69. " Bondi, Dr., Wolfgangstr. 87
 70. " Bondi, Hugo
 71. " Breuer, Hannah
 72. " Breuer Isaac
 73. " Breuer, Joseph, Rabbiner, Dr., Rektor der Thora-Lehranstalt Jeschiwa 12
 74. " Breuer, H. Studienrat, Dr., Palmstr. 10
 75. " Cohen Loge, Bibliothek der Herrmann..
 76. " Cosemann, Jos.
 77. " David, Adolf, Mittelweg 20 I.
 78. " David, Julius, Dr.
 79. " David, Ernst
 80. " Diebold, Bernhard
 81. " Donath, Rabbiner, Oederweg 106
 82. " Ehrentreu, Bertha, J.
- Ehrentreu, Julius, Sandweg 10 IV

100.	Frankfurt/M	Kettweng, Heinrich
83.	Frankfurt/M	Eisemann, Samson, am Tiergarten 25
84.	"	Hirsch, Dr., Rektorin Elisabethenschule, Staedt. Oberlyzeum
85.	"	Hilfsbucherei Bibliothek der Samson Elisabethenschule, Lehrerbuecherei
86.	"	Elisabethenschule, Schuelerinnenbuecherei
87.	"	Emden, Fritz
88.	"	Eschwege, Berta, Peterstr. 1
89.	"	Eschwege, Eugen is., Sandweg 9
90.	"	Horowitz, Dr. Joch
91.	"	Eschwege, J.
92.	"	Poingitz, Dr. Max, Fichtestrasse
93.	"	Eschwege, Nathan
94.	"	Fink, Elias, Dr.
95.	"	Frankfurt-Loge, Bibliothek der Loge
96.	"	Freibibliothek und Lesehalle
97.	"	Fried, Werner, Sachsenhaeuser-Oberreal-
98.	"	schule
99.	"	Fulda, Gustel und Richard
100.	"	Gemeinde, Bibliothek der Israelitischen
101.	"	Religionsschule, Israelitische
102.	"	Gemeinde-Vorstand der Israelitischen
103.	"	Gemeinde, Verband der Gemeinde und
104.	"	Staatsarbeiter
105.	"	Goldschmidt, Julius, Friedberger-Anlage 12
106.	"	Gottlieb, Alfred, Hansstr. 18, judisch
107.	"	Grossmann, Max, Obermain-Anlage
108.	"	Halberstadt, Paul
109.	"	Kriegsteuersteuer, Notialer Konsulat
110.	"	Hammel, Herrmann, Roedelheim 1
111.	"	Hanauer, Julius, Dr. phil., Eisenhuetten-
112.	"	Lange, Seline
113.	"	Heinemann, Lyzeum Dr. H., Theobaldstr. 6-8
114.	"	Heinemann, Frau Dr., Pensionat und Hoehere
115.	"	Maedchenschule Schuelerbildschule
116.	"	Levis, Emil

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109. Frankfurt/M
Frankfurterstr. 24
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- Heumann, Heinrich
Hirsch, J., Bockenheim
Hirsch-Schule, Bibliothek der Samson Raphael, Ludwig, Hüttenstr. 27
Hoexter, Ludwig
Hoexter, Julius
Horovitz, Fredi, Gartnerweg 6 I
Horovitz, Aron, Fichtestr. 5
Horovitz, Dr. Jakob
Mayer, Josef
Horovitz, Josef, Fichtestr. 5
Kreyer, Anna
Humboldtschule
Monteiro, E.V. Verein zur Pflege der
Joh.-Loge Wilhelm zur Unsterblichkeit
Kassewitz, Edgar, Lindehstr. 15
Kassewitz, Ernst, Musikalienhandlung,
Bibergerstr. 5
Katz, Helmut, Israel, Beethovenstr. 64
Kesten, Julius, Kestenstr. 44
Kilbinger, Rev. Oberw.
Oppenheim, Marie, Friedichstr. 50 I
Kirchheimische Bibliothek, Israelitische
Religionsschule
Klinger-Oberrealschule, Schuelerbue-
cherei
Philanthropin, Volksschule beim
Komite zur Foerderung Thoratzeuer
Gemeinden, Israelitische
Krankenpflegerinnen, Verein fuer juedi-
sche
Philanthropin, Israelitische
Krieger, A.
Reichs-Kriegsfuersorge Nationaler Frauendienst
Abt. Kochkiste, Fahrgasse 52 I
Reichs-Kuechler, Friedrich, Carl, Wiesenhuettens-
pl. 30
Reichs-Judischer Verband fuer Volks-
bi Lange, Emil
Leiffmann, Kurt, Staedelstr. 6
Lessing-Gymnasium, Schuelerbibliothek
Levis, Emil, Windeckstr. 33

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135.	Frankfurt/M	Levy, Prof. Dr. phil. M., Oberlehrer Salzgasse, 10/12, Alte Gasse 21
136.	"	Lewinsohn, Lazar Schaefferstr., Ferdinand, Blumenstr. 4
137.	"	Lewinsohn, Ludwig, Rueckertstr. 57 Schaefferstr., Ferdinand
138.	"	Lindheimer, Ludwig Schaefferstr., Ferdinand
139.	"	Marksohn, Sally Schaefferstr., Walter, Leibnizstr. 6
140.	"	Marksohn, Seline, Gaertnerweg 6 I Schaefferstr., Philipp, Rosenthalstr. 22
141.	"	May, Bibliothek des Dr. Benjamin M. Bumboldstr. 5
142.	"	Mayer, Josef Gesetzliche Naturkundliche
143.	"	Meyer, Annie Gesetzliche Polizeiliche
144.	"	Montefiore E.V. Verein zur Pflege der idealen Interessen Jued. junger Leute, Strauss, Baruch, Lehrer, Goethesburg
145.	"	Moos, E.D., Uhlandstr. 57
146.	"	Naumann, Ernst, Musikalienhandlung, Biberg. 3. Verein der Erwerbslosen Jued. Jugend
147.	"	Nussbaum, Julius, Blumenstr. 4
148.	"	Oppenheim, Marie, Friedrichstr. 50 I
149.	"	Pels, Nikolaus
150.	"	Philanthropin, Bibliothek der Realsch.
151.	"	Philanthropin, Volksschule beim
152.	"	Religionsgesellschaft, Israelitische Bibliothek der Realschule
153.	"	Religionsgesellschaft, Israelitische Synagogen Gemeinde
154.	"	Religionsgesellschaft, Israelitische Unterrichtsanstalt der Synagogen, Elisabeth, Gotzkowskystr. 57
155.	"	Religionsschule Hoechst Wiemeler, Jacob
156.	"	Rhein-Mainischer Verband fuer Volks- bildung
157.	"	Roeder's Buchverleih, Wilbelerstr. 20
158.	"	Rosenberg, S., Geding
159.	"	Rosner, Paula, Windeckstr. 33

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155.	Frankfurt/M	Wolffsohn, Max
160.	Frankfurt/M	Salzmann, Erika, Bleichstr.1
161.	"	Neckelmeier, Otto
162.	"	Schamberg, Ferdinand, Blumenstr.4
163.	"	Neckelmeier, Synagoge
164.	"	Schamberg, Kurt
165.	"	Wissenschaft, Christliche, Lesegesellschaft
166..	"	Scharff, Heinrich
167.	"	Weißes Roschule über Hesse-Nassau
168.	"	Schataki, Walter, Leihbücherei
169.	"	Selig, Philipp, Rendelerstr. 22
170.	"	Speier, Salomon, Rückenheimer Anlage
171.	Rundfunk J. u. R.	Speyer, Heinrich
172..	"	Wronker, Dr., Die Buchdruckerei
173.	"	Staatspolizeistelle
174.	"	Wronker, Dr., Die Buchdruckerei
175.	"	Stern, Baruch, Rektor
176.	"	Wirsching, August Dr., Ausländeramt 55
177.	"	Strauss, Baruch, Lehrer, Guentherburg-
178.	"	Komfortallee 34, Dr. Schreiberei, 57 I
179.	"	Sulzbach, Prof. Dr. A. Uhlandstr. 55
180.	Gutleben	Tagesheim der Erwerbslosen Jued. Jugend
181.	"	Koenigsworsterstr. 26
182.	Gutleben	Wundt, Dr., Jugendzentrum
183.	"	Unna, Josef Dr.
184.	Gutleben	Wundt, Dr., Jugendzentrum
185.	"	Unna, Julie
186.	Gutleben	Wundt, Dr., Jugendzentrum
187.	"	Urspruch, Anton, Pfarrer, gest.
188.	"	Bellini, G. G.
189.	"	Varrentrapp-Schule, Lehrerbibliothek
190.	"	Roeninger, Georg, Stand. für
191.	"	Verein, Israelitischer Religionslehrer
192.	"	Bibliothek (Int. Leopold, Rosenberg)
193.	Gutleben	Vereinigung, Freie, für die Interessen
194.	"	des Orthodoxen Judentums
195.	Gutleben	Jugendzentrum, Jued. schatz
196.	"	Volksschule, Israelitische
197.	Gutleben	Jugendzentrum, Jued. schatz (Kreis Wüchingen)
198.	"	Wechsler, Elisabeth, Ostendstr. 9.I
199.	Gutleben	Goldschmidt, Gottfried
200.	"	Wechsler, Jacob
201.	Gutleben	Zentrales. Pfor. K., Bettinerstr. 32
202.	"	Wechsler, Siegfried
203.	Gutleben	Levy, Alfred, Klost.-Allee 22 n
204.	"	Weinberg, Harry Lehrer, Thomasiusstr. 11
205.	"	Marcus, S., Verlagsbuchhandlung
206.	"	Weinschel, Georg
207.	"	Wary, Anton
208.	"	Schreuder, I. C.

185.	Frankfurt/M	Wertheim, Max Postbeamter - Juge (A.M.B.)
186.	"	Wertheimer, Otto Goldebeck, Victor
187.	"	Westend-Synagogue Schule, Juedische
188.	"	Wissenschaft, Christliche, Lesezimmer Kerrig, Paul, Leihbuchothek, Neudorf
189.	"	Wohlfahrtsschule fuer Hessen-Nassau und Hessen, Mittung, Dr. M.
190.	Baecherweg	Wolf, Paul, Baecherweg 7
191.	"	Wolfgang, Walter, Bockenheimer Anlage Str. 12, Verein, Verkaufsstelle
192.	Blankenstein	Wronker, Max Hause
193.	Offenbach (Berg)	Wronker, S. und Co. Leihbucherei
194.	"	Wurmann, Justizrat Dr., Beethovenstr. 55
195.	Fuerth i. B.	Koenigshofer, Leo, Schwabacherstr. 57 I
196.	"	Realschule, Israelitische
197.	Pulda	Schweiger, Isaac
198.	Wiesbaden	Nussbaum, Samuel
199.	Gailingen	Spitz Dr. Bezirksrabbiner
200.	Gelsenkirchen	Synagogengemeinde, Vorstand der
201.	Gemuenden/M	Hoffman, G.H. Dr. med. Joseph
202.	Goerlitz	Hoeninger, Georg, cand. jur.
203.	Griesheim b. Darmstadt	Levi, Libmann (Inh. Leopold Rosenberg)
204.	Guttentag, Leibnitz	Eisner, Ludwig und Rosa (Oberschles.)
205.	Hagen	Jugendverein, Juedischer
206.	Haigerloch	Jugendverein, Juedischer (Kreis Hechingen)
207.	Halberstadt	Goldschmidt, Gottfried Emanuel, Facharzt fuer inneren Krankheiten, Holzenzollern-Kautsch. Pfor. E., Wettinerstr. 32
208.	Halle/S	Levy, Alfred, Kielost-Allee 22 p
209.	Hamburg	Marcus, S. Verlagsbuchhandlung
210.	"	May, Anton Verein, Metz
211.	"	Schreuder, I.C.
212.	"	

213. Hamburg
214. Koerigsburg
214. Hannover
215. "
215. "
216. Harburg
216. "
217. Heidelberg
218. Heilbronn
219. Hersfeld
220. Hoechst/M
221. Homburg(Bad)
222. Lippstadt
223. Magdeburg
224. " "
225. Leipzig
226. Karlsruhe
227. Gera
228. Kassel
229. Wittenberg
230. " "
231. Metz
232. Kleinwallstadt
233. Koeln
234. "
235. Münster/Bremen
236. Minden-Stadt/Hanover
236. Koenigsberg.
237. "
238. "
- Steinthal - Loge (UOBB)
Perlmann, Herbert
Goldberg, Victor
Synagogen-Gemeinde, Bibliothek der
Schule, Juedische
Verein fuer jued. Geschichte und Literatur
North, Paul, Leihbibliothek, Neuestr.
Blau-Weiss, Banderbund, 1848.
Pinkuss, Dr. H.
Kraemer, Jrg. A.
Frauenverein, Israelitischer
Julmann, Hans
Dr. Rothschild, B. Luisenstr. 35
Dr. Rothschild, Edith
Dr. Rothschild, Fritz, Luisenstr. 35
Le Strauss, Bella, Leihbibliothek
Dr. Strauss, Flora
Cronheim, Julius, Endenicherstr. 11
Wolf, Bernhard, stud. rer. techn.
Neussbaum, S., Hohenzollernstr. 5
Spengenthal, Joseph, v. v. Direkt
Synagogen-Gemeinde, Buecherei der
Breuer, M. Dr.
Verband der Sabbathfreunde, Ortsgem
Duenner, J., Moltke-Strasse 35
Pauly, F., Josef
Rubensohn, Dr. med. Emanuel. Facharzt
fuer inner Krankheiten, Hohenzollern-
ring 14, Leo
Altersheim, Juedisches E. V.
Koenigsberger Zionistische Vereini-
gung
Wacholder, S.
Leseverein, Hebr.

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239.	Koenigsberg.	Perlmann, Herbert
240.	"	Orthodoxe, Jüdische Synagogengemeinde, Bibliothek der
241.	"	Rosenthal, M.
242.	Metzendorf, n. H.	Verein fuer jued. Geschichte u. Literatur
243.	"	Sergenthal, G. (Lehrer)
244.	Krefeld	Blau-Weiss, Wanderbund, Jued.
245.	Landau	Bogdan, Friedlach
246.	Landstuhl	Andorn, Salomon
247.	Lauenburg	Barthel, As., Schenkelstr. 5
248.	Laupheim	Kaufmann, Julius II
249.	Leer	Beil, Max
250.	"	Jung, Bertha
251.	Leipzig	Verein Liedel, Jugendbund Gewalta
252.	"	Jugendverband, Jued.
253.	Luebeck	Kaufmann, Max
254.	"	Horowicz, M. Rabbiner (Pommern)
255.	Mainz	Gideon, Adolf, Lehrer
256.	"	Knurr, E. (Ostfriedland)
257.	Mannheim N7.11.	Leendertz, W. J., Leihbibliothek
258.	"	Crieger, Dr. Dr.
259.	"	Katzmann, J., Pfaffendorferstr. 11
260.	"	Donath, Rabbiner
261.	Marburg/Hessen	Kahn, Salo, Muhlenbruecke 11
262.	Michelstadt/Odenwald	Berger, H., Bibl. d. Instituts v. Direkt
263.	Muenchen	Schlesinger, Annastr. 24
264.	"	Einstein, M.
265.	"	Heydecker, Walter
266.	"	Keller, Emanuel, Lehrer
267.	"	Muerzburger, Josef
268.	"	Boeckel, Dr. Otto
269.	"	Gruenfeld, Leo
270.	"	Ehrentreu, Dr. Heinrich
271.	"	Kahn, Salo
272.	"	Wechsler, S., v. Blumenstr. 13
273.	"	Gefestigungs
274.	"	Friedlaender, Th.

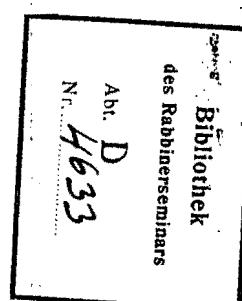
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|------|---|---|
| 266. | Nassau a.d.L.
Kerbst | Kultusgemeinde, israelitische
Religionsgemeinde, jüdische |
| 267. | " | Rosenthal, M.
Malerei, Ausflugs |
| 268. | Überreichen | Bergenthal, G. (Lehrer) |
| 269. | Neustadt a.S.
Rhine | Moeller, Friedrich |
| 270. | Nidda | |
| 271. | Nuernberg | Bachmann, A., Schenolstr.5 |
| 272. | Brighton (Engl.) | Gabbay, Dr.
Erle, Max |
| 273. | Clifton (") | Gabbay, Dr., Clifton College
Verein israel. Jugendbund Chewrat- |
| 274. | Dundee (Engl.) | Noffat's West End Circal Bischurinary,
61, Perth Road |
| 275. | Ober-Ingelheim a.Rh., Kraemer, Julius, Lehrer | |
| 276. | Oberursel a.T. Gewerkschaften u.Partei, Verein. Bibl.d. | |
| 277. | Becklinghausen | Hirschmann, Bella |
| 278. | Salzwedel | Poche, Oswald, Schmiedestr.27 |
| 279. | " | Volksbucherei, Hohe Str. 21 |
| 280. | Schoenlanke | Bochner, L.J., Frau |
| 281. | Stettin | Begemann, Rolf, Griniweg 4 |
| 282. | Straussberg i.E. | Ginsberg, Lea, Leon |
| 283. | Stuttgart | Kirchenvorsteheramt, israel. literatur |
| 284. | " | Levy, J.M., Canzleistr.34 |
| 285. | Tauberettersheim | Gruenfeld, Leo |
| 286. | Thungen/Ufr. | Weinberg, Harry |
| 287. | Voelkersleier | Apotheke, Marktstraße, Wuerzburgerstrasse 51
Halle, Simon (Lehrer) |
| 288. | Westerburg | Mortsje, Lotje
Gemeinde, israel. |
| 289. | Wiesbaden | Constitudo, General do Portugal
Frank, Frau Helene |
| 290. | " | Davidson, Dr. Bertrand |
| 291. | Wilhelmshoehe, Bad. Greveler, Dr. Engelbert. Sanatorium | Rosenwald, N. E.
Rosenwald, David, Lehrer |
| 292. | Winnweiler/Pflaz | Genootschap voor de Joodse Wetenschap |
| 293. | " | Glaser, Willi |
| 294. | Wuerzburg | Millesma |
| 295. | " | Sichel, Margot, Bismarckstr.13 |
| 296. | " | Institut Francaise Maison Descartes
Gefaengnis |
| 297. | Wuppertal | Loesener |
| 298. | Zerbst | Friedlaender, Th. |

294. Zerbst *Rechtsanw.* Börte & Co., Religionsschule, israelit.
295. Illereichen *Familienname*, Maier, Rabbiner
296. Rhina *Openb. Geest. Huerzburger, Isak*
297. " *Feindt, C. Isera*
- GREAT BRITAIN**
1. Brighton (Engl.) *Friedr. Gubbay, Dr. Salomonstrat 15*
2. Clifton (") *Seminarium, Berlinstr. 1, israelit. Gubbay, Dr., Clifton College*
3. Dundee (Scotl.) *Seminarium, Berlinstr. 1, israelit. Moffat's West End Circulating Library, Selskate, 61, Perth Road*
4. London *Vereeniging, Gottlieb, L. M. van de Nederlandsche Afdeeling*
- LITHUANIA**
1. Memel *Vertegenwoordiger voor Nederland, v. Rosen*
2. " *Schmidt, Hans Friedmann, Benno*
3. " *B. A. Castro, Gidansky, Jakob, Hohe Str. 21*
4. " *Gefestetachas, Kahn, N. und Frau*
5. " *A. Griniems 4*
6. " *Kleene of Litauische Gesellschaft Scheinhaus, Leon*
7. Kaunas *Boutalje, William*
8. Boag, den *Verein f. jued. Gesch. u. Literatur Schep, A. J.*
9. " *Abramowicz, Michael. R. Zwaardeerconster, 17*
- THE NETHERLANDS**
1. Amsterdam *M. Agsteribbe, Berhard, Zwanenburgerstraat 61*
2. Amsterdam *Boutalje, Betje*
3. " *Consulado General de Portugal, 13*
4. Leiden *C. Davids, A., Berenstraat 36 (h. Prof. Wyk)*
5. " *Reynaudstraat 13*
6. " *Duizend, H. E.*
7. " *Leert, A. Vredelijnsstraat 20*
8. Rotterdam *Genootschap voor de Joodse Wetenschap*
9. " *Girt, R.*
10. " *Hillesum*
11. " *Wit, J. J. G. (Advocaat)*
12. " *Institut Francais. Maison Descartes*
13. " *van Cleefken, F. 248 Nachenwegdokken*
14. " *Leesmuseum*
15. " *Rommele, Dr. B. J. G. Viergangenweg 16a*

10. Amsterdam Levie & Co. Es. Prinses Julianalaan 96
11. Amsterdam Montezinos, David und Vera
12. Utrecht Openb. Ceeszaal en Bibliotheek
13. Den Haag Peper, Clara Dr. M. Janine Kentalbeke Konijnenplein 1-3
14. " Praug, Siegfried. v. Spinozastraat 15
15. " Seminarium, Nederland. Israel.
16. Haarlem Seminarium, Portugies. Israel. Ets. Haim
17. Schiedam Suelpke, O. G. Nooitgedacht. Garcia Vando 24
18. " Vereeniging, Theosophische. Bibl. van de Nederlaandsche Afdeeling
19. Den Haag Vertegenwoordiger voor Nederland. E. Mozes
20. Delft Schmidt, Hans
SALZGEMEDE
21. 's-Gravenhage B. de Castro, geb. de Lima
I. Braziliaansche, Nicolaas
22. 's-Gravenhage Genootschap, Theosophisch. Nederl. Afdeeling Anemoonstraat 118
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
23. " Nieuwe of Litteraire Societeit
New York City Stevink, Adriaan
24. Groningen Boutelje, Willem
25. Groningen Schop, A. J.
26. Haag, den Abrahams, Michel. H. Zwaardeeroonstr. 17
27. " Berenstein, Franzie
28. " Kluger, Moni, Stationsplein 51
29. Hilversum Borchardt, Ursula
30. Leeuwarden Sonnega, C. Ezn. Hochstersingel P 13
31. Leiden Ginsberg, J. Nieuwstraat 36 (b. Prof. tyk)
Heynsiusstraat 8
32. " Last, A. Vreeijkstr. 20
33. " Gort, H.
34. Maastricht Wit, J. J. de (Advocaat)
35. Rotterdam von Cleefken, T. 248 Machenesserlaan
36. " Hennepe, Dr. B.J.C. Viergaarderingel 96a

List of Libraries and Private Owners.

