

These need to  
be refiled

Sc. 422

~~RESTRICTED~~

American Legation,

Vienna, Austria, September 24, 1948

SUBJECT:

Hungarian Gold Train

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

CIA:

I have the honor to report that the Division of Reparations, Delivery, and Restitution of USAGA would appreciate information from the Department with regard to the releases which may have been given out in Hungary or elsewhere with regard to the disposition of non-monetary gold from the so-called Hungarian gold train.

The RD & R Division have indicated that information bearing on the United States publicity on this matter would be useful to them and also might be of value to others in connection with public relations in Austria if the question is raised at a later date. In this connection they refer to Despatch No. 515 of June 11, 1948 from Budapest, Hungary with translations of articles attacking United States disposition of these valuables resulting in public sale of some of them.

Respectfully yours,

John G. Sharrett

601/710  
RECORDED  
SERIALIZED

To Department in Original and Hectograph.

~~RESTRICTED~~

103308

RG	84
Entry	Dept. of State
File	Poland + USCOA
Box	102

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND775121  
By JWL NAPA Date 9-1-99

PROPERTY CONTROL WAREHOUSE, SALZBURG:

The below listed materials remain in the Warehouse; and are to be disposed of as noted:

Hetziana Library

It is not believed that effort should be made to return the furnitures to Rome as they are of the cheapest quality. The app. 150 cases of books should be returned as soon as MFA Berlin ships the Florence and Rome libraries from Germany to Italy. This transport to be arranged with Maj. LaFarge in Berlin and Mr. Morey at Am Embassy in Rome. It is urgent that the five cases of books belonging to the Vienna Archaeological Institute end forwarded to Rome among cases of the Deutsches Archaeologisches Institut from Altaussee, be returned to Vienna in the return trip of this transport. Maj. LaFarge has forwarded information that additional cases of the Rome Libraries exist at Bad Aussee. Dr. Juraschek is checking this and should be contacted on the matter. If true, these cases are to be brought to Salzburg in order to accompany the books already here.

Prussian State Library (portion of)

App one freight carload of books ready for shipment. Capt. Rae has been cabled that USFA will release to Germany if transport is provided by OMGB.

Weitz Collection

Capt Lucoc, Restitutions Div. GMF, has promised an investigator from Paris to arrive Salzburg before 15 July. If such does not happen before departure of undersigned, all files on this Collection, plus access to the Warehouse, must be arranged for the investigator for a period of app. two weeks. He should also be supplied with one laborer and perhaps clerical assistance.

Hungarian Paintings

Removed from Fischhorn, and to be combined with Werfen train.

German Paintings

Should go to Central Collecting Point. Contains one noted canvas of Bismarck by Limbach, among 55 others of no value.

Unidentified Furniture

These objects, pointed out to representative of PC office, should go to Munich in app three truckloads.

It is recommended that Markus Richter receive employment in all possible operations due to his faithful work with this office.

*Polyd  
Salzburg*

13

RG	260
Entry	USACA - General
File	Records
Box	160

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103309

R6 59  
Box 17

VITIMIA

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(KMEDES 1486, March 19, 1952). 202 items Musich No. 2508/5  
2508/29-222 to Austria. Items 2503/9, 1673, 1674, 21525, 21838,  
22081 to France. Photostrips and photocards documents on former  
ownership and acquisition by Austria will follow by pouch.

Department will continue to supply photographs and documents  
of equipment not available in Austria to a President  
Bundeskanzleramt in restitution ~~or~~ above holdings.

DECLASSIFIED

193310

Authority May 968071  
By WMB NARA Date 6/15/91

Authority NND 923568By SR NARA Date 8-5-99LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

1947

## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: SECSTATE WASHINGTON Date: November 6, 3pm 1947

To: No.: 1145

Repeated to: Received: Nov 7 at 9 a.m.

Precedence: URGENT Decoded:

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

LEGAT	WASH
COMINT	
POLITICAL	
ECONOMIC	
REFUGEE	
INFORM	

PARAPHRASEREFERENCE: Legtel 1718 October 23, re Jewish property  
at Salzburg.

The Department understands that deliveries Salzburg property to PCIRO are virtually complete. For the confidential information of Legation, the Dept is discussing with Jewish organization which will receive 90% of proceeds their giving concrete recognition Hungarian Jewish interest. It is suggested, unless you have further recommendation, communication Dept's instruction No. 31 be made.

MARSHALL

gfw

103311

COPY

Budapest, July 28, 1947

State Department  
Washington.

Gentlemen,

On February the 21 this year we took the liberty of addressing following telegram to the Foreign Ministry:

1. Undersigned legal representative bodies of the Hungarian Jewry were informed with deep consternation of the fact, that the United States Government is planning to transfer the value of the so-called "Golden Train" which forms the property of Hungarian Jewry to the Refugee Committee of the UNO Stop We request emphatically the Government of the US, to place the valuables abducted with the so-called "Golden Train" and which are now in charge of the US authorities, at the disposal of the lawful Representative Bodies of Hungarian Jews Stop The Hungarian Jews who have returned from deportation and the heirs of those, who perished, reclaim their valuables emphatically Stop Hungarian Jewry tormented and plundered by persecution and in the greatest want lays a rightful claim to the rest too.

Central Board of Jews in Hungary,  
Central Board of Autonomous Israelitic,  
Religious Bodies in Hungary.

We regret to say that we have received no answer from the French Government to this cable so far. From the United States Government we received the following replies on March 13 and May 19 through the United States Legation in Budapest:

The Foreign Service of the United States of America.  
American Legation  
Budapest, Hungary  
March 13, 1947.

Central Board of Jews in Hungary  
Sip-u.12.  
Budapest VII.

Sirs,

Your letter of March 1, 1947 concerning the so-called "Gold Train" addressed to the American Minister, has been referred to me for reply. I am pleased to inform you, that the subject has

103312

-2-

been brought to the attention of the competent United States authorities in Berlin, Vienna and Washington.

Very truly yours,

Robert S. Folsom  
Second Secretary of Legation.

3./

American Legation  
Budapest, Hungary, May 19, 1947

Central Board of Jews in Hungary,  
Sip u.12  
Budapest VII.

Sirs,

In response to your letter of May 19, 1947, I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter of March 20, 1947, concerning receipt by the Department of State of your cable of February 21, 1947, concerning the "Gold Train".

You may be interested to know, that a portion of the property understood to be the less valuable part, is held by the United States Forces in Salzburg. With the approval of the United States Government, the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, Austria, determined, that the property should be turned over the Intergovernmental Committee of Refugees for relief and rehabilitation of non repatriable victims of German action. This means in practice, that ninety per cent of the proceeds will be disposed of by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine. This decision was based on the fact, that it was impracticable to return individual items to the original owners or heirs and is believed to have been made in the best interests of the class which was despoiled.

To the extent that your interests are involved, you may wish to consult with the two Jewish organizations named above.

Very truly yours,

For the Minister:

Robert S. Folsom  
Second Secretary of Legation.

