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September 25, 1950

Dear Dr. Lowenthal:

I just received Prof. Scholem's report about his negotiations in Berlin, which were quite successful. The following information is confidential:

1. It seems that the Gesamt-Archiv will be transferred within the next two to four weeks (unberufen). The other archival material which I saw in Oranienburgerstrasse will probably also be shipped to Jerusalem.

2. Prof. Scholem has come to an oral agreement, which he confirmed in writing, that the following categories of the present Berlin Jewish community's holdings should be exchanged for books from JCR: Judaica, scholarly; Hebraica, including Rabbinics, if these are not needed; Hebrew and German periodicals; non-Jewish scientific literature. In exchange, the Berlin community needs, in addition to the 500 volumes which we have set aside, books in the following categories:

- (a) If possible, one or two complete sets of the Talmud;
- (b) Poskim;
- (c) Pentateuch with commentary;
- (d) Zionistica
- (e) Goldschmidt-Talmud

Dr. Freyer told him that five sets (?) of the Goldschmidt-Talmud were shipped to London, where nobody needs them. Is this correct? If so, I would suggest that we ask Dr. Rabinovic to return at least one set. Please let us hear from you about this.

APR 1953

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JCR

126



285
September 25, 1950

Dr. Lowenthal (2)

The community also seems willing to let us have 100 Torah Scrolls.

If the 500 Berlin books have not yet left Wiesbaden, please ship as soon as you can overcome the technical difficulties and advise Dr. Freyer as well as Mr. Galinski (Joachimsthaler Strasse 13) that the books are en route.

Also try as much as possible, even if you have to take books from the South American allotments, to fill the above enumerated needs of the community. They should get a minimum of 1,000 and a maximum of 1500 books.

At this moment I do not see any need for your going to Berlin. Let's see what is going to happen. As soon as I hear from you that the books are being shipped, I will write to Mr. Galinski, who, according to Prof. Scholem, is more sympathetic to our requests than Freyer.

With kindest regards

Sincerely yours

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

123062



Copy

October 19, 1950

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

Dear Dr. Shunami:

I am writing you today because of the Eppelsheimer collection in Frankfurt a/M. Dr. Lowenthal, who will be in charge of this operation, has sent us (letter of October 10th) his working plan and the budget which he will require. I assume that you read or can read his letter, since he sent a copy to Prof. Scholem.

On page 4 of this letter, you will find his budget requirements, amounting to a total of 10,000 marks. You are, of course, aware of the fact that in this instance the Occupation Authorities do not defray any of the charges. Our feeling here is that this budget may err in underestimating rather than overestimating the involved costs.

We shall have very great difficulties in obtaining this mark budget from JRSO. The main reason is of course that JRSO is actually short in marks and that marks are as good as dollars today. When we handed in our budget for the last six months of operation, we did not know that the Eppelsheimer books would come through, and therefore did not make any budgetary application for them. But even if we had known, it is not likely that we would have been able to increase our present budget, which was granted with the proviso that this is definitely the last allocation for the recovery of cultural property in Germany.

The overwhelming majority of this material will go to Israel which is only just, since JCR would probably never have claimed these books had it not been for your insistence.

ARC 43 333/497
JCR / 123563

Dr. S. Shunami (2)

October 19, 1950

According to the decision of the last Board of Directors meeting, all Judaica will go to the Hebrew University and two thirds of the remainder to the Hebrew University and Israel. This means that a minimum of 70% of the material will be shipped to you.

I think you will agree that it will be only fair if we treat certain expenses in Dr. Lowenthal's budget as expenses incurred for shipping to Israel, that is we shall charge it to you. JCR will try to get the necessary funds for the salaries of workers and also of course for the salary of Dr. Lowenthal. All other expenses, i.e. boxes, other packing material, storage fees, packers, inland transportation, etc. should be paid by you to the extent that the books are shipped to you, that is roughly 70% of the total, which in terms of Dr. Lowenthal's budget, will amount to approximately 7,500 marks.

I cabled Dr. Lowenthal in order to find out how big the fund which you left with him still is. He cabled back that he still has 500 (I assume pounds), which also must cover the remaining shipments from Wiesbaden. I do not know how high these will be.

In order to facilitate and accelerate the work in Frankfurt, I would suggest that you authorize us by cable to use the remaining funds in Germany for the work in Frankfurt, and that you include in the cable, if possible, your agreement to share in the costs involved on the basis which I outlined above. I am very much afraid that without such a cable we shall not be able to start the work in Frankfurt. It is quite possible that the whole project will depend on your answer.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Prof. Scholem and I trust that you will talk the matter over with him.

Many thanks for your letter of October 11th. I have not yet had the time to look into the rare book matter, but I shall let you know if that list is what I need.

With kindest regards to Scholem and yourself

Sincerely yours

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

cc: GS

3564

April 18, 1950

Dr. H. Gerling
The Executive of the Jewish Agency
P.O.Box 92
Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Dr. Gerling:

Dr. Katzenstein sent me copy of your letter to him of March 26 referring to your plan to send a team of ten persons into Germany in order to search for Jewish cultural objects.

I just spent almost four months in Germany for exactly the same purpose. I visited three Western zones and Berlin and wrote detailed reports about my findings in each of the three zones.

My reaction to the three points of Dr. Narkiss is the following: (1) Although Jewish Cultural Reconstruction asked only for Jewish-owned objects of Jewish content, following the advice of Dr. Shunemi, I made one exception: The American military authorities have at one time transferred to the Hesse government more than 100,000 books of non-Jewish content and not marked with Jewish names, from the Offenbach depot. These books, consisting of general German literature and of no special value, are now under the custodianship of Professor Eppelsheimer in Frankfurt. The majority of the books is unidentifiable as to ownership. After restitution to proper claimer has been made, it was intended to give the unclaimed books to German libraries. I came to a tentative agreement with Professor Eppelsheimer that 50% of these books should be returned to JCR, since they are doubtlessly former Jewish private property.

2. Because of material conditions in Germany (destruction of buildings, return of large material from war-time caches, and great turn-over of personnel) it is impossible as yet to assess how much material will eventually turn up. The unpacking of cases will in many instances be a matter of years. However, it seems as though more archives and more ceremonial objects were saved than books, largely because the German-Jewish book collections were more strictly centralized in Berlin while synagogue silver and archival

JCR ARC. 40 733 / 126
123565

Dr. H. Gerling
4-18-50

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material more frequently found their way into local institutions.

Unfortunately, I cannot share Dr. Narkiss' optimism about the amount of material which can still be expected from German institutions. The situation briefly seems to be the following: German Jewish collections, as distinguished from the Jewish collections from abroad, were strictly centralized in different depots of the Gestapo in Berlin. We can expect only material which by some miracle escaped this centralization (such miracles happened in Hamburg). The Berlin material was partly put into caches in eastern Germany and Czechoslovakia and partly disappeared into German libraries in Berlin which are located in the eastern sector of Berlin.

3. Largely because of material conditions but also for other technical and psychological reasons, I am now even more convinced than I was before that we depend upon the good will of German personnel to a very large extent and that all other methods of investigation are impractical. To quote but two examples: (a) it took our library investigator more than four weeks of hard work to discover a few archives in Bavaria where Jewish confiscated material had been deposited during the Nazi regime. One single letter to the general director of Bavarian archives resulted in a reply which gave a probably complete list of such localities without omitting a single "discovery" of the investigator. (b) I discovered the valuable Frankfurt art-collection through contacting the respective museum-directors and without using any detective methods.

As to the paintings which JRSO recovered, I hope that Dr. Narkiss has been informed in the meantime of the decision of JRSO New York which was taken in full agreement with the representatives of the Jewish Agency. Unfortunately, the pictures had been largely overestimated. A number of paintings requested by Israel will be shipped to Israel.

In conclusion I would like to say that it is a debatable question if a mission of a ten-men team will result in discoveries to justify the costs involved. There is always a possibility that a systematic search could discover caches, probably still in existence and hidden by former SS men, which the Allied authorities have not been able to find. I was specifically told of the existence of such caches in the British zone.

Hoping that you will find this information useful for your purpose, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

cc to Messrs. Katzenstein
Scholem

566

30th June, 1950

Our Ref.:SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Attached hereto please find the list of Jewish periodicals in the Herman Cohen Collection (which by the way number ca. 100 volumes and not 100 periodicals).

I take the opportunity of asking you as to the present state of the private owned Baltic books, which were sent to AJDC Paris at the time of my stay in Wiesbaden. We receive often enough inquiries about these books from people here who originate from the Baltic states and we are not in a position to give them competent information. A detailed information would be much appreciated.

I am in close contact with Dr. Lowenthal. The 64 cases ~~with~~ he sent us a few weeks ago ~~of~~ already reached Haifa and it is to be hoped that we shall have them in Jerusalem soon.

These cases contain mostly material I have selected in the last days of my stay in Wiesbaden and I want to thank you for your active help in having this material allocated to Israel.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely,

S. Shunami

P.S. I read with great interest your article in the Starr number of J.S.S. I learned much from this exposition rich in thought.



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1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

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Interessenvertretung der jüdischen
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June 15, 1950

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HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. G. Scholem
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel.

Dear Scholem:

Thanks for your letter of June 7th. You will receive the minutes of our last board of directors meeting in a week or so and will see that the budget for our microfilm project has been approved, but that the JDC and the Jewish Agency has turned us down as far as the money is concerned. You will also see that we are now trying to get a grant from one of the American foundations. We shall apply for \$25,000 and then try to do the microfilming not only in Germany, but at least in Austria, Italy and France as well.

In spite of our financial difficulties we are going to take all the necessary steps to put into effect at least our German microfilming project. In July we shall send to Germany Meir Ben-Horin who knows Hebrew (former student of the Hebrew University) and he will be more or less in charge of all of our activities in Germany. We are planning to have the negatives made by the German documentation services in Frankfurt, whereas the positives will be printed by the central microfilming firm in this country. This seems to be the cheapest way to arrange things.

Mr. Ben-Horin will travel in Germany and find out if the Hebrew manuscripts are available (already unpacked, etc.). It would be just wonderful if you could be in Germany in September because by that time we shall know the material conditions in each place.

We are thinking first of all, of course, of the manuscript collections in Munich, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Berlin. If my information is correct, the Berlin manuscript should now be in Marburg and Goettingen. Part of the Frankfurt manuscripts were

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JCR / 144

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June 15, 1950

Dr. G. Scholem (2)

sold in a restitution deal to a private person in New York. We may be able to microfilm them here. The Hamburg manuscripts I saw myself, including the Levy collection. They seemed to be complete. In Munich I was told that all manuscripts--nearly 400--were saved.

As to manuscripts in other university libraries, I would be very grateful to you if you would draw up a list of those institutions which we overlooked in our tentative list, which, I trust is in your hands.

There is another question which has come up: Marx questioned the wisdom of microfilming bible manuscripts and he proposed to omit the following numbers of Steinschneider's catalogue for Hamburg:

- 1-13, 15-30, 36, 39, 43, 44, 47, 49, 50, 54, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63-66, 70-82, 100, 157, 159, 161-165, 167-168, 172, 174, 200, 221, 223-24, 226-28, 235-45, 252(?), 254, 259-62, 268-81, 298, 311, 315, 317, 322B, 331, 337, 338-351; Spanish and Portuguese(?), 352, 354, 355.

H.R. Levy -- 4, 7, 9, 17, 26, 28-34, 40, 64-67, 80-92, 99, 103, 107, 108, 110, 111, 116, 117, 119, 125, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 164-167.

We are figuring here a total of 200,000 manuscript pages, which also includes photostating of the catalogues of the Jewish divisions in German archives.

If the Israeli government could do the same kind of work in the countries of the popular democracies, that would be very valuable. Please don't forget that there may be a possibility to "sell" sets of microfilms to Jewish and general libraries in the United States. I found out that Cincinnati, the Jewish Theological Seminary and the New York Public Library are almost certain to be "customers."