37.	Rotterdam	Roos, Ph. Ez. Prinses Julianalaan 56
38.	Rotterdam	Scheiberg, Gustav und Vera
39.	Utrecht	Nederl. Israel. Gemeente
40.	Wassenaar	Fleischbank, Valdy
	St. Peulten	Blaauwstein, Dr. M. Huize Montelbaan Konij- Bibliotheek des Henplaats 1-3 Langewalstraat
1.	"	Graeber, Leopold, Oberstaatrat und Religions- Lehrer
<u>SPAIN</u>		
1.	Madrid	Junta de Relecciones Culturales
2.	Salamanca	Zurebi-Lizcano Librero, Cardenal Vanado 221 der Casa Lissad. Katholische Gemeinde
<u>SOUTH AFRICAN UNION</u>		
1.	Transvaal	Richtersberg, Jacob
<u>SWITZERLAND</u>		
1.	Basel	Krueger, Paul Louis, Fabrikstrasse 12 b
		Zentralbibliothek, Verbindl. Eduard Meyer-Bibliothek, Buchdruckerei 13
		Riehm, Decan Bibliothek, J. Wiedeneggstr. 2 (Buchdruckerei 5, Hirslanden 3, Winterthur 2)
		Rehlinger, Adolf (Katholiken), Kaisersteing. 6
<u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u>		
1.	New York City	Struik, Arthur
<u>INDIA</u>		
1.	A. Mysore	Taheri, S., Mysore 2
2.	"	Sethuram, Indian Mission
<u>CHINA</u>		
1.	Shanghai	Chungking 600, P.
<u>PERU</u>		
1.	Trujillo	Villanueva
<u>ENGLAND</u>		
1.	Giffen	BUNLISS
2.	Halifax	Lynne



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C o p y

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HEMMENDINGER.

1. On Sunday, December 1, 1946, I attended a conference at the Weldorf-Asteria Hotel in New York City between Messrs. Baron, Michael, Blattberg, Marx and Frimann, on the one hand, and General Clay, on the other, relative to the plan submitted to the State Department by the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction and the World Jewish Congress for the restitution of Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation and the objections thereto of the Commanding General in Germany.

2. The following matters were discussed with the following results.

(a) Each an item privately opened by subject (Baron, Jewish community)

(1) The Character of the Trustee Institution

3. General Clay reiterated his opinion that the trustee contemplated by the plan should be international in character and representative of the interests both of the Jews who remain in Germany and of Jews throughout the rest of the world. The proponents of the plan took the position that a trustee constituted as they had proposed would meet this requirement. General Clay said that this was a question for the State Department and that he would recognize and deal with any trustee approved by the Department. The proponents of the plan expressed their willingness to reconstitute the trustee in any way that the Department might think necessary, and their intention, in any case, to include in the membership of the trustee-corporation the organization most truly representative of the German Jews who remain in Germany and the Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Jews from Germany.

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(2) The Jewish Cultural Property at Offenbach

4. General Clay said that upon the request of a trustee approved by the State Department he would forthwith turn over to the trustee such of the objects at Offenbach as had been classified as unidentifiable upon the understanding that the trustee would hold those objects during the period fixed for the filing and adjudication of claims thereto.

5. General Clay said that upon the request of such a trustee he would also turn over to the trustee forthwith, upon the same understanding, "such of the identifiable objects at Offenbach as were formerly owned by extinct German Jewish communities and by German Jewish philanthropic and cultural institutions which have ceased to function in Germany." In this connection General Clay said that he regarded such objects as ownerless.

6. General Clay said that he would hold the remainder of the identifiable objects until the expiration of the time fixed for the filing and adjudication of claims thereto, and then turn over to the trustee such of them as turn out to be unclaimed or ownerless.

(3) The Proposed Mission

7. General Clay said that even prior to the approval of the trustee by the State Department he would admit a small mission into Germany, composed of persons chosen by the proponents of the plan, whose functions it should be to examine the Jewish cultural property at Offenbach, to consult with OMGUS, and to

General Clay's position, in his view, during May and June, 1945, should be modified to conduct such negotiations with the German authorities and surviving German Jewish communities as they deem desirable.

General Clay's position was supported by the other Proponents of this recommendation for the recovery of cultural property formerly owned by existing German Jewish communities and by negotiations to have it returned to them.

(4) Confiscated Jewish Cultural Property which is not now in the Possession of OMGUS

General Clay said that he was willing to require that

8. A distinction was drawn between confiscated cultural property which is in the possession of a German government or governmental agency and that which is in the possession of individual Germans or private German corporations or associations.

9. General Clay said that he was willing to require that the former be surrendered to OMGUS and, according as it turns out to be unidentifiable or identifiable, to dispose of it as provided in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, supra.

10. General Clay said that the trustee should be permitted to take possession of confiscated cultural property in the possession of individual Germans or of private corporations or associations, but only if the trustee establishes its claim thereto as successor in interest to the former owners of such property.

(7) PROBLEMS OF JEWISH CULTURAL PROPERTY

(5) Cultural Property and the Restitution Law

11. General Clay took the position that claims to Jewish cultural property should not be adjudicated by the trustee itself, and the proponents of the plan agreed; but they also urged that a special, non-German tribunal should be created for that purpose. This led to an inconclusive discussion of the question whether the proposed restitution law should apply to cultural as well as to other property. The proponents of the plan took the position that it should not, but that if it were determined otherwise paragraph

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6 of the draft of the law, dated October 18, 1946, should be modified before enactment, in order to conform to General Clay's decisions, so as to recognize the trustee approved by the State Department as the successor in interest to cultural property formerly owned by extinct German Jewish communities and by non-functioning German Jewish institutions and to all other ownerless cultural property.

(6) Cultural Property Formerly Owned by

German Jewish Communities and Institutions

12. General Clay took the position that all cultural property formerly owned by such a community would have to be restored to it, if it is still in existence and if it establishes its claim thereto, and that all cultural property formerly owned by such an institution would have to be restored to it, if it is still functioning in Germany and establishes its claim thereto. He said that any different disposition of such property was a matter for negotiation between the trustee and the surviving communities and the functioning institutions. The proponents of the plan acquiesced in this position.

(7) Reparation in Kind

13. General Clay took the position that the German governments and governmental agencies should not ~~have~~ be required to transfer to the trustee, as reparation for confiscated cultural property which has been lost or destroyed, any cultural property which they acquired legitimately. He said that this, too, was a matter for negotiation between the trustee and the German authorities or for the makers of the peace treaty. The proponents of the plan acquiesced in this position.

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OUR PROPOSAL

It is proposed that the Commanding Generals of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria or other appropriate agencies of the United States transfer to a trustee for their former Jewish owners and for the entire Jewish people all Hebraica and Judeica and all other Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zones of Occupation, of whatsoever nature and in whosesoever possession, (1) which were formerly owned by individual German or Austrian Jews, or by German or Austrian Jewish communities, or by German or Austrian Jewish philanthropic or cultural institutions; or (2) which the German armies or other agencies of the German Reich or of the Nazi Party removed (a) from countries to which the United States is not required to return them by virtue of existing international arrangements to which the United States is a party or (b) from countries to which the United States is required to return them by virtue of such arrangements if claimed by such countries but which are not claimed by them within a reasonable time; or (3) which cannot be identified as falling within either of these first two categories; or (4) which are now owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions, except those which are included in the third category.

OBJECTIONS TO OUR PROPOSAL

While OMEUS agrees with the broad objective of turning over unclaimed or unidentifiable Jewish religious and cultural property to a trustee for Jewry generally, it does not believe that it can delegate its responsibilities as part of the quadripartite government of Germany to an agency which is not connected with Military Government or any other government. This position leads to two objections to our proposal.

- (1) Since the proposed trustee would not be a governmental agency OMEUS thinks that it should be required to take account of the fact that the representation of Jewish interests now in

"now in possession of individuals or institutions" (by which we understand ONUUS to mean objects which are not now in possession of ONUUS) only if it establishes its claim thereto as successor in interest to their former owners under the proposed law which will provide in general for the restitution of the property of persecutees.

Comment upon this objection requires that certain preliminary distinctions be made. Confiscated objects which have not heretofore been seized by ONUUS or, if seized are no longer in its possession, may formerly have been owned by individual Jews or by Jewish communities or by Jewish institutions and, however formerly owned, may now be in the possession of individual Germans or Austrians or of private German or Austrian organizations or in the possession of existing German or Austrian governments, national or state or provincial or municipal, or of national, state, provincial, municipal, or other public institutions, such as libraries and museums.

We agree that the trustee should not be permitted to take possession of confiscated objects which are now in the possession of individual Germans or Austrians or of private German or Austrian organizations unless the claims of their former owners thereto are established under the proposed general restitution law. However, if that policy is adopted, the restitution law must itself discriminate between Jewish religious and cultural objects and other confiscated Jewish property which has only economic value, must authorize the trustee to file and prosecute claims to such objects, and must recognize the trustee (rather than the German and Austrian states) as the successor to objects which are ownerless or unclaimed.

We do not agree that the trustee should not be permitted to take possession of confiscated objects which are now in the possession of German or Austrian governments, national, state, provincial or municipal, or of national, state, provincial, municipal or other public institutions, until the claims of their former owners thereto are established.

restitution law. On the contrary, we think that such objects should be seized, as they are discovered, by the ~~xxx~~ United States Forces for Germany and Austria, just as they have already seized those objects which have heretofore been collected at the Offenbach Archival Depot, and for precisely the same reasons. The same considerations which justify prior seizures justify the additional seizures which we argue should be made.

(2) While OMIGUS is of the opinion that it might, without disregarding its responsibilities, transfer objects now in its possession to the trustee without resort to the machinery of the restitution law, it is also of the opinion that it could do so only under ~~xxxxxx~~ procedures which would allow adequate time for the filing of claims by individual claimants and for the hearing of such claims. Again, no specific regulations of procedure have as yet been made. Again, comment upon the objection requires a preliminary distinction.

As pointed out above, confiscated objects were owned by individual German and Austrian Jews, by Jewish communities, and by Jewish institutions. It is not clear whether by the phrase, "individual claimants" OMIGUS intends to refer to communities and institutions as well as to individuals. In any case, the plan which we have submitted provides for the filing of claims by individuals, communities and institutions with the trustee and for the adjudication of such claims by the trustee. If, however, it is preferred that some other agency than the trustee pass upon such claims we have no objection provided only that the tribunal is an American tribunal, created either by OMIGUS or some other agency of the United States, and not a German tribunal. As we have previously said, to entrust the disposition of Jewish religious and cultural objects to the German land governments or other German agencies would be to desecrate them and gratuitously and deeply to offend the Jewish people who have already suffered so much at the hands of the Germans.

There is a further point. An American tribunal created to pass upon such claims might find it very difficult to do so. While we have proposed that

objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by individual Jews shall be unconditionally restored to them or to their legal successors upon satisfactory proof of their ownership, we have also proposed, for reasons set forth at length in our letter of June 5, 1946, to General Hildring, that objects formerly owned by Jewish communities shall be restored to them only in proportion to their prospective religious and cultural needs and their capacity to retain, care for, and use such objects for their appropriate religious and cultural purposes, and that objects formerly owned by Jewish institutions shall be restored to them only in proportion to their capacity to use them for the philanthropic and cultural purposes for which they were intended. That is to say that the tribunal which passes upon the claims of Jewish communities and institutions, will not only have to decide questions of ownership but will also have to make determinations which a tribunal unfamiliar with Jewish religious and cultural life may find it exceedingly difficult to make. Perhaps, therefore, a more satisfactory arrangement would be to permit the trustees to pass upon claims of individuals, communities and institutions in the first instance, but to give claimants the privilege of an appeal from the decisions of the trustees to a tribunal created by OHCWS.

II. THE PROPOSAL OF THE TRUSTEES

OUR PROPOSAL

As stated above, we have proposed that objects now owned or possessed by German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained cultural institutions, whenever and however acquired by them, shall be transferred to the trustees.

We believe that this would be entirely just. While we do not have accurate or complete data, the indications are that a very large proportion of all the confiscated Jewish religious and cultural objects have been destroyed or otherwise lost to their former owners. For example, among the collections

<u>Collection</u>	<u>Number of Volumes</u>
Bibliothek d. Jdd. Theologischen Seminars in Breslau	58,143
Ehrenstift des Judentums, Berlin	58,590
Sabbather Seminar, Berlin	23,000
Bibliothek d. Jdd. Gemeinde, Berlin	64,000
synagogal Library of the Jewish Community of Breslau	12,000
Deutsch-Israelitische Gemeinde, Hamburg	30,000
Israel. Theologische Lehranstalt, Vienna	23,000
Israel. Kultusgemeinde, Vienna	<u>33,800</u>
Total	297,993

In addition to these collections the Nazis confiscated many others. and yet, we are informed that the Hebraica and Yudaica now in the Offenbach Depot aggregate only 366,236 items, of which 191,858 are said to be unidentifiable and 174,378 are said to be identifiable. Of the 191,858 unidentifiable items, 7,660 are brochures and only 114,198 are books. Of the 174,378 identifiable items, 95,054 come from the Baltic States, Poland and Czechoslovakia and only 9,324 had their sites in Germany when confiscated. Consequently, if these data are accurate there are only 193,432 books at Offenbach and many of these are school-books, text-books and other items of little value which were not part of the Great Jewish collections. It seems to us to be only elementary justice that the Germans be forced to make reparation in kind from German public collections for the Jewish cultural treasures which they confiscated and which have disappeared.

OBJECTION TO OUR PROPOSAL

Please advise us whether you would accept our proposal or if you have any objection to it. We would appreciate your opinion as to whether it would violate the Hague Convention of 1907 and serve as a precedent which might be used by others for the cultural property of Germany.

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But if, as justice demands, our proposal should be incorporated in the proposed internal restitution law which, as we understand it, is to be enacted by the German provincial or state legislatures, its adoption could not possibly violate the Hague Convention of 1907 or any other rule of international law. Moreover, the provisions of the restitution law in that regard can be made so specific that the possibility of a cultural rape of Germany could and would not thereby be increased.

III

OUR PROPOSAL

The proposals which the War Department summarized in its cablegram to CIRCUS are, we understand, those which we submitted to General Hilldring on August 29, 1946. While these proposals are concerned only with Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation, they must be read in conjunction with the proposals which we submitted to General Hilldring on June 5, 1946, and as a modification of those proposals. That is to say that our plan for the ultimate disposition of confiscated Jewish religious and cultural objects in Germany and Austria is revealed in full by neither letter alone but only by both together. In our letter of June 5, 1946, we expressly requested that if our own Government should approve the policies which we propose as those which should govern the ultimate disposition of Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation, it should endeavor to persuade the British, Soviet and French Governments to adopt them for the zones which they respectively occupy. However, our plan contemplates that it will be put into effect by unilateral action in the American Zone as soon as it is approved by the American authorities, and not that its adoption for the American Zone shall be deferred until it is approved by all of the occupying Powers.

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Proposed in particular for the representation of Jewish interests now in
14/1/47/PR

rather than agreement, such efforts are likely to result, we would prefer to confine action to the American Zone. But we repeat that we are convinced that unilateral action in the American Zone is more likely to result in tripartite and even in quadripartite agreement than efforts to secure agreement before any action is taken.

IV

OUR PROPOSAL

We have proposed that the trustee of these objects shall be a membership corporation organized under the laws of New York, that the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, The American Jewish Conference, The Synagogue Council of America, The American Federation of Jews from Central Europe, The World Jewish Congress and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem shall be invited to serve as initial members of the trustee-corporation, and that provision shall be made in the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the trustee-corporation for the enlargement of its membership from time to time so as to insure that special and particular interests, such, for example, as those of the Jews who remain in Central Europe, will be represented therein.

We have also proposed that existing external restitution agreements be so modified that there need be returned to the occupied countries, such as Poland, whose Jewish populations have greatly diminished, only such proportion of the objects taken from them as are required in order to meet the religious and cultural needs of their surviving Jewish populations.

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OBJECTIONS TO OUR PROPOSALS

OMGUS considers it imperative that "if claims are to be filed by an international agency on behalf of Jewish interests in general... the agency be truly representative of Jewish interests throughout the world with adequate provision in particular for the representation of Jewish interests now in

other than agreement, such efforts are likely to result, we would prefer to confine action to the American Zone. But we repeat that we are convinced that unilateral action in the American Zone is more likely to result in a tripartite and even in quadripartite agreement than efforts to secure an agreement before any action is taken.

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OBJECTIONS TO OUR PROPOSALS

OMCUS considers it imperative that "if claims are to be filed by an international agency on behalf of Jewish interests in general... the agency fully representative of Jewish interests throughout the world with adequate size in particular for the representation of Jewish interests now in

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Germany." It considers this all the more important in view of our proposal for the modification of the external restitution agreements for, it says, a country entitled to restitution by virtue of these agreements might prefer to care for and preserve these objects itself unless "the international character of the agency (is) so clear as to be acceptable to Allied Control Authority and generally to world opinion."

There are thus two objections to our proposals, first, the failure to provide for representation of Jewish interests now in Germany and, second, the inadequate "international" character of the trustee-corporation.

With respect to the first of these objections we think that it suffices to say that our proposal itself contemplates that "Jewish interests now in Germany" shall be represented in the trustee-corporation and that we shall as soon as possible invite the organizations most truly representative of those interests and of Jewish interests in Austria to become members of the trustee-corporation.

With respect to the second of these objections we think that we need only call attention to the fact that The World Jewish Congress and The Hebrew University will be members of the trustee-corporation from the very beginning. The Hebrew University is surely representative of Jewish cultural interests not only in Palestine and the entire Near East but throughout the world, and The World Jewish Congress is genuinely an international Jewish organization. As Mr. Lowenthal pointed out in his letter to General Clay dated October 8, 1946, affiliated with the World Jewish Congress are Jewish organizations in fifty-one countries largely representative of the Jewries of those countries, which is to say, of the entire Jewish people.

212 11

January 15, 1948

Jewish books in Offenbach, Germany, and other localities of Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and other countries.

THE POLICY OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

1. Historical justice requires that the scholarly work of destroyed Jewish institutions of learning and Jewish communities be continued in Jewish institutions throughout the world, but especially in the Holy Land, where the Jewish tradition of learning now has its main living centre. Not only the Hebrew University, but each of the large number of religious and cultural institutions in Palestine need these books and manuscripts of extinct Jewish institutions and communities for their own development and for the development of the Jewish tradition.
2. There is now in Palestine a wider circle of scholars and students concerned with Jewish and Hebrew materials than in any other Jewish centre. Not only the Hebrew University and the large numbers of yeshivot, seminaries and schools, but also - a point of great importance - many communities, groups and individuals in the Holy Land require these books for purposes of their daily life. The great tradition of Jewish learning is being developed not only in the institutions of Palestine, but it is becoming more and more a part of the life and thought of the whole Jewish community.
3. Jews all over the world, regardless of party affiliation, have welcomed and have furthered the transfer to Palestine of large numbers of Jewish settlers. They all agree that the great bulk of displaced Jews, now languishing in refugee camps, should have the opportunity of making their home in the historic Holy Land. It is imperative as well that the refugee books and manuscripts of despoiled Jewish institutions and communities, also find their home in the Holy Land. The large majority of the Jews who have been saved would thus be enabled in their new home to renew and to deepen their religious and cultural life.
4. It can therefore be readily understood why the Hebrew University urges the transfer to Palestine of those books and manuscripts which are regarded as essential by the University. The Hebrew University is confident that the other institutions represented in Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. will be ready to grant priority in this respect to the Hebrew University, which represents not only itself but also all the institutions of learning and the communities of Palestine. The Hebrew University may be trusted also to have full understanding for the needs of Jewish institutions throughout the world.
5. To this end, the Hebrew University submitted on November the 3rd, 1947, a statement of policy to the Board of Directors of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. in words to this effect:
 - (a) If there be sufficient time at its disposal, the mission abroad proposed by Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. would sort out these books in Germany and allocate them to the various countries and institutions, in accordance with the basic policy of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc.,
 - (b) If retaining these books in Germany for a longer period would endanger the position, we propose the transfer to Palestine of these books en bloc, on the assumption that the bulk of these books would remain in Palestine in any event. The Hebrew University is ready to establish a special department within the National and University Library for dealing with all these questions. This department would engage in the sorting and cataloguing of the material. The Hebrew University would honour the claims of all lawful owners and would dispose of these books and manuscripts in accordance with the decisions of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. It would be helpful if Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. were to send a representative to Palestine to collaborate in this work.