Enclosure:

Copy of the Legation's  
letter, dated March 20, 1947.

103313

- 3 -

We respectfully ask you to revise your decisions and measures taken so far on the ground of what we are going to expound below in a detailed manner:

In April 1944, after the invasion of Hungary by the German, the Fascist Government of Hungary of those days issued a discriminatory decree against the Jewish population obliging them to deposit their gems, their golden jewels ornamented with gems, and generally all their valuables made of gold with the Authorities. This provision went so far, as to oblige Jewish individuals to deliver their wedding-rings.

Accordingly the jewels and other valuables of 800.000 Hungarian Jews were seized by the Fascist Government.

On the approach of our liberators, the Nazi government of Szalasi had these valuables laden on a train consisting of 44 cars and had them abducted westward under military escort. This railway train was seized in May 1945 by the U.S. troops of occupation. This was the so-called "Gold Train". The wagons contained other valuables, too, besides the jewels e.g. oriental carpets, silver, furs, etc. The escort of the train placed a detailed report and protocol notes at our disposal on the valuables themselves disclosing the fact, that they succeeded to rescue the "Gold Train" on the whole pillaging of both, the Nazis and the mob and the Hungarian military escort handed over the train pushed into the railway tunnel near Bockstein intact apart from minor cases of theft and blackmail and without its doors having been forced open, to the American troops of occupation at the railway station of Werfen. There is a report available on the jewels and golden valuables ordered by Commander Arpad Toldy to be laden on two lorries and carried to the French zone, where they were seized by the French troops.

According to these reports the following valuables were taken under control by the United States Military Authorities:

"10 cases with markings indicating contents of gold. Average weight of cases 45 kg.  
1 case containing golden coins. Average weight 100 kg.  
18 cases marked as containing golden jewels. Average weight 35 kg.  
32 cases containing golden watches, weight varying from 30 to 60 kg.

The following amounts of foreign currencies were handed over in a closed trunk: \$ 44.600, Swiss Francs 52.360, L 84,

103314

- 4 -

Palestinian L 10, Canadian Dollars 66, Swedish Kronen 5, Reichsmark 15, Pengo 260.484. This trunk contained a sealed package, containing brilliants.

1560 cases containing silver with different weights.

1 case of silver bricks.

About 100 artistic pictures.

About 3000 knotted Persian and Oriental carpets and some home-manufactured carpets sporadically, among them.

I cannot tell exactly the number of the cases. According to the reports received from the officials, there were also clothes, fur-coats, made of noble furs, stamp-collections, collections of laces. Cameras, gramophons, silver-jewels, porcelains, pocket and wrist watches /about 8 - 10.000/ laden into the wagons. The contents of two wagons were not assorted, they contained every sort of valuables mixed."

The seizure was carried out by Captain John J. Black /his telephone was : Speedy 2097 or Speedy - Necco - T.Yorce/.

The French military authorities seized the following valuables in St. Anton as detailed below:

31 cases with markings of gold  
2 cases containing golden coins

3 cases containing golden watches

8 cases of brilliants

2 cases containing selected pieces of brilliants and pearls.

In view of this report the information about the same valuables contained in the letter of Assistant - Secretary J. J. Billdring, given at the request of the representatives of Transylvanian Jewry, is erroneous. The relating sentence of this letter runs as follows:

"The United States Forces in Austria have taken under control certain property largely of household goods which came from the so-called Hungarian Gold-Train. It does not could includ any substantial amount of gold or precious stones."

At present only a fraction of the former Jewish population is living in Hungary. Most of this Jewry consists of those, who

103315

returned from the Nazi camps of annihilation or from labour service completely plundered and despoiled of their fortunes. The Jewry, that was rescued and liberated in the ghetto of the Capital was left plundered just the same way. All these could save their bare existence only in such a way, that they nourished their fagged bodies from the gifts, given by their Jewish brethren overseas, which they still continue to give.

Apparently among the abducted valuables in question there is a great proportion of such valuables, the owner or heirs of which have returned and lay a rightful claim to their identifiable valuables. The valuables, which are not identifiable, would get into the possession of the so-called Jewish Rehabilitation Fund, provided for by law, destined for the relief of former persecutees in need. The management of the great Jewish organisations abroad, The Jewish Agency and the American Joint Distribution Committee have conducted negotiations with our consent on the basis of maintaining the right of disposal of the official Jewish leadership in Hungary in the course of the last year for the release of those valuables.

After having given this authorization no communication about this matter reached us for a considerable period. It was only at the beginning of this year, that the United Nations has referred these valuables to the sphere of authority of the International Refugees Committee working within its organization with the instructions, that they should be used for Jewish purposes in 90% according to the disposition of the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency.

After receipt of this communication, we sent our telegram repeated above in protest to the Governments of the United States and France.

We express our deep regret over the fact, that the decision in this matter, which is mainly the concern of the Hungarian Jewry took place without our having been given a chance to have our say in the matter or our having been heard about it.

Anyway we gratefully recognise the fact, that the United Nations did not regard the valuables in question as a war-booty and remaining true to the principles of justice and equitableness, did not mean to confiscate the valuables, robbed by the Fascist Governments of Hungary, from the Hungarian Jews by discriminatory and cruel decrees, on the contrary, they wanted to return them.

A

103315A

RG 84  
Entry Dept of State -  
File Hungary Legation  
Box 4

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 923568  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

- 6 -

A fraction of the deported Jews returned to Hungary - another fraction escaped at home - these lay a legitimate claim to the valuables they or their relatives were robbed of. So, where the possibility of identification exists beyond doubt and is proved, the owner reclaims his valuables rightfully on the basis of the principle of private property. As to the Jewish valuables which cannot be identified, as we have stated above, the Law provides in a sense that these should form the property of the Jewish Rehabilitation Fund, established with the destination of supporting individual plunged into misery by Fascist persecution and institutions established for their Relief.

The Hungarian Minister of Finance set up a Committee by decree No. 5950/1946 with the task of investigating, assuring, taking over and repatriating the abducted Jewish valuables. The Minister of Finance has appointed undersigned Dr. Emery Reiner the Chairman of this Committee.

We ask you respectfully - to give a chance to the Chairman of this Committee, and possibly to its other appointed members by way of competent organs - to gain information on the spot of the present place of storage, the substance value and estimates of the valuables in question and of the necessary measures to be taken, and that the most far reaching right should be granted to them, as the representatives of the legitimate owners of these valuables to make investigations, inventories, to safeguard and to take over the valuables. In accordance with the note of the United States Government we have appealed to the management of the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency. Our letter to them clearly lays down the standpoint of the Hungarian Jewry in this question.

We repeat our request respectfully, that either by a new decision or by the amendment of the mandate, given to the International Refugee Commission - the right of disposal over the valuables in question - should be assured to the undersigned representations of the Hungarian Jewry for their being used in behalf of the Hungarian Jews.