The possibility of covering part of the cost through refunds by subscribing libraries has not yet been sufficiently explored by us, but in planning our budget we have been thinking in terms of a revolving fund. Needless to say, that the State of Israel will take and (presumably) pay for one copy of the whole set.

With kindest regards



Cordially yours

Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt

June 15, 1950

Dr. G. Scholem (3)

I just received the following information from Germany:

- (1) The Hebrew Berlin manuscripts: These were not put into one cache⁶ as a unit but the various numbers were put into different places together with other manuscripts so that the definite whereabouts of each manuscript have to be established.
- (2) You may be interested to know that the Vahagen Archiv, which, as you probably know, contained a considerable amount of Jewish correspondence of the early emancipation period, was shipped to Silesia and nobody knows what happened to it.

Ha I



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288
7th June, 1950

Rev. Michael Elton, B.A.
Librarian,
Jew's College,
Woburn House, Tavistock Square,
London, W.C.1.

Dear Reverend Elton,

I am in receipt of your letter of May 31st. I suppose that the manuscript about which you inquire is no. 487 of Hirschfeld's catalogue of the Montefiore library. This manuscript was already out of reach in 1927 when I asked for it.

I wonder whether it might not be among the manuscripts left by the late Haham Dr. Moses Gaster. In 1927 and 1932 I have seen several manuscripts from the Montefiore Library in his house and among them I must make special mention of the manuscript no. 354 (Halberstamm 388). It is a very important kabbalistical manuscript and I had it in my own hands whereas Dr. Gaster refused to let me see manuscripts bound in the same way - all of them in his house. I would be interested whether no. 354 has been returned to you. If not this may serve as an indication where to look for the missing ones.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. G. Scholem.

ARC. 4° 793 / 144

JCR



823571

2nd June, 1950

Our Ref.:EP/LP

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

Dear Mr. Arendt,

This will confirm our today's cable reading:

"Require urgently information whether Jewish Chronicle
1850 to 1868 1898 1906 available for us
Please cable reply"

We apologize for troubling you with this request. But we have a nearly complete run of the JEWISH CHRONICLE since its inception from which only the volumes for the years 1850 to 1868, 1898, 1906 are missing, i.e. a total of twenty-one volumes. As it now happens we were offered a set of 120 volumes which also comprises those we require and we were unable to buy the needed items alone.

It is of course most important for a library of our standing to have a set of the JEWISH CHRONICLE without gaps, especially as such complete sets are rather rare. On the other hand, we are reluctant to hazard the investment of a large sum even with the hope that we can recover it partly if not wholly by selling our duplicates afterwards especially as we ourselves are fathfrom the market.

We are confident to receive your cabled reply as soon as possible. Otherwise we might not be able any longer to make use of the offer of these 120 volumes which comes from London.

With thanks for your help I am

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

23572

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Interessenvertretung der jüdischen Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen in der US Zone
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4/30
 33 JUNE 1950
 10 JUN 1950

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May 31, 1950

with [unclear]

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

Thanks for your letter of May 15. Mr. Ferencz was in New York and informed us of the manuscript situation.

I also noted, and transmitted to Dr. Baron, your wishes regarding cultural property in the forthcoming negotiations between JRSO and the German government. Although I agree with you that cultural property should not simply be included in a bulk arrangement, I feel that this problem should be discussed during the negotiations and am wondering what the alternative should be. *(see copy of letter to Prof. Scholem)*

May I ask you to render me the following service: Dr. Shunami, in a letter to me dated Oct. 14, 1949, enclosed a list of the Jewish periodicals (about 100) in the Herman Cohen collection, which was sent to you. I somehow am unable to find this list and am wondering if you could mail me a copy.

You understand that we need a complete file of all the periodical lists sent to Jerusalem from Wiesbaden in order to avoid sending you duplicates from the New York pool. I hope distribution will start in about two months.

With kind regards

Sincerely yours
Hannah Arendt
 Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

ARC. 4° 793 / 133
 JCR
 823573

THE JEWISH NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
P.O.B. 503 JERUSALEM

16th February, 1951

Our Ref.:SH/LP

Dr. Hannah Arendt,
Executive Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Your letter of January 25th reached me with great delay and I immediately informed the Ministry of Religious Affairs about both the Torah fragments and the ceremonial objects.

The ceremonial objects did not yet arrive. The Torah fragments reached us only a few days ago and we arranged for their transfer to the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

S. Shunami. *JS*

2/

8th February, 1950

Our Ref.: SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

You will be pleased to hear that we finally succeeded in overcoming the difficulties in our way to start the processing of the Offenbach collection (the difficulties have their roots in the appalling housing conditions of the University) and for some days we have been unpacking the boxes sent from Germany at the beginning of June. About hundred boxes were unpacked up to now and we are confident that things will now move along quickly.

In a few weeks' time we hope to have unpacked the whole Offenbach collection and then the sorting will begin. The information, so much longed for by you, regarding books which will be kept for the University as distinguished from those put at the disposal of other libraries in Israel will not be delayed, I hope, too long.

A few days ago we made an effective step in order to constitute the Advisory Council for distributing the books among institutions other than the University. We invited the following institutions and offices to send their representatives to the Advisory Council:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Municipality of Tel Aviv | 2 representatives |
| 2. Histadrut (Cultural Department) | 2 " |
| 3. Jewish Agency | 1 representative |
| 4. Chief Rabbinate | 1 " |
| 5. Ministry of Religious Affairs | 1 " |
| 6. Ministry of Education | 1 " |
| 7. Zionist Archives, Jerusalem | 1 " |
| 8. Army Cultural Department | 1 " |
| 9. Society for the Advancement of Science
(Pevsner Library) | 1 " |
| 10. Association of Local Councils | 1 " |

As you see all the bodies were requested to send a representative except the Tel Aviv Municipality and the Histadrut which are to send two representatives each.

We trust to receive the replies of the above organizations shortly and to constitute the Council before long. You will be kept informed on the progress of both the processing of the books and the constitution of the Advisory Council.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

P.S. I read with great interest your report on the caches.

S. Lunenfeld 123575

28th December, 1949

Our Ref.:SH/LP

Dr. Hannah Arendt, Executive Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Miss Arendt,

Thanks for your letter of November 7th. Owing to the difficult situation with regard to sufficient and adequate accommodation in Jerusalem we could not yet start to distribute the books from Offenbach. With the return of Mr. Shunami we shall shortly arrange the Offenbach consignment.

We will certainly meet the needs of the Yeshivot at an early date. First of all they will receive from the Polish books among which there are many suitable for their requirements. It goes without saying that they will also receive their due share from the Offenbach books.

At present we are making arrangements with a view to setting up an advisory committee and we are confident that we can give you details soon.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director

Wormann

Copy:- C.C.L., J.C.R., Wiesbaden.

ARC. 4° 753 178
JCB

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Telephone: Circle 5-7826

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22 DEC 1949

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28.12.49
 26.12.49
 GJK

c/o Landesmuseum
 Wiesbaden Germany/American Zone

December 18, 1949.

Dear Dr. Worman:

We received an urgent request from Dr. Judah Shapiro for more rabbinic literature for Israeli Yeshivoth. Since distribution in Israel has not yet started, we do not know how many volumes will be given to the Yeshivoth from the material sent to the Hebrew University. I talked to Dr. Shunami about this problem, i.e. the difficulty that requests from the Hebrew University were not divided into categories so that we never know how many of the books shipped to Israel will go to the University and how many to other Institutions. I hope that an Advisory Committee has been formed in the meantime and that you'll be able to tell me, from the lists giving the contents of the cases, the approximate number of books which will eventually go to the Israeli Yeshivoth. You'll understand that I need this figure urgently ~~xxxxxx~~ before I ~~ask~~ ask our Board of Directors to allocate more rabbinic literature to Yeshivoth in Israel.

Will you kindly send ~~the~~ your reply to Wiesbaden as well as a copy to New York.

With kind regards,
 sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt

123577

Hannah Arendt

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 JCA

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 103 10 12

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27.11.49

November 21, 1949

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HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. C. Wormann
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Dr. Wormann:

I thank you for your letter of November 9, with your lists ~~for~~ rare books and Breslau periodicals. Unfortunately, you did not distinguish in your list for the Breslau periodicals between your own requests and those from other Israeli institutions. This is especially important with regard to all German Judaica, including periodicals, because, as you know, there is a final decision from the Board of Directors about the establishment of a German Jewish Memorial Library in the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. This means, of course, that in the allocation of German Judaica, the Hebrew University shares its priority with the Jewish Institute of Religion. So please let us have requests for German Jewish periodicals from the Breslau collection for the Hebrew University only.

I will appreciate it very much if, in the future, you would always make this distinction between your own requests and those for other Israeli institutions.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

HA:s

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Apr. 4-1952 / 72

JCR

123578

EXCHANGE OF CABLES

1. From S. Shunami, Wiesbaden
To Professor Scholem, Jerusalem,
sent on October 28th from Wiesbaden and received the same day in
Jerusalem.

New York decided to allocate units as a whole stop
Breslau being considered for Switzerland.
Please act promptly.

2. From Prof. Scholem, Jerusalem
To Dr. Senator, New York
Sent from Jerusalem on October 30th.

JCR apparently decided allocate some Wiesbaden libraries
as units.
Breslau being considered for Switzerland contrary to
decisions giving University first priority selection.
Please intervene immediately with Baron and enlist help
other directors through Salpeter.
Regards.

3. From Prof. Scholem, Jerusalem
To Mr. Schunami, Wiesbaden
Sent from Jerusalem on October 30th, 1949

Yours twentyeighth received
Have intervened
Letter follows

cc:- the President
the Rector
Mr. Neumond

ARC. 4° 793 / 52
JCR

123579

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October 24, 1949

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 DAVID ROSENSTEIN
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 MAX GRUENEWALD
Executive Secretary
 HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. G. Scholem
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear ~~Dr.~~ Scholem:

I received your cable. No change in ~~property~~ ^{the priority} rights of the Hebrew University Library have ever been contemplated. As I wrote you in my letter of October 11, it was felt here that only a small portion of these "rare" books are not yet in the possession of the Hebrew University.

However, I am disappointed that Dr. Shunami did not send copy of this list to the Hebrew University. As you see from the enclosed copy of my letter to Dr. Wormann, I requested Dr. Lowenthal to send you copies immediately. I also asked them to cable us in case they have no copies left.

Many, many thanks for the Angebinde.

Many regards to both of you.

Yours,

Hannah

Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

HA:s

ARC 48733 / 51
 JCR

123581

288

THE JEWISH NATIONAL & UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
P.O.B.503 JERUSALEM Israel

25th June, 1952

Our Ref.:SH/LP

Mrs. Bertha Gruner,
Office Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Miss Gruner,

We received your letter of May 21st and 23rd concerning books owned by Dr. Remigolsky of Haifa and Mr. Schalit of London respectively

The cases ^{of} with the Baltic Collection which include also private-owned books were not yet unpacked because of lack of shelf space. As soon as enough shelves will be cleared they will be unpacked and private books sent to their owners. Unfortunately we are unable to fix an exact date, but we shall inform you immediately.

We did not find any card in our files concerning Dr. Remigolsky and we do not remember his name having occurred at all during our dealings. We therefore have to ask you to give us the number of the case in which his books are placed. We wrote Dr. Remigolsky informing him of the situation and we hope you will inform Mr. Schalit accordingly.

Your sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director

ml



126582

1st August, 1951

Our Ref.:SH/LP

Dr. Hannah Arendt,
Executive Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Thank you for your letter of July 11th and the enclosed memorandum which I read with great interest. We are looking forward to receiving the material you speak of in this letter.