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- 2 -

(c) The policy of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. should be based on the following three principles:

1. Books of a general Jewish interest should go to the National and University Library in Jerusalem, to be held in trust for distribution to the University and other institutions ~~for~~ a religious or cultural character in Palestine.
2. Material of special interest to the Jews in English speaking countries should be distributed there, taking into account the special interests of particular groups, such as the Sepharadim, the Jews from Germany, etc.
3. In case of differences of opinion concerning important books or manuscripts, a Board should be constituted representing the Hebrew University, the claimant and a third person, to be chosen jointly by both sides and the decision of this Board is to be regarded as final.

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XXXXXX
Cultural Property Division

EGL/se
Tel.: 52292

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
c/o Central Collecting Point,
Landesmuseum,
Wiesbaden, Germany

Air Mail

January 16, 1951

Dr. Hannah Arendt
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
Room 401,
1841 Broadway
New York 23, N.Y., USA

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Re: Berlin.

Please find enclosed copies of correspondence recently exchanged with the Vorstand der Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin.

I have not been favoured with a copy of Herr Galinski's alleged letter of confirmation of the 20th October, 1950!!

I feel that the procedure now indicated by Herr Galinski as to the release of material to us greatly deviates from what Professor Scholem, after his Berlin visit in September last, expected.

On this occasion, I refer to item 5 of your memo of the 10th inst. I arranged with Schleissheim to have the 6 cases containing 955 books, collected from Wiesbaden at the earliest possible moment. Most probably, the cases will be collected tonight. Mr. Feder is being notified by the ADJC warehouse-manager accordingly, the latter being well aware of Mr. Haber's consent.

Yours sincerely,

ML
E. G. LOENTHAL

cc: Professor Dr. G.G. Scholem, Jerusalem, for information.

Kinder Hirsch, Wiesbaden

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XXXXXX

Cultural Property Division

EGI/se
Tel.: 52292

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
c/o Central Collecting Point,
Landesmuseum,
WIESBADEN, Germany

Air Mail

17th November, 1950

Dr. Hannah Arendt,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
Room 401,
1841, Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y., USA

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Re: Berlin Jewish Community.

In spite of three letters addressed by me to Mr. Heinz Galinski in his capacity of Member of the Board of the above community (13, Joachimstaler Strasse, Berlin W 15, British Sector) regarding the transfer by air of 4 cases with books to the aforementioned address on October 11, 1950, I am sorry to report to you and, at the same time, to Professor Scholem, Jerusalem, that up to the date of writing no acknowledgement of the receipt of the consignment has been received by me from Mr. Galinski.

However, I have ascertained from our forwarding agent in Wiesbaden, that the 4 cases were collected by the addressee on October 19, 1950.

Copy of my letter to Galinski, dated October 11, 1950, also referring in detail to the "material" in the transfer of which to us (or JG 50, Nuremberg) we are interested, was dispatched to you and to Professor Scholem.

I find Mr. Galinski's attitude most peculiar - to say the least. In view of the fact that (a) we are anxious to obtain from Berlin the material promised us and (b) we are contemplating to send more material to Berlin, I shall appreciate receiving a line from you stating how to proceed further in this matter, which appears to be the more necessary and urgent as in the very near future I shall have to select from the unclaimed, privately-owned

ARC 4° 793 / 205
JCR

123487

LP

30th October, 1950

Our Ref.: SH/LP

Dr. Hannah Arendt, Exec. Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

You surely received our cable notifying you of our decision regarding the Eppelsheimer books.

The kind of material found in the bunker as described by Professor Scholem was somewhat disappointing to me. From all the information I gathered about these books, a better picture was to be expected.

It is perfectly correct that you engaged in this claim owing to my insistence and we are naturally anxious that no inconvenience should arise for JCR from this matter. I nevertheless hope that neither party will have to regret this operation the success of which is due to your skilful handling of this so complicated affair.

When I was in Germany I outlined the bunker books business to Mr. Kagan several times. He showed much understanding and in our last conversation he even told me that he will make 15 000 Marks available for the processing of the books. I shall now try to remind him of that and maybe we can save the expenses of this operation which should be paid from JRSO funds.

Yours sincerely,

S. Shunami.

7/ ARC. 4° 793 / 199
JCR



123488

cc: Messrs. B.B. Ferencz and S. Kagan, JRSO, Nuremberg
Professor Dr. G.O. Scholem, Jerusalem. *Thank you letter Dec. 31.*

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Sincerely
T.L.

XXXXXX Cultural Property Division

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
c/o Central Collecting Point,
Landesmuseum,
Wiesbaden,
January 8, 1951

Dr. Hannah Arendt,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
Room 401,
1841, Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Re: Frankfurt bunker operation

I was hoping after these last hectic working-days to sit down quietly over the weekend, in order to compile a further report on the above operation, in particular on its third phase (the division of the non-junk non-Judaica material between the Frankfurt Town and University Library and JCR) and on the approximate result, as far as JCR as a whole is concerned. However, I was compelled to stay in bed over Saturday and Sunday owing to a most annoying physical breakdown obviously resulting from the extraordinary and exhausting strain which I have undergone during recent weeks. In the worst and traffic-hampering period of the year, lacking many facilities, and without losing a day or an hour, starting early in the morning, I constantly rushed between Wiesbaden and Frankfurt, doing away with proper lunch-time, so as to able both to bring the Frankfurt operation to an early completion (thus complying with your "last finish" request of September 26, 1950) and, at the same time, to liquidate all JCR activities in and from Wiesbaden. I only hope that no recurrence in regard to my own health will occur.

The almost entire administrative part of the Frankfurt bunker work has been and has been directed by me from Wiesbaden, the exceedingly bad bunker conditions, quite contrary even to what Professor Scholem envisaged in his outline of September 14, 1950, not offering a chance of doing any office work on the spot.

Actually, there was no time left to attend to any administrative work in the bunker. The time I spent there since the beginning of October last was exclusively devoted to "digging", scientifically sorting combined with establishing categories according to a number of viewpoints and with constantly associating books, subjects, authors, usefulness and destination of shipment. Naturally, certain preliminary steps facilitating the preparation of subsequent shipments to New York and HUL had to be taken by me in Frankfurt proper.

By the end of last week, 102 cases (somewhat larger in size than our usual Wiesbaden boxes) were packed, crated and marked. The contain appr. 25000

ARE. 42733 / 221

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items. Of the 102 cases 33 (with appr. 8000 items) are designed for JCR, New York, and 69 (with appr. 16000 items) for HUL. I estimate that eventually total 120 boxes, containing appr. total 28000 items, will be ready for shipment within the next 10-14 days.

Although he does not say so in his report of September 14, 1950, quickly compiled upon his ~~first~~ visits to the then completely disorderly bunker, Professor Schlem, as stated in your cable to me of December 31, 1950, may have been right in counting on originally appr. 16000 items, of which 8000 would be JCR's share. But if, in fact, he did so, he surely included all such material that undoubtedly ranks as pure junk and is of no use whatsoever to either party concerned, this being the joint view of Dr. Wehner's and myself. When on January 5, 1950, four weeks' work on dividing the, in one way or another, good or, at least, useful material was concluded, Bibliotheksdirektor Dr. G. Wehner, who is Professor Eppelsheimer's Deputy, and I estimated that after eliminating appr. 40% junk, JCR's total share would be in the neighbourhood of ~~approximately~~ 28000 items, whereas appr. 20000 items (with which the Frankfurt Library appears to be satisfied) would be their part. I feel that that "deviation" from the strict 50:50 arrangement is justified in view of the fact that a ~~little~~ it was agreed that all Judaica would be allocated to JCR (for shipment to HUL). In addition, no objection was raised to my defining (as reported previously) the term "Judaica" in the widest possible sense of the word (Jewish authors). The whole smooth and friendly procedure, based on mutual understanding not merely on the problem but on single items followed a line of a generous attitude and of recognising the respective needs of either party.

In my opinion, the Judaica constituted the best part of the whole collection. They largely originated from the Munich/Passau "Reichsinstitut fuer die Geschichte des Neuen Deutschland" and to a much less degree from Jewish sources direct. The origins of the remainder can be summarised as follows:-

Reichsinstitut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage, Frankfurt,
Rechtsabteilung der NSDAP,
Hauptarchiv der NSDAP (Parteikanzlei),
Reichsfuehrung SS - SD,
Heeresbuechereien,
Regimentsbuechereien,
Publikationsstelle Frankfurt (dealing chiefly with Alsace-Lorraine material),
Libraries of churches, monasteries, clergymen,
" " political parties, trade unions
France,
private Jewish sources, etc.

Looking back at the appr. 18 non-Jewish categories, right from the beginning of the operation roughly established from the heaps of books, in 1948 "unloaded" like coal, I should say that the groups

medicine,
philosophy and psychology,
religion,
fine arts and art history,
English,
Latin,
dissertations

were comparatively "good" not only and so much in numbers of items as in quality and

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perhaps in value, whereas the groups

- history,
- music,
- law,
- economics,
- French,
- reference-books, Lexica,
- classics, both ancient and German,
- general fiction

were comparatively "bad".

As regards non-Jewish periodicals, we concentrated on complete vols and, as far as available, on complete sets (on which much time had to be spent).

The number of brochures was very large indeed. Though I agree with Professor Scholem that a brochure frequently is of more use and of a higher value to science and learning, large quantities were just nothing but - junk and had to be eliminated for the purpose of being scrapped.

On the whole, the material to a large extent is fairly old and outdated.

It must be borne in mind that the number of single vols or sets is extremely large, though we all did our utmost to see to it that, wherever possible, broken sets were completed.

Books and brochures (also periodicals) of a mere German local or provincial character (history, economics, etc.) were, of course, of particular interest to the Frankfurt Library. This tallies with HUL's express wish not to receive such material. The Frankfurt Library also concentrated in their selection of items on some subjects with the collection of which the institute is especially entrusted by the "Metzgern einschaft der deutschen Wissenschaft".

Practically, 60% of the whole material was handled at least three times. No better care could have been taken in sorting, selecting and finally allocating the vast quantity of the books, brochures, periodicals, etc.

Frankfurt library experts state that there is no doubt that the now almost completed Frankfurt bunker operation has been carried out in record-time, considering the extent of the material, the lack of storage-space (at times preventing us to stand or to walk), the disorder at the beginning, the unhealthy and primitive conditions in the dirty, cold, almost unheated, badly lit and badly aired bunker. It must be placed on record that our two workers (plus one temporarily hired porter) and the workers (Magazinare) allocated by the Frankfurt Library have assisted us greatly in concluding this operation within three months' time and in overcoming the manifold difficulties. Fortunately, during the whole time a fine team-spirit prevailed amongst the total eight people (Dr. Werner always being accompanied by one of the Frankfurt female librarians), every one doing his best to cheer up the others in the coal-mine-like environments. When the loath box was created, I distributed PR chocolate. The room, described in Professor Scholem's frequently quoted report of September last as "my office", was, in fact, nothing but a smoky cubicle with a smoking stove, where clothes and dirty towels were hung up, empty milk-bottles assembled, hot water boiled in old jam-jars, and the cleaning material kept. There was not a single chair in the bunker! The rare appearance of a charwoman did not help much in getting rid of the heavy dust, increasing day

-4-

by day. Packing-material had to be purchased. The Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point kindly presented me with part of the tools needed. Others had to be purchased or borrowed from various sources. At all ends, improvisation was necessary.

I arranged with the Frankfurt-Ostafen German customs authorities to carry out the custom inspection in "instalments" so that, in the end, the clearance will amount to a mere formality. This latter, however, will be based on obtaining a German Expert Licence, i.e. the clearance through the Hesse Ministry of Economic Affairs, Wiesbaden, and a German "Auslandshandelsbank", and all this, in turn, is dependent on a statement to be issued by Professor Eppelsheimer, the "trustee". The draft of such a statement was first prepared by me and approved of by Messrs. Eppelsheimer and Wehner. As regards the shipment to the U.S.A., the U.S. Consul General will, I hope, be as lenient and understanding as previously.

Should you use this letter as a kind of a "Field Report" or "Non-Wiesbaden Report" (!), please let me have two stencilled copies thereof.

Yours sincerely,

E.G. Lowenthal

P.S. I have enlisted the help of our able Bremen forwarding agents, i.e. their Frankfurt representative, in regard to the actual shipments abroad. This will be easier than the "shipment" of the heavy boxes from the third floor of the bunker to its entrance "door"! But this should be the headache of the transportation-people.

E.G.L.



123492

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

1841 Broadway, New York 23, N.Y.

Members of the Corporation

Agudas Israel World Organization
 Alliance Israelite Universelle
 American Jewish Committee
 American Jewish Joint
 Distribution Committee
 Anglo-Jewish Association
 Board of Deputies of British Jews

Commission on European Jewish Cultural
 Reconstruction
 Committee on Restoration of Continental
 Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives
 Conseil Representatif des Juifs de France
 Council of Jews from Germany
 The Hebrew University

Interessenvertretung der jüdischen
 Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen
 in der US Zone
 Jewish Agency for Palestine
 Synagogue Council of America
 World Jewish Congress

President
 SALO W. BARON

EGI/se
 Tel.: 52292

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.
 c/o Central Collecting Point,
 Landesmuseum,
 WIESBADEN, Germany

Chairman,
Board of Directors
 JEROME MICHAEL

Air Mail

Professor Dr. G.G. Scholem, January 10, 1951
 28, Abarbanel Street,
 Jerusalem
 Israel

Vice-Presidents

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Treasurer
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Secretary
 MAX GRUENEWALD
Executive Secretary
 HANNAH ARENDT

Dear Professor Scholem,

Re: Frankfurt bunker operation

I wish to thank you very much for your kind letter
 of December 31, 1950.

On the 8th inst. I sent you copy of a further report
 on the Frankfort operation.

As regards the division of the material between
 HUL and JCR, New York, the figures inserted in my report
 were not quite accurate.

It will please you to learn that the final figures,
 as far as cases are concerned, read:- 86 cases for HUL;
 28 cases for New York.

The heavy bunker work practically is now over, but
 still a lot remains to be done in regard to the many
 steps which will have to be ~~done~~ by me in connection
 with the preparation of the shipments abroad which, as
 you know, have not the HICOG blessing".

With kindest regards
 Yours sincerely,

E. G. MIENTHAL

cc: Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc., New York, N.Y.

123493

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31st October, 1950

Dr. E.G. Lowenthal,
c/o Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
Landesmuseum,
Wiesbaden.

Dear Dr. Lowenthal,

I have returned and feel much better now being back home. I thank you very much for the copies of your letters, especially that concerning the Eppelsheimer transaction. We have talked it over here in all detail. We have cabled to Miss Arendt our readiness to defray the transportation costs etc. which JCR cannot take over and as for all other technical problems of selection and disposal which have come up you will certainly have, by the same mail, a letter from Mr. Shunami. We trust that you will be able to do the job on the main lines you envisage. The more the procedure can be simplified the better it will be for all parties concerned.

I was very glad to learn about the dispatch of books to Berlin and I hope for good results there. In the meanwhile, we have had information from Berlin that the Government is willing to hand over the Gesamtarchiv, but that they require still another official letter on the part of the Israel Consul in Munich who by now has got authorization to write it. We hope that everything will brought to a satisfactory conclusion, but we will have to wait another couple of weeks. In case everything is settled you certainly will hear from us.

I thank you once more for having come to Zurich and for taking all the trouble involved in this Eppelsheimer affair. It was very nice to have seen you and I hope we will celebrate one day all together in Jerusalem. In the meantime I am with kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. G. Scholem

ARC. 4° 203 / 202
JCR

123494

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

Members of the Corporation

Agudas Israel World Organization
 Alliance Israélite Universelle
 American Jewish Committee
 American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
 Anglo-Jewish Association
 Board of Deputies of British Jews

Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction
 Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives
 Conseil Representatif des Juifs de France
 Council of Jews from Germany
 The Hebrew University

Interessenvertretung der jüdischen Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen in der US Zone
 Jewish Agency for Palestine
 Synagogue Council of America
 World Jewish Congress

5/11 6 DEC 1950
President
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Vice-Presidents
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 MAX GRUENEWALD
Executive Secretary
 HANNAH ARENDT

November 9, 1950

Dr. S. Shunami and Dr. C. Wormann
 The Jewish National & University Library
 P.O.B. 503
 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Dr. Shunami and Dr. Wormann:

Thanks for your letters of October 30. As a matter of fact, Scholem's description was by far more encouraging than the description which was given to me by the Frankfurt people themselves.

I am glad that HUL decided to share in the expenses. JRSO has in the meantime confirmed our budget with the proviso that part of the expenses will be borne by you. I did not show them my letter to you and did not tell them anything about percentages. So we can still try to keep expenses for you down, but some part of it you will have to pay.

Mr. Kagan's promise to you a year ago was made under circumstances which in the meantime have changed entirely. The JRSO is no longer eager to get rid of marks, but, on the contrary, considers marks like dollars. Moreover, you certainly know that the expectations were far higher a year ago than today, so that the whole climate has changed.

I understand from Lowenthal that the percentage of Judaica seems to be even greater than Scholem anticipated. It is also interesting that quite a number of books bear the stamp of the Munich Reichsinstitut. We are now trying to get all these books for JCR because this library, as you probably know, consisted largely of confiscated private collections of Jewish scholars.

I would appreciate if you would send me copy of your letter to Dr. Lowenthal in which you advised him on principles of selection. I can understand that you are apprehensive of useless material. We, on the other hand, are apprehensive of every procedure which would delay our deadline.

With kindest regards to both of you.

C.C: Scholem

Sincerely yours
 A.R.C. 40733 *Hannah Arendt*
 J.C.R. Hannah Arendt
 123495

Memo to P. Grubel

-2-

May 11, 1950

Although the new 1950 ledger has been kept up to date, the beginning balances are tentative since no adjusting and closing entries were received from Nuremberg.

When contacting Nuremberg or Paris, please remind them that I expect the following statements:

1. As soon as possible

- a. Adjusting and closing entries Administration Fund 1949
- b. Annual statement Administration Fund 1949
- c. "Gumbel" statement 1949

2. In July 1950

- a. Report for the first half of 1950
- b. Adjusting entries for that period.

In view of the decision to set up a separate JRSO New York office, I have been training Miss Toni Ungar to do the bookkeeping work necessary at this end. Although it is of the very simplest nature and small in volume, I expect to help her with it for the next months and certainly when, in July, the occasion will arise to journalize the semi-annual transactions. I shall also explain to her the JCR records which we keep (see my memo to you on that subject); however, she will not be able to direct any improvements to be made with regards to control of income etc. within JCR's bookkeeping system.

B. Appropriations

In the end of the calendar year 1949, AJDC and JA appropriated a total of \$208,000.- ("initial" \$25,000.-, "for the first year" \$110.-, "for the remainder of 1949" \$65,000.-, "additional" \$8,000.-). The full amount was paid to JRSO.

For the year 1950, the appropriation amounts to \$120,000.- of which \$20,000 have been received by Jewish Agency and \$20,000.- by JDC.

Out of the 1949 appropriation of \$208,000.-, a total of \$44,600.- went to JCR.

For the year 1950, an amount of \$14,500.- was received by JRSO from JDC-JA, over and above the appropriation of \$120,000.- to cover JCR subventions.

C. Sources of Income in New York

Of the paintings, shipped to this country for sale in behalf of JRSO, a number has been sold recently. Although there is a complete shipping list of the pictures available which identifies each piece by author or origin; subject matter and kind of technique employed, the list of sale (except in one case) does not quote the respective number, the subject matter and - in most instances - anything but the technique employed.

This detail would not be of great significance, were it not for the fact that - as I understand - an inventory will be taken of the pictures on hand. Upon comparison of the inventory with the shipping list, it is expected that some items will be missing; the examiners will not be able to ascertain whether the missing items were sold unless those sold pictures can also be identified with items in the list.

I, therefore, recommend that Mr. Odell be questioned in this respect, if he should not have kept a record of the details of the sale, we might wish to contact the buyers whose names are on file (there are only three people involved).

123496

JRSO - Memo

MEMORANDUM
RECORDED

Meeting held on June 29, 1949: present

Simon Shargo
Eli Rock
Margaret Feiler
Stephen Troll

The following matters were discussed:

1. Monthly JRSO reports from Nuremberg to New York.

In addition to the cash receipts and disbursements, the monthly reports in the future will contain a list of non-cash journal entries made on the books in Nuremberg. For instance, if Nuremberg buys a car, the disbursements will be shown in the cash report as a debit to the expense account, while the journal entry will credit the expense account and debit the asset.

2. Accounting for assets to be recovered.

As soon as a claim will be settled in Nuremberg, an account "Claims Rec." will be debited, and a surplus account credited with the estimated cash value. When title is transferred to JRSO, the receivable will be credited and a proper asset account debited. A subsidiary ledger will analyze the controlling asset account. In New York, the controlling account only will be kept; if need be, the subsidiary ledger will be available to New York.

3. Depreciation of assets.

Depreciation charges on the basis of the estimated life of assets will be recorded annually by a credit to reserve for depreciation.

4. Liabilities of JRSO to JDC and JAAPP.

The manner in which liabilities of that kind will be liquidated in the future out of the proceeds of recovered assets, especially where those assets may be transferred to JDC or JAAPP controlled organizations, has not been decided yet.

5. Liability to US Military Government.

The liability for carrying charges will not be recorded on the books pending settlement with regard to the amount of such charges.

6. JRSO advances to JCR.

Any payments made to or for JCR by JRSO Nuremberg shall be debited to the account "JCR loan". A record will be kept for all payments to JCR and a separate record will be kept for the expenses, reported by JCR.