Respectfully yours

Dr. Ernest Munkacsi  
Manager - Director

Lewis Stockler  
President

of the  
Central Board  
of Jews in Hungary

103316

DECLASSIFIED

RG 84Authority NND923668

Entry \_\_\_\_\_

By SR NARA Date 8-5-99Box 4

- 7 -

Dr. Emery Reiner  
Legal-Adviser, Vice President  
of the  
Autonomous Orthodox Israelitic  
Central Board of Jews in Hungary.

Dr. Emery Reiner  
Chairman of the Committee for  
the Repatriation of Abduced Properties

COPY

103317

**A Magyarországi Izraeliták  
Országos Irodája**

Budapest, VII., Sip-utca 12.  
Telefon: 423-930.

משרד הארץ ליהודי הונגרי

**Central Board  
of Jews in Hungary**

Szám: Dr. M./N.

The 19<sup>th</sup> May 1947.

American Legation  
Budapest.  
Hungary.

Gentlemen,

Forgive us for intruding upon you about a matter which is of a greatest importance for us. Owing to some unlucky circumstances a part of our foreign correspondence has been lost; among others we cannot find the letters you have sent to us in reply to our notes concerning the so called "Gold Train".

Would you kindly make it possible, that our official, Mr. M. Molnár should make copies of the letters in question, which you will surely find in your archives.

Asking you again to excuse us for our intrusion, we remain

very truly yours

*Munkácsi*  
Dr. Ernest Munkácsi  
manager-director.

of the Central Board of Jews  
in Hungary.

*Acto  
Letter dated May 1947  
P.M. (Signed)*

133318

DECLASSIFIED

RG 84Authority NN0923668

Entry \_\_\_\_\_

By SC NARA Date 8-5-99Box 4C O P Y .

## AMERICAN LEGATION

Budapest, Hungary, March 20, 1947.

Central Board of Jews in Hungary  
Sip utca 12,  
Budapest, VII.

Sirs:

I am pleased to notify you that the Department of State has received your cable of February 21, 1947. You may be assured that the subject of the so-called "gold train" will receive careful attention by the competent authorities.

Very truly yours,

For the Minister:

Robert S. Folsom  
Second Secretary of Legation

100319

DECLASSIFIED

RG 84

Authority NND923668

Entry

By 32 NARA Date 8-5-99

Box 9

Enclosure no: - 2  
To Beepatch no: - 2738  
Dated: - March 15, 1947

C O P Y

A Magyarországi Izraeliták Országos Irodája  
 Central Board of Jews in Hungary

The Autonomous Orthodox Israelitic Religious Bodies  
 in Hungary

No: Dr. M/A  
 3043/1947

Budapest, February 26, 1947

In the spring of 1944 when the Germans invaded Hungary, the Fascist Government of Hungary obliged the Hungarian Jewry by special discriminatory rules against them to make report of their property; later these properties were confiscated and the Hungarian Jews were obliged to deliver their gold and other valuables like gems, oriental carpets and their objects of Art to the Financial Authorities. These collected valuables were abducted westward, namely to Germany on the so-called "Train of Gold" before the advancing Russian armies. Part of the values carried by the "Train of Gold" was robbed. What remained is now partly in the United States Zone of Germany and partly in the French Zone, in charge of the Occupying Forces.

We have been informed of the plan of the United States to hand over the values in charge of their Forces originating from the Hungarian Jewry to the Refugee Commission of the United Nations Organization. This alleged resolution may induce the French authorities to similar action.

As the legal representation of the Hungarian Jewry, we protest against these projected measures, and asking that these values should be placed at the disposal of the Hungarian Jewry, we call your kind attention to the following facts:

The values of which the United States authorities took possession by the seizure of the "Train of Gold" are forming unquestionably the demonstrable and partly identifiable property of the Hungarian Jewry. The Hungarian Jewry suffered immeasurable losses in human lives and property owing to Fascist inhumanity. 600,000 Hungarian Jews lost their lives in Nazi concentration camps. The remaining values of the 200,000 Hungarian Jews, who survived, are on the "Train of Gold" and we think that the greatest injustice would befall these people if they could not get back even their remaining few valuables after what they have been through.

The Republic

103320

Authority NND923568  
By SR NARA Date 8-5-99

Enclosure no: - 1  
To Despatch no: - 2738  
Dated: - March 13, 1947

COPY

A Magyarországi Izraeliták Országos Irodája  
Central Board of Jews in Hungary.

No: Dr.N/A.  
3043/1947.

Budapest, March 1, 1947

Mr. Arthur Schoenfeld,  
Minister of the United States in Hungary,  
Budapest.

Dear Sir:

We send enclosed a copy of the note we presented yesterday to the Foreign Minister of Hungary concerning the "Train of Gold". We ask for your effective support, that the valuables forming their property should be placed at the disposal of the Hungarian Jews.

Yours respectfully,

(Sgd) Dr. Ernest Munkacsy (Sgd) Lewis Stoeckler  
Manager-Director President

of the Central Board of Jews for Hungary.

103321

DECLASSIFIED

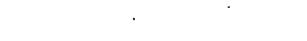
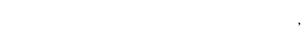
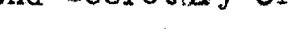
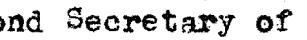
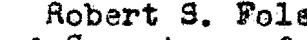
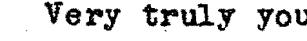
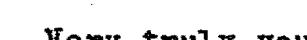
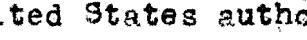
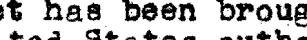
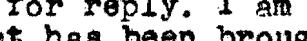
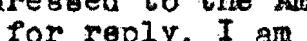
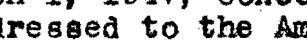
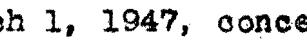
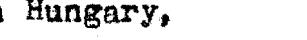
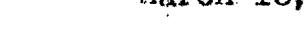
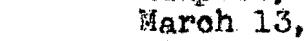
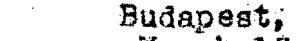
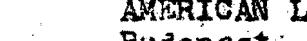
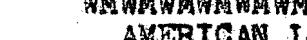
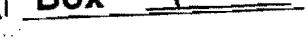
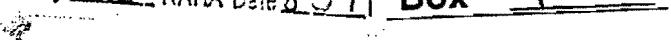
RG 84

Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Box 4

Authority NND923568

By SP NARA Date 8-5-99



DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 923568

RG 84

By SR NARA Date 8-5-99

Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Box 4

File

No. 2730

AMERICAN LEGATION

UNRESTRICTED

Budapest, Hungary, March 13, 1947

SUBJECT: Hungarian "Gold Train".

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sir:

With reference to previous correspondence concerning displaced Hungarian property, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a letter, dated March 1, 1947, addressed to the Legation by the Central Board of Jews in Hungary, requesting support for the Board's request that the property contained in the so called "Gold Train" be returned to Hungarian Jews. Also enclosed is a letter from the Board to the Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated February 26, 1947, containing the same appeal.