According to our records 136 cases of Baltic material were shipped to AJDC in Paris. Our share of 40% equals 55 cases. We should like to have the cases numbers

10 to 30, 47 to 49, 53 to 58, 60, 61, 95, 96

104 to 117, 119 to 125 = 55 cases.

and shall appreciate it if great care will be taken to have the correct numbers sent to us.

It was interesting for us to hear that you have let private scholars benefit from the Offenbach collection. So far we flatly refused to do this. But after the needs of libraries and other public educational institutions will be satisfied we may follow the New York example.

After a deadlock of many months great progress has of late been made regarding the distribution of the Offenbach collection to Israeli libraries. We will give you details in our next letter.

It is correct that I am expected in the United States, but shall certainly not arrive before the middle of November. As I come as an exchange visitor under the Rockefeller Foundation Program I shall be burdened with a very heavy schedule, but hope that we shall meet in New York.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

129583

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
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Executive Secretary

HANNAH ARENDT

August 9, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

Thank you for your letter of August 1st with your selection of cases from the Baltic Collection. Cases 116 to 118 (Mirrer Yeshiva & Shapiro) are no longer available because they were restored to former owners. This means that we do not have 136 but 133 cases and that your share is only 53 cases. You will, therefore, receive all the case numbers you mentioned except 116 and 117. I am writing to Dr. Shapiro in Paris who will be in charge of shipping.

Last week we made, via the Friends, the last shipment for you from our depot. This included 11 cases with periodicals and 28 cases with surplus material.

I am looking forward to meeting you sometime in this country.

Sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

ha/es

123384

הארכיון הציוני המרכזי
THE ZIONIST CENTRAL ARCHIVES
JERUSALEM, P.O.B. 92 ת.ד. 92 ירושלים
בית המוסדות הלאומיים

29/152

בשם שלום ושלום

Telephone: Circle 5-7826

CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

41 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

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- Council of Jews from Germany
- Hebrew University

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

כבודו של ד"ר ג. שולמן
במסגרת פעילותו
במחלקת הארכיון
היהודי של אוניברסיטת
ירושלים
התברר לי כי אתם
מחזיקים ברכיבים
המיוחסים למוסדות
היהודיים של ורמז
במסגרת פעילות
הארכיון הציוני המרכזי
בירושלים
אני מבקש להודיע
לכם על כך שמוסדות
הארכיון הציוני המרכזי
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מזמינים אתכם להעביר
לנו את הרכיבים
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לנו את הרכיבים
המיוחסים למוסדות
היהודיים של ורמז



With the Director's Compliments

January 8, 1952

- Board of Directors**
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GERSHOM SCHELEM
ALAN M. STROOCK
- Treasurer**
DAVID ROSENSTEIN
- Secretary**
MAX GRUENEWALD
- Executive Secretary**
HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. G. Scholem
Hebrew University Library
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Scholem:

This is to inform you even before you get the official minutes of the Board of Directors meeting that the microfilm negatives which we made of the Worms Jewish Community Archives and of parts of the Jewish Division of the Worms Municipal Archives have been deposited with the American Jewish Archives, at Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, on condition that they make available at cost the positives of these archives to all interested libraries.

The costs are very low in this country and I assume that the National Archives in Jerusalem will be interested in procuring positives. Could you kindly inform them and ask them to communicate directly with the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati, since our organization is more or less "out of business."

Yours

Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt

125585

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

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Agudas Israel World Organization
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Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction
 Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives
 Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany
 The Hebrew University

Interessenvertretung der jüdischen Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen in der US Zone
 Jewish Agency for Palestine
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2 NOV 1949

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Executive Secretary
HANNAH ARENDT

October 24, 1949

Dr. C. Wormann
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Dr. Wormann:

May I remind you of my letter of September 19, for which I have not yet received an answer?

I received today a cable from Professor Scholem, who informed me that the Hebrew University has not received a list of the rare books which recently were transferred to JCR and are still in Wiesbaden. I cabled to Wiesbaden requesting them to send you copy of the list and I should appreciate it if you would let me know at your very early convenience which of these books are not in the Hebrew University Library and requested by you.

I also asked Dr. Lowenthal to send you copy of a list of periodicals which were found among the remnants of the Breslau collection. If a great majority of these items are requested either by you or by other Israeli libraries, I should like to suggest to ship all the Breslau periodicals directly to Israel.

This would imply that you receive less periodicals from the New York pool and we can save money on shipping charges. Please don't misunderstand: Only those items which you received already, would not be sent from New York.

Very sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt
Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

HA:s

Copy to Dr. Scholem



12586

ARC 4-793 / 50
J.C.R.

26th October, 1951

Our Ref.:SH/LP

Dr. Hannah Arendt, Executive Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

With reference to your letter of September 26th we are sending you herewith two lists - one comprising books incorporated into Library, the other books restored to Slobodka Yeshiva in Benei-Berael

Our list is a copy of our accession journal and in consequence not arranged by categories. But the Hebrew and non-Hebrew books are listed separately and so are the periodica. Up to now about 5500 volumes passed into the possession of our Library. Lists of further transfers will be forwarded to you when processed.

The list of the Slobodka Yeshiva contains, as you will see for yourself, 667 numbers.

All the books we incorporated received labels in accordance with your wish. The Slobodka Yeshiva informed us that they too labelled all the books they got.

The Ministry of Education agreed to have pasted the label into the books before their distribution. We shall see to it that this agreement shall be carried out fully.

The Ministry also undertook to compile lists of the books before distribution and we trust that you will get some of them shortly.

I am With best regards and thanks for your kind New Year wishes

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director



125587

2034
New York
7/12

14th July, 1949

188
Our Ref.: EP/LP

Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Starr,

This will reply to your letter of June 24th to which
a checklist of German periodicals available for selection was
attached. According to your wishes we indicated in one column
what is required by us and in the other what is required by
other Israeli libraries.

You will meanwhile have received our letter of July
3rd with our lists. If we may say so it appears to be more
useful to see your lists and then select what is needed instead
of preparing lists of desiderata which are more or less incidental
since we have no access to our stores and cannot ascertain in
which state of preservation our sets are. We know, however,
that many volumes are not bound, incomplete and some have been
by readers. Apart from that we also require additional sets for
our departmental libraries.

In your list there is one item which we need very
urgently and that is MGW 1939. Would it be possible to mail
this volume to us at once?

Sincerely yours,

Dr. G. Formann,
Director.



ARC 49 753 / 33
JON
123580

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction
1841 Broadway
New York 23, N. Y.

288

19 JUL 1949

JUL 29 1949

July 5, 1949

Dr. K. Wormann
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

DD
11/20/1942
11/20/1942

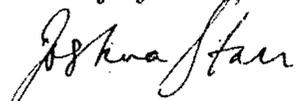
Dear Dr. Wormann:

Enclosed please find a checklist of Hebrew periodicals which are available for your selection. Please indicate, in separate columns for each title, the volumes desired by the Hebrew University as new accessions, and those volumes which are requested for other libraries in Israel.

In addition to the complete volumes listed in the enclosed list we also have scattered issues, which are available to you. If you will indicate the specific issues needed, we shall attempt to collect these. If you prefer to indicate in general that scattered issues are, or are not, requested, you are free to adopt that procedure.

May I look forward to the prompt return of the enclosed list?

Sincerely yours,



Joshua Starr
Executive Secretary.

JS:s



ARC. 4° 793 | 2° 123589 T
JCR

Jewish Cultural Reconstruction
1841 Broadway
New York 23, N.Y.

1 DG
6 JUL 1949

June 24, 1949

Dr. K. Wormann
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

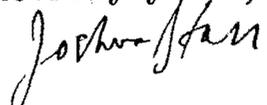
Dear Dr. Wormann:

Enclosed please find a checklist of German periodicals which are available for your selection. Please indicate, in separate columns for each title, the volumes desired by the Hebrew University as new accessions, and those volumes which are requested for other libraries in Israel.

In addition to the complete volumes listed in the enclosed list, we also have scattered issues, which are available to you. If you will indicate the specific issues needed, we shall attempt to collect these. If you prefer to indicate in general that scattered issues are, or are not, requested, you are free to adopt that procedure.

May I look forward to the prompt return of the enclosed list?

Sincerely yours,



Joshua Starr
Executive Secretary

JS:s

ARC. 40793 / 26
JCR

123590

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.
1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

288

May 31, 1949

Dear Dr. Heron:

I am writing to you in connection with the request put to JCR by Dr. L. Baeck on behalf of the Society of Jewish Study. With all due respect for the venerable person of Dr. Baeck, whose demands are certainly deserving of every consideration, I feel obliged to voice my serious misgivings with regard to this request.

In the first place, there is the question of principle involved. Should JCR encourage the allocation of quantities of books to institutions founded effectively only in the post-war II period and which propose to utilize mainly JCR material as a nucleus? In my opinion, requests of this kind should be considered only after provision has been made for firmly established institutions with a large student body or a large reading public.

Moreover, it is open to question whether German emigre academic groups are not of a too transitory character to ensure us of their continued development. Even in the U. S., I would think it a rather unfortunate step to establish a special Memorial Library for German Jewry, as has been suggested by the Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany. It would be more advisable if such a project would be sponsored by one of the established higher institutions of learning in order not to scatter both the available material and the centers of research. Likewise, I should like to suggest that the Society of Jewish Study should join forces with a similar body in England, perhaps the Jewish Historical Society. The expansion of our distribution list necessarily reduces the allocations for each particular institution and I do not see that it would benefit the common interest to include such newly founded study groups.

As for the major institutional collections, I think that, with one notable exception, there is no collection on our list which we would be justified in allocating as a unit. The material contained therein is more or less of the same category. The exception is provided by the library of Hermann Cohen, which I propose to be allocated as a whole to the Hebrew University. The reason for this is that this is not only a collection actually preserved intact but is predominantly a philosophical library of non-Jewish character. This collection should fittingly honor the memory of this great Jewish thinker in the philosophical seminar of the Hebrew University.

Yours Sincerely,

Herzon Scholem

ARC. 40 793 / 19
JCR



123591

208

May 24, 1949

Dr. Werner Senator
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel

My dear Friend:

It is a long time since I wrote you last and I hope you have received that air letter concerning some academical questions and the presidency of the University. Meanwhile, things will certainly be decided these days and I hope to hear from you about the results of the meeting of the Board of Governors. Do not think that I know what is going on in Jerusalem. Apart from Ernst Simon I do not hear very much.

This letter serves to tell you about my visit in Chicago where I spent two weeks and saw quite a lot of the University and the University people. As always I was struck by the deplorable gap between the big names we want to use for the Hebrew University work who are at most paying lip service to our cause and the smaller ones who actually want to do something if only they were given a decent chance. This applies very much to the work of the Academic Council of the American Friends under Professor Baron's Chairmanship. The Council who is more or less independent of the general organization of the American Friends makes on me the impression of a still-born child even in New York and much more so in other places where groups have been formed at some former occasion of a visit from somebody in Jerusalem, etc. but nothing whatsoever has been done to help our work except for a meeting when a visitor from Jerusalem passes through the place. It seems to be rather a thorny ~~man~~ question whether or not we could do anything about the organizing that body. You cannot do it without offending a lot of people, on the other hand you cannot expect that body as it is now to serve any useful purpose.