7. Monthly trial balances will be sent from NY to Nuremberg, after posting the monthly reports and journal entries on NY books.

8. Record of assets recovered by JCR.

The adoption of a permanent record of assets recovered by JCR containing description, insurance value, estimated cash value and disposition, was discussed.

6/29/49

123497

MEMORANDUM
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Meeting held on June 29, 1949: present

Simon Shargo
Elie Rock
Margaret Feiler
Stephen Troll

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In addition to the cash receipts and disbursements, the monthly reports in the future will contain a list of non-cash journal entries made on the books in Nuremberg. For instance, if Nuremberg buys a car, the disbursements will be shown in the cash report as a debit to the expense account, while the journal entry will credit the expense account and debit the asset.
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Depreciation charges on the basis of the estimated life of assets will be recorded annually by a credit to reserve for depreciation.
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Any payments made to or for JCR by JRSO Nuremberg shall be debited to the account "JCR loan". A record will be kept for all payments to JCR and a separate record will be kept for the expenses, reported by JCR.
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8. Record of assets recovered by JCR.
The adoption of a permanent record of assets recovered by JCR containing description, insurance value, estimated cash value and disposition, was discussed.

6/29/49

123498

THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.

270 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

KR
MEMORANDUM

From Eli Rock

To Margaret Feiler

New York, April 8, 1949

Subject JRSO

In accordance with your and Mr. Grubel's request, I have examined the agreement governing the relationship between JRSO and JCR, with a view to ascertaining whether funds advanced to JCR by JDC and the Jewish Agency (via JRSO) are required to be repaid or whether they are to be treated as non-reimbursable expenditures.

In this connection, I quote the following language from the letter of agreement, dated August 21, 1947, and entered into between JCR and JRSO:

"You (JCR) will from time to time submit to the Committee (JDC) and the Agency (JAP) a detailed statement of the funds which you will need for the discharge of your agency during such accounting period as may be agreed upon between them and you, and to the extent that they approve your budget they will provide you with the funds necessary to meet your budgetary requirements. They, on the other hand, shall have the right to charge such funds against funds realized by them as the result of the execution of their agency on behalf of JRSO in relation to Jewish property having only economic value." (Explanatory notes supplied.)

On the basis of the above quotation, it seems clear that reimbursement by JCR of the funds allocated to it, is not contemplated, and instead these expenditures should be treated as other normal, non-reimbursable expenditures.

At the same time, it is clear that the entire budget of JCR, advanced by JDC and the Agency, and charged to the budget of JRSO, will be reimbursed to the latter two organizations, along with all other advances to JRSO, out of proceeds recovered by JRSO.

Eli Rock
Eli Rock

123499

Memorandum G R&D

Margaret Feiler

December 6

48

Frederick Grubel

JRSO Cash Report

It will be necessary to clear up the following items in the JRSO Cash Report August - October, 1948:

1. The statement of dollar receipts and disbursements shows a total of \$ 15800.--
JRSO books New York merely show remittances of \$ 15000.--
We, therefore, assume that the balance of \$ 800.--

was given to JRSO Nuremberg by the Munich JDC office. Unfortunately, the German Cash Reports for August and September 1948 do not give any clear information in that respect. Exhibit A of the August Report show "loans receivable (JRSO)"

\$1261.35

and the corresponding figure in the September Report is

\$1244.85

These amounts do neither reconcile with the above mentioned \$800.- nor with the "Accounts Receivable - AJDC" for payments in their behalf

\$90.--
in JRSO statement August and September.

2. We need supporting schedules for

Living cost allowances
Advances to employees
Salary advances
Advanced for the rest of others

and explanation of the items called "Accounts Receivable - Jewish Cultural & Reconstruction Inc. (D. Starr)" and "Household Expenses"; we should also get information as to the amount allowed to employees per mileage (under Motor Pool Expenses).

3. According to the October Report, a car was purchased. We do not know who insured the car or whether insurance on it was taken out at all.

MF:ZW

Margaret Feiler

123500

HEADQUARTERS
JEWISH RESTITUTION SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION
APO 696 A U.S. ARMY

17 October 1950

Press Release

Headquarters Jewish Restitution Successor Organization
announced the following today:

On 27 July 1950 the Court of Restitution Appeals of the U. S. Zone of Germany rendered a decision stating that all claimants who failed to file their claims for restitution under U.S. M.G. Law 59 before 1 January 1949 are, by their default, forever barred from making any claim for the restitution of such property. The claim for property formerly belonging to Jewish owners or associations was thereafter vested in the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization.

The JRSO is a charitable organization appointed by Military Government to receive those confiscated Jewish properties, which by 1 January 1949 had not been claimed by the former owner or his heirs. The assets so acquired must be used by the JRSO for the general relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

Although late claimants have lost all legal rights the JRSO plans to establish an equitable procedure for examining especially meritorious petitions submitted to the JRSO after 1 January 1949. Petitions sent to JRSO Headquarters, 112 Fuertherstr., Nuernberg, should contain the relationship of the petitioner to the former owner and the location and description of the property being claimed. Those who have already contacted the JRSO need not do so again.

It was announced by Headquarters, JRSO, that no petitions of late claimants would be accepted for consideration under any circumstances after 1 January 1951.

123501

CRITERIA FOR EQUITABLE DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS BY PERSONS WHO LOST THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS BY FAILING TO FILE THEIR PETITIONS FOR RESTITUTION WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT PRESCRIBED BY U.S. MILITARY GOVERNMENT LAW NO. 59

1. The JRSO will grant the claim, without any charge, in every case where the failure to file on time was caused by justifiable reliance upon official Military Government information that no claim was necessary in order to protect the claimant's rights.
2. The JRSO will grant the claim, without any charge, in every case where the name of the Jewish owner was never actually removed from the real estate registry despite the Nazi decree providing for the automatic transfer of title to the Reich and he or his heirs have recovered or can recover the property even though no restitution claim was filed.
3. The JRSO will grant the claim subject to the prescribed charges in the following cases:

Relationship of Claimant to Former Owner	SERVICE CHARGE BASED ON VALUE OF THE PROPERTY				
	** See Methods of Computation Against Each Table				
	TABLE A, TABLE B, TABLE C, TABLE D, percent-				
	Value	DM	DM	Over	Approx.
up to	10,000	20,000		Over	age of
DM	to	to	DM	DM	claim-
10,000	20,000	50,000	50,000	Covered	ants
<u>Category (1)</u>					
Former Owner; Spouses,					
Children, Grand-children	5% to	10% to	15% to		
Parents or Grand-parents	10%	15%	20%	20%	80%
and Testamentary Heirs of the Former Owner					
<u>Category (2)</u>	10% to	15% to	20% to		
Brothers and Sisters	15%	20%	25%	25%	7%
<u>Category (3)</u>					
Nephews, Nieces, Cousins,	15% to	20% to	25% to		
Aunts and Uncles	20%	25%	30%	30%	7%
<u>Category (4)</u>					
Other Heirs (e.g. Sons					
and Daughters-in-Law,					
Brothers and Sisters-	25% to	30% to	35% to		
in-Law	30%	35%	40%	40%	6%

** TABLE A - The rate of increase on the charges computed against the total value is — an additional 1% per thousand DM or part thereof on all amounts from 5000 DM up to 10,000 DM.
TABLE B - The rate of increase on the charges computed against the total value is — an additional 1/2 of 1% per thousand or part thereof on all amounts from 10,000 DM to 20,000 DM.
TABLE C - The rate of increase on the charges computed against the total value is — an additional 1/6 of 1% per thousand or part thereof on all amounts from 20,000 DM to 50,000 DM

- 2 -

- (a) Where the JRSO has actually recovered and gives up the property or the proceeds thereof there shall be a surcharge of 10% in addition to the charges indicated above.
 - (b) Where the claimant presents persuasive evidence establishing to the satisfaction of the JRSO that he is indigent, all charges can be reduced to as little as 5% where a claim is assigned or 10% where the property itself or its proceeds are given to the claimant.
 - (c) Where the amount actually recovered by the claimant is substantially less than the value appraised by the JRSO that shall constitute cause for considering a reasonable rebate on the charges assessed.
4. Where, in the opinion of the JRSO Headquarters Nuernberg, there are facts which indicate that the application of the criteria mentioned above may be inequitable, such cases may be referred to JRSO New York for special consideration.

123503

Copy/25/11/46/hr

Translation of a letter addressed by the Israelitische
Kultusvereinigung Württemberg (signed Warscher) to
Dr. Hannah Arendt, dated Stuttgart, Sept. 5, 1946

Dear Doctor Arendt:

We refer to your letter of April 24th addressed to our Mr. Warscher.

We have in the meantime received back from the Finance Ministry books of Jewish ownership (private and communal) which had been confiscated under the Third Reich. We are now preparing a list, for the Finance Ministry has been appointed by the Military Government as trustee for these books. The Finance Ministry, however, wants us to serve as trustee and wishes that for this purpose books containing an inscribed name be treated separately while other books whether not provided with any name or carrying the stamp of the Oberrat, etc., should again become our property.

The list announced to us in your letter has not yet been received. Should postal regulations make the dispatch to us of that list impossible you may wish to use the following address:

American Joint Distribution Committee
(for Jewish Community)
c/o UNRRA Team 502
APO 757, c/o Postmaster New York

123504

2/2

C O P Y
Partial List of Libraries and Collections 25, 1945

- 1) Salomon und Sara Stern'sche Bibliothek-Stiftung ?
- 2) Verein für jüdische Geschichte und Literatur, Königsberg, i. Pr.
- 3) Humboldt-Schule, Frankfurt a.M.
- 4) Rabbiner Maier, Illereichen (?)
- 5) Riga Pils. 1 Zidu pamatskola, Bibliotheka, Riga
- 6) Bibliothek der Israelitischen Gemeinde Frankfurt a.M.
- 7) Rabbinner Bonath, Frankfurt a.M., Oederweg 108
- 8) Jüdische Gemeinde, Riga
- 9) Riga Pilsetas 5 obreiušidusakola
- 10) Pilsetas 2 Zidu Pamatskola, Riga
- 11) Ebreju Sabdr. Savieniba, Riga
- 12) Bibliothek "Kolel" Kownon
- 13) Ozar hasefarim slabodka (Litauen)
- 14) Buchhändler Fishov, Galanta
- 15) Baal - Machsoves - Bibliothek, Sanciu
- 16) Nederlandsch Israelitisch Seminarum, Amsterdam (Holland)
- 17) Bibliothèque Populaire de Chinon
- 18) Nieuwe of Litteraire Societeit, s'-Gravenhage (Holland)
- 19) Nederl. Israel. Seminarum te Amsterdam
- 20) Alliance Israélite Universelle, Paris
- 21) Consistoire Israélite de la Circonscription de Paris, Bibliothèque
- 22) Instytutu Naukowego Wilno, Wuvulskiego 18
- 23) Zidu Pamatskola Riga Pilsetas 7
- 24) Ecole Rabbinique Paris, 9 Rue Vauquelin
- 25) Bibliothek der Israelitisch. Gemeinde, Frankfurt, a.M.
- 26) Dr. N. Blankenstein, Wassenaar, Huize Montalbaen Konijnenplan
- 27) Kauno Zidu biblioteka "A Napu" vardy
- 28) Israelitische Religionsschule B. Kirchheim'sche Bibliothek Frankfurt a.M.
- 29) Lietuvos liaudies Pagalbes Samungos Biblioteka
- 30) Synagogen-Gemeinde, Israelit. Religions-Gesellschaft, Frankfurt "Frl. Carl v. Rothschild"-sche Schenkung"
- 31) Rabinas A. Broidas, Kaunas-Karmelitai
- 32) Verein für jüdische Geschichte u. Litteratur, Königsberg i. Pr.
- 33) Bibliothek der jüdischen Gemeinde in Igalu
- 34) Zentralbibliothek I Wildprestmark Nr. 2 Buchbinder R. Illawicka XI Vikoriagasse No. 2 1910
- 35) Komite' zur Förderung Thorathcuer Gemeinden in Palästina . Frankfurt a.M.
- 36) Jüdisch-Theologisches Seminar zu Breslau
- 37) Vertegenwoordiger voor Nederland Z. Moses Aan. Amsterdam (C)
- 38) Riga sīdu saviesigas biedribas Biblioteka, Riga, Skolas No. 6
- 39) Kahn und Friel Munkacs
- 40) Bücherlager bei der Jüdischen Ghetto-Gemeinde Vilijambolé
- 41) Bibliothek der Jüdischen Gemeinde, Berlin
- 42) Société des Etudes Juives, Paris, 17 Rue St. Georges
- 43) Librairie Lipschutz Paris, Place de l'Odeon 4. et Rue Lamartine 28
- 44) Friedr. Carl Kühler, Frankfurt a.M. Wiesenbüttelplatz 30
- 45) Zadok Kahn (Rabbinner) Paris
- 46) Jugendbibliothek der Synagogen -Gemeinde Königsberg
- 47) Bibliothek der Samson Raphael Hirsch-Schule, Frankfurt a.M.
- 48) Varrentrapp-Schule, Frankfurt a.M.
- 49) Isaac Eschwege, Fulda
- 50) Union Chrétienne de Jeunes Gens de Paris
- 51) Jakob Schlossberg, Wien
- 52) Seminare Israélite Bibliothèque Al. Cohn
- 53) Schüler-Bibliothek Lessing-Gymnasium, Frankfurt a.M.
- 54) A. Krieger, Frankfurt a.M.
- 55) Talmud Tora, Paris
- 56) Philipp Selig, Frankfurt a.M., Mendelerstr. 23
- 57) Bibliothek des Vereins Isr. Rel-Lehrer, Frankfurt a.M.
- 58) Dr. Unger Bibliothek, Iglau
- 59) Lycée de Belfort, Bibliothèque
- 60) Bibliothek der Synagogen-Gemeinde Königsberg i.Pr.
- 61) Biblioteka Ebreju Saviesiaga Biedriba, Riga, Skolas iela No. 6
- 62) Bibliothek "Das Volk", Riga
- 63) Katsenelbogen - Wilno
- 64) Hebr. Lessyverein Königsberg. Cheb'bei Sefat Ever.

123505

2/2

COPY

November 29, 1946.

Rabbi Philip Bernstein
Frankfurt
Germany.

Dear Rabbi Bernstein,

Through Captain Benkowitz's courtesy I have this opportunity of greeting you and of telling you how greatly impressed we all are with your vigorous and constructive activities. Professor Scholem and I want particularly to thank you for all your help and understanding.

Captain Benkowitz will be handing you, if you have not yet had it, a copy of the proposal for the creation of a Jewish Trusteeship Corporation into whose custody the Hebraica and Judaica at the Archival Depot in Offenbach and generally throughout the American Zones of occupation in Germany and Austria are to be placed for disposition as the Corporation sees fit.

From General Hilldring's letter of September 19 you will see that the State Department has adopted this as a general policy, and that the matter has been sent forward for comment on the part of the Military Authorities in the occupied zones.

From Professor Baron we have heard that this comment is not at all enthusiastic. We can understand this, seeing that carrying out the purpose of this Corporation might place extra responsibility upon the already hard-pressed Military Authorities. Yet it will not be necessary to argue with you that, despite this, we ought to press forward and carry this plan through to completion with determination, and the strategic position which you are in encourages us to believe that it will be possible for you to give this plan decisive help.

I hope you are well, and with kind regards,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) J.L. Magnes
President

CC/Rector

Prof. Assaf
Prof. Baneth
Prof. Bergmann
Prof. Buber
Prof. Cassuto
Mr. Dinaburg
Prof. Gutman
Prof. Scholem
Dr. Senator

123506

138704

112
II

Extracts from a report to the J.D.C. by Dr. Pinson; September 24, 1946

5. Permission was secured from the Military Government to draw books for the D.P. centers from the Rothschild Library and other Nazi collections of Jewish loot. Dr. Pinson commented on the good fortune that the Alfred Rosenberg Institute had decided to collect Jewish cultural works. Over 5,000,000 books collected throughout all Europe are now stored at Frankfurt. In drawing the 21,000 books which were finally distributed to the camps, Dr. Pinson found it necessary, with the help of Chaplain Rakovsky and a small German staff supplied by the Military Government, to sort over 350,000 books. In making the selections he was careful not to draw books of known ownership or rare books that could not be replaced. In addition to the books from the so-called Rothschild Library, 6,000 books from the United States were distributed. Libraries of 800 to 4,000 volumes have been set up in all the large camps. Efforts were made to include religious books, reference books for teachers (chiefly in German) and dictionaries.

The Rothschild Library failed to be a source, however, for Yiddish and Hebrew text books of mathematics, history, and the sciences. While the Jewish Agency did send in some books such text books were not included. The need for text books is acute today, and at the time Dr. Pinson left the JDC was contemplating photocopying suitable text books. There is also a need for Yiddish and Hebrew literature and books in other languages, chiefly German and English. The Jewish Agency's four air transports of books earlier in the year included a large quantity of Hebrew text books for adults which Dr. Pinson also noted that he had received about 1,000 books from the JDC, 1,000 books from the Jewish Labor Committee and between 4,000 and 5,000 YIVO duplicates. He complimented the YIVO for its splendid cooperation. He noted that while there had been reports of shipments of other books by the JDC, these books had failed to reach their destination apparently because of poor transportation or other difficulties.

.....

The location of Jewish historical treasures. These are still scattered throughout Germany and unless located and reclaimed, it is likely that German Libraries and institutions will attempt to use them as the nucleus in rebuilding their own collections.

The need to establish a historical commission which will undertake the scientific task of gathering materials of the past ten years of Jewish persecution.

123507

NY 11-9128
Telephone Circle 5-782

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

1841 Broadway, New York 23, N.Y.

Members of the Corporation

Agudas Israel World Organization

Alliance Israélite Universelle

American Jewish Committee

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

Anglo-Jewish Association

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction

Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives

Conseil Représentatif des Juifs de France

Council of Jews from Germany

The Hebrew University

Interessenvertretung der jüdischen Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen in der US Zone

Jewish Agency for Palestine

Synagogue Council of America

World Jewish Congress

August 24, 1950

President

SALO W. BARON

Chairman

Board of Directors

JEROME MICHAEL

Vice-Presidents

LEO BAECK

SIMON FEDERBUSCH

GERSHOM SCHOLEM

ALAN M. STROOCK

Dr. G. Scholem
Hotel Louis-le-Grand
3 rue Rouget de l'Isle
Paris 1, France

Dear ~~Dr.~~ Scholem:

Treasurer

DAVID ROSENSTEIN

Thanks for your letter of August 16. I am happy to see that the Israeli microfilming project is so well on its way.

Secretary

MAX GRUENEWALD

Executive Secretary

HANNAH ARENDT

Ben-Horin will tell you that we made a pilot study in microfilming manuscripts in Germany. (I do not yet know whether he decided to microfilm Hamburg, for which Prof. Marx had made a selection, or Marburg-Tuebingen, where we would ask you to select the manuscripts). Anyhow, the experiences of this study will be available to you, but we would then withdraw from this project altogether and keep in mind only the possibility or rather the desirability of a microfilming project for archives.

Ben-Horin will meet you in Paris the first week in September. I enclose copy of a letter to him in order to give you an idea of what is going on and what we expect from you. But please keep this letter as an internal office affair because of the unfinished stage of our negotiations with London.

Since you are going to Berlin: We received angry applications for books from Rabbi Freier for the Berlin Jewish community. He wants 1,500 to 2,000 books and on principle we are willing to let him have them. However, we want in exchange, the books and documents in Oranienburger Strasse. We shall let him have 500 books now--elementary stuff--Hebraica and Judaica--as a show of good will. Do you think you will be able to negotiate on this basis?

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MUL U 773 // 1-88

August 24, 1950

Dr. G. Scholem (2)

You will receive a check, as you requested. Since we issue checks at the beginning of each month, you will get your check earlier than you indicated.

Sternberger: The best way to reach him is still at the old Heidelberg address. Eppelsheimer surely knows where he is. I think he plans to come to the United States this fall.

With kind regards

Sincerely yours

H.A.

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

c.c Dr. Scholem, Berlin

123509

Jewish National & Univ. Lib. 493/188
University Library National Lib. Archive
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Interesseinvertrag der jüdischen
Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen
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Jewish Agency for Palestine

Synagogue Council of America

World Jewish Congress

August 9, 1950

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HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. C. Wormann
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Dr. Wormann:

I am sorry that due to my vacation your letter of July 7th did not receive a reply earlier. I appreciate your kind information and I am glad to tell you that the Advisory Council, as it is now being formed through the Ministry of Education, seems to be precisely the solution for a speedy distribution of the Israeli books.

As you know, we are especially interested that the recipient libraries furnish us with a list of titles of the books which they received from JCR. I trust you will keep this matter in mind and impress it on those who take this heavy responsibility off your shoulders.

I received and thank you for the check list of English, French Dutch and other periodicals and I notice that this is a request for the Hebrew University Library only.

I also have before me your letter of June 30th. We can agree with you in the matter of not waiving claims in advance. ^{Just as} I confess that after my extended investigations into the matter I am a little less optimistic than Dr. Shunami about "hundreds of thousands of Jewish owned books in German libraries."

However, the most important question at this moment is simply the question of address. JCR will definitely liquidate its activities in the American zone by the end of the year and it is doubtful if it will undertake any new job in the British and French zones. The unpacking of German Library material and therefore the possibilities of discovering Jewish owned

ARC 4° 733

JCR / 16423510

August 9, 1950

Dr. C. Wormann (2)

material is a matter not of months but of years. So which is the Jewish agency which is most likely to stay in Germany for years to come, for I think it is highly unlikely that anything will be reported to Jewish institutions outside of Germany.

pictures
Your worry about books is unfortunately not very justified, because, with the exception of the Berlin collection, which has been claimed already by JRSO, there is very little non-private property in existence.