Respectfully yours,

For the Minister:

Robert S. Polson  
Second Secretary of Legation

Enclosures:

1. Letter to Legation from the Central Board of Jews in Hungary;
2. Letter to the Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs from the Central Board of Jews in Hungary.

File no: 840.1  
RSFclson/ei

cc to Vienna and Berlin

In ozalid

UNRESTRICTED

103323

840.1 - Jewish Property (Gold Train)

- 2 -

The Republic of Hungary has established the Jewish Rehabilitation Fund by Act no. XXV/1946, the purpose of which is in full accordance with the contents of Article 27 of the Peace Treaty concluded with Hungary. The ownership of the properties, rights and interests of Hungarian Jews, who died without legal successors, devolves to this Fund and it will use them for the relief and rehabilitation of the survivors. In consequence of these legal provisions the values of the "Train of Gold", if returned to the Hungarian Jewry, would be received partly by the demonstrably and identifiably rightful owners, and in case the owner died without successors, or the successors cannot be traced, they would be put to the use of the community most severely persecuted and damaged by Fascism.

Compliance with our request does not only correspond to natural law and equitableness but it also follows from the provisions of Sections 2 and 3 of Article 30 of the Peace Treaty concluded with Hungary, as we have doubtless proofs that these valuables were abducted from Hungarian territory after January 20, 1945. Furthermore, allow us to mention the fact that the Hungarian Government is just creating a rule permitting that a part of the Hungarian Jewish valuables in question, necessary to meet the recognised foreign claims laid against Hungarian Jewry should be used abroad and part of these valuables should be stored abroad further in any place to be chosen freely by Hungarian Jewry.

Hoping that the above-said will convince you of the rightness of our standpoint, we remain

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd) Dr Ernest Munkacsy (Sgd) Lewis Stoeckler  
Manager-Director President

of the Central Board of Jews in Hungary

(Sgd) Dr. Emeric Reiner (Sgd) Samuel Kahan-Frankl  
Vice-President, Legal Adviser President

of the Autonomous Orthodox Israelitic Religious  
Bodies in Hungary.

100004

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 923568

By SK NARA Date 8-5-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 4

## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

From: BUDAPEST

Date: February 21, 1947

To:

No.: ---

Repeated to:

HUNGARY Received: Feb 22 at 11 a.m.

Precedence:

Decoded:

Classification: Clear

ACT	INFO
MINISTER	✓
COUNSELOR	
POLITICAL	
ECONOMIC	
ADMINIS.	
CONSULAR	
INFORMAT.	

We cabled today to the State Department in Washington as follows:

Undersigned legal representative bodies of the Hungarian Jewry were informed with deep consternation of the fact that the United States Government is planning to transfer the value of the so-called Golden Train which forms the property of Hungarian Jewry to the Refugee Committee of the UNO. We request emphatically the Government of the US to place the valuables abducted with the so-called Golden Train and which are now in charge of the US authorities at the disposal of the lawful representative bodies of Hungarian Jewry. The Hungarian Jews who have returned from deportation and heirs of those who perished reclaim their valuables emphatically. Hungarian Jewry tormented and plundered by persecution and in the greatest want lays a rightful claim to the rest too. We ask in this affair for your kindest urgent and effective help.

Central Board of Jews in Hungary.

Central Board of Autonomous Israelitic Religious Bodies in Hungary.

gfw

103325

**A Magyarországi Izraeliták  
Országos Irodája**

Budapest, VII., Sip-utca 12.

Telefon: 423-930.

משרד הארצי ליהודי הונגריה

**Central Board  
of Jews in Hungary**

The Autonomous Orthodox Israelitic Religious Bodies in Hungary.

Szám: Dr. M. Á.  
3043/1947.

Budapest, 26<sup>th</sup> February 1947

In the spring of 1944 when the Germans invaded Hungary, the Fascist Government of Hungary obliged the Hungarian Jewry by special discriminatory rules against them to make report of their property; later these properties were confiscated and the Hungarian Jews were obliged to deliver their gold and other valuables like gems, oriental carpets and their objects of Art to the Financial Authorities. These collected valuables were abducted westward, namely into Germany on the so called "Train of Gold" from before the advancing Russian armies. Part of the values carried by the "Train of Gold" was robbed. What remained is now partly in the United States Zone of Germany and partly in the French Zone, in charge of the Occupying Forces.

We have been informed of the plan of the United States to hand over the values in charge of their Forces originating from the Hungarian Jewry to the Refugee Commission of the United Nations Organisation. This alleged resolution may induce the French Authorities to similar action.

As the legal representation of the Hungarian Jewry, we protest against these projected measures, and asking that these values should be placed at the disposal of the Hungarian Jewry, we call your kind attention to the following facts:

The values of which the United States Authorities took possession by the seizure of the "Train of Gold" are forming unquestionably the demonstrable and partly identifiable property of the Hungarian Jewry. The Hungarian Jewry suffered immeasurable losses in human lives and property owing to Fascist inhumanity. 600.000 Hungarian Jews lost their lives in Nazi concentration camp. The remaining valuables of the 200.000 Hungarian Jews, who survived, are on the "Train of Gold" and we think that the greatest injustice would befall these people if they could not get back even their remaining few valuables after what they have been through.

The Republic of Hungary has established the Jewish Rehabilitation Fund by act No. XXV.1946. the purpose of which is in full accordance with the contents of article 27 of the Peace Treaty concluded with Hungary. The ownership of the properties, rights and interests of Hungarian Jews, who died without legal successors, devolves to this Fund and it will use them for the relief and rehabilitation of the survivors. In consequence of these legal provisions the values of the "Train of Gold" if they were returned to the Hungarian Jewry, would be received partly by the demonstrably and identifiably rightful owners, and in case the owner died without successors or the successors cannot be traced, they would be put to the use of the Community most severely persecuted and damaged by Fascism.

Compliance with our request does not only correspond to natural law and equitableness but it also follows from the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of article 30 of the Peace Treaty concluded with Hungary, as we have doubtless proofs that these valuables were abducted from Hungarian territory after January 20<sup>th</sup> 1945. Furthermore allow us to mention the fact that the Hungarian Government is just creating a rule permitting that a part of the Hungarian Jewish valuables in question necessary to meet the recognised foreign claims laid against Hungarian Jewry should be used abroad and part of these valuables should be stored abroad further, in any place to be chosen freely by Hungarian Jewry.

Hoping that the above-said will convince you of the rightness of our standpoint, we remain

respectfully yours

Dr. Ernest Munkácsi  
Manager-Director

Lewis Stoeckler  
President

of the Central Board of Jews in Hungary.

Dr Emeric Reiner  
Vice-President - Legal-  
Adviser

Samuel Kahan-Frankl  
President

of the Autonomous Orthodox Israelitic Religious  
Bodies in Hungary.