During my visit we took advantage of my being there and called a meeting which elected a new chairman who is Professor Daniel Boorstein, the Secretary of the Committee on Social Thought of the University of Chicago. He is a young man in his thirties and very enthusiastic about the University and would like to do something on this spot. Through him and some other people I met a number of academic people including the Deans of the Faculties of Humanities and of the Social Sciences, and likewise talked to the President of the University, Professor Colwell a theologian. The experience we had with Doctor Rotenstreich prompted me to take up these discussions. It was made very clear to me that we do not think highly enough of our own people. Those who were in a position to know including the Deans told me that it would have been a very easy matter to get a really excellent man from Jerusalem like Dr. R. for one or two years on the teaching staff of the Chicago University in a visiting capacity so that his stay would have ~~benefited~~ the University exactly nothing. They said that an arrangement for a first class

JCR

ARC. 40793 / 125592

May 24, 1949

- 2 -

alumnus of the University could be comparatively easy if a proposal would be made in time to be considered for the next budget which means that if we want to send a man in April, we must approach the authorities (which means the respective Dean) not later than November or even earlier. Besides the possibility of getting a really excellent young doctor or a member of the faculty into such a position as a visiting teacher, there is also the other one of getting a good fellowship for research students or research fellows which would make the financial problem much easier than it is now in such cases. A decision on fellowships or on visiting job not longer than two terms which in Chicago is half a year is within the power of decision of the Dean who only ~~will~~ informs the President about it. I think that during the next two or three years it should not be impossible to find a place on the Chicago campus for a small number of our best alumni and I should very much like to take up this question after my return, if not for the next academic year, at least for the following one. Even without any formal arrangement as to an exchange between the two Universities, we could benefit very much by some sort of informal arrangements of the kind spoken of. Dr. Boorstein and some of his friends who have excellent relations to the Deans would be willing to help us in putting through such an arrangement. This would be especially valuable in the cases of students in the Oriental field (Chicago has a very strong and widely known Oriental school), in history and social studies as well as in Philosophy. But there is no reason why this could not be expanded and made to serve one or two graduates of the Institute of Jewish studies. As a matter of fact it all depends on whether we have somebody really very good in the line of Dr. R. and his like. Once you send them a second rate man and tell lies about his being excellent they are likely to find out very quickly and it would only hurt our interests. The University would certainly have not much of a difficulty to get Dr. R. back for another year as a lecturer. The intellectual atmosphere of the Chicago University is very good and I hope we would benefit by it. I also talked to them about Chicago people coming to Jerusalem especially in the Oriental field and in Social Sciences. Regarding the letter I told them that whereas we would not yet be in a position to offer them very much in the Academic field the University would be an extremely good point of vantage for scholars in the Social Sciences who want to make a study of the social changes and processes going on in Israel. They are very much interested in these kind of things. I thought you should know about these possibilities as early as possible and I should be very glad if we can follow up these clues.

As to me I hope to stay here a few more weeks. I have a reservation on the 6th of July to England but would prefer to take an earlier boat if I could get one, about the 25th of June. In the meanwhile I have started some work here, this time for my own benefit. Mail to England would reach me through the English Friends but I hope I hear from you while still being in New York.



286

May 24, 1949

- 3 -

With cordial greetings to you and all our friends, especially to Professor Assaf and Simon, I am

Yours Sincerely,

Gershon Scholem

GSml

123594

29th January, 1951

Our Ref.: SE/LP

Dr. E.G. Lowenthal,
c/o MG Club,
Alexandrastr. 7,
Wiesbaden.

Dear Dr. Lowenthal,

I have to thank you for three letters dated January 8th, 10th and 16th. I could not answer you before as I was ill for about two weeks with some kind of flu which made me think of the working conditions in the Frankfurt bunker you so convincingly described in your report. I hope I might have drawn the illness which might have easily come to you under such conditions and that I should have served as a "Kapore" for you. I therefore hope very much that you have kept in good health through all this operation. At any rate we all wish to congratulate you on the splendid achievement on your part and your success in finishing the operation in so short a time. I think this is a wonderful achievement ^{from} which we will all benefit and of which you may be rightly proud. As far as I know from my own sight there is no exaggeration in what you have said of the conditions under which you had to do your work.

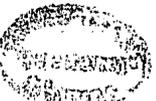
I am glad to note that we have to expect about 86 cases for the HUL and I am sure that their contents will justify your judgment about their relative value. I am glad that my judgment as to the relatively large number of Judaica and the general value of the collection have been vindicated by your experience and that it was certainly worth while going through all those tribulations to get these books. I am convinced that the papers necessary for the export licence on the part of the German authorities will be speedily received and we shall hear from you about the date and conditions of transport.

I assume that by now you will also have finished the Wiesbaden work and the ~~last~~ cases from there, including the archives, will be on their way. I understand that you are going to take up your new work in connection with the ~~British~~ Jewish Trust Corporation in the British Zone and I would like to express our good wishes for your continued success in your work there. I hope you will keep in touch with you and be able to help you as far as we are concerned.

As to Berlin, I am afraid that there will be no other way than your going there yourself in order to see what can be salvaged. It seems that the gentlemen are very reluctant to part with anything in spite of their promises. I certainly would share the opinion that nothing should be given to them in addition to what has been handed over unless they will agree to the demands put to them on behalf of JCO

I hope these lines will find you in good health. I am with kindest personal regards

Yours sincerely
Prof. G. Scholem.



129595

מ.נ.מ. אגף רישום

ה ע ת ק

קונסוליה של ישראל
פינכן

ר' אדר א' תשי"א
12 פברואר, 1951

ארכיון/10420

לכבוד
החברה ההיסטורית הישראלית
לידי ד"ר א. ביין
ירושלים,

ד"ר ביין הנכבד,

הכבוד מאשרים קבלת טברקן מ-7 דנא בזר הלטרון :

"בא לסלגרין סצב זנבין געזמטארטיב - ביין"

ומקיימים את מברק תשובתנו מ-8 דנא לאטור :

"למרות לחצנו ובקור בברלין והבטחת הרשיון טרם
בידינו מכתב בדרך - לבנה"

למרות השתדלויותינו - שיחות שלסרביה רבות, מכתבים,
התערבויות ע"י אישים שונים - לא הצלחנו עד עכשיו להזיז את
העניין. השתמשנו גם בהודפנות בקורו של שליח סטרו וחוץ בברלין,
אולם גם הלה לא השיג מאוטה.

היתה הצעה להעביר את הארכיב חלק חלק למערב, אולם
הצעה זו אינה נראית לנו :

א) יש חשש שאם נשתמש בדרך זו יעלם חלק ניכר של
הארכיב,

ב) מבקשנו מעט רשיון הוצאה שיהיה אין מאפשרותנו
לבחור דרך אחרת.

לא נשאר לנו אלא לחכות בסבלנות לקבלת הרשיון. אולם
דעוננו שתדע, כי העכוב אינו באשמת רטלנות או אי-תשומת לב
מצדנו. להיפך, אנו מעונינים לגמור את העדשה הזאת ולא נחמיץ
כל אפשרות הנראית לנו להגיע למטרה זו.

אנו כודיעך על כל התפתחות שתחול בעניין.

בברכה,

ד"ר אליהו ק. לבנה
קונסול ישראל.

נראה כי, 10/2/51, 10/2/51, 10/2/51
10/2/51, 10/2/51, 10/2/51
מחזוריך



Handwritten signature or initials.

16/2.57.

123598

5th December, 1950

Our Ref.:SH/LP
Dr. Hannah Arendt, Exec. Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Let me thank you for your letter of November 9th. The fact that part of the Reichsinstitut Judaica was found in Frankfurt bunker puzzles me. This discovery may lead to other ones. Isn't that something for Mr. Bernstein to tackle?

As anticipated ^{by you} I received a negative reply from Mr. Kagan. He does not remember having committed himself. In fact I never regarded it a real commitment, but considered it a probability in accordance with the circumstances and the spirit in which the utterance was made. However, I do not want to exclude another possibility, namely, that I read more into his words than was meant. Anyhow he promised now to do his utmost to assist JCR and the Hebrew University. In this connection it should be mentioned that Mr. Kagan was extremely helpful and responsive all the time of my stay in Germany and I hope not to have cause him any inconvenience.

With kind personal regards I am

Yours sincerely,

S. Shunami.

ARC. 49752 / 2.10
JCR

123597

5th December, 1950

Our Ref.:SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Thanks for your letter of November 9th. In compliance with your request we enclose copy of our directions to Dr. Lowenthal. In a subsequent letter we also added doctoral dissertations as a kind of books we should like to have.

We did not yet hear Dr. Lowenthal's opinion, but we trust that our directions are not of a nature to cause delay in the conclusion of the operation.

Your remark on the Munich Reichsinstitut books interested us much and it would be quite fortunate if you could find out something about the lot of these, mainly Jewish owned books.

Your letter of October 6th with the two letters concerning microfilming and the list of persons approached by Mr. Ben-Horin was received in time. Many thanks for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

ARC 4° 793/
VCR 259

129598

XXXXXXXX

Cultural Property Division

EGL/ee
Tel.: 52292

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

Air Mail

December 6, 1950

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Re: Frankfurt bunker operation

The first two phases, i.e. the "digging" and the rough sorting (categorising, including the separation of all Judaica, of Jewish periodicals and of general periodicals) is now completed.

Professor Eppelsheimer's deputy, in conjunction with the undersigned, as from to-morrow will make the split. Since the number of Judaica by far exceeds our expectations, the split of the non-Jewish material might not just be on the basis of a 50;50-ratio, but might deviate in favour of the Frankfurt library; this would be in accordance with what Professor Scholem in his report of September 14, 1950, pointed out at the bottom of page 5. I am certain that a sensible solution will be found, whereby JCR "wird nicht schlecht abschneiden".

Whilst the packing is in process, beginning probably early next week, I shall also have to see to it that the numerous formalities which to some extent are different from and more complicated than our "usual" formalities, will be gradually implemented.

Please consider these few lines as some sort of interim-report, enabling you to get at least some idea as to how matters stand.

The really cold weather has now started. I do hope that it will not affect our smooth and speedy bunker operation, the result of which (up to the present moment) has found the respect of the Frankfurt library people.

Yours sincerely,

E. G. Lowenthal
E. G. LOWENTHAL

cc: Professor Dr. G.G. Scholem, Jerusalem, Israel

ARC. 4-793,
JCR

Handwritten notes: *Handwritten reports, E. G. Lowenthal*
277



123399

c/o Hebrew University,
Jerusalem, 8th December, 1950

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

Dear Dr. Lowenthal,

I received copy of your letter on the Berlin Community and am, like you, astonished at the attitude of these gentlemen. I am sorry, but I cannot give you any sound advice from here besides that you might perhaps be able to leave your work in Frankfurt for some days and go to Berlin to see what you can you can squeeze out on the spot and to send the things at once to Israel and to New York on the basis of a 50:50 distribution. I regret that I am unable to give you any better advice. But it is very good that we made our deal.

I hear that your work in Frankfurt progresses energetically and that your activities must be extended for a couple of weeks. I should be very pleased if you would occasionally give me a short report on this activity. I am naturally much interested in the matter as I have seen the material and trust that you will find a free half hour to write to me.

With best regards and wishes I am

Yours sincerely,

887
ARC 40793
JCR

213



123600

288

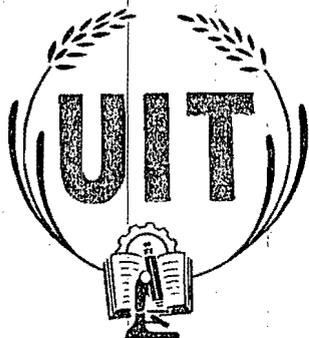
MOTION PASSED BY SUB-COMMITTEE ON ARCHIVAL MATERIAL
ON DECEMBER 6, 1950.

1. In accordance with the request of the American Jewish Archives, presented in their letter of November 7th, 1950, it is recommended that the American Jewish Archives be recognized as the custodian of the archival material now in the German depot of JCR, under the condition that the cost of transportation and the responsibility for sorting and processing of this material be borne by the American Jewish Archives.

2. This decision shall not preclude the final allocation of this as well as other archival material which may still be recovered by JCR. Further disposition and final allocation will be decided upon at some future time.