One last matter, which would also interest Shunami. I received from the Hessische Kultuministerium the O.K. of a tentative agreement reached between Prof. Eppelsheimer and myself with regard to the books which are now in Frankfurt, under Eppelsheimer's trusteeship. We can have 50% of these books. However, I was warned of the bad quality of the material.

With kindest regards

Yours



Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary



123511

2/2

ג"ד בחשוון תש"ז
8.11.46

לכבוד
ד"ר יוסף הורוביץ
הסוכנות היהודית לא"י
ע"י אונדרה

ידידי היקר,

הנני כותב לך סוף-סוף אחרי ששבתי קצר לאיתנו, אחרי החולשה שתקפה אותנו בשנת פרקה המתייחסת ומחמת מצוות המתמדת של הנסעה. ראייתי את אמך וסיפרתי לה עליך ועל טשיך, והנני פקורה לראות גם את אשך נקרוב. בדרך לכפר סולד קsha בירטור, ואני יודעת מתי יזמין לעשות אותה כאשר השצתי.

קיבלתי סמך את המכתב של מר שלמה קרלייבך בדבר החומר הארכיאוני היהודי שנטזא בהסבירות והנני מודה לך ולו. אינני יודעת אם קרלייבך נמצא בפרנסקווט או בהסבירות. עכ"פ התייחס תבקש לדעת מפיו כתה תגיע העת לפניו שליטות שליטות הקלה בדבר הרכוש הזה. הוא כותב שהדבר אפשרי רק לאחר שהקילה תהיה מוכרת באופן חוקי מצד השליטונות כיורשת הקהילה הישנה, ועוד כמה שאנכי יודעת אין יותר הכרה בזאת, אבל אננו היינו מפוניים לקובל אינפורמציה סכム על הכרח חוקית בזאת, אם תצא לפועל. הרשימה של מר קרלייבך מענינית למני ותן חן לו על טרתו.

ואשר לעניין בה"י העבריים שבדרכו עליהם - מה מצב הדברים? האם ישנה התקדמות מצד אפלטהייסטר רהולד? האם עשו משהו? האם דברת פעם עם ד"ר נובסבורים שהיה מוכן להתרץ את פרופ' הילד במינכן מצדו הוא? כאן מפוניינים מארד רוזוקא בעניין זהה שישבו פסום סיפור קמן לאביבותינו. אל-נא תשחנו ותכתורב מה שאפשר לעשות.

כתוב-כך יש לי בקשה ברוטט. קפיטן בנקוביין, מנהל הארכיאון באופנברג, שלח לי הנה את הדוח על פעולות הארכיאון בחודש אוגוסט 1946, האם תוכלו לפנות (אולי בטלווין; המספר הד疏ם אציג הוא 24532. הכתובת: אופנברג, מאינשטיינסאָס, 18) אליו או למי שבא במקומו ולבקש שיואיל לשירות לי גם את הדוח מספטמבר-אוקטובר ובפרט את הדוח הסומי, שבורדאי נתחבר ע"י קפיטן בנקוביין. יש שם סטטיסטיקה חשובה מאוד לענייננו. בנקוביין היה זרין לעסוק את המקום בחודש נובמבר, ואותה תעשה אנחנו חסר נדול אם תודיעני מי בא במקומו, ואם בכלל המסתן ערדין ערבר, או שמא נסתורו כל הדברים ובחתמו עד שתבואו החלטה מגבוה מה לעשות בהם. יתלבן גם שתוכל לקבל ידיעות ד"ר פרידמן, שהוא פרנסקווט להעבור מסעם הדוג'זינט בענייני הזעדה-התיסודית היהודית פולין. שפעצת את פרנסקווט חיכו לו שם, אבל אינני יודעת אם באמת התחיל בעבודה שם. במרקחה זה אין ספק שהוא ידע הרבה על התרחש באופנברג, ואולי תוכל להניע אותו להכתיב לכם איזה דוח' בשביבנו. הדברים שנתנו לי במתנה לאוניברסיטה העברית וגם כתבי-היד שקבלתי בפאריס הגיעו כולם בשלום.

אני זוقدر אתכם ואת היטים שבילינו יارد ואני סבין כמה קsha מבחן עבשוigli בלי סוציאטיקטים ובלי כלום. הלוואי שיבוא שינויו לסתובח, חדך שנגאה לי לא מחווץ לנדר הנגע. תדרשו-נא בשלום הדברת גרוואלד ואשתו ובלום שושנה. אני מודה לככלכם ועוד פעם על כל הטובה שגמלתם עמי שם ואני מחהה לראות אתכם ברוחב אברבנאל בעולח ובזמן קרוב.

בברכת שלום ויהירות
שלך,

ג. שלום

ARC 4-29

212

ונ/חר

123512

Copy

212 II

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC & CULTURAL ORGANISATION
Preparatory Commission
Unesco-House,
19 Avenue Kléber,
Paris 16e.

Attention: Dr. Zuckerman

1. Request to turn all material except "Yivo" material over to University Library.
2. Statement to the effect that University will be responsible for listing and distribution of any excess copy so that only one complete set will remain at Jerusalem while spare copies will be sent to other Jewish libraries in agreement with UNESCO
3. Statement that rights of any legal owners will be safeguarded and that University guarantees to indemnify any justified claim or, if necessary, return the books to the rightly owner.
4. Statement concerning the costs of transportation.

(copied: 27/XI/46)

123513

Acc. 40793 [I]

H. v. ?

July 29, 1946

I am writing to you shortly before leaving Munich for Berlin, where I expect to stay some days. I shall have to decide whether or not to go into the British Zone.

To my great distress, I found out in Frankfurt that the whole Hebraica collection of the Municipal Library, the most valuable collection in Germany, was burned during an air-raid on the 18th of March 1944. The Judaica and Hebraica have been saved. I spoke to the newly appointed socialist director of this Municipal Library (Oppelsheimer) about the question of initiative being taken by German authorities for the cessation of these Hebrew manuscripts and part of the Judaica. He was very sympathetic and willing to consider it with his municipal authorities. To put such a proposal through would, of course, require much time. Naturally, our position with regard to Frankfurt is a relatively simple one since all those objects were paid for by Jews.

This is not the case with regard to the Hebrew manuscripts in the Munich State Library, where the famous Codex 93 of the Talmud is to be found. Whereas nothing else is left in Munich of any Jewish collection and no trace is as yet available, the Hebræica collection and the Hebrew manuscripts of the State Library have been saved.

I have had discussions with several people of important connections with the Bavarian Government, which is the legal owner of the objects, and have taken the same line as in Frankfurt. I said that it might be an important moral gesture if German authorities, of their own free will, would turn over certain of these objects, and especially the Munich Manuscript of the Talmud, to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem as a symbolic act towards the Jewish people and as a first step toward bridging the awful abyss that has been created between the two peoples.

I have a very reliable and influential man in Munich who is willing to act as mediator and induce the Bavarian Government to take steps in this direction. This is Prof. Hans Ludwig Held, director of the Municipal Library. He and other people who take an interest in the matter are asking me, "What would be the answer from Jerusalem to such a symbolic gesture of goodwill on the part of the Germans?" They do not want to be "spit in the face" by a provocative answer.

123514

Prof. Held in Munich, who could act for us, is an outstanding anti-Nazi and one of the few people in Germany with a deep knowledge of things

- 2 -

July 29, 1946

dependent upon the manner in which the offer would be received. The Bavarian Government might not wish to be exposed to embarrassment through a high-handed attitude to such a voluntary offer. I, personally, expressed the opinion that the University would give a decent and encouraging answer to such a symbolic act of restituting important Jewish treasures which are legally in the hand of the Bavarian Government. I said that the University might recall the existence of two Germany's and, at any rate, would take an attitude in line with general humanistic and liberal principles which it has always stood for.

I should like to know whether I could give definite assurances to my men regarding this question. The acquisition of Hebrew manuscripts from the publicly owned libraries in Germany through acts of goodwill might be an important step towards filling the gap that has been created by the disappearance of practically all the manuscripts in the Jewish-owned libraries, which is one of the worst features of my experience here. No one knows where these manuscripts are and there is little hope that they will turn up in the near future. They may have been burned in one of the air-raids on Berlin before they could be stored away abroad. I shall try to get some information about this in Berlin.

I would appreciate a cabled reply to Paris regarding the point I have raised.

I am enclosing copy of a letter from Dr. Maerz regarding the situation in Prague. From Paris I have dispatched a detailed report to the University on my activities there and in Vienna and I wonder why receipt was never acknowledged. Re the Copenhagen proposal which is mentioned by Dr. Moore, I have heard of it already in Prague in a very vague way. Some days ago I had the opportunity of speaking to Prof. Bentwich over the telephone and he told me he had seen a report about the meeting of Unesco and that there was a discussion but no decision; and, anyhow, the Commission was not entitled to make a decision. Nevertheless I think the Hebrew University should officially communicate with the University Library of Copenhagen and ask them to withdraw their claim in favor of the Jewish people.

I think it is important to clarify the points which I have mentioned in this and previous reports. I feel that I have initiated actions which would require weeks and months, and which would lead nowhere unless we find people on the spot who are really interested in taking over the several tasks involved. I feel, further, that there has been a basic error in my mission: we have underestimated the time required to achieve anything here. As things are, I should have come here for at least half a year, and, what is more important, I should have enjoyed complete freedom of movement in the Zones, something which takes considerable time to secure and effort, if I was expected to do more than a mere survey of the situation in Frankfurt, which was relatively easy to do.

123515

Now Gen. Clay and the Commission for the Preservation of Fine Arts and Monuments have been interested in my mission by Rabbi Philip Bernstein, and I understand that I have been invited to Berlin only because the Military Authorities want me to go into the British Zone and later report to them. If this meant a short visit, I would be prepared to undertake it. I have, however, serious doubts as to whether anything of importance could be accomplished during a rushed trip. Moreover, I feel that I should be very careful in taking over a task on behalf of the Military Authorities. There may be no visible result at all as no one seems to know about any cultural objects of value in the

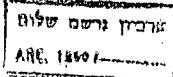
THE L E N G R A M

9 July 46

From: Paris
To: Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Eye studied situation Offenbach depot one week staying two more weeks then flying Munich Berlin Hamburg stop onehalf million to sevenhundred fiftythousand books are waiting policy from Washington regarding disposal or removal from Germany stop Among them twohundred thousand are identifiable Jewish libraries various eastern countries Poland and Baltic states stop Food situation especially precarious stop unless decision reached until August danger imminent Jews loose everything stop Professor Pinson Myself Detot Director urging immediate action stop German management locally taking over after present director departure August stop Sorting books nearly completed most valuable Jewish Library Germany Austria not here except half Breslau stop Removal even Paris or States recommended stop How long will Magnes stay States awaiting information care jointfund Paris

Regards SCHOLEM



123516

24.4.46

העתק: א.ו. 7.5.46

לכבוד
ד"ר ד. סנשורי,
ירושלים.

ידידי,

כתובנו לכם שני מכתבים רשמיים עם דין וחשבון על המזב. אני רוצה
לתספיר לך כאן באופן שרטט דבריהם אחדים.

בתברר שגוביה גדולה בעיטה שלא סיידרו את הדברים בירושלים גברמאניה,
המשלה, שכבראה אפשר היה לסדר בעצמתה ותמכתה את הכניטה לגבראניה,
או שלא הלכנו דרך פלוגות הסעד.

כאן כתברר שני דבריהם א). שאחרנו לאחות שנים שלשה חדשים, ואנשיהם
באן מתפרטים על זה. הם אומרים שאפשר היה להוציא הרבה מאוד מהדברים
שבשבילם באנו עוד לפני זמן מועט, אלא שבינתיים בתעוררו בכמה צדדים
יהודים ולא יהודים לגנוב בכל האפשר בשבי אמריקה.

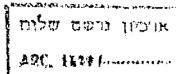
ב) יחסו של הג'ויבט איננו חד-משמעותי.
מצד אחד הם רואים לעוזר בלי ספק ובדברים קשניים גם עוזרו לנו כאן, ומצד
שני הם בירודוקרטים מאוד ואנחנו מרגישים יפה שאחכזרו פטרי עיתם להם. היה
לי שיחות אחורות די טערות עם ידידך מר גריינל שחו אדם קשובי, וחבל
מהוד שחייה לנו פסק עמו. ולא עם ד"ר שורץ שהו כנראה בעל קומה אחרת,
אלא שוחר רק היום לפאריז, לאחר שכבר הפסדרו ההבהzeit זמן.

יש לנו הרים, אך כ' איבני יכול להזכיר לך זאת במאחזר, שהג'ויבט
היה רואה מטעמי תעמולת שלו באמריקה בעין שובה מאוד העבתת הספרדים. לאמריקה
בדי שיוכלו להציגו הנה מה עשיינו בשביב הדרות אמריקה. ביבטים ראיינו את
המצב ובקשנו את עזרתך של רות קלוגר שתשובינה מאוד בכל העניין ומוקה לחסיק
לهم קצת את התיבור. היא מכירה קצת את אנשי האבנה באן ואמרה לנו שהאטראקטים
שבהם מתייחסים דוקא בחיווב לשיחותינו. דבר שאבשי הג'ויבט איבם מודדים בו
ורואים קשיים מסביב לכל פנה. במקורה השוביסדרו את עניינו בערך בתחום
השבוע הבהיר ואני אראה את זאת נכון אם אורכל קצת מכאן בראשון למاء. ביבטים
בקש גם את הויזה לפראג ואולן. נצטרך לחבורת כאן עד שתתקבל כדי לא להפזיד
זמן ברצוא ושוב. כל הויזות שלא קיבלתי בירושלים גם כאן זבן רב
ושטול מרובה.

חוושבי שלא עשם בחבכה במה שבורגע לאין-נרטים הפטפיים פלבו שביקשთם
כספי מהג'ויבט אך ורק ביכולתו של האזרות השובבות. פרוש הדבר הוא שהג'ויבט
يحسب לכם את הלירה בשער הרשטי וירוחם בלי ספק על השבונכם. אלו היינו
מקבליםם באן ואלו מה היו הוצאותינו מתחומות כפיט עד החזי. וועליך לדעת
שהכסף יוזא כאן במעט. המחרידים איזוטים והג'ויבט סרב גם אחרי כמה תביעות
מצדי להאכיל אותן עם אנטו הוו מה שהיה עוללה שליש. (הם אומרים שאין
רשות לכך מצד השלטונות אלא לאזרחים אמריקאים). הם מתנצלים בחוסר מקום
ולאחר שחתקוטת, לא רציתי להביא את הדבר לסκנדל גלווי אתם בכלל כספ'
ואנחנו אובליטם במחרידי השוק השחור.

איןנו מרגיש טוב בכל המזב הזה וากה שמדובר ישנה בשנגן לעצם
תקידנו בגרמניה.

מה שראיתי בכמה שיחות עם יהודי צדקה מאוד. כבר נפגשתי
בכמה אנשים, מהם גם סבוני, משמחתני בקרבתה רחוקה מהטהרilo את ילדייהם
והסבירו לי שיש צורך שהשבית את ילדיהם שהם יהודים.



123517

אגב אורה: כתברר ללא ספק שנוצרן לכלת בפדי צבא ובכדר פשו חכבותם הלאה לחייב לנו מה שנחזר. בלי מדים אי אפשר כלל לנסוע שם. קניות אלו כבר נעשו: אטפול. ~~טפוח~~ פראבו מגוחך פאור - כמו באוטרטה.

אבקש אותך לא לשכון את עבידי תוייז האנגלית ולהודיע לו אם כבר נתקבלה וายיר יעבירו אותה חנה.

היום אין לי מה להזכיר. בבקשתה תראה את המכתב גם לפסקה ולאשתי. אינני רוצה לכטוב על דבאים אלה למגנס, כי הוא אכן בתמיינות לב בעליונות של אנשי הג'וינט, אמונת שפה לו, לקלקל אותה.

אשמה פאוול לשמו פך מה שתרחש אצלך.

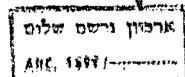
אבי מברך אותך לשביית הרעב המודחת שלך, וואה להראות אותך בקו הכריאות השלימה.

ברגע זה קיבלנו את הטלגרמה שלך בעניין הספרים לאמריקה. עביתי לך מיד. מכאן אתה אפשר לעשות מואמה בזיה - רק בלחץ חזק. ממש. חייתך לי שיחח אטפול עם ג' רופר, בא-כח הסוכנות שבעת מהיבנה. הוא אמר לי שהחלטת גברל קליף? באה בפיירס ג'נדבו. מה שעובד לעשות אולי ~~שנגייע~~ לארכנוקורט - הוא לנשות העביר ספרים "רויטייפ" למחיקת החפקה. רות ק. אספה לנו את כל שדבר מה קיבל חרסיון בשביילנו אלא שסידור מבירות לוקה עוד איזה ימים. אמשי ה-C.O. עושים את עצם לטניינו בלא-יהודאים. ראיינו את שורץ - השיחה הייתה ידידותית פאר אבל ~~communal~~ אלויות אפשר לדבר רק עם אנשי הסוכנות.

ראיתי שלשום את בן-גוריון ושהבנו שעה אחת. קשח להגייע לדעה ברורה אם הסוכנות יותר חשובה אצל שטיגנות הכספי מסאר ה-C.O., על כל פנים הם אומרים כך ומցיעים את כל עזרתם בפרק שעוד יהיה בהם לעוזר.

שלך

ברשם שלום



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2

העתיק א.ג. 3.5.46

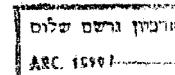
ידידותי - אל מהצבי שטעין כאן הוא העוגן לראובן - כלל ובכלל לא. הגד השופט כינדרת הוזע שום ידידות מתק ריבשת רוז'יס להפוך פאתנו בנסיבות האפשרית, ומכיוון שאין דרך לכך אלא לפחות איזונן למחדל האזנו - אפשר נאפתה ש سبيلיה לאזנה פבאן. יש לשופר שוד צוות אפריל יהית המכוב ברור. האנדרולטוסייה במדבדות העזאים די גדוילה - או לכל היותר טעניריות טבויות כאיilo זה כן. ותחאנדרולטוסיות בפערדים הייחוריים איזה שחרות. אונחנו פמלים דין במשדרים אפס אופור לכוכות על גבול פרץ צהה.

בבוקה תמסרו לנו לנטהו ותיזבב ברכתיינו ותגידי שכתבו לנו כל אחד הרבה אבל ס"י יודהם אמר כל המכתבים פגעים בدل חשיבות אלכם.

שלום וברכה

בברכות חסונה

אברהם עזריא



24.4.46

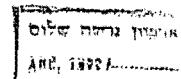
COPY - eb - 5.5.46.

TELEGRAM

To: Hebrew University Jerusalem

Upon reliable reports and responsible opinions including Schwarz and Rabbi Alexander Rosenberg newly appointed adviser to American Army on Jewish religious matters we urge Magness speed up American journey and creation united Jewish front lack of which has already caused evil results for Jerusalem and may cause loss of books for ever. Has Fraenkel succeed preparing anything? Has University received minutes of Barons Committee apparently working towards America transfer. Our sympathies with Senator in bereavement.

SOHOBEM YAARI



123519

AGENCE JUIVE POUR LA PALESTINE

OFFICE PALESTINIEN DE FRANCE
83 Avenue de la Grande Armée, 83
PARIS (XVI)

April 30th, 1946

The Hebrew University
Jerusalem

Dear Friends,

This is our third letter to you. After having spent two weeks in Paris, the situation regarding our travelling facilities to Germany is as follows:

1) In order to get to Germany two things must be arranged:
a) One must be "called forward", a term used for an order from UNRRA authorities. This has been granted in principle through the medium of the Joint. The papers are expected any day.

b) A military permit must be granted by the Military Authorities in Paris (see our first letter April 19th). For this permit we have applied as soon as we came to Paris. On the 17th of April. Our application has been forwarded to the Interallied Commission in Berlin, but as yet there is no answer from them, except a rejection from the Vienna authorities to admit us to Austria.

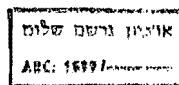
2) The difficulty is that in Paris there is nobody who can decide, and particularly the Joint has no influence with them, as their own people are Americans and coming over provided with all the necessary papers from Washington. We are doing everything possible to speed up matters but we are not sure whether we will succeed in the next days. We will see the Officer who has to get into contact with Berlin the day after to-morrow. As soon as we know any results, we let you know.

3) We took the advice of the Joint and the Jewish Agency to have our uniforms ready in order to be able to leave as soon as we get the permit. We have made all these preparations.

4) Possibilities to enter Germany by civilians has been recently tightened up thoroughly and difficulties are made as far as the Military Authorities are concerned. Even the Jewish Agency which has a good standing with the authorities finds it pretty difficult to have things done.

5) We have had a long talk with Mr. Gideon Ruffer, a representative of the Jewish Agency in Germany and Austria who has returned to Vienna last Sunday. We discussed with him the Austria business, and he thought he might get the Jewish Community in Vienna to apply to the Americans to transfer their libraries to the trusteeship of the University through the Jewish Agency. If he succeeds there will be no necessity for us to go to Vienna at all. I am enclosing the draft of the letter which I have given to Mr. Ruffer which he should suggest to the Jewish Community to sign. He thought the matter quite easy.

6) We have also applied through the Jewish Agency for entry visas for Prague, but according to the Agency people here it will take weeks to get it.