103327

*"Hungary"*

## TEPPICHE ZUM TRANSPORT NACH UNGARN.

MUN. NR.	AUTHOR:	SUBJECT:
44395	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44396	China, mod.	Carpet
44397	Smyrna, "	Carpet
44398	Persia ab 1900	Runner
44399	Soumah, mod.	Carpet
44400	Persia	Carpet
44401	Oriant, mod.	Carpet, prayer-rug
44402	Smyrna, "	Carpet
44403	Persia, "	Runner
44404	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44405	Orient, 19th	Kelim-runner
44406	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44407	Persia, mod. ab 1900	Carpet
44408	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44409	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44410	Orient	Carpet
44411	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44412	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44413	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44414	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44415	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44416	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44417	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44418	Orient, 19th	Kelim
44419	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44420	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44421	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44422	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44423	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44424	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44425	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44426	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44427	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44428	Orient, mod.	Carpet, Kelim
44429	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44430	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44431	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44432	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44433	Asia - minor	Carpet, prayer-rug
44434	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44435		Carpet
44436	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44437	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44438	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44439	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44440	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44441	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44442	Central Asia	Carpet
44443	mod.	Carpet
44444	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44445	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44446	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44447	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44448	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44449	Caucasia, mod.	Carpet
44450	Central Asia <i>ifghan</i>	Carpet
44451	Persia ab 1900	Carpet, May 11 - 1951
44452	Orient ab 1900	Carpet
44453	Afghan, mod.	Carpet

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NY 968071  
By LMB NARA Date 6/15/11

103328

44456	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44457	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44458	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44459	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44460	Oriental ab 1900	Carpet
44461	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44462	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44463	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44464	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44465	Kazak	Carpet
44466	Europe, Smyrna, mod.	Carpet, hand - woven
44467	Europe, Orient	Carpet, hand - brotled
44468	Shiwan ab 1900	Carpet
44469	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44470	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44471	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44472	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44473	Orient	Carpet, or table - cover
44474		Carpet
44475	Orient, Persia, mod.	Carpet
44476	Orient, Persia, Mod.	Carpet
44477	Kazak ab 1900	Carpet
44478	Orient	Carpet
44479	Kazak ab 1900	Carpet
44480	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44481	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44482	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44483	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44484	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44485	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44486	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44487	Orient ab 1900	Carpet
44488	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44489	Orient, mod.	Prayer-rug
44490	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44491	Saraband	Carpet
44492	Eupens, mod.	Carpet
44493	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44494	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44495	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44496	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44497	modern	Carpet
44498	Central Asia - minor mod.	Carpet
44499	Daghestan, mod.	Carpet
44500	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44501	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44502	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44503	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44504	Oriental, mod.	Carpet, Kelim
44505	Europe ab 1900 - 1920	Carpet
44506	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44508	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44509	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44510	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44511	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44512	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44513	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44514	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44515	Central Asia ab 1900	Carpet

X 44507 Oriental ab 1900 Carpet

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NY 96807

By WPS NARA Date 6/15/11

103329

126 59  
BX 17

44517	Persia ab. 1900	Carpet
44518	Shiwan late 19th c.	Carpet
44519	Orient	Carpet
44520	Bakutshistan, 19th c.	Carpet
44521	Orient, 19th c.	Carpet
44522	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44523	Persia ab. 1900	Carpet
44524	Persia	Carpet
44525	Caucasia	Carpet
44526	Europe ab. 1900	Carpet
44527	Smyrna ab. 1900	Carpet
44528	Persia	Carpet
44529	Smyrna, Europe?	Carpet
44530	Orient ab. 1900	Carpet

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NY 96807  
By MBA NARA Date 6/15/11

103330

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEXURE I  
HEADQUARTERS  
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY  
G-5 Section

AG 812.3

30 June 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives, for Period ending 30 June 1945.

1. Personnel:

- a. Assigned: none.
- b. Detached Service: Captain Robert K. Posey, Company K, 4th European Civil Affairs Regiment, and Pfc Lincoln Kirstein, Det. I2A2, Company A, 2nd European Civil Affairs Regiment.
- c. Temporary Duty: Lieut. George L. Stout USNR, MFA&A 12th Army Group; Lieut. Thomas C. Howe USNR, MFA&A SHAEF; 2nd Lieut Frederick SHRAEDY AUS, Headquarters ECAD.

2. Information: (From Third U.S. Army G-2 Intelligence Center).

- a. PASSAU, N49Q21, 15 June. In Schloss, now serving as 83rd Division Rest Center, which is partially burned, is a depot for 500 cases of books from the Bavarian State Library, 1 case of NSDAP Archives from MUNICH, and 6 cases of documents from the South-East European Society, VIENNA.
- b. BREITENASLACH, N49K76, 16 June. In Kloster, near BURGHAUS paintings from the Alte and Neue Pinakothek, MUNICH, some privately owned materials, and a depot for AUSBACH and WURZBURG.
- c. TRIESENSTEIN, N 5335, 29 June. In the Schloss, Archives of Reichskammergericht, (1500-1806) and records of Institute of Social Research, FRANKFURT aM. Records are badly disarranged. Portion of Heidelberg University Library in good condition. Dr. DEMETZ, reliable custodian from Frankfurt in charge. Guard by 39th Infantry of 99th Division.
- d. UNTERNEUHAUSEN U 1310, 29 June. Five oil paintings the property of a Wehrmacht Artillery School, of slight artistic importance, all except one badly damaged.

3. Operations:

- a. In compliance with TMX, Headquarters 12th Army Group, 24 May, Collecting Center for Works of Educational and Cultural Importance was established at this Headquarters. The Center will collect, secure, care for and prepare for restitution all cultural treasures found in temporary repositories within the Army Area. Materials such as paintings, sculpture, libraries, archives and small objects confiscated or looted by the Germans, owned by United Nations governments or nationals, and public or privately owned enemy holdings not now properly housed or not under supervision of an acceptable administration will be collected. Two trucking teams are now operating out of the Center.

b. Temporary Repositories:

- (1) ALT MUSEE V 5012, Turner Memorial Museum, intended for LINZ. Materials being evacuated. Military Guard.
- (2) BANZ O 6674, inspected 2 June. In Kloster, fine undamaged baroque pilgrimage church by Dietzenhofer (1735), now partly used as German military hospital, Dienststelle Rosenberg, with papers of Arthur SEYSS-INQUART, Gauleiter of Netherlands, musical reference library of Herbert GRICK, editor of Rosenberg magazine, Musik in Krieg, and a sealed room contains further archives of Rosenberg organizations. Folk-costumes and other materials from NURNBERG, arms and armour from PRAGUE, and books from Prussian State Library are well protected in hospital wing. Permanent military guard.
- (3) BRIKLEGG M 48E17, inspected 30 June. Schloss Matzen, British property, undamaged. Kurt von SCHNEDES and family in residence, unoccupied by troops. One room is depot of paintings from INNSBRUCK.
- (4) GRASSAU Z 3019, inspected 23 June. Budapest materials found on three railways cars moved to Central collecting

(1)

RG	260	Entry	Box 136	NY 75 MAR 27/20/45
Archibald AND 775057				
DECLASSIFIED				

103331

CONFIDENTIAL

Depot. Reported to be the cream of Hungarian State Collections. Guards reported that further train of materials now in vicinity of St. GOTLARD TUNNEL, Switzerland.