129601



American Committee for the Hebrew University, Weizmann Institute of Science and Technion (Institute of Technology)

Professor ALBERT EINSTEIN, *President*

250 WEST 57TH STREET • NEW YORK 19, N. Y. • TELEPHONE JUDSON 6-4500

December 22, 1950

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Executive Vice-President

Dr. Gershon Sholem
The Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Dr. Sholem:

Please be advised that at the Board meeting of the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, held at Columbia University yesterday afternoon and evening, we finally succeeded in overriding the motion of the Sub-Committee on Archival Material (meeting held December 6th, copy of Sub-Committee resolution attached) and now all the archives will be sent to the Hebrew University. A request will go to the University that any American or scholars in other parts of the world who would need this material should have access to it and that, if possible, vital parts be microfilmed and sent to centers of learning.

I do hope that you will be able to comply with this request since it was after a long and bitter debate that the vote was finally and unanimously reversed from the position of the Sub-Committee and is giving the University the material.

The reason I am writing at this length is that the men from the Jewish Agency, the J.D.C., and other bodies who supported me, did so on the basis that the University would give full cooperation. I greatly fear future meetings where statements of ~~the~~ non-cooperation would be made and we would have requests for other material. I know that you understand the position fully and will always do your best.

My kindest personal regards.

Cordially yours,

High Salpeter
High Salpeter

Executive Vice-President

HS/RZ
Enc.

ARC # 233/216
JCR



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XXXXXX

Cultural Property Division

EGL/se
Tel.: 52292

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

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

22 December, 1950

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Re: Frankfurt bunker operation

Again a short note on how matters stand so as to keep you informed.

As yet total 60 cases, containing appr. 15000 items, have been packed, crated, marked, and, by and by, inspected by the customs authorities. This all sounds very easy. The story of the work, handicapped by the complete lack of non-personnel facilities, must be told at a later date. I myself am astonished at the speedy progress made.

Whilst the packing and crating is going on the process of dividing the non-junk material between the Frankfurt library and ourselves is continuing, which means not just manual work but, in many instances, a discussion on who is getting what. As soon as our material is set aside, the division between what is going to New York and what to HUL is being determined.

Without committing myself at the moment, I figure on total 120 - 150 boxes. But, please, do not pin me down on this figure.

Naturally, as far as possible, we have done our utmost to complete broken sets, but recipients must always bear in mind that the Frankfurt bunker material largely consists of broken sets. Nevertheless, on the whole, I find the Frankfurt material better and of a higher standard and value than any non-Hebrew material which we have had in Wiesbaden. Co-operation with the Bibliotheksrat Dr. Wehmer has remained most satisfactory, though the selection-work, constituting the third phase of the operation, is even more strenuous than Dr. Wehmer and I expected. Practically, each book is now going through my hands for the second time, which is useful from the point of view of further eliminating junk.

I am not able yet to state when the operation will be

ARC 45793 / 21 - concluded
JCR

145603

concluded. Meanwhile I have hired a packer. I have also hired the two Magazindre for the last three days of the year during which actually they would have an extended holiday on account of the coal shortage in Germany. Otherwise, the whole work would have come to a complete standstill.

I have no time to write you in detail on my impressions of the material belonging to certain subjects. Perhaps I can do this at some later time-

A few days ago, I called Professor Eppelsheimer who again showed his interest in the operation and his sense of co-operation. Since the Frankfurt operation does not come under the jurisdiction of HICOG, I have drafted a statement to be signed by Professor Eppelsheimer so as to enable me to carry out gradually the negotiations with the Hesse Wirtschaftsministerium, the Aussenhandelsbank, the German customs authorities, and the American Consul.

This is all for today. I am writing this letter to you also in view of the fact that Professor Scholem recently asked me whether I could spare half an hour to let him have a report on the position of this operation. Honestly, I can hardly spare the time but I think it my duty to let both of you have at least a "fictional" report such as this.

Whenever I leave the dusty, cold and badly-lit bunker without any exaggeration, I feel half-dead.....

Yours sincerely,

E. G. Lowenthal
E. G. LOWENTHAL

cc: Professor Dr. G.G. Scholem, Jerusalem, Israel.

Dear Professor Scholem,

Thank you for your letter of the 8th December, 1950, when you also referred to the Frankfurt bunker operation. The above "story" naturally is only a small fraction of what I should like to tell you. At any rate, the Hebrew University in the end will receive a large quantity of material the greater part of which I hope will find the appreciation of HUL. Would you kindly show this copy also to Mr. Shunemi, who probably is waiting impatiently for news on an operation about which he and I talked more than a year ago without, however, hoping that we would be able to "get out" any books at all.

With very good wishes on the occasion of the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

E. G. Lowenthal
E. G. LOWENTHAL

123604

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HANNAH ARENDT

March 26, 1951

Dr. G. Scholem
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Scholem:

Please find enclosed copy of letter to Dr. Wormann,
 which I trust is self-explanatory.

I am bothering you because I think that a telephone
 call from you to Gustav Schoken might persuade the
 Haaretz to publish the list.

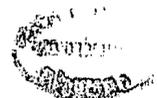
I just received a letter from the American Jewish
 Archives in Cincinnati in which Dr. Marcus tells me
 that he presumes that they will be willing to pay for
 microfilms of material which they request. On the
 other hand, it seems obvious that they should not be
 charged for the listing of this archival material.

With kindest regards

Yours

Hannah Arendt
 Hannah Arendt

Enc.



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December 27, 1950

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Dr. G. Scholem
 The Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Gerhart

Thanks for your letter of December 7th, which was duly read at the meeting of the Board of Directors on December 21st. You will receive the minutes shortly, so let me summarize first.

All the archives will go to Jerusalem, but you will be strongly requested to make microfilms available to other institutions, especially to Cincinnati (the Taublers, etc.).

I quite agree with you with respect to the decree. However, the feeling here is that this is a matter of principle, so I am supposed to continue. I am also wondering if under the radically changed political circumstances we can expect anything from the German Laender governments. Frankfurt and Hessen in general, are exceptions to the rule.

I just cabled to Wiesbaden to ship all remaining Hebraica to Israel. You are wrong in assuming that a high percentage of the privately owned books are Hebraica. Our estimate is not higher than 25%. As for periodicals, duplicates in Hebrew are not available. We have ~~large stocks of~~ duplicates of German Jewish periodicals only.

We have quite a few demands for "Left-Overs", including Latin American countries. No sale will be considered.

No decision has been reached as to the material in France, but the chances for you are good. However, you will probably be interested only in the Baltic collection. There are very few Hebraica among the individually owned books. We do not expect

ARC 4² 753 / JCR / 248

123606

December 27, 1950

Dr. G. Scholem (2)

to ship anything to the United States, but the European offices of the JDC, who were quite helpful in handling this material, will have a certain claim for their distribution among European communities.

You did not send me your Kabbalah & Mythos. Please do. I shall try to get the "Berliner Kindheit" here. Sternberger did not inform me.

How is everything? How is your chocolate and coffee supply?

Yours

Hannah
Hannah Arendt

123607

THE JEWISH NATIONAL & UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
P.O.B.503 JERUSALEM

27th March, 1951

Our Ref.:SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Thank you for your detailed letter of March 13th.

The Thora fragments as well as the shipping documents for the four cases of ceremonial objects were already handed over to the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

We shall contact the American Friends of the Hebrew University regarding the 15 cases of periodicals which you just asked them to pick up for us.

We applied to JRSO Headquarters in Nürnberg to let us have an itemized account of the shipments and bunker work expenses.

Regarding advertising the private owned books in Israeli papers we have to inform you that there is no prospect to get newspapers here to accept advertisements of the size required for the purpose - not even at full rates - because of an extreme newspaper shortage. We suggest another way of getting the information across to the people concerned; for this purpose please send many stencilled copies - say 50 - of the owners' list. They will be displayed at different public places in Israel for the inspection of those interested. An advertisement in all newspapers will then enable the people concerned or their relatives to consult the list with a view to finding their names in them and putting forward a claim. It seems to us that this procedure would meet all requirements and might be put into practice without much - if any - expense.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director

Wormann

123600

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Executive Secretary

HANNAH ARENDT

April 18, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

Pursuant to my letter of April 9th, I want to give you some further information on the collection of German literature received by Jewish Cultural Reconstruction.

Most of the books were published between 1890 and 1914. Among them are a number of authors practically forgotten today. The following is an arbitrary sampling of authors: Rudolf Greiz, Walter Bloem, Wilhelm Regeler, Hermann Bahr, Gustave Kandar, Auguste Sapper, Max Dreyer, Johannes Ziegler, H. H. Savage, Julius Wolff, Helene Boehlau, Robert Waldmueller, Johann H. Voss, Gustav af Geijerstam, Adolf Stahr, Otto Jahn, Friedrich Schleiermacher, Fedor v. Zobeltitz, Emil Lucka, Emil Ertl.

Please let me hear from you at your very early convenience.

Sincerely yours

Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

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 1/5/51

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April 9, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

I just received information from Germany that approximately 1,000 volumes of German literature, probably 19th century, formerly belonging to the Breslau Lodge Library of the Gesellschaft der Freunde have been recovered.

Before reaching a decision on the final allocation of these books, we should like to know if you are interested in this kind of material and whether you want to be considered as a recipient.

I am enclosing the DM account for the Frankfurt operation, which, as you will notice, costs considerably less than we expected. In accordance with my letter of October 19th, to which you agreed, we must bill you for part of the following items: packing material, packers, customs inspection and inland transportation. This makes a total of 2,425.25 DM, 70% of which, amounting to 1,697.67, should be paid by HUL.

Since this is a DM account, I would suggest that you transmit this sum as you see fit directly to JR30 Nuremberg.

Looking forward to an early reply

Sincerely yours

Hannah Arendt
 Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

cc: S. Kagan
 Enc.

123610

THE JEWISH NATIONAL & UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
P.O.B.503 JERUSALEM

22nd April, 1951

Our Ref.:SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Thank you for your letter of
March 26 (to which the list of owners was
attached) and of April 2nd.

On arrival of the copies of the
roster and "Instructions to Claimants"
mentioned in your letter of April 2nd we
shall take the necessary steps to get things
moving.

Your experience regarding the micro-
filming of the Worms archives is most interest-
ing. As to the Israel microfilming project
there is so far no intention to microfilm
archives. The project is, for the time being,
aimed at manuscripts and certain rare books.
So far only preparatory work is being done
and the actual photographing has not yet start-
ed. In view of the foreign currency situation
in Israel we would not dare to set a date for
the commencement of mass photographing as plan-
ned. We therefore think that you can go
ahead with your project to microfilm
Jewish archives in Germany. If you will
keep us informed about the progress of this
work we shall to our best to avoid overlapping
of the two projects.

The 10 cases of periodicals sent to us through AFHU reached us safely. Thank
you for your endeavours in the matter.

Handwritten initials

28. DEC. 1949

14. DEC. 1949

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

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HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. C. Wormann
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Palestine

November 7, 1949

Dear Dr. Wormann:

Please find enclosed the minutes of the last meeting of our Board of Directors. I should like to draw your attention to No. 3 of page 2, especially paragraphs 5 and 6, which are self-explanatory.

Could you kindly let me know if a committee for the distribution of books in Israel has been founded in the meantime, and if so, which institutions and persons are represented on it? When do you think distribution to Israeli institutions other than the Hebrew University will start? We should like to know also how far the actual unpacking of cases and the lists of the books for the Hebrew University has proceeded?

Dear Dr. Wormann, I know this is "a pain in the neck" but I cannot help it. Try to give me some answer.

Sincerely yours,

Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

HA:s

ARC, 49793 / 60
 JCB

123612

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Handwritten signature/initials

June 25, 1951

1120
-1. AUG. 1951

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

This is in reply to your letter of June 13th. I had been under the impression that the Israeli papers had already carried the necessary advertisements.