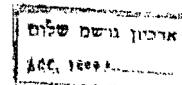
2.....
123520

We have been making several arrangements for exchange etc. between the Library and French and Jewish institutions in Paris and we have reported about it fully to Professor Weil.

With kindest regards to all
of you

(Sgd) G. Scholem A. Yaari

P.S. Please convey our kindest regards to our families.



123521

Arendt

Ne 11 return

20

copy to
Hannah

Memo concerning Professor Scholem's activities in Germany
on behalf of JCR in 1952.

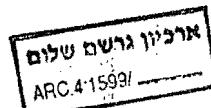
August 1952.

Professor Scholem's activities in Germany are necessary
in order to wind up unfinished business left there by
Dr. Worman and Dr. Arendt.

Prof. Scholem, a vice-President of our organization, will
spend the greater part of September in Frankfurt and
surroundings and in Berlin. His special tasks will con-
sist in negotiations with Jewish communities regarding
the transfer of books, now in their possession, to Israel
and in gathering certain first-hand and very important
informations about the ~~new~~ ~~new~~ developments and
location of Jewish treasures in the Eastern zone of
Germany.

These delicate matters have been discussed in detail
with myself, Dr. Worman and Dr. Arendt.

For this purpose, he will need up to 1.000 DM which I pro-
pose to put at his disposal according to his request.
We shall greatly appreciate every help and assistance which
JRSO and its regional office may be able to render to him.



123522

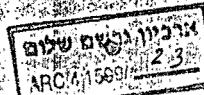
לד"ד נ. דה
לפ"רף אומן
לפ"טם שלדים
לד"ג אלוט

הנפקה דבון

הזר"ד ווילטן שליח אל"ם את מס' 2105 להפטן שעד כ-
כט"ה שער נסיך לתייסטריה הידועה של ג'אנטאל-
קוזטשטיין בירושה וירושת. טפיו את מידעות דלהלן:
לפ"ג הערכה במאים גספריה גנ"ל כ-800 כח"
(בגלל סכמים והעתקות דברי חסידות ובן סכמים
מקודם טורדיו זה זאת אנודי כה שבתי אב).
כח"ג מס' 450 מס' 100 גמראם סברסלאו זינא
זינאלן ברילן וויז.
הנפקה כוללים עברים במאים סטראם סטראם סברסלאו.
ספ"ג הברהה במאים גספריה לפ"ג הערכה כ-25,000.
זינאלן בכמה שפות (בעיקר ברשנית) כ-
10,000.
כל זה מס' לי לפ"ג מה פנקבש בזיהובו ולאם לפ"ג
דסיטות שesa לא שם בכתוב

מ.ל.
א. שונמי.

דבון, 9.8.50



123523

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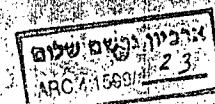
לד"ז זיידמן
לפֿרוֹן אַבְּנָה
לפֿרוֹן שְׁלֵמָה
לד"ז אליעזר

דוחות ובדוקים

הציג ר' זיידמן שהו אלה את ס"ר יוסף למתן, שעבד
במס' 12 של ר' זיידמן לה-סיטדרית יהודית של ג' גוטרל-
קופטמן בז'רשה, ורשומת ספייר את היידיעות דלהלן:
לפי הערכתו נמצאים כספריה הנ"ל כ-800 כת"ו
(כיזל) סכתביהם והעתיקות דברי היסוד וכן סכתבים
מקודמים שהרי זו זה לאו אנטי בית שחי עכ"י
בית ס"א מס' 100-100 מטרים מברסלאו, ומכאן
זאתם בפלין ויעז. איעזון גובלם עבדים נמצאים שם 6 וארזם שנדרסלן.
ספ"ר היברא קה נסאום לפ"ז הערכתו כ-25.000.
ונדרזקם בפה שפט (בעיקר ברשיות) כ-
10.000.
כל זה סpter לי לפי מה שנקבע בזכותו ולא לפי
רישותם שuset לו שם נקבע.

מ.ל.
א. שטמן

לונדון, 9.8.50



123523

1947 ינואר 17, מילון עברי-ערבי

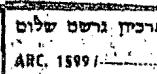
הנפץ בלבם של בני ישראל. ובראשם נטה רוח של מלחמה. ור' יוסי אמר: רוח של מלחמה
בבבון מלחמה. רוח של שלום שלום. רוח של קדש קדש. רוח של צדקה צדקה. רוח של צדקה צדקה.

בשבוע הבא, באנטונג על הענין עבדו, בוגס, הוא אחראי להצעות כלשהן
בחוץ חבר הוועד טרינגולל-פל, J.C.R. ואנטונג סנדטיין הוא רשות כל
המוחדר של אומה צורב בדרכו. מוחדר דבוריין גאנטונג גטאללה יין עוד כמוה עטן עד
שיפתור בפראל, אשר לכטוני התרומות של חמלחת און מחריטין.
שחאל נידרבקיטה חילם בערך אלה צי' איבוד איזוח נמי שטזת. יומת השם
הוא עגין הרכבת, בקדמת הראסון של 3 חברים אונטונג מאיינטם נבעו
הראסון לבא כה שלגון מה פדרטן טנטה אסף אונטונג מאיינטם פיזול פקחן
עליהם רשות חמליהוזה וכטראט אונטונג לא נא פיד או נטבזערן קרייזטן
פרק אס הוא אונטונג בשל קו בריאזות אונטונג זוכל להבייע און.

- 8 -

שמכאן וAILIN גם חורא ישתחף בטופול נגאלות חמיכיות לעוניינגן. סענ'ו
וזה אחד ריבוי מושדרה הילא פאנז' בלאה שיכזב חזטן גדרוב איזד' גורטמן
יעבל על עזטן את בל טעססן האפוזל עד שייטנו את החזחעל למאלקה
המייחדה חאנט כבי' שחצרכתי לטעלת. חורא ארט געל צראך דען זמפל
כשר פזולה פאנז' אקדזט שיביבא ברוכת לעבזודה חמאריה.
זרישו שלוות לבביזות לך זלאטער גם בשם טנטוד טאנז'
הגעטן לך

גרשות שלזט.



123525

C O P Y

2117

Telegram to American Section of SHAEF, sent through General Gîes, Cairo, 6.7.45.

(same text sent also to SHAEF, BLA - British Landing Army, but no reply received)

The Hebrew University Jerusalem which is the one University and the highest seat of learning of the Jewish People and whose Board of Governors is composed of representative American British Palestine and other Jews is anxious to serve as the authorized repository for the Jewish Libraries Historical Documents Jewish Art Objects as well as the Antisemitic collections which the Allied Forces have come upon in Germany and Austria stop

The Jewish National and University Library Jerusalem affiliated to the Hebrew University contains ever fourhundred twentythousand volumes in many languages and subjects and serves in particular the Institute of Jewish Studies and the School of Oriental Studies at the University stop

These departments have a larger number of distinguished Jewish scholars dealing with Jewish and Oriental subjects than any Jewish institution anywhere and the whole scholarly world would recognize the fitness of depositing in the Holy City the libraries documents and collections now rescued from the enemy's hand stop

The University pledges itself to make special provision for the care of these collections and their use without distinction of race or creed and undertakes to restore them to the communities or institutions which once owned them should these ever be reconstituted. stop

We have communicated our desire to the State Department at Washington and the Colonial Office in London and we appeal to you to give us your full aid stop

This would be regarded by history as a step which was in accordance with the scholarly traditions and the humane aspirations of the Allied peoples.

Chaim Weizmann Chairman Board of Governors
Hebrew University
Judah Magnes President Hebrew University

From United States Group Control Council RD and R Division to Judah Magnes President
the Hebrew University Jérusalem, Palestine, 20.VII.45

Receipt is acknowledged of your cable eight July in which you offer the services of your distinguished University as authorized repository for Jewish libraries documents and art objects uncovered in Germany by allied forces pd

All possible measures are being taken to locate secure and preserve such archives and objects pd

Their ultimate disposition will be a matter for determination by the quadripartite Allied Control Authority for German CNA in accordance with international policies on restitution pd

Lack of authority and transportation prevent their storage outside the jurisdiction of the Allied Control Council pd. Your kind offer will receive most careful consideration when final disposal is determined

123526

Meeting of the University Committee on European Jewish Libraries, together with Judge Rifkind
and Captain Eno, Hebrew University, 14.I.46.

- 1) Judge Rifkind will examine further the proposal that the Hebrew University send one or two representatives to Germany without further delay in order to secure a detailed picture of the Library situation, and in order to report to Judge Rifkind and to the Hebrew University. These representatives will meet with all persons in Palestine who have knowledge of various Jewish collections.
- 2) Judge Rifkind will inform Dr. Magnes when and if his presence in Germany is considered advisable.
- 3) Judge Rifkind thought that when Dr. Magnes was in America in May 1946, it would be advisable for him to discuss the whole question of libraries on the highest possible levels.
- 4) Judge Rifkind thought that it was of great importance for the Hebrew University to try to eliminate any competition between the University and other Jewish institutions, particularly in America. To this end he was willing that an Advisory Committee of representatives of these institutions, under the chairmanship of the Hebrew University, be appointed. This Committee to advise him, or his successor, on practical steps to be taken.

CC/ Judge Rifkind
Capt. Eno

Rector
Prof. Assaf
Prof. Buber
Prof. Cassuto
Mr. Dinaburg
Prof. Gutman
Prof. Shalom
Prof. Weil.

JLM:tw

123527

123528

8.3.46

3. I visited the Jewish library of three million books in Offenbach. This is the collection of the Nazis spoil of Jewish cultural goods from all over Europe. The library is a unique one in the whole world. According to the ruling of General Clay (U.S.) the books are to be returned to the owner or states as far as they can be identified. The governments will be responsible to return them to the respective former owners. Books have already been handed over to the Dutch Government (Rosenthalia Collection) and also the French are selecting just now their books.

This is the address of Dr. E. L. M. G. Det. F. 13 2nd M.G.
This ruling cannot be changed but if we are claiming officially the books to be given to Palestine, we will draw the attention of the Russians to this problem and they will ask for all the books from Lithuania, Latvia and other Eastern countries, which form an important part of the collection. Invaluable Jewish cultural value.

The ownership of approximately 50-60% of all the books is unidentifiable. At the beginning of March 1946, a Jewish captain POMERENCE (USA) was appointed director of this library. He is a very good friend of our cause, Zionist, cousin of the Poale Zion leader Pomerence in America. His profession is archivist. He promised to protect our interest, but first of all he needs some time, to get some order into the whole business and to find out the best way. He asked me to let our interested people know that an intervention in Washington and especially a public campaign at present could only do harm and arouse the interest of the Russians. He suggests that we should act on the grounds of "legal successorship". A list of the Yeshivot and other cultural institutions with their respective directors who have transferred their seat to

123529

2.

Palestine should be compiled and communicated to him with an application for an authorisation to sort out books belonging to these institutions. On the grounds of these applications, there will be a legal way to transfer many books.

This is the address of Capt. S.Pomerenze,
Det. F.13 2nd M.G.,
Bn. Sep. A.P.O.623,
U.S. Army.

I want to emphasize that we should too deal with the matter very seriously, as the library constitutes an irreplaceable Jewish cultural value.

212

June 5, 1946

General J.H. Hildring
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction begs leave to submit to you a plan for the preservation and ultimate disposition of the Jewish religious and cultural treasures which are still to be found in Germany and Austria.

The Commission is composed of American Jewish religious leaders, scholars and educators. Other Jewish organizations, which together include in their membership or represent the entire American Jewish community, share the Commission's concern about these objects and are collaborating with the Commission's efforts to save them for mankind in general and the Jewish people in particular. If you wish to know precisely who we are, we refer you to the list of our members on the reverse side of this page.

I

For more than a thousand years Europe was the center of Jewish cultural and religious life. European Jews and especially those of Germany and Poland developed famous religious, scientific and other cultural institutions which, with their rich libraries and museums, directly or indirectly served Jews everywhere spiritually and were in turn supported by them materially. Consider, for example, the Jewish Theological Seminary of Vienna, by no means the foremost Jewish cultural institution of pre-Hitler Europe. It recruited its faculty and student body from all Europe; its graduates served Jewish communities not only throughout Europe but in Palestine, the United States, the British Commonwealth of Nations, and other countries; prior to 1914 it was supported by Jews of the various Austro-Hungarian provinces, most of which are no longer Austrian, and after 1918, by the Jews of the United States, South Africa, and other countries.

Thus the Jewish spirit was nourished and kept alive and vigorous in spite of the dispersion of the Jewish people throughout the world. The instrumentalities, the tangible products, and the physical embodiment of this long, devoted, and often heroic spiritual and intellectual activity were books, manuscripts, Torah scrolls and other religious and cultural objects which constitute a priceless heritage and one of the proudest possessions of the Jewish people. In order to indicate to you the number and the nature of these cultural treasures we enclose a tentative list of them and of their former locations and owners, prepared by the Commission's research staff.

As you, Sir, undoubtedly know, after the Nazis began to govern Germany in 1933 they established there a number of so-called research institutes for the study of what they were pleased to call the Jewish problem. Of these, the largest and best known was the Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage, which the Nazi Party established at Frankfurt a.M. under the direction of the notorious Alfred Rosenberg. It was the function of these institutes to provide a pseudo-scientific basis for the virulent anti-

123530

Semitic propaganda which constituted one of the major political weapons of the Nazi Party and by which they sought, all too successfully, to turn not only the German people but all peoples against the Jews. But in order to conduct their specious studies these institutes wanted, so that they might distort and falsify, Jewish books and other products of the Jewish spirit and mind. And so, by one of the great and ironical paradoxes of human history, at the same time that the Nazis were exterminating the Jews of Europe they were carefully and methodically collecting and preserving Jewish religious and cultural objects and employing them as a means to Jewish annihilation. From 1939 to the end of the recent war, the German Government and the Nazi Party confiscated and transferred to these research institutes the libraries of individual Jews and of Jewish institutions and communities within "Greater Germany" and the countries occupied by the German armies, and numerous, valuable collections of Hebraica and Judaica from the Jewish Divisions of German libraries - municipal, university and others - many of which had been endowed by Jews.

When the Allied Armies occupied Germany, they found parts of these expropriated libraries in huge caches in the vicinity of Frankfurt a.M. and other parts at various places, notably Berlin. The Office of Military Government of the United States seized and has stored these books and other religious and cultural treasures in a depot which it established in Offenbach a.M. They constitute a very large proportion of all the religious and cultural treasures which are the objects of our solicitude.

II

We are concerned about these treasures for two chief reasons:

(1) We are anxious about their safety.

We are informed that they are now stored under such conditions that they are in grave danger of physical deterioration, and that the policy of restoring to the occupied countries the loot taken from them by the Germans, is being so administered that they are also in serious danger of dispersion. These hazards to which these cultural treasures are exposed are not the results of official indifference or neglect but of inadequate resources - physical and human. They can be protected against deterioration and dispersion only if they are kept in appropriate structures and placed in the custody and under the control of specialists who are competent to identify and catalogue them and to evaluate claims to them by whomsoever made, whether governments or individuals.

(2) We are troubled about their ultimate disposition.

It seems very clear to us and we hope, Sir, that it will seem equally clear to you that justice and the welfare of the world require that they be so disposed of as to serve two purposes - the one negative and the other positive.

They must, in the first place, be so disposed of that they can never again be misused to make war upon the Jews, by processes of distortion and falsification, and thus to disturb the tranquillity of the world.

This implied that to the extent that they exceed the religious and cultural needs of the Jews who may continue to reside in the countries of their origin, they must be removed therefrom. That they greatly exceed such needs, actual and prospective, there can be no doubt. The attempt of the Nazis and of their anti-Semitic accomplices simultaneously to destroy the Jews of Europe and to preserve their religious and cultural treasures has resulted in an enormous disproportion between the number of Jews and the number of these treasures that still remain in Europe, a disproportion which emigration can be expected to increase. Whereas in 1933 there were approximately 6,500,000 Jews in Europe, exclusive of Russia and the British Isles, today there are only about 1,250,000. Whereas in 1933 there were approximately 560,000 Jews in Germany and in 1938 there were more than 200,000 in Austria, today there are only about 15,000 in Germany, exclusive of displaced persons and only about 5,000 in Austria. Whereas in 1939 there were 3,300,000 Jews in Poland, 850,000 in Rumania and 700,000 in Hungary, today there are only 165,000 in Poland, only 370,000 in Rumania and only 200,000 in Hungary. You will observe, Sir, that the disproportion of which we have spoken is greatest in the case of those Jewish religious and cultural objects which had their situs in Poland, Germany and Austria.

To the extent that these objects exceed the religious and cultural needs of the Jews who still reside and are likely to continue to reside in those countries or elsewhere in Central Europe, they must be removed therefrom for two reasons. The first is that in no other way can they be made to serve the needs of all surviving Polish, German and Austrian Jews. As the result of normal emigration and of abnormal flight from the Nazi terror there are many, many more such Jews living abroad than in Europe. Obviously, they cannot enjoy the religious and cultural treasures of the Jewries of their native lands, even vicariously, unless they, their religious

leaders, scholars and educators, can have access to them. Obviously, too, their interest in these objects is no less than that of their less fortunate brothers who, largely against their will, still live in Europe. Any disposition of these objects which did not give full recognition to their interest in them would surely be inequitable.

The second reason why the excess of these objects must be taken from Europe is that in no other way can they be made to serve the religious and cultural needs of the Jewish people as a whole. As the result of the annihilation of millions of European Jews, including most of their religious leaders, scholars and teachers, and of the dispersion of the survivors, Europe is no longer, and it is very unlikely that it can again become, a center of Jewish spiritual and cultural activity. The great centers of such activity are now, and will continue to be, Palestine and the United States, where so many thousands of the survivors of European Jews have found refuge. Consequently, not only must the excess of these Jewish religious and cultural treasures be removed from Europe, but they must also be so distributed among Jewish communities throughout the world as best to serve the spiritual and cultural needs of the Jewish people as a whole. This implies that their restitution cannot be and should not be governed by narrow legalistic conceptions of title. Such conceptions may be entirely appropriate in the case of property having only economic value but are wholly inappropriate in the case of these treasures whose value in money, while large, is wholly incommensurate with their sentimental value. It is as a symbol of the potentialities of the human mind and spirit and as an instrumentality of their further development that these objects have their real and incalculable value.

III

In the light of the foregoing considerations we wish to propose to you the policies by which the ultimate disposition of Occupation should be governed. If they are approved by our Government, we urge that it endeavor to persuade the British, French and Soviet Governments to adopt them for the zones which they respectively occupy.

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When confiscated, these objects were differently situated and differently owned. Some of them were in Germany, or Austria, or other enemy countries; others were in the friendly countries which the Germans occupied. Some of them were owned by individual Jews, others by Jewish communities, and still others by Jewish philanthropic or cultural institutions which took the form of corporations or associations or trusts. But wherever situated and however owned, these objects should be so disposed of as to respect both the interests of their former owners and the interests of the Jewish people in them. However, this basic principle will be misapplied if ownership is mechanically identified with legal title and if equitable interests are ignored. Individual ownership was both legal and beneficial, but communal and institutional ownership was only legal. The beneficial owners of communal and institutional property were the members of the community or the Jews whom the institution was created to serve, either the Jews of a region or all Jews. It is these beneficial interests and not dry legal title which must be respected in the disposition of these objects.

For example, in 1933 the Jewish community of Berlin, which then numbered 160,000 persons, owned a library of more than 80,000 volumes and in 1938 the Jewish community of Vienna, which then numbered 180,000 persons, owned a library of 34,000 volumes. These libraries contained many rare items and were used not only by members of these communities but by Jewish and other scholars of the entire world. Today the Jewish communities in Berlin and in Vienna number respectively 6,000 and 4,000 persons, some of whom were, but many of whom were not, members of the old communities. Even if it be assumed that under German and Austrian law these now ghost communities are the legal owners of the property of the old communities, it would, nevertheless, be most unwise and unfair to restore these libraries to them - unwise because the almost certain result would be their dissipation, and unfair because the interests of the much larger number of members of the old communities who now live abroad and of the Jewish people would be sacrificed on the altar of legal title.

This basic policy of respecting both the beneficial ownership of Jewish religious and cultural property and the interest of the Jewish people in them should be applied in the following manner:

1. In the case of objects which had their situs in Germany or Austria:
 1. Objects which can be adequately identified as having been individually owned should be restored to their former owners or to their legal successors upon satisfactory proof of ownership, but objects falling within this category which are ownerless or which are unclaimed or the claims to which are not satisfactorily established, should be disposed of as hereinafter provided in subparagraph 1-4.
 2. Objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by a German or Austrian Jewish community which has

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survived or been reconstituted, should be restored to the community, upon satisfactory proof of ownership, in proportion to the prospective religious and cultural needs of the community and its capacity to retain, to care for, and to use them for the religious and cultural purposes for which they were intended. Objects falling within this category which are ownerless or which are unclaimed or the conditions of whose restoration to their owner are not satisfied, should be disposed of as hereinafter provided in sub-paragraph I-4.

5. Objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by a German or Austrian Jewish philanthropic or cultural institution should be restored to the institution, if it still exists, upon satisfactory proof of ownership, provided that the claimant clearly establishes that it needs and will hold and use the objects which it claims for the philanthropic, educational, scientific or other cultural purpose for which they were intended or some similar purpose. Objects falling within this category which are ownerless or which are unclaimed or the conditions of whose restoration are not satisfied, should be disposed of as hereinafter provided in sub-paragraph I-4.
4. All objects which cannot be adequately identified as falling within any of the above categories and all objects which can be so identified but which are ownerless or unclaimed or the conditions of whose restitution are not satisfied should be distributed among Jewish religious and cultural institutions upon and in accordance with the recommendations of the group of Jewish religious leaders, scholars, educators, constituting the Board of Advisors hereinafter referred to, who will be guided in making such recommendations by the religious and cultural needs of the Jewish people and especially of the surviving victims of Nazi persecution and also by the desire of the Jewish people to pay tribute to those victims who did not survive, as, for example, by establishing a library in the Hebrew University in Palestine as a memorial to these martyrs for their faith.