(5) HAMMING Y 8582, inspected 30 June. Good small 13th century schloss, not on protected list. Good collection of prints, furniture, arms and armor, Inferior family portraits. Art objects of Baumgärtner, well known Munich furniture dealer in attic. Chapel and attic kept locked. Occupied by Battery A, 796th AAA REG Battalion who reported all chimneys out of order and should be repaired before winter.

(6) HOHENFURTH Q8322, inspected as from 23 June. MANNHEIM collection and other materials being evacuated. Military guard.

(7) KELHEIM U0344, inspected 9 June. Befreiungshalle is depot for Residenz museum and palace, MUNICH, Schloss Nymphenburg and the interior of the Residenz Theater, Munich. Cryptodian holds key.

(8) KUFSTEIN N48E39 inspected 26 June. Search failed to reveal presence of six Gobelins from Palace of the Maltese Order, PRAGUE, about which inquiry was made by American Embassy, PRAGUE.

(9) MUNICH, inspected 29 June. Premises of the art-reproduction firm of HANFSTANGEL in fair cond. Roof not watertight and owner is willing to make repairs. House containing fine stock of antique papers, around 300 sets of large 8 plate color-prints, about 100,000 photo-negatives and 500,000 photographs, representing about 40% of former holdings, the most of which was destroyed July 1944.

(10) OBER AUDORF Z 2327, inspected 30 June. In living room of the villa of Baron von BISSING, Egyptologist are cases of wood and cardboard containing Italian Kunstschatz records in good order. Villa like repository for COLOGNE (Wulraf-Richter), and private individuals. Dr. FREMERSDORF, of Cologne and von BISSING in residence. Rooms posted off limits containing objects of value.

(11) PRIEN am Chiemsee N 43Z52, inspected 30 June. Three Flemish 17th century paintings of secondary interest, now in off of Military Government Det. II, ROSENHEIM.

(12) REIDENBERG T 8498, inspected 7 June. In schloss, Library from Durch Haus, NURNBERG, in one large chest, and large depot of uncased books from Nurnberg Library in poor condition. In K. Kreisamt, 15 cases of contemporary German paintings forwarded from SS Headquarters SALZBURG as property of Heinrich HIMMLER.

(13) UNTERSTEIN N 49Z53, inspected 17 June. Hermann GORING collection being inventoried. Military guard.

(14) VIERZEHNT WILIGEN N 61J37, inspected 2 June. Pilgrim church, baroque masterpiece of Balthasar NEUMANN, undamaged, well restored in 1916. Report from University of Strasbourg Institute of Petrol, and of Physical Chemistry that 400 cases of materials and equipment taken from STRASBOURG, are in the sheds and gasthaus at the side of the church.

c. Detachment operations:

(1) AICICH Y 5190, report 28 June, Det. I3F2. In Schloss, a depot of books and paintings from AUSSBURG city collection.

(2) EGGERSBURG T 8349, report 13 June 4th Armored MG Det (RIEDENBERG). In Schloss von BASSOS? Box of steel-cuts for reproducing post-cards of modern art.

(2)

136  
Entry  
RG 260  
DECLASSIFIED  
Autocopy AND 775057  
by T1 NARA Date 7/20/99 Box

10332

(WAC)

Hq. USFA - USACA  
RD&R DIVISION  
Reparations & Restitution Branch

Evelyn Tucker  
MFA&A Representative

SUBJECT: Field Report  
Period - 6 Nov to 11 Nov 47 incl.

6 November 1947

1. Arrived in Salzburg on Mozart at 6:30 AM and was billeted at Bristol Hotel. (It was raining and cold).

2. Paintings (allegedly Hungarian) in MG Warehouse  
Went to the warehouse in company with Major Langer and Mr. Kennedy to inspect the paintings (which had been estimated at around 200) which were stored upstairs in the "gold room"... having first given to Mr. Kennedy the letter from Mr. Garrison, dated 5 November 1947, in which he authorized the paintings to be released to me. No inventory on these paintings apparently exists in the Zone and no one knew where they came from. The estimation of 200 came from the two Americans working on the Werfen Train property - because the paintings were in the room where they had the gold items stored. The office of the Landesregierung furnished prisoners and an Austrian Policeman to move the paintings and Mr. Kennedy's office secured a truck from G-4. We started the transport to the Garabinierisaal (in the Residenz Palais) after lunch - T/Sgt. Erickson and Frau Dr. Waldl counting the paintings as they were put on the truck. This transport job was completed the next morning (under the same arrangements - except paintings were also counted as taken off truck and moved into the hall). The final count was 1,181 - and not 200 as originally thought. Following is a paragraph (under heading "Property Control Warehouse, Salzburg") from Bob Miller's Final Report, dated 10 July 1946:

\*Hungarian Paintings

Removed from Fischhorn and to be combined with Werfen Train."

Inasmuch as Bob Miller mentioned no number we have no way of knowing if the entire lot was found at Fischhorn Castle - or if some of the 1,181 paintings were actually on the Werfen Train. It is apparent that Bob Miller, in the first

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103333

half of 1946, was merely combining Hungarian Property. The idea that these paintings are junk is fallacious - how this idea could have grown and been given any credence is unknown inasmuch as no inventory appears to exist and very few people seemed to know of their existence. Major Langer insisted when I first approached him on these paintings that there were no such paintings in the warehouse - absolutely none except the Wels paintings - yet when he dictated the receipt to his secretary the next day he added (not for inclusion in the receipt) value \$10.00. I smiled and "You will be surprised Major Langer when I tell you I found a little etching signed "Rembrandt 1639" and a van Ruysdael "Seascape" (this need restoring). By the time I left Salzburg we had inventoried about 300 paintings. While I do not profess to be an art expert, my opinion, for what it is worth, is that as a whole the paintings are not by the best artists though many of them are very good.

3. 11 Boxes of Silver Items (allegedly Hungarian)

Sgt. Erickson and I took Baroness Edith Weiss to the MG Warehouse after lunch (meeting Major Langer there) to see if she could identify any of the property (see letter of authorization signed by Mr. Garrison, dated 5 November 1947). Prior to our visit of inspection Major Langer had caused the 11 boxes to be moved upstairs (which has a private entrance) therefore Baroness Weiss was at no time in the big room downstairs where the Werfen property is. She failed to identify any of the items as belonging to her family, therefore, I telephoned you later in the day and asked you to notify Jimmy Dean that we had no further interest in the silver. Inspection was made in presence of Major Langer and two of three Sergeants, who were stationed around, and seemed to be official (these arrangements were made by Major Langer and I asked no questions). Cases were then re-sealed and we returned to Mr. Kennedy's office.