It is quite impossible for us to extend the deadline to September 30th because our operation in Europe should start by September 1st, the latest. I would therefore suggest that you make July 31st the deadline. That is really the best I can do and even this is very inconvenient.

By the way, we received quite a number of claims from Israel already.

With kind regards

Sincerely yours

Handwritten signature of Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

G. Scholem c/o Jewish Institute of Religion
40 West 68 Str. New York 23.

My dear Shunam:

Today I received your letter of March 29, and wish to thank you for all the information you give me. I am sure that you will get what you really need and I do not foresee any serious difficulties. If we take less than was anticipated by Dr. Starr, all the better. Please let me know how long you expect to stay in Frankfurt.

By the same mail I received an important letter from Dr. Kurt Lewin, who is the representative of the State of Israel in Austria, Salzburg, Getreidegasse 24. In order to understand the copy of my letter to him which I attach for your use, let me give you the main piece of information, contained in his letter. There are in Vienna about 20,000 important books from the field of Jewish studies, which were saved by the devoted efforts of a Gentile scholar, Dr. Kurt Schubert of the Oriental Institute of the Vienna University. The books are belonging legally to the Jewish Community in Vienna but they are kept in cases in the Austrian National-Bibliothek. Dr. Lewin had negotiations with the Jewish Community and they agree in principle to give these books to the Jewish National Library, on the condition that a certain small number of books should remain for their own use and the study of of Judaism in the University in which a small circle around Dr. Schubert takes great interest.

Now the whole question is, what we can do. As you see from my letter to him, I strongly suggest that you go there to Vienna, after having finished in Offenbach. You will accomplish a great achievement by taking a look at these possibly very valuable books and arrange for their ~~transfer~~ transfer, be it as a gift for us, be it as a trust, possibly on behalf JCR. In the latter case, we might, or might not, get the money for the shipment. Still I would prefer the gift. I think, I should go only, when something is left to be done. But I certainly would be glad to cooperate with you on that matter if necessary. There is no doubt in my mind ~~that~~ taking this step in urging you to go there. I am acting in the best interest of the University. You might cable them, your going for a short visit to Vienna connected with the books and they certainly will have no objections. Please write to Dr. Lewin about your time-table and for how long you could come. And let me know about your reaction.

With all good wishes and cordial greetings,
yours

JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, INC.

1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

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Commission on European Jewish Cultural
 Reconstruction
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 Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives
 Council for the Protection of Rights and
 Interests 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

November 7, 1949

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Dr. G. Scholem
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Scholem:

Enclosed is copy of my letter to Shunami in re Breslau collection. I just learned of your letter to Baron, which was read to me over the phone. I did not yet talk to Baron, and give you my first reaction.

Shunami misunderstood the decision with regard to the German Jewish institutional collections. I hope you have received the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors in the meantime. It was only decided that "the destination of each collection should be considered separately, after pertinent information has been received from Wiesbaden." If, for instance, we follow now Shunami's proposition, roughly 25% of the Breslau collection would go to Israel including the Hebrew University, and not 40% which would have been the old key. In other words, the destination or the destinations of each collection will be considered separately.

It is somewhat unfortunate that Shunami failed to inform me that the Hebrew University was interested in books from the Breslau collection. I was under the impression that the Hebrew University would not claim any of these books. In case of all these requests, moreover, I shall need a breakdown between the Hebrew University on one side and of other Israeli institutions on the other.

As to the decision to keep the Breslau unit intact and send it to Switzerland, I should like to tell you that I think you are 100 percent right. Our difficulty here is that the representatives of the Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany have some difficulties to reconcile themselves to the fact that we deal only with remnants and that these remnants are not representative of the former collections and do not constitute organic units. The case of the Kirchheim and Hermann Cohen collections are, of course, different.

ARC. 40725/62
 JCR

123615

Dr. G. Scholem - p.2
11-7-49

However, I want you to be aware of still another factor in this connection: The German Jewish institutional collections, in distinction from the other Offenbach material, have been claimed by JRSO under Law 59, and JRSO is likely to take a much stronger interest in the allocation of these books than it did with respect to the other books which were given over to the JCR directly. I do not yet know how this new influence will make itself felt, but I do know that JRSO also has the problem of the German Jewish communities, past and present.

I hope this clears the matter up. I shall circulate a vote on the Breslau collection among the Board of Directors in the next few days, and I do not expect to have difficulties, except from the Council for the Protection of Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany.

Yours,

H.A.

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

HA:s

7.11.49

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

We acknowledge with thanks your letters dated September 19th and October 24th. Please forgive the delay in answering them which was caused by reasons beyond our control.

First of all please accept our heartfelt thanks for your invaluable help and your kind advice and interest in enriching the Jewish National and University Library.

In answer to your query of September 19, we wish to emphasize that all the Yiddish Periodicals we asked for are needed by our Library only and not by any other Library in this country.

We never received the Yiddish Periodicals from Poland, Russia, and other countries regularly, and therefore such a great number of them are missing. We have requested from you only those volumes which are really needed by us. In the near future a chair for Yiddish will be established at the Hebrew University and it is for this reason that the completion of our collection of Yiddish Periodicals is of particular importance to us now.

We are aware of the fact that many Jewish Libraries are interested in obtaining Yiddish Periodicals and we have, therefore, requested such Periodicals for our Library only and for no other library in this country. We fully understand that, in case one copy of the periodical is already in the possession of our Institution, the rest of the copies should be distributed in other countries.

The lists of Periodicals of the Breslau collection and of rare books of the Wiesbaden collection have been received by us only today. We shall check them immediately.

Enclosed is a further questionnaire filled out by the Library of the Training College for Instructors of Aliyat ha-Noar.

Thanking you once again for your assistance,

Sincerely yours,



Dr. C. Wormann

123617

ARC 140 753/677
JCA

ak/rw

7TH December, 1950

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

Dear Hannah,

Thanks for the Notice of Annual Meeting.. of November 28th with enclosures. I have talked the matters over with Dr. Wormann and in the following wish to explain my views and make my suggestions as representative of the Hebrew University.

ad 1) ¹⁾ Since ~~the~~ matters with regard to the "Gesamtarchiv" are not yet finally settled and we ~~xxxxxxx~~ are expecting this final settlement I would ask you kindly not to make any decisions on this point. We are willing to take all archives over, also the Bavarian Jewish community archives. If the transfer of the "Gesamtarchiv" should meet with difficulties in the last minute - I will not hope that it actually does. I feel that the Bavarian archives should be allocated to the Hebrew University. Incidentally the Berlin authorities have asked for a document in which the State of Israel asks formally for the transfer of the "Gesamtarchiv". This document has only recently been handed over to the German authorities in Berlin. If necessary Dr. Bein will once more go to Berlin.

ad 2) ²⁾ As to the decree which you hope the German Länder governments might issue I have no objections to it although I feel compelled to give vent to my scepticism. I do not believe that we will actually receive book collections or similar material which will be found at some future time through a decree of this kind.. As I stressed, such a decree would indeed be of use if Hebrew manuscripts of institutions and individuals which we are all looking for should turn up in whole or partly. It would make possible legal steps regarding the enforcement of the transfer. This is an object of such importance to Jewry as a whole that it appears worth while to secure the legal claims. As in this case property of dissolved institutions or individually owned items are involved the matter comes under the jurisdiction of JRSO. I do not wish to give the impression as if I would think that there is a chance of finding such material in Germany herself or that it would turn up there within the next two years. I rather think it will be found ⁱⁿ and can be identified, in Poland. The man who will be charged to make microfilms there in behalf of the Israeli Government - and we hope he will start at the beginning of 1951 (the main difficulty of the budget seem to have been removed by and by!) has been specially requested to take care of this matter.

ad 4) I cannot visualize that there will be any results in Berlin following legal steps except such things the Jewish Community will give on its own accord in accordance with amicable agreements. It should be taken into account that much material was actually destroyed through fire, etc and that there are no caches. For this reason I do not recommend that ~~JRS~~ JCR should make a new effort next year

ARC. 4° 793/212
JCR



123618

ad 4) §4 I do not think that legal steps would produce any results in Berlin. The Jewish Community may be prevailed upon to give us things in accordance with amicable agreements. In any event it should be taken into account that much was actually destroyed by fire, etc. and that there ~~may~~ not exist caches in Berlin. For this reason I do not recommend that JCR should make a new effort next year.

ad 5) §6 If it should prove impossible to liquidate the stock of 12,000-14,000 Judaica and Hebraica of the privately owned books by distributing them among American institutions We have nothing to say on this point. But if only a part could be placed I suggest that the remainder be sent direct from Wiesbaden to Israel. We can use the items for distribution here. I request you to consider this alternative. We are ready to take closed cases from this holdings without further sorting.

ad 7) §7a If there will remain duplicate of periodicals which do not find a claimant we want for Israel Hebrew and Yiddish periodicals (the latter without American dailies) only. Duplicates in other languages are not required, but we hope that the Hebrew and Yiddish duplicates can be shipped to Israel.

ad 7d) §8 The same principle as above may be applied for remaining books We are willing to take over all Hebrew and Yiddish books. I propose to let us have this material and in no circumstance to offer it to American libraries or to sell it on the market.

ad 8) I herewith file the claim of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with regard to the material in France. We are prepared to take all of it. I most sincerely urge you to take this decision and not to start sorting and various allocations. As it has become clear, rabbinical literature - and the Paris holdings consist of such material to its major part - is ^{needed} in Israel only. The Ministry of Religion as well as the Ministry of Education and Cultural have frequently applied to us and inquired whether we are not ready to supply more material of this kind to new settlements. I request you to state this point in our behalf. The precedent of the Breslau Rabbinica must deter us. During my stay in Switzerland I followed up the fate of the Breslau rabbinica which were allocated to this country. As a result of my investigation I may say that not more than five or six people will use these 7000 volumes. I suggest to stress the public interest which exist in Israel for this material and not to allocate this material in accordance with the accepted percentage key. This would mean that no material that nobody wants there will be sent round Europe and that it can be prevented that the books find their way into the bookshops. We also claim the Baltic material the contents of which we know very well. There is no doubt that all of it can be used here. As to the individually owned books in Paris we feel that not more than 10% of them will be claimed by their owners. ~~in~~ Themajority of them will be Hebrew books which are of vital importance to Israel and we would suggest that all the material that cannot be returned to its owners should be sent to Israel. The acceptance of our suggestion would ~~may~~ facilitate the handling. The Baltig books need not be processed at all and could be forwarded at the beginning of next year, as we have a specification of the cases.

Sept. 57



123619

If special problems in connection with the individually owned books should arise there might be a possibility that the Hebrew University ~~sends~~ place some one at the disposal of JRC. This person would then come to Paris if necessary. But I think that a summary disposal as I suggest would make such a mission unnecessary. *Dr Shapiro can handle the matter by himself.*

As stated above we do not expect more than 10% of the books to be claimed. As far as we can we are prepared to do our best to facilitate the additional work you anticipate. Details may be settled later on.

ad 8) We propose that the material you mention will be given to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem after conclusion of JCR activities. It should be added to the national archives. I believe that the JCR archives are of general Jewish national significance and it is fitting that such documents covering an interesting period and important activities should be deposited in Jerusalem.

I trust, dear Hannah, that my suggestions which you will be kind enough to submit to the meeting in my behalf will facilitate your work. I wish JCR all the best for what I suppose to be the last year of its activities.

With kind personal regards and best wishes

Sincerely yours,

Prof. G. Scholem

P.S. I read your article on Germany in the Commentary in nearly full agreement. Many thanks.



31st December, 1950

Mr. High Salpeter,
Executive Vice-President,
American Committee for the Hebrew
University, Weizman Institute of Science
and Technion,
250 West 57th Street,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Salpeter,

Thank you for your letter of December 22nd. I wish to express my appreciation of your having represented the interest of the Hebrew University at the Board meeting of the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction. I am sure that Dr. Arendt will send ~~be~~ a full report on the proceedings.