II In the case of objects which had their situs in Rumania, Hungary, or Italy:

The same policies should be applied, but the results of their application to these objects and to those which had their situs in Germany or Austria will differ in degree. A much larger proportion of the former than of the latter will be restored to their owners, whether individuals, communities or institutions. While, as we have pointed out, only about 15,000 Jews now live in Germany and only about 5,000 in Austria, there are still about 370,000 in Rumania, about 200,000 in Hungary, and about 40,000 in Italy. Moreover, a much larger proportion of the Jewish communities and of the Jewish cultural institutions of those countries have escaped destruction and are either performing their normal functions or capable of resuming their performance under more fortunate conditions.

III In the case of objects which had their situs in Poland or in one of the Baltic States:

The same policies should be applied, but their application to these objects is conditioned upon the consent of the Polish and Soviet Governments. We urge that our Government try to obtain their consent. We especially urge that insofar as these objects exceed the religious and cultural needs of the vanishing Polish Jewish population, our Government also try to induce the Polish Government to renounce its rights to have the excess returned to Poland.

123535

IV

IV... We also wish to suggest to you the manner in which these policies should be implemented and administered.

1. The Office of Military Government of the United States should declare that it or some other official agency holds Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation as trustee for their former owners and for the Jewish people. If, however, the United States and the other occupying powers should subsequently recognize some Jewish body as the trustee of Jewish property in general and as the agency for restitution and indemnification, these cultural treasures should also in that event be included in its trusteeship.

2. The Office of Military Government of the United States should create a Board of Advisers to assist it in the ex-education of its trust. It should be the function of the Board to assist the Trustee in all matters relating to the salvaging, safeguarding and disposition of these objects. The members of the Board should be appointed by the Trustee upon the nomination of the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, the Hebrew University, and the Synagogue Council of America. For the reasons stated by Dr. Magnes in his letter to you, dated June 4, 1946, it is appropriate and, indeed, imperative that the University should be included among the organizations which will nominate the members of the Advisory Board. The inclusion of the Council is fitting because it is the organization most representative of Jewish religious interests in the United States.

The creation of this Board will recognize the special and exclusive interest of the Jewish people in these objects and will provide the Trustee with the specialized knowledge both of the objects themselves and of the religious and cultural needs of the Jewish people without which the Trustee will find it difficult if not impossible, to execute the trust.

3. The Trustee should delegate to the Library of Congress the task of classifying and cataloguing those objects and of ascertaining their former situs and owners. Cataloguing will greatly facilitate the safeguarding and ultimate disposition of these objects, and it is a task which only librarians, bibliographers, and other experts can perform.

4. The Trustee should ascertain what Jewish religious and cultural objects of especial value have been lost, destroyed or irreparably damaged since their confiscation, and should require that they be replaced by similar objects of comparable value, if such can be found in German or Austrian libraries, archives and museums.

5. The Trustee should create appropriate tribunals to pass upon claims to these objects. A German or Austrian tribunal is not an appropriate one. On April 27, 1946, it was announced by the Office of Military Government that it proposed to return the control of "property which was the subject of wrongful acts of confiscation, dispossession, or spoliation" to the German land governments which are to assume responsibility for its restitution. We protest as emphatically as we can against the inclusion of Jewish religious and cultural objects in this program. To entrust the disposition of these objects to the German land governments or other German agencies is to desecrate them and gratuitously to offend deeply the Jewish people.

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6. The Trustee should dispose of these objects in accordance with the policies hereinabove set forth, and the recommendations of the Board of Advisers.

I should be glad to discuss these matters with you if you so desire.

Respectfully,

The Commission on European Jewish
Cultural Reconstruction

JEROME MICHAEL
ACTING CHAIRMAN

123537

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LIST OF SCROLLS IN OFFINBACH.

1.	Esther Scroll	Ashkonazio Hand	SI
2.	"	"	SI
3.	"	"	SI
4.	"	"	SV
5.	"	"	SI
6.	"	"	SV
7.	"	"	S'
8.	"	"	SI
9.	"	"	SI
10.	"	"	SV
11.	"	"	S'
12.	"	"	SI
13.	"	"	SV
14.	"	"	SI
15.	"	"	SV
16.	"	"	SI
17.	"	"	SI
18.	"	"	SI
19.	"	"	SI
20.	"	"	SV
21.	"	"	SI
22.	"	"	SV
23.	"	"	S'
24.	"	"	SI
25.	"	"	SV
26.	"	"	SV
27.	"	"	SV
28.	"	"	SI
29.	"	"	SV
30.	"	"	SI
31.	"	"	SI
32.	"	"	SV
33.	"	"	SI
34.	"	"	SI
35.	"	"	SI
36.	"	"	SI
37.	"	"	SI
38.	"	"	SI
39.	"	"	SI
40.	"	"	SI
41.	"	"	SI
42.	"	"	SI
43.	"	"	SI
44.	"	"	SI
45.	"	"	SI
46.	"	"	SI
47.	"	"	SI
48.	"	"	SI
49.	"	"	SI
50.	"	"	SI
51.	"	"	SI
52.	"	"	SI
53.	"	"	SI
54.	"	"	SV
55.	"	"	SI
56.	"	"	SI
57.	"	"	SI
58.	"	"	SI
59.	"	"	SI
60.	"	"	SI

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A	61.	Esthor Scroll	Ashkonazic Hand	SI
	62.	" "	" "	SI
	63.	" "	" "	SI
	64.	" "	" "	SI
	65.	" "	" "	SI
	66.	" "	" "	SI
	67.	" "	" "	SI
	68.	" "	" "	SI
	69.	" "	" "	SW
	70.	" "	" "	SI
	71.	" "	" "	SI
	72.	" "	" "	SI
	73.	" "	" "	SW
	74.	" "	" "	SI
	75.	" "	" "	SW
	76.	" "	Italian Portuguoso	SI
	77.	" "	" "	SI
	78.	" "	" "	SI
	79.	" "	" "	NM
	80.	" "	" "	SW
	81.	" "	" "	SW
	82.	" "	" "	SW
	83.	" "	" "	SW
	84.	" "	Italian Portuguoso	SI
	85.	" "	" "	SI
	86.	" "	Oriontal	SI
	87.	" "	" "	SW
	88.	Jeromiah Scroll	Ashkonazic	UL ✓
	89.	" "	" "	UL ✓
	90.	Kings	" "	UL ✓
	91.	Hiob	" "	UL ✓
	92.	Lamontation	" "	UL ✓
	93.	Ruth	" "	UL ✓
	94.	Song of Songs Scroll	" "	UL ✓
	95.	" " " "	" "	UL ✓
	96.	Joshuo Scroll	" "	UL ✓
	97.	Josaias	" "	UL ✓
	98.	Joshuo	" "	UL ✓
	99.	Haftaroth	" "	UL ✓
	100.	" "	" "	UL ✓
	101.	" " Part	" "	UL ✓
	102.	" " "	" "	UL ✓
	103.	" " "	" "	UL ✓
	104.	Esthor Scroll	" "	NM
	105.	" "	Italian	NM
	106.	" "	Portuguoso	NM
	107.	" "	Ashkonazic	NM
	108.	Little Thora Scroll	" "	NM
	109.	Cabalistic Troo illustr	" "	NM
	110.	" " "	" "	NM
	111.	Esthor Scroll	" "	NM
	112.	" "	" "	UL ✓
	113.	" " Part	" "	GE
	114.	" " "	" "	GE
	115.	" " "	" "	GE
	116.	Thora Scroll Part	" "	GE
	117.	Esthor Scroll Part	" "	GE
	118.	Thora	" "	GE
	119.	Mariago Contract	Sophardio	NM
	120.	Part of thora Scroll		NM

123539

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

Telegrams "JEVABENOY JERUSALEM"

Telephone : 4871 (5 LINES)

Codes : BENTLEY'S

Ref. No. 8519/2/1415

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE
P. O. Box 82,
Jerusalem

21st March,
1946

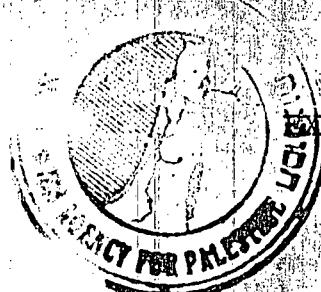
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Professor Gerhard Gershon SCHOLEM and Mr. Abraham YAARI are visiting Europe on a special mission on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the Vaad Leumi, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, for the purpose of getting first-hand information about Jewish libraries plundered by Nazis in Germany and other occupied countries.

Jewish public bodies and individuals everywhere are cordially asked to aid them in every possible way in the pursuit of their mission.

Any assistance accorded to them will be greatly appreciated.


Bernard Joseph
EXECUTIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY.



AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

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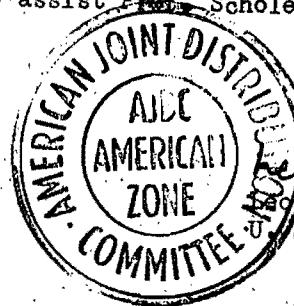
Local address:
Siebertstraße 3
MUNICH

212E
July 24, 1946

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The bearer of this letter, Prof. Gerhard Scholem, of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, is on an official mission in Germany for a short time. He has been assigned, on behalf of the academic world, to investigate extant Hebrew books and treasures, and everything that can be done to facilitate his mission will be deeply appreciated.

Mr. Henry Lilienheim, of the A.J.D.C. staff, has been assigned to assist Prof. Scholem.



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123541

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION ON
EUROPEAN JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION
TO RABBI PHILIP S. BENEFIELD

May 17, 1946

The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction was started a year ago as a fact-finding agency whose ultimate goal was to combine with similar bodies in England (British Jewish Historical Society) and in Palestine (Hebrew University) to form an international advisory board to the Allied governments for the salvage, restitution, and ultimate redistribution of Jewish cultural and religious treasures in Europe.

In order to help with the identification, location, and the ultimate establishment of losses, the Commission published an extensive catalogue--"Tentative List of Jewish Cultural Treasures in Axis-Occupied Countries"--of all Jewish libraries, museums, and archives as they existed before Nazi confiscation, with an appendix listing more important collections of non-Jewish libraries, archives, and museums.

In October 1945, Professor Koppel S. Pinson, the Secretary of the Commission, went over to Germany as Educational Director of the American-Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed by Judge Rifkind to head a three-man committee assigned to the huge depots of Judenau and Hobralen in the American Zone, especially in Offenbach.

The following Jewish organizations during the last year tried to win some kind of recognition for the looted Jewish book and art collections--a memorandum signed by the Board of Jewish Deputies in England, the American Jewish Conference, the World Jewish Congress, and the Jewish Agency of Palestine proposed to establish the Hebrew University in Palestine as the sole trustee of the Jewish cultural treasures in Europe. The Hebrew University itself contacted different agencies such as the American section of SHAEF and the American Consul General in Jerusalem. No answer to the general claim of the Hebrew University has been given, but two experts have been granted transport facilities and are expected in Germany shortly.

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In March 1946, the Commission received various letters from Captain Fonrenze and Professor Pinson, stressing the following points:

1. It would be advisable to transfer all unidentifiable objects of the Offenbach Depot (probably the bulk of the material there) to America because there is a very immediate and great danger that the Soviet Union may claim everything that comes from Russia, Poland, Lithuania, the Baltic States, Czechoslovakia, and Russian occupied Germany--regardless of legal ownership.
2. Official claims at this time from Palestine, a country from which no part of this collection has come and which, unfortunately, is not recognized as possessing any legal claims in restitution proceedings, would not only be not recognized, but may serve to stimulate Russian claims.
3. The Library of Congress Mission, which had secured official representation, will have facilities to have all unidentifiable books sent to the United States, where the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction can take over and ultimately help in the redistribution. This would solve the main problem which is to get the books out of Germany as quickly as possible.

The Commission thereupon contacted the State and War Departments and the Library of Congress. During an extensive talk with Dr. Luther Evans of the Library of Congress, he took the following stand:

1. He was convinced that we will never get any international Jewish trusteeship, simply for the reason that no private group would have any chance with military authorities.
2. He suggested that the War Occupational Authorities should appoint their respective national libraries as trustees of all cultural Jewish property found in the respective zones of occupation. These trustees again should appoint Jewish bodies to act in an advisory capacity.
3. The Congress Library, at any rate, would be willing to accept the trusteeship. Packing, transport, and cataloging would be its responsibility. Jewish experts appointed by the Commission would be taken on their own staff. They are prepared to add Jewish experts to their own missions in Germany.
4. Redistribution of hairless and unidentifiable property would be made upon the advice of the Jewish bodies.

5. In the case of Russian claims for identifiable Eastern Jewish collections, Evans suggested that the Russians may accept military libraries now in the American Zone in exchange for Jewish cultural property originating from Russian or Russian dominated territory.
6. Evans concluded by emphasizing that the occupying powers had decided to seize all military or party collections. The latter would apply anyhow to the Offenbach Depot since most of the property there comes from the Rosenberg Party Institute, and can be confiscated if it is not identifiable Allied property.

The Commission then contacted the following national Jewish organizations with which it has been in close cooperation throughout its existence: The American Jewish Committee, The American Jewish Conference, and the World Jewish Congress. During a full meeting of the Commission on May 12, it was decided to submit to the State Department a memorandum which fundamentally accepts the proposals of the Library of Congress. This would mean that the American Government would appoint the Library of Congress as trustee over all existing depots of Jewish art, archival, and book collections in the American Zone--this trusteeship to be exercised in the interest of the Jewish people and for the purpose of reestablishing Jewish cultural and religious values. The Commission should be recognized in an advisory capacity in all phases of the work, especially when pertaining to questions of restitution and redistribution. In this respect, the Commission adopted the following principles:

1. Identifiable objects belonging to private owners shall be restored to the owners or to their successors in title.
2. Identifiable objects formerly property of German or Austrian Jewish communities should be dealt with in the following manner: In view of the fact that these communities have dwindled down to a negligible size, that the majority of their former members now live in other countries, and that a majority of the present members is likely to emigrate in the near future, these objects should not simply be restored to them, but be held in trust for a certain period until it is determined that the community will be able to use the objects for religious and cultural purposes and will not sell or dissipate them.
3. As to objects which belonged to institutions of higher learning, theological seminaries, and other corporate owners, it was decided to take into consideration the fact that all these institutions did not serve only the needs of local Jewry, but those of European Jewry as a whole and even those of world Jewry. In other words, a majority of the students and teachers in theological institutions in Vienna, Berlin, Breslau, ~~and Prague~~, etc. were foreigners. Rabbis trained in these institutions served in all eastern and central

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European communities and even in America, regardless of nationality. If the money for the establishment and support of these institutions came from European countries up to the outbreak of the First World War, their support depended mainly on American Jewry after the inflation of the early twenties. Moreover, since none of these foundations have been reestablished, it was decided to put these objects into the common pool destined for ultimate redistribution.

4. This common pool will also comprise all unidentifiable objects, all heirless and unclaimed objects, and all communal properties not subject to restitution, according to Page 3, paragraph 8.
5. Redistribution shall be determined by the cultural and religious needs of the Jewish people all over the world as well as of those Jews who have suffered at the hands of the Nazis. The erection of a Memorial Library at the Hebrew University to commemorate the millions of slaughtered European Jews should be seriously considered.

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W 733 / [7] 8-12

23rd August, 1946.

Dr. Stephen Wise,
Jewish Institute on Religion,
40 West 68th Street,
NEW YORK.

Dear Dr. Wise,

In connection with our talk of the 22nd August, I want to summarise some of the points which I wished to stress. After my visit to Germany, and having come to know the situation regarding the Jewish libraries, I would like to make the following suggestions:

The World Jewish Congress should be ready to take a line uniform to that of the other big organizations regarding the policy suggested to the State Department. I have not the slightest doubt that if great Jewish organizations quarrel between themselves, we stand no chance to get any decision, and certainly not one on the line we would like most. The authorities in Germany are deadly afraid of taking a decision and are referring everything to Washington. Everybody to whom I spoke, including the people of the Fine Arts and Monuments Commission, implored me to do what I could to work for one policy to be advocated. They say that if the Jews between themselves are divided, even the State Department will be afraid of making a decision, and the whole business may linger for years. To this must be added the fact that I have not found anybody who thinks it possible that a direct transfer of the libraries to Palestine may be achieved, and no decision on that line is within our reach.

On the other hand, I consider it very important to get these collections, as far as they are still there, out of Germany as soon as possible. The longer they remain there, the greater the danger will be for losing parts of them. Any place outside Germany would be better than to leave them at their present place, although they are now kept in boxes after having been sorted in a very summary fashion.

I feel that you, as President of the World Jewish Congress, would render a service to our cause if you took such action as to ensure that a united Jewish front regarding the machinery to be set up for the disposal of these books be adopted.

I am not in a position to express an opinion as to the value of the suggestions made in the memorandum which has been submitted to the State Department by the Committee of Spiritual Instruction under Professor Baron's chairmanship. But I can say that I am certain that action on these lines

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will be better than discussing and quarrelling for another period.

I hope you will be able to discuss the situation with Dr. Friederbusch. I am sending copy of this letter to Dr. Hugues for his information.

I hope very much that something will be accomplished in the near future resulting in the final restitution of these collections to Jerusalem, although not directly but through the intermediary of a responsible Agency to be set up by the great Jewish organisations.

With kind regards and many thanks,

sincerely yours,

Berhardt Scholem.

GS/Hre.

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the members of the party except those which had been paid. The other expenses, such as stationery, postage, telegrams, telephone calls, etc., were met by the party. The party was not to exceed \$1000 per month, and the amount to be spent on each member was fixed at \$1000.

1946 ५६८६ ४२०

**לכב' ר' רוד' ו' סגנורה
בירושלים**

להוסיף לר' באנן בראות פרטן דבריהם אחריהם.

את הדברים בירושלים דרך המפללה, שכנראה אפשר היה לסדר בעודת רוחן או שלא הלבנו-דרה פלובז'ה הסעד. ור' יוסטס

כאות נחברתו שניי דברים: א) שאחרבו לפוחרת-שנים שלשה-חדשים, ובאנזים
ב) שאחרבו לגבורה בכל האפרארטמנטים עליונים, הם אומרים שאפזר היה להוציא הרבה מאוד מהדברים
וילא יהודים לאנרכיסטים, בנו, לפניהן, מושט, אלא שביונתי יסתוררו, מכמה צדדים יהודים

ב) יחוּ עַל הַבָּזִינְטָנִיאִינְגֹּו חֶד-מַשְׁמַעְתִּי. אֲמַאָקָר - מַצְדָּא-אַחֲד הַם רַוְצִים לְעֹזֶר
וְבָלִי סְפָק, וּבְדָבָרִים, קְסֻבִּים - בְּסַעַדְרוֹ - לְבָנוֹ כָּאן, וּמַצְדָּא שְׁבִי הַם בִּירְרוֹקְסִיטִים מְאֹו
וְאֲנָחָנוּ מַרְגִּיבִּיטִים יִפְהָ שאֲנָחָנוּ מְפֹרְזִיעִים לְהָם. הַיּוֹ לֵין-אַשְׁיחָות, אַחֲדוֹת דִּי
סְוּעָרוֹת עַם יְדִידָךְ מֵרְגַּזְלִי אֲשָׁהָוָא אַדְם קְטוּנוֹנִי, וְאַבְלָמָהָאָד שְׁהִיה לְבָנוֹ עַטְקָ
לֹא עַם דָּרְשָׂרָץ שְׁהָוָא כְּנָרָה בָּעֵל קוֹמָה אַחֲוָה, אַלְאָ שְׁחָדָר דָּק-הַיּוֹם לְפָרִי
לְאַחֲרָא שְׁכָבָר הַפְּסָדָנוּ הַרְבָּה זָמָן.

יש לנו הרים, אפריל, אינטנסיבי יכול להובייך לך קצת במאה או יותר, יונדרז'ינה
היה רואת מטעם חטמולה שלו באמריקה בעין טוביה מאוד העברת הטכניון
לאמריקה כדי שיוכלו להציגו הנה מה עשיינו בתשליל יהודות אפריקאי. ביגנדיים
ראינו את המאבק ובקאוונו עם עוזרתו של רות קלטנר שהחצנויה מאוד בכל העניין ו
ומקווה להסייע להם קצת אם תאפשרו. היא מכירה קצת אם א' האב� כאן ואמרה

לנו שהאמריקאים שבهم מתייחסים דוקא בחיוב לשליחותינו. דבר שאנשי אג' הדזווינט אינם מודים בר ורואים קשיים מסביב לכל פנה. במקורה הטוב יסדרו את עביניו, בערך מתחילה השבעה הבה ואוני את זאת כמו אם אורכל לאאת מכאן בראשון למאיו, בינווחים נקבע גם את הויזה לפראג ואולן נציגך לחכום בגין עד שתחבל כדי לי להפסיק זפן בראשו ושוב. כל הויזות אלה קבלתי בירושלים דורשת גם כאן זמן רב וטפول מרובה.