4. Met Dr. Kulendik, of the Czech Mission, in the evening and we went over some Czech claims for fine arts, which Mr. Silbermann had already notified him were ready for restitution. One claim covered property located in Alt-Aussee (not the Saltmine) and since I had already made plans to go to Alt-Aussee Saturday to see Ing. Max Eder, Administrator of the Saltmine, I modified my plans and arranged to go with Dr. Kulendik (who had private transportation) so I could make the restitution at the same time.

7 November 1947

5. Supervised removal of Hungarian paintings from trucks (guarded by Austrian police) and storage in Carabinierisaal - which continued all morning (as also did the cold drizzle); gave Dr. Kulendik written permission to proceed to Vöcklabruck

-2-

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103334

RECEIVED

28 OCT 1947 EVELYN TUCKER

Property Control Branch MFAA Representative

R.D. & R.B. Room

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

N R~  
HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES IN AUSTRIA  
REPARATION, DELIVERIES AND RESTITUTION DIVISION  
APO 777, U. S. Army

TO: Major Weeber, Acting Head R&R Branch, RD&R Div Date 27 October 1947

SUBJECT: Field Report

Thursday, 23 Oct 47

Arrived in Salzburg on Mozart at 6:30 AM, and was billeted at Bristol Hotel.

Mr. Kennedy introduced me to Lt. Col. ~~Gerard~~, Chief of G-4, who went with me to call on Col. Linden, Salzburg Area Commander. We discussed the MFA situation in the Zone briefly. I secured permission to inspect Schloss Klessheim with Major Villaret, the French Art Expert. Only Col. Linden, who is also Chief of Staff, can give this permission. He said they wanted the Castle put in readiness for release to the Austrians -- learned later this is scheduled for 15 Nov. (A special report will be submitted on Schloss Klessheim). Col. Linden asked me to keep Col. ~~Gerard~~ informed of my presence in the Zone - and particularly of Art Missions, as he wished to keep foreign personnel down to the minimum. Col. ~~Gerard~~ said later I need not report to him each time I came to the Zone but just to keep Mr. Kennedy informed as he was their liaison on property matters. Col. Linden had already said it would not be necessary for me to check with G-2.

After the above interview Col. ~~Gerard~~, Mr. Kennedy and I discussed the problem of moving unidentified property to the Art Collecting Center in Munich. (A special report will also be submitted on this problem).

At 12.00 o'clock met Baroness Edith Weiss (of the Manfred Weiss family) who had come from Switzerland, and her attorney, to discuss Weiss art treasures - all of which have disappeared from their many residences in Hungary. The best information she has is that it is believed they went to Upper Austria or Bavaria. She has no exact lists as they fled the country with nothing much more than a toothbrush. In view of the directive from Washington that Weiss property in the US Zone of Austria is to be held pending further instructions any art treasures that are found belonging to this family will be held pending instructions.

Met Major Bulla de Villaret, French Art expert, at noon and at 1:30 PM, together with Mr. Kennedy and T/Sgt Erickson we went to Schloss Klessheim. We found several items of property for which the French had filed a restitution claim (USFA Claim #233). Since a great deal of the art purchases in France during the war were made by Frederic Wels (of the Wels Galerie, Salzburg) I checked Wels inventory (only a partial one) which had been furnished by

- 1 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General Records  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103335

Dr. Funke, of the Landesgalerie, had found entries in Wels' handwriting designating the items, where purchased and to whom sold. Following is a sample of the "where purchased" column:

"Holzappel, Paris  
R. 13/5/1941 - Bel. 67"

To whom sold, or place of deposit, in each of the above cases was "S. Klessheim". This property was earmarked for restitution Saturday, 25 Oct., as notice of Termination of Custodianship would have to be prepared and also further permission would have to be obtained before actual removal of property from the castle.

We then dropped Mr. Kennedy at his office and the Major and I, together with T/Sgt Erickson proceeded to the following places where French property, under the same circumstances as above, was located:

Landeshauptmannschaft  
2 valuable oil paintings  
(see French Receipt F-70)

Chiemseehof  
2 valuable oil paintings  
2 large Persian rugs  
(see French Receipt F-71)

I had already checked Wels' inventory and determined that the property claimed had actually come from France, and had prepared Termination of custodianship notice, therefore, was prepared to make the restitution at once as we went prepared with transport and workers.

Friday, 24 Oct 1947

At 6:00 AM, Major Villaret, T/Sgt Erickson and I left for Ebenzweier bei Gmunden, as I wanted to check that part of the Edward Gordon Craig Theater Collection which, according to our records, was in the Ebenzweier Depot. No one from Salzburg had ever been there and did not know just what or where the depot was. I went on the assumption it must be a castle. We had breakfast in Gmunden and upon enquiring we found there was a Schloss Ebenzweier. We finally located the castle and upon questioning the janitor (who looked like an SS officer) were told, in a most affable manner, that there was no property stored there, that there were other castles in the neighborhood where the property might be stored. I told him the place I was looking for was Schloss Ebenzweier. He said "this is Schloss Ebenzweier". I said "all right, this is the place I'm looking for". I insisted he get the keys so we could search. He grumbly obeyed and when he returned he stated he had been mistaken that the "lady of the castle" said there were cases stored there. My records merely showed that there were 51 cases of the EGC Collection in Ebenzweier Depot, but somewhere I had either seen or heard the word Schloss in connection with the village Ebenzweier so I felt quite positive I was correct. We found 43 (not 51) cases of this collection. Each case had

- 2 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103336

been opened and contents plundered, even spilled all over the floor. One aspect of the mystery concerning this looted collection was cleared up. We have always known, as has the Art Collecting Center in Munich, that some of this collection came from France and some from Italy. Munich has been undecided as to whether the part of the collection it already has should go to France or Italy. This property in Schloss Ebenzweier was clearly marked "Florence, Italy", but no records anywhere had given us that information. This means the property in Munich came from France.

In the same storage room were the paintings from Clem Gallas Palais (about 30) which had been put there by the Bundesdenkmalamt. They were uncased and clearly marked. It was apparent there was no need for secrecy on these paintings. This, together with our plundered cases, made all the more suspicious 4 carefully crated cases (from the size and shape of which it was apparent they contained paintings). 3 cases were stamped "Property of Dr. L. Reinprecht, Linz a/Donau, Schwitzerstrasse 12". The janitor said they were stored there at the end of the war and had not been called for. I ordered him to open them. He protested strenuously but finally got an axe and opened them. He glared at me as though he would prefer to put the axe through my skull. I made quick notes on contents, which were substantially as follows:

2 large beautiful Landscapes watercolors (abt 3½' x 2')  
1 oil Landscape (abt 3' x 2')

Above were all by Artist "S. Gioniani" (best we could make out) and on the back of the biggest watercolor the following was stamped in Polish "Krata Bastyskrza, Warzawa"  
1 oil painting by Lichsterfeld, dated 1870 (abt 2½' x 2')  
stamped on back "A. Chiamata, Karntnerstrasse, Wien"  
1 oil Land-Seascape by Toldt (abt 3½ x 2').