I had given orders that copy of my letter of December 7th to Dr. Arendt be sent to you and it did indeed leave Jerusalem on December 8th. I hope it reached you in time as it contained my suggestions and proposals for the meeting.

As to the decision regarding JCR's archival material on which you inform me I only wish to say that there can be no doubt regarding the full cooperation of the Hebrew University. It will do so to the best of its abilities. I am glad that the archives will be united in one center which we trust will be built up in Jerusalem and am happy that in principle the matter has been settled. There is no real reason for dual interest between Jewish institutions here and there although the Sub-Committee on which Israel was never represented, has ~~always~~ given the impression of representing American versus Israeli interests.

With repeated thanks for your activities and help I am

Yours sincerely,

Prof. G. Scholem

ARC 40793 / 220
JCR

125621

ה ע ת ק ה

קונסוליה של ישראל
סינכן

מוגבל

ט' תשרי תשי"א
20 ספטמבר, 1950

מספר: טי/1/ט/6490

אל :- משרד החוץ, המחלקה למערב אירופה
שאת :- קונסוליה של ישראל, סינכן

הנדון: - ארכיון היהדות הגרמנית

זה מכבר קיימת התכתבות עם ד"ר א. ביין, מנהל הארכיון הציוני, בדבר מסירת הארכיון של היהדות הגרמנית שנשאר במזרח גרמניה. ארכיון זה הועבר בשני שלישי לברלין. החלק הנותר יגיע בזמן הקרוב. הקהלה היהודית בברלין תוסיף חמ"ק מסלה והכל יחד צריך להמסר לארכיון הציוני.

למטרות הסוואה, נחרו בצורה של "מסירה לאוניברסיטה". כימים האחרונים שפל בענין זה פרוט' גרשם שלום. הוא שלפן לי היום (19.9.50) והודיעני שממשלת מזרח גרמניה מתנה את המסירה רשיון-היצוא בכך, שהשי יתקבל באופן רשמי ע"י האוניברסיטה או על-ידי נציג ישראל. מתוכן השיחה הבינותי שגם פרופסור שלום, וגם האנשים שהשתתפו בשיחה עם באי-כח הממשלה המזרחית, שקלו שעלי לקבל מתנה זו באופן רשמי. מסתבר שכוננת באי-כח הממשלה לנצל הזדמנות זו לטרטומת גדולה, וברור, איפא, שאני סרבתי למלא תפקיד זה. פרופסור שלום בשיחתו בטלפוןית, הדגיש כמה וכמה פעמים את הערן הרב של הענין, שידוע גם לי. ובכל זאת הנני סבור שלא אוכל לקבל עלי באיזו צורה שהיא את השליחות הזאת, עובדה שהינה מעוררת את כל בעית היחסים (הלא-יחסים) והיתה יוצרת תקדים לא רצוי גם כלפי המערב.

בשקול טעותך באנו לידי מסקנה, שרצוי להציע לד"ר א. ביין יכוא לגרמניה במועד המתאים, כמובן בהנאי שמשרד החוץ יטכיס לכך. פרוט' שלום ידון עוד פעם על האפשרות לשנות את מען המקבל לארכיון יהודי מרכזי בירושלים, תוך השטמת הטלה "ציוני".

פרופסור שלום יסאר כשו"ץ רק עד אמצע אוקטובר והיה רצוי לקבל הוראותיכם עוד לפני שובו.

בברכה,

(-) ד"ר אליהו ק. לבנה
קונסול ישראל

העתק: לד"ר א. ביין, הארכיון הציוני, ירושלים.

289

Berlin-Zehlendorf, den 20. September 1950
Fischerhuettenstr. 24

Dr. Erich Loewenthal

Military Government Club

Wiesbaden
Alexandrastr. 6

My dear Dr. Loewenthal,

I am enclosing copy of my letter to Hannah Arendt for you. In addition I should like to urge you to do whatever is in your power to speed up the shipment of the cases destined for Berlin. I have found Dr. Freyer a rather unpleasant partner for any negotiations but I think we will get what we need by going straight to the Juedische Gemeinde.

I would suggest that you come to see me in Zurich as soon as you can arrange it after your coming back from leave. I should like to tell you orally about my experiences here.

I would also suggest that you write on your part to Dr. Freyer or even better to Mr. Heinz Galinski of the Juedische Gemeinde-Vorstand as soon as you have shipped the cases to Berlin. But leave out the matter of the archives as there is no doubt that this matter could not be settled through JCR but only directly between Israel and Berlin.

I hope to see you soon and am with

cordially regards

yours sincerely

G. Scholem

A.R.C. 42793/189
JCR



123623

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Executive Secretary

HANNAH ARENDT

[Handwritten signature]

October 6, 1950

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

Dear Dr. Wormann:

Thank you for your letter of August 31st. By now you will have seen Prof. Scholem and heard all about the Hessian books.

We have sent you Mr. Ben-Horin's field report, which I trust you will find interesting. I believe that the section on microfilming will be of special interest in connection with the Israeli microfilming program. For this reason, I am also sending you the following: Two letters from a microfilming firm in Hamburg and one "Verpflichtungsschein", which lays down the conditions for microfilming in the Hamburg University Library. From our experiences, it appears that these conditions will be pretty much the same in all German libraries.

We have solved the question of a successor address for JCR in Germany for the time being through an agreement with JRSO, Nuremberg, which will handle pending claims, in-shippments and incoming information.

With kindest regards

Yours,
[Handwritten signature]

Hannah Arendt
 Executive Secretary

P.S. I am also enclosing a list of persons approached by Mr. Ben-Horin which you may find useful for your own work in Germany.

enc.

[Handwritten notes]
 JCR 1931
 JCR 1932

123624

288
28th May, 1950

Our Ref. JSH/LP
Dr. Hannah Arendt, Exec. Secretary,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Arendt,

In reply to your letter of May 5th I beg to assure you that we shall send you a list of recipients as soon as allocation starts. All recipient institutions will get material only if they undertake to furnish us with a list of the books they received within six months after the delivery. We even intend to try to arrive at an arrangement with all concerned that the lists as well as the pasting of the bookplates of JCR should be done under our supervision before the books leave our premises.

As to the Advisory Board, we had another talk with the Minister of Education and Culture (who was ill for several months) and we hope soon to come to an agreement.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

Copy: Prof. Schelen

ARC 4-293-1/131
JCR



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Executive Secretary
 HANNAH ARENDT

Prof. G. Scholem
 Abarbanel St. 28
 Jerusalem, Pal.

June 2, 1950

Dear Scholem:

Many thanks for your letter of April 30 and the information about Gesamtarchiv and the Bamberg material.

As to the material which is now under Eppelsheimer's trusteeship, I am wondering why you believe that it contains Orientalia and other valuable stuff. Eppelsheimer told me that an overwhelming majority of these books are modern German fiction plus such "scholarly" items as Gundolf, etc.

Heller: -- The interview in question was given without our knowledge and came to my attention by accident, that is, no copy of the newspaper was sent to the office. I telephoned Baron immediately and he protested to Heller. Some days later I received a protest from JRSO, Nuremberg, which I forwarded to Heller. I called him up and wrote him myself -- I think that will do for the moment.

We shall have another discussion of the microfilm project next Monday at a Board of Directors meeting, but the chances are slim. I shall propose a 35,000 mark budget for the negatives of 200,000 manuscript pages. The positives can be done in this country at a cheaper rate than the one quoted to me by the Central German Microfilm Association. It is very doubtful whether JRSO will grant us a mark budget and it is almost certain that the additional dollar budget will have to come from other sources. I still think that this microfilm business may eventually prove to be the most lasting contribution of JCR to Jewish cultural life, especially if we could take Germany as a starting point only and through some kind of revolving fund (recipient libraries all over the world refunding at least part of the expenses) proceed to microfilm manuscript material in Austria, Italy and possibly France.

123626

ARC. 40 793/437
JCR

June 2, 1950

Dr. Wormann wrote me that you in Jerusalem are anxious not to have cultural property included in any bulk arrangement between JRSO and the German authorities. As a matter of fact, Mr. Ferencz, when he was in New York, mentioned the possibility of including cultural property, but we did not discuss the matter at this point. I can understand your misgivings, but I should like to point out to you the following:

1. If a bulk arrangement between JRSO and the German government materializes, it will mean the very rapid liquidation of JRSO offices in Germany. This in turn will mean that cultural property in the hands of German institutions can no longer be claimed by a successor organization.
2. JRSO is extremely anxious to terminate the activities of JCR for budgetary reasons. We are having great difficulties with our budget up to the end of the year, and the chances are that this will be the last budget for operation in Germany even though a few finish-up jobs may be left for next year.

In other words, what is the alternative to a bulk arrangement-- which admittedly is not a good idea for cultural property? Moreover, I am afraid that you overestimate the quantity as well as the quality of Jewish owned material in German public institutions.

In order to give you an idea of how things stand, let me tell you that during a recent Executive Committee meeting of JRSO, it was reported that JRSO will probably get recognition as successor organization in the French zone. There was strong opposition to spending any dollars for initial operations, that is, it seemed doubtful if JRSO would be willing to become the successor in the French zone. The reason behind all these recent developments is very simple. There is very little "heirless" Jewish property in Germany; almost everything has been claimed through proper channels.

Did you see Benjamin's Baudelaire as it was printed in "Sinn und Form"? I didn't meet Brecht, I never liked him. Moreover, he ^{resents} my article in the "Rundschau" ~~very much~~ ^{for obvious} _{political reasons.}

Yours

Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt

*copy of p. 2
of this letter is
mailed to Dr. Wormann.*



123627

26th May, 1950

Our ref. BSLP

Mr. Meir Ben-Horin,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Ben-Horin,

In reply to your letter of March 31st I beg to inform you as follows:

ad a: Neither we nor the gentlemen from the Zionist Archives in Jerusalem know of an unpublished book by Nordau, "Der Sinn der Zivilisation". He wrote a book, "Der Sinn der Geschichte" which was published in 1909.

ad b: Mrs. Maxa Nordau-Grünblatt's address is 3 rue Massenet, Paris XVIe.

ad c: We have no bibliography of writings by and on Nordau nor does such a bibliography exist somewhere else, as far as we know. We possess so many "Nordauiana" that it is impossible for us to let you have a list. If you will tell us what you already have and in what languages you are able to read we will try to complete your list of works.

In principle we are ready to lent you books through a public library in New York if you should need them. But we must tell you in advance that it seems unlikely that the works you require will be available just now as our holdings are on Mount Scopus to which we have no access.

ad d: A new Hebrew edition of Nordau's writings, in 4-5 volumes, is indeed about to appear. But this edition will probably comprise only his Zionist writings and at the utmost one volume of general papers, essays, etc.; it will by no means be an "omnibus". The editors are Dr. A. Bein, Rabbi Benjamin and Dr. Nathanyahu.

We shall be glad to be of further assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

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JEB

123628

7th June, 1950

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

Dear Hannah,

I understand that several pending matters are being settled between you, Dr. Wormann and Mr. Shunami and I need not go into these, but want to report to you on other matters.

Thanks for your information with regard to Mombert's library. We cannot take any interest in it if we have to buy it. German literature is not high up on our priority list. God may give that we have in any other literature what we have in German.