ושאני שלא עשים בחכמה בטענה שנוגע לאינטראנס הכספים שלנו שביקחתם כף מהדזווינט אך ורק בזולותה של הארץ הצעירה. פרוש הדבר הוא שחדוזינט יחש בכם את הלירת בשער הרומי וירוח בליך על חשבונכם. אלו היינו מקבלים בגין ואלו הם היו הויזותינו מחמעות כמעט עד החזי. ועליך לידע שחייב יוצאה כאן במים. המחרית איוםם והדזווינט סרב גם אחריו בטענה תחכום מצדך להכיל אוthon עם אנשיו הוא מה היה עולמה האליז.

הם מחנכים בחומר מקומם ולאחר שהתקוטתי לך, לא רצית להבייא הדבר לסקרן אלוי אתם בגלו, כספם, ואנחנו אוכלים בטונרכ' השוווק. הימין,

אינני מרגיש טוב בכל המצב הזה וากה שמדובר בהתחלה כטנגש לעצם תקידב בגרמניה.

מה שראיתי, בכמה شيוחה עם יהודי צרפתן מארץ? כבר נפגשתי

בכמת אנטישט, מהם, אבל פשחת, בקדוכה דהוקה מהוילו את ילדיהם והסבירו לי שיש אורך שהשכיח את לדותם שם יהודים. זה היה קדוכת

אג' אורה נחבוך ללא ספק שנטוחר בכלם בנדי' אבא וכבר עדו הכוונות ביטיהם האלה לאחמי, לנו מה שנחוץ. נמי כדי אי אפשר כלל לנוטע טן.

אבקש אותך לא לשכוח. את עניין הזה האגדлич ולהוציא לי אם כבר

נתקלת אינך עבירך אזהה הנחה. לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי.

אינני יזרוח לך צב' עלי' דברים אלה למגנווט, כי הוו מאמין' בתפימות לב בעילונו של אנשי הדשו' גט, אמודנה שקודה לי לקלקל אזהה.

אתם מארץ מארץ לא שטוף, מארץ לישטוף מארץ מה אמריקא אצליינו.

הבריאות הבלתי. לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי.

אתם מארץ מארץ לא שטוף, מארץ לישטוף מארץ מה אמריקא אצליינו.

הבריאות הבלתי. לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי.

אתם מארץ מארץ לא שטוף, מארץ לישטוף מארץ מה אמריקא אצליינו.

הבריאות הבלתי. לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי, לא יתיר לך לא לפקחה ולא שטוי.

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AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND-PARIS

19, RUE DE TÉHÉRAN

PARIS (8^e)

22nd May, 1946.

TÉLÉPHONES
LABORDE 07-70
70-84

Dr. J. L. Magnes,
C/- American Friends of the Hebrew University,
10 E. 40 Street,
NEW YORK CITY. 16.

NEW YORK/

Dear Dr. Magnes,

I am awfully sorry that I missed you on your passing through Paris. I was advised that you would come through on the 18th, and I tried several times at Orly, meeting various planes, without finding you, and only later I learned that you came through before I had expected you. This is all the more regrettable as I wanted to give you a full picture of the state of things here, which I could have done very well within the hour of your stay.

I sent you a cable yesterday stating how unfortunately things have developed lately. When the military authorities in Berlin refused to allow our entry into Germany, Dr. Schwartz tried hard to get a permit by some other means, through the J.D.C. representative in Germany. This was granted after some delay, and Dr. Schwartz told me that the permit would be in in a day or so, and I would be able to leave, disguised as an Educational Officer of the J.D.C., since the name of the Hebrew University seems to have aroused political or other suspicions when we put forward our first application.

Dr. Schwartz was very optimistic about getting us entry, but things were delayed more and more. Finally, however, we did have word from American Headquarters in Arolsen stating that they had no objections to my coming if properly documented, and I should be sent there for temporary duty on behalf of U.N.R.R.A. We thought everything was alright, but we were bitterly disappointed when we learned that this approval had to be brought before the Security Office a second time, and they said they would have to call back Berlin, which, I am afraid, means calling just the same authority on whose files I have gone down as "permission refused," which with the military, is a pretty bad precedent! The J.D.C. here tried to speak to them, but as far as I understand, to no avail. The Liaison Officer here thinks it might take up to another three weeks before they get an answer, and I am very much afraid it will be just the same refusal as I had three weeks ago.

/The

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123550

The difficulty is this, that once you have been refused by the Central Authority, there seems to be no way to get around them to try to slide in by some subterfuge; anyhow, I think I am not entitled to leave here as long as there may be any reasonable hope to get things straightened out and the J.D.C. is still hopeful to get my permit through the intervention of the newly-appointed Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the American Army in Germany, who is expected here. This is Rabbi Phil Bernstein, whom you may happen to know.

When the first refusal came in, I cabled to Dr. Wise, asking for the intervention in Washington of Zionist bodies, but now that you are in the States, I think you may be able to decide what steps should be reasonably taken from your end, and I am not going to bother the Zionist Emergency Committees or the Jewish World Congress any further at this juncture.

If you have any ideas or advice as to what practical steps you may be able to take with the American military authorities, please let me know.

Meanwhile, I have been trying to get a Czech visa to settle this business of the Books in Prague and Fresbourg, but I have had the same visa difficulties with Prague which we had in Jerusalem. The people just don't even answer - not even our own friends in Prague to whom I cabled on Leo Herman's advice, who thought it would be a very simple matter for them to settle my entry, but even he keeps silent. We have sent several cables, and I am still awaiting a visa. Should it come through, I will at once go there and see how things are, and leave it to the J.D.C. to find out about the Germany entry visa.

I feel very depressed about the failure to get where we want to be. Yaari has left for Palestine, since he thought that the position was hopeless and anyhow there would be no sense in two people going to Germany since we have collected information about the situation there which, in his opinion, was very unfavourable. At any rate, I have decided to stick it out, and would return to Palestine only if I have to give up all hope of doing any real business here. Meanwhile, I have contacted many circles of French Jewry, and especially of Jewish Youth, speaking to lots of them on every occasion which presents itself, and the picture I got is rather a depressing one. They are not at all in the state of mind that we suppose them to be, and the trends leading away from Judaism are stronger than the opposite ones, as far as I can see.

There is no ship to Palestine before June 12th, and if I do not return then I shall have to wait here for another four weeks, unless I get air transportation, which is rather difficult.

/I

123551

I forgot to tell you about the British Zone in Germany. With a letter of introduction given by the Government of Palestine which you secured for me, I was pretty sure, I thought, to get into the British Zone, although there is not very much to be seen that concerns my mission, but I wanted very much to go to Hamburg. But the British turned us down just the same, which fact I am unable to explain, whereas the American attitude explains itself, by the policy regarding the library, about which I cabled to Jerusalem.

I went to see the British Ambassador in Paris, Mr. Duff Cooper, to whom I had an introduction, but I doubt if his intervention with the British Military Authorities will be effective. There must be something wrong with the whole system - people suspecting us of some sinister motive, of which we are unaware.

Berlin and Vienna are inter-allied, and I would need a special clearance for these very important places, which seems to be very difficult to obtain. The Vienna authorities refused right away, even before the Berlin authorities refused. On the other hand, I am advised that the Community in Vienna would be prepared to consider cessation of their Library to the University, if official request were made by the University authorities.

If I were able to go through, I might have been able to settle the business affairs on the spot, but I could not do anything in writing from here, because all credentials would go through Russian censorship, and might result in pressure on the Vienna community.

I hope you are well and are succeeding in getting American Jewry to agree with your proposals regarding the steps to be taken by a United Jewish Front.

I would be glad to hear from you and the steps you have been able to take.

With kind regards to Dr. Senator and all our friends,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

G. Scholem.

GS/hre.

123552

9. August 1946.

N/Wi

Titl.

Hebrew University,

Jerusalem.

Die Juedische Gemeinde zu Berlin hat zuverlaessige Nachrichten darueber empfangen, dass grosse Bestaende ihrer ehemaligen Bibliothek sowie Bibliotheken anderer frueherer Institutionen aus Berlin vom Reichssicherheitshauptamt No. 7 (Gestapo) im Jahre 1943 auf das Gebiet der cehoslovakischen Republik verbracht worden sind. Sie befanden sich zuletzt in Schloss N i e m e s (bei Reichenberg) Bochmen. (Mimon- u Liberce).

Da die Juedische Gemeinde wuenscht, dass diese Bestaende fuer die juedische Kulturarbeit auf die fruchtbarste Weise an der Stelle lebendigsten juedischen Lebens verwendet werden, wuenscht sie, dass die Hebrew University in Jerusalem als zentrales Kulturinstitut des juedischen Volkes die treuhaenderische Verwaltung dieser Sammlungen - speziell der Bibliothek der Juedischen Gemeinde zu Berlin - uebernimmt.

Wir ersuchen die Hebrew University in Jerusalem respekt. deren Stellvertreter in der cehoslovakischen Republik alle Schritte zu unternehmen, um die Ueberfuehrung dieser Bestaende nach Jerusalem sicher zu stellen.

Vorstand der Juedischen
Gemeinde zu Berlin

.....
Der Vorsitzende des Vorstandes
der Juedischen Gemeinde zu Berlin

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Hebrew University, Jerusalem
Dr. J. L. Magnes, New York

July 29, 1946

I am writing to you shortly before leaving Munich for Berlin, where I expect to stay some days. I shall have to decide whether or not to go into the British Zone.

To my great distress, I found out in Frankfurt that the whole Hebraica collection of the Municipal Library, the most valuable collection in Germany, was burned during an air-raid on the 18th of March 1944. The Judaica and Hebraica have been saved. I spoke to the newly appointed socialist director of this Municipal Library (Oppelsheimer) about the question of initiative being taken by German authorities for the secession of these Hebrew manuscripts and part of the Judaica. He was very sympathetic and willing to consider it with his municipal authorities. To put such a proposal through would, of course, require much time. Naturally, our position with regard to Frankfurt is a relatively simple one since all these objects were paid for by Jews.

This is not the case with regard to the Hebrew manuscripts in the Munich State Library, where the famous Codex 96 of the Talmud is to be found. Whereas nothing else is left in Munich of any Jewish collection and no trace is as yet available, the Hebraica collection and the Hebrew manuscripts of the State Library have been saved.

I have had discussions with several people of important connections with the Bavarian Government, which is the legal owner of the objects, and have taken the same line as in Frankfurt. I said that it might be an important moral gesture if German authorities, of their own free will, would turn over certain of these objects, and especially the Munich Manuscript of the Talmud, to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem as a symbolic act towards the Jewish people and as a first step toward bridging the awful abyss that has been created between the two peoples.

I have a very reliable and influential man in Munich who is willing to act as mediator and induce the Bavarian Government to take steps in this direction. This is Prof. Hans Ludwig Held, director of the Municipal Library. He and other people who take an interest in the matter are asking me, "what would be the answer from Jerusalem to such a symbolic gesture of goodwill on the part of the Germans?" They do not want to be "spit in the face" by a provocative answer.

Prof. Held in Munich, who could act for us, is an outstanding anti-Nazi and one of the few people in Germany with a deep knowledge of things Jewish, whom I have known for many years and whom I was glad to find holding a high position. He believes that the decision about such an offer might be

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July 29, 1946

dependent upon the manner in which the offer would be received. The Bavarian Government might not wish to be exposed to embarrassment through a high-handed attitude to such a voluntary offer. I, personally, expressed the opinion that the University would give a decent and encouraging answer to such a symbolic act of restituting important Jewish treasures which are legally in the hand of the Bavarian Government. I said that the University might recall the existence of two Germany's and, at any rate, would take an attitude in line with general humanistic and liberal principles which it has always stood for.

I should like to know whether I could give definite assurances to my men regarding this question. The acquisition of Hebrew manuscripts from the publicly owned libraries in Germany through acts of goodwill might be an important step towards filling the gap that has been created by the disappearance of practically all the manuscripts in the Jewish-owned libraries, which is one of the worst features of my experience here. No one knows where these manuscripts are and there is little hope that they will turn up in the near future. They may have been burned in one of the air-raids on Berlin before they could be stored away abroad. I shall try to get some information about this in Berlin.

I would appreciate a cabled reply to Paris regarding the point I have raised.

I am enclosing copy of a letter from Dr. Maerz regarding the situation in Prague. From Paris I have dispatched a detailed report to the University on my activities there and in Vienna and I wonder why receipt was never acknowledged. Re the Copenhagen proposal which is mentioned by Dr. Maerz, I have heard of it already in Prague in a very vague way. Some days ago I had the opportunity of speaking to Prof. Bentwich over the telephone and he told me he had seen a report about the meeting of Unesco and that there was a discussion but no decision; and, anyhow, the Commission was not entitled to make a decision. Nevertheless I think the Hebrew University should officially communicate with the University Library of Copenhagen and ask them to withdraw their claim in favor of the Jewish people.

I think it is important to clarify the points which I have mentioned in this and previous reports. I feel that I have initiated actions which would require weeks and months, and which would lead nowhere unless we find people on the spot who are really interested in taking over the several tasks involved. I feel, further, that there has been a basic error in my mission: we have underestimated the time required to achieve anything here. As things are, I should have come here for at least half a year, and, what is more important, I should have enjoyed complete freedom of movement in the Zones, something which takes considerable time to secure and effort, if I was expected to do more than a mere survey of the situation in Frankfurt, which was relatively easy to do.

Now Gen. Clay and the Commission for the Preservation of Fine Arts and Monuments have been interested in my mission by Rabbi Philip Bernstein, and I understand that I have been invited to Berlin only because the Military Authorities want me to go into the British Zone and later report to them. If this meant a short visit, I would be prepared to undertake it. I have, however, serious doubts as to whether anything of importance could be accomplished during a rushed trip. Moreover, I feel that I should be very careful in taking over a task on behalf of the Military Authorities. There may be no visible results at all as no one seems to know about any cultural objects of value in the British Zone. In the event I decide not to go into the British Zone, I shall leave Germany about the middle of August.

Best regards and greetings to all our friends,
Yours very tired,

Gershon Scholem

123555

23rd August, 1946.

Dr. Stephen Wise,
Jewish Institute on Religion, will be able to discuss his situation with
40 West 68th Street. I am sending copy of this letter to Dr. Hopkins for
NEW YORK.

I hope very much that something will be accomplished in
the year 1947 resulting in the final restitution of these collections
by Germany, although not directly but through the intermediary of a
body of Jews, machinery to be set up by the great Jewish organizations.

Dear Dr. Wise,

In connection with our talk of the 22nd August, I want to
summarize some of the points which I wished to stress. After my visit to
Germany, and having come to know the situation regarding the Jewish
libraries, I would like to make the following suggestions:

The World Jewish Congress should be ready to take a line
uniform to that of the other big organizations regarding the policy
suggested to the State Department. I have not the slightest doubt
that if great Jewish organizations quarrel between themselves, we stand
no chance to get any decision, and certainly not one on the line we would
like most. The authorities in Germany are deadly afraid of taking a
decision and are referring everything to Washington. Everybody to whom
I spoke, including the people of the Fine Arts and Monuments Commission,
implored me to do what I could to work for one policy to be advocated.
They say that if the Jews between themselves are divided, even the State
Department will be afraid of making a decision, and the whole business may
linger for years. To this must be added the fact that I have not found
anybody who thinks it possible that a direct transfer of the libraries to
Palestine may be achieved, and no decision on that line is within our reach.

On the other hand, I consider it very important to get these
collections, as far as they are still there, out of Germany as soon as
possible. The longer they remain there, the greater the danger will be
for losing parts of them. Any place outside Germany would be better than
to leave them at their present place, although they are now kept in boxes
after having been sorted in a very summary fashion.

I feel that you, as President of the World Jewish Congress,
would render a service to our cause if you took such action as to ensure
that a united Jewish front regarding the machinery to be set up for the
disposal of these books be adopted.

I am not in a position to express an opinion as to the value
of the suggestions made in the memorandum which has been submitted to the State
Department by the Committee of Spiritual Instruction under Professor Baron's
chairmanship. But I can say that I am certain that action on these lines

/will

123556

2/22

-2-

will be better than discussing and quarrelling for another period.

I hope you will be able to discuss the situation with Dr. Friederbusch. I am sending copy of this letter to Dr. Magnes for his information.

I hope very much that something will be accomplished in the near future resulting in the final restitution of these collections to Jerusalem, although not directly but through the intermediary of a responsible Agency to be set up by the great Jewish organisations.

With kind regards and many thanks,

sincerely yours,

Gerhardt Scholem.

OS/lre.

123557

December 5, 1946

2/24

in the formation of a single corporation, in which the cultural property would be separately administered. We agreed as to the obviously greater efficiency of a single corporation, the advantages of not having to raise special funds for cultural treasures and of avoiding many detailed controversies over what constitutes "Jewish cultural" property, etc.

These negotiations are still proceeding apace both here and in Europe and it may take several weeks before they will be completed. Dr. Schwartz of the J.D.C. took along to Europe a joint memorandum which he wishes to discuss with Eliezer Kaplan of the Jewish Agency. In the meantime we are taking only such steps as are absolutely necessary not to prejudice the realization of our program.

Should we see a few weeks from now that the broader negotiations are not leading to any immediate results we shall go ahead with our original plans and form a Trusteeship Corporation for the cultural property which might, if need be, be subsequently merged with that general trusteeship.

Dr. Michael and I have also discussed your request concerning the OMCUS intervention in Czechoslovakia. We shall do whatever we can to comply with your suggestion.

Incidentally, in his reply of Dec. 18, 1946, to the National Jewish Welfare Board which had written to him in support of our proposals, General

Hilldring writes again,

"The Department of State has been giving earnest consideration to the proposals of the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, and has indicated to the Commission that it regards the objectives favorably. The Department appreciates the interest of the Jewish Welfare Board in the preservation of the objects in question."

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

(-)

Salo W. Baron

Doctor Judah L. Magnes
The Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

12/I/47/hr

123559

Hebrew OZ ROT. Hagola
U. N. U. L. 4° 293/212 II

COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The formation of a ~~subsidiary~~ affiliated with in which the cultural property will be separately handled by the CONFERENCE ON JEWISH RELATIONS, Inc., obviously greater efficiency of a private corporation, the advantages of not having to raise special funds for cultural purposes being many. Many detailed controversey over what amounts Chairman: Selig W. Baron
Secretaries: Uriah Z. Engelman, Koppel S. Pinson
Deputy Negotiation Committee on Cooperation: Horace M. Kallen, Chairman
Committee on Legal Problems: Jerome Michael,
It was felt several months ago that they will be completed. Dr. Schwartz of the J.D.C. took along to Europe a joint memorandum which he wishes to discuss with Max Rosen Kaplan of the Jewish Agency. In December 26, 1946, taking only such steps as are absolutely necessary not to prejudice the realization of

Dear Doctor Magness:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 3rd and its enclosures. I am delighted to learn that Prof. Bergmann made good progress with the negotiations in Prague on how that the broader negotiations are progressing to my important point. Jewish to inform you Prof. Sholem and the other members of your committee of what has happened in the last few weeks.

The replies which have come from Generals McMarney for Germany and Clark for Austria to the cables summarizing our proposals, though not unfriendly in regard to the general principle, raised considerable questions in detail. Since Austria is far less important in this respect than Germany, we have concentrated on the points raised by IJAMUS in Germany. The enclosed analysis by Prof. Michael of our proposals and the objections thereto, will give you a general idea of what questions have been raised.

Our negotiations in this respect, however, were superseded by General Clay's arrival in this country. It was agreed that a conversation with him might help straighten matters out quickly. These expectations proved true and a two-hour conference with the General, a couple of weeks ago, greatly clarified the issues involved. The enclosed brief summary of that conversation may give you a general idea of what was spoken there, although a few other significant details were also discussed.

We felt that under the circumstances we should proceed with the formation of the Trusteeship Corporation. However, almost at the last moment we have been approached by the American Jewish Conference which, together with the J.D.C., Jewish Agency, American Jewish Committee and the World Jewish Congress, has been negotiating recently with both Clay and the State Department for the formation of a general Trusteeship Corporation to take care of Jewish economic property, private and communal. They have asked us to delay our action until their proposals will become definitive and subsequently join hands with them.

12/1/47/m

123558

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Members of the Board of Directors
The Members of the Advisory Committee

FROM: Hannah Arendt

August 29, 1950

1. Due to unforeseen delays on the part of the military authorities, we have not yet received title to the individually owned books. This has also resulted in a very serious delay in the processing of these books.

As you know, we are very eager to terminate activities in the American zone and are committed to do so by the end of the year. In order to accelerate the shipping of this material—which is of less value than the collections which we have handled up to now—I should like to request your permission to have these books shipped unsorted, according to our key, i.e. 40% to Israel, 40% to the Western Hemisphere and 20% to all other countries. This would mean that each country would take "pot luck".

2. Very soon we may be confronted with another similar problem. A great number of books in the Offenbach depot (about 100,000) of non-Jewish content were given into the custody of the Hesse Ministry for Cultural Affairs, for eventual distribution to German libraries. In view of the fact that many of these books were formerly Jewish property, I communicated with the Ministry and with the present custodian of these books, Prof. Eppelsheimer in Frankfurt a/M. We agreed to the following arrangement; Prof. Eppelsheimer is now restituting some of this material to a number of claimants. When this restitution is finished, the books that are left will be divided between JCR and the German libraries on a 50-50 basis.

I do not know how valuable this material is and Prof. Scholem will try to give us a definite opinion on this collection during his trip to Germany, in September. If the material is not very valuable, the tedious and expensive job of sorting according to categories might better be avoided and these books too might be shipped in unopened cases to their ultimate destination.

Kindly cast your vote on the enclosed card.

Hannah Arendt.

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