As to the microfilming project I suppose that the meeting of JCR has made its decision to proceed according to the proposals. In this case I am authorized to declare that the State of Israel will take one copy of the whole set which is planned. We have now had a meeting with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education and it was resolved ~~to~~ to take steps to establish a collection of photographs of every available Hebrew manuscript text. "The Committee for the Photographs of Hebrew Manuscripts" consisting of representatives of the Government and the Hebrew University will be the responsible body to handle these matters and also will be in charge of the administration of the budget to be allocated by the Government. The photographs themselves - photographs, photostats and microfilms - will be preserved as a trust for the Government by the University. We will appoint a special expert who, in his capacity as a government official, will attend to all these matters. Apart from that we intend to appoint a second expert whose function it will be to travel to places where manuscripts should be photographed.

If JCR proceeds to put into effect its German microfilming program we will join it and not take separate steps of our own. I should like to hear in detail what are the plans and have information whether the personnel and equipment for the execution will be ready by August or September. I shall be in Europe in August and may be free to go for a certain time to Germany after the 10th September. If the work proceeds by that time it may be desirable for myself to go and see how the program is carried out. In the meantime we would proceed with our preparations for the same kind of work in other countries, especially those of the popular democracies.

I am leaving Jerusalem about August 15th for Switzerland and I hope that you will let me have full details as to the execution of the program in order to enable me to make a decision whether to go to Germany or leave it alone.

In the "Gesamtarchiv" affair we are without information. I'll let you know as soon as any news comes in.

Cordially yours,

G. Scholem.

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COMMITTEE ON RESTORATION OF CONTINENTAL
JEWISH MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

Set up in 1943 under the auspices of the
JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND

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Dr. A. WIENER
(Wiener Library).

Standbroke House,

2-5, Old Bond Street,

London, W.1

21st June, 1950.

Prof. G. Scholem,
28, Abarbanel,
JERUSALEM.

My dear Prof. Scholem,

Many thanks for your letter of the 7th June. I was very pleased to hear that you will be visiting Europe again. I myself am going to spend August on the Continent, and it is quite probable that I shall be able to visit you in Amsterdam during your participation there at the Congress. Of course, I would have liked you to have visited London, and should you still be able to do so - even if for only a day or two - I should be very pleased to have you as our guest.

In the meantime, the Trust Corporation for the British Zone in Germany was registered last Monday, but I doubt whether actual activity will commence before October next. There are still a lot of difficulties to overcome, not only with regard to negotiations with the authorities here and in the British Zone of Germany, but also with regard to the participation of the various Jewish organisations in this country. I negotiated with the initiators of the Trust Corporation as regards the collaboration of our Committee, and in view of the fact that no definite arrangement was made among any of the existing organisations, I cannot yet state whether and in what form we shall participate. From the discussions I have had, it is quite clear that the Trust Corporation would like to make full use of our machinery, especially of Dr. Lowenthal, who, as you know, is a Member of our Committee, and was

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appointed Field Director through our good offices. You also know that the activities of the J.C.R. will now cease any day, and I have made a tentative arrangement with Lowenthal to await the decisions which are going to be taken in London in the very near future. My suggestion is that our Committee here becomes a constituent of the new body, and that this new body will leave to us the entire care of all literary, cultural, museum and archival matters. They will, of course, also have to carry the financial burden, but so far as I could gather this was not the point at issue at all.

I know Dr. Lowenthal very well, and neither he nor we in our Committee pretend that he is an expert in Judaica, Hebraica, etc., and for that purpose we shall have to send somebody out to Germany suitable for the work - even if for only a short period in order to ascertain the things available. I am not sure whether we shall be so far in August/September as to get permission to visit the various centres and to look into the material. I cannot imagine anybody better than yourself to look into the various store-rooms, especially if one takes into account that you will be in Europe in any case at that time. I just mention it theoretically only: Should the negotiations reach such a stage as to enable us to delegate an expert to Hamburg, as well as to the other places, would you be willing to do this on behalf of the new Trust Corporation? I should like to know this in case the negotiations here, as well as those with the British authorities in Germany, should reach such a stage as to necessitate a quick decision on our side.

I promised to let you have copies of some Sabbatianist material, and I shall definitely let you have it in the very near future.

With kindest regards to you both from the both of us,

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Karol Rabinowitz

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
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 Anglo-Jewish Association
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Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction
 Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives
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 The Hebrew University

Interessenvertretung der jüdischen Gemeinden und Kultusvereinigungen in der US Zone
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HANNAH ARENDT

June 28, 1950

Dr. G. Scholem
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Dr. Scholem:

In connection with my impending trip to Europe, to be undertaken in part for the purpose of determining, relative to our contemplated microfilm project, the actual availability of Hebrew manuscripts in Germany, we would find it most helpful to have any information that may be available to you pertaining to the following question: Did the Preussische Staatsbibliothek in Berlin make any substantial new acquisitions of Hebrew manuscripts that do not appear on the available catalogues?

It has been suggested that Mr. Weil of Jerusalem, formerly of the Staatsbibliothek's Oriental Division, might be able to furnish additional information on this point.

I would appreciate an answer at your early convenience and remain, with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

Meir Ben-Horin
 Meir Ben-Horin

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 JCR

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7th July, 1950

Mr. Meir Ben-Horin,
Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Ben-Horin,

This will reply to your letter of June 28th. I know that the Preussische Staatsbibliothek in Berlin acquired several scores of Hebrew manuscripts which are not registered in Steinschneider's bibliography. They were partly bought from Dr. Sonne in Italy.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. G. Scholem.

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 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 8, 1950

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Secretary

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Executive Secretary

HANNAH ARENDT

Dr. G. Scholem
 Hebrew University
 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Dr. Scholem:

Thanks for your letter of July 25th. I hope this letter still finds you in Jerusalem.

1. Microfilming -- The Munich State Library raised difficulties and put conditions which, in our opinion, are unacceptable. These are the only ones. The same does not hold true for Hamburg and the Berlin manuscripts. However, since the Israeli government wants to do microfilming in Europe anyhow and is certainly better qualified for all diplomatic negotiations than we are, it may be better than they undertake the German job as well. We still may decide to do a pilot study, either in Hamburg or on the Berlin manuscripts. Ben-Horin is supposed to discuss this matter with you in detail.

Another question is the microfilming of archives. This too Ben-Horin will discuss with you.

2. Ben-Horin must leave Paris for New York on September 7th. I therefore think the best thing would be for you to meet in Amsterdam prior to his departure. I think you will find it necessary to go to Germany and we shall then of course send you the \$100.00 check. Please let me know when and where you want to have the money.

3. One reason why it would be good for you to go to Germany is that the Kultusministerium of Hessen has notified me that it is ready to abide by the tentative agreement between Eppelsheimer and myself, according to which we would get 50% of the books under Eppelsheimer's trusteeship. However, they warned me of the bad quality of these books (70% pamphlets or unbound). Up to now it has not been possible to inspect the books, which are in a bunker. You may want to look into the matter.

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August 8, 1950

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Dr. Scholem (2)

4. You were right with Berlin manuscripts in Tübingen:

5. For your planned trip to Berlin, please find enclosed a lovely note from the community gentlemen. For your information, the books are now in the Oranienburger Strasse in the attic, and when and if you are there, don't forget to climb a little stairway which leads from one attic to the one above.

6. For your general information: The British Trust Fund has seen the light. Ben-Horin goes to London in order to decide if JCR or the Committee on Restoration of Continental Jewish Museums, Libraries and Archives, i.e. the Cecil Roth-Rabinowicz group will take over the job. We are not over-anxious, but would do it if we are asked to. JCR work in the American zone will definitely be liquidated by December and possibly earlier. There are occasional in-shippments, but the big claims, the Frankfurt art collection and the Bavarian archives, have not yet come through. The latter are also claimed by the Bavarian Landesverband. Auerbach is very busy and also successful in preventing anything which we want to do. My opinion on the activities of this gentleman are no longer fit even for typewritten print. (By the way, his hold on the German government officials is politically the most interesting aspect of the story.)

7. Kaznelson - I finally got the opinion of our legal advisors and am sending them on to Wormann. According to American and British law, Kaznelson's claim is non-existent.

Yours

Hannah Arendt
Executive Secretary

Für wir erkären hiermit dass die Angaben über den Herren Star Schumann, Prof. Scholem & Bin Dr Arendt & Heller abgegeben worden sind, dass in Hallerräumen der Oranienburger Strasse 28 in Berlin eine Fülle von jüdischen und hebraischen Büchern lagen, auf einem Postum fernhen... Unsere gemeinsame Bibliothek ist leer... Menschen hungern nach geistigen Gütern, bitte uns zu helfen. u. s. w. ver. Galinski

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16th August, 1950

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

Dear Hannah,

I am glad to hear that you are back from your vacation and I just read your letters to Dr. Wormann from August 8th and 9th. Many thanks for the legal opinion on the Katznelson case of which we will make use in due course.

The microfilming project of the Government is under way so far as we are now waiting for the final allocation of the budget to begin our operations. Meanwhile we have appointed two people, namely, Dr. Paul Klein from Paris, formerly the Librarian of the Alliance Israelite - who changed his name now to Moshe Katan. He is a trained archivist. Secondly Dr. Nehemya Aloni who will go abroad in order to arrange for the operation there. It is very important for us to know whether JCR is going to proceed with the German microfilm project or not. In the latter case Dr. Aloni will be sent to Germany this fall. In case you write me about this to one of my addresses in Europe which I gave you in my letter of July 25th please send a copy of it to Dr. Wormann who is a member of the Government Committee responsible for the action in order to keep him informed. At any rate we are starting on the presumption that JCR is unlikely to undertake the enterprise because of its financial difficulties and we have given Dr. Aloni instructions to prepare also for Germany.

I hope to hear from you in Switzerland or Paris, or at the latest in Amsterdam about a possibility of meeting Ben-Horin who I assume is to continue at the old address in Wiesbaden. Meanwhile, the matter of the Gesamtarchiv seems to proceed and also there has not yet been a formal transfer of the Merseburg material to our people we hope that no obstacles ~~might~~ will arise in the last hour. It is well possible that in connection with this matter I shall proceed to Berlin. In case I go to Berlin and possibly also to Hamburg I shall pass through Frankfurt and Wiesbaden only on my way out of Germany.

You have promised that JCR will contribute \$100.-- to the expenses of this trip and I would like you to send it in a cheque in my name to my address in Zürich (Kurhaus Rigiblick, Krattenturmstrasse). It should be there at the end of September. In the meanwhile I will pay the expenses from my own funds.

I hope to hear from you and am with cordial regards

Yours

Prof. G. Scholem.

P.S. I wrote to Dr. Sternberger about the Panorama-business a carefully worded letter, but I have not heard anything from him. Do you think I should call on him when passing through Germany? Is he at present in Frankfurt, Berlin or Heidelberg?



THE JEWISH NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
P.O.B.503 JERUSALEM

31st August, 1950
Our Ref.: SH/LP

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

Dear Dr. Arendt,

Thanks for your two letters of August 8th and Mr. Schulman's expert opinion had, as it seems, its effect on Dr. Kaznelson. Although he emphasizes that he disagrees with Mr. Schulman's opinion, we nonetheless are confident that Dr. Kaznelson will not take legal steps. The matter we hope is therefore closed.

Please convey to Prof. Michael our thanks for trouble he has taken to clear up this affair.

I was glad to hear that you are in favour of the arrangement with the Ministry of Education. I took the opportunity of reporting on that at the first meeting of the Library Council of the Ministry which took place at August 22nd.

We shall of course insist on the recipient libraries' submitting book lists as well as on other obligations we undertook towards JCR and hope that these lists will be made under our supervision. The negotiations with the Ministry, we are confident, will start soon.

It was very interesting for us to hear about the agreement you succeeded in reaching with the Hessia Kultusministerium with regard to the Frankfurt books of non-Jewish contents. It is possible that I shall be in Europe in the fall and will look into the matter myself.

It is fairly certain that there will be some Jewish agency in the American Zone of Germany dealing with Jewish property for the next few years.

With kindest regards I am

Yours sincerely,

Dr. C. Wormann,
Director.

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