The fourth very large case the janitor flatly refused to open. I turned to Sgt. Erickson and pointed to the axe and the janitor stepped aside. This case had simply the name "Dr. Palten" printed on it. It contained the following:

Very large oil painting by Heinrich (abt 6' x 4')  
"Scene of Salzburg"

This was obviously by an Austrian or German artist and is without doubt Austrian owned, however, it is the type of picture which one would expect to see in a Castle or an Art Gallery. I immediately thought of Castle Klessheim and its missing paintings. I spoke to Dr. Funke later about this and he is very anxious to see it, as he thinks it might belong to Klessheim or the Landesgalerie. He was especially interested when Major Villaret assured him it was a very fine painting. (Will investigate in Linz and Vienna on all the above and advise later). I then had the room closed and told the lady she must keep the keys and allow no one to enter the room until I returned the following week with Dr. Kreutz from Linz. (Dr. Kreutz is the Director of the Linz Museum and Bundesdenkmalamt representative in Land Upper Austria). We returned to Salzburg at 1:00 PM.

In the afternoon we visited Leopoldskron Castle, where there was French

- 3 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103337

property earmarked for restitution. This consisted of 23 crated cases (original cases) from France, containing (when assembled) a huge Marble Mantelpiece, size 320 x 410 m. Release of this property was made to the French -- see French Receipt F-72.

Saturday, 25 Oct 47

Major Villaret, T/Sgt Erickson and I left at 8:45 AM for Schloss Klessheim, after first securing permission from Col. Tanner (G-1 and AG) to remove the French property which had already been identified and cleared. We went prepared with transport and workers and removed the following property: after serving notice of Termination of Custodianship on Capt. Riley, the military manager. (See French receipt F-69)

Portrait of a man	By COELLO (254)
Winter Landscape	Italian School 17th Cent. (253)
Rug Indian Persian	15,2' x 23,1' (E 30)
Secretary rose wood	XVIII <sup>o</sup> Cent E 132.
Wall table	Louis XVI E 133
Mirror (part of item)	E 133
Wall mirror	Italy 18 <sup>o</sup> E 135
Wall mirror	Italy 18 <sup>o</sup> E 136
Wall table Louis XV	France 18 <sup>o</sup> E 139
Wall table Louis XV	France 18 <sup>o</sup> E 140
Society on a boot	Flemish 18 <sup>o</sup> cent. (242)

After completing the above restitution had a pleasant talk with Capt. Riley, during which I told him we would do everything possible to restore Austrian property to Klessheim which had been removed in the early days of the occupation.

It was not possible to do any more work after noon Saturday as all offices were closed and the Austrian laborers were not allowed to work after 1:00 PM.

Saturday afternoon Dr. Funke took me to an exhibition in the Landes-galerie, and then to the studios of two Austrian artists to show me that Austrian art was still creative. He returned to the Oesterreicherhof and had dinner with me and I left Salzburg on the Mozart at 8:30 PM, arriving in Vienna Sunday morning at 6:30 AM.

SPECIAL COMMENTS

In the storeroom of the Residenz Palais I found the following property assembled:

Removed from Villa Prielsau

- 2 big chests  
5 Renaissance chairs  
2 Gothic Sculptures  
3 Baroque Sculptures  
*1 Horse & Rider (Silver - 14th century)*

*Pulch. claim 88*

- 4 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 160

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103338

*Queen Wilhelmina  
The Netherlands*

From Seiss-Inquart Villa, Mattsee

1 Writing Desk

2 Chairs

1 Box of Ivory Poker Chips

From Dr. Wagen-Bichler, Bad Gastein

3 Chalk Drawings by Israels

*Dutch claim 120*

*Dutch claim 87*

According to the best information I could get the above was gathered together and put in its present storage by Major Wisjinbeck, Dutch Art Expert, when he was in the Zone last Spring. I had heard before that there was Dutch property there which Wisjinbeck had left behind, but Mrs. Zente (who handles MFA records in Mr. Kennedy's office) says the property had merely been assembled on Wisjinbeck's insistence but restitution had never been made, also that his claim to some of the above is contested. Will check and advise later.

Paintings from Werfen Train

Was informed in Salzburg that there are approximately 200 paintings from the Werfen Train loot which have been set aside and are presently stored in a small room in the upstairs of the MG Warehouse in Salzburg. I understand (from the men in Salzburg handling this property) that they have no instructions whatsoever concerning these paintings, and they seem to doubt that they will have.

Is it possible to get these paintings released so we can run them through the Art Collecting Center to see if any identification can be made?

*Evelyn Tucker*

EVELYN TUCKER  
MFAA Representative  
RDSR Division, USACA

- 5 -

RG	260
Entry	USACA - General Records
File	
Box	160

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103339

PROPERTY CONTROL WAREHOUSE, SALZBURG:

The below listed materials remain in the Warehouse; and are to be disposed of as noted:

Hetzians Library

It is not believed that effort should be made to return the furnitures to Rome as they are of the cheapest quality. The app. 150 cases of books should be returned as soon as MFA Berlin ships the Florence and Rome libraries from Germany to Italy. This transport to be arranged with Maj. LaFarge in Berlin and Mr. Morey at Am Embassy in Rome. It is urgent that the five cases of books belonging to the Vienna Archaeological Institute and forwarded to Rome among cases of the Deutsches Archaeologisches Institut from Altaussee, be returned to Vienna in the return trip of this transport. Maj. LaFarge has forwarded information that additional cases of the Rome Libraries exist at Bad Aussee. Dr. Juraschek is checking this and should be contacted on the matter. If true, these cases are to be brought to Salzburg in order to accompany the books already here.

Prussian State Library (portion of)

App one freight carload of books ready for shipment. Capt. Rae has been cabled that USFA will release to Germany if transport is provided by OMGB.

Weitz Collection

Capt Luoco, Restitutions Div. GMF, has promised an investigator from Paris to arrive Salzburg before 15 July. If such does not happen before departure of undersigned, all files on this Collection, plus access to the Warehouse, must be arranged for the investigator for a period of app. two weeks. He should also be supplied with one laborer and perhaps clerical assistance.

*on identification*  
Hungarian Paintings *not to Munich*  
Removed from Fischhorn, and to be combined with Werfen train.

German Paintings

Should go to Central Collecting Point. Contains one noted canvas of Bismarck by Limbach, among 55 others of no value.

Unidentified Furniture

These objects, pointed out to representative of PC office, should go to Munich in app three truckloads.

It is recommended that Markus Richter receive employment in all possible operations due to his faithful work with this office.

*Polydor  
Schofer*

/3

RG	260
Entry	USACA - General Records
File	
Box	160

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103340

Receipt  
from  
Property Control & Restitution  
Section  
Military Government Land Salzburg

1,181 paintings released from Military Government Warehouse Salzburg and authorized by R.D.& R, USACA, letter 5 November 1947, File PC 52, subject Paintings (allegedly Hungarian), stored in MG Warehouse Salzburg.

Also released from Movable Property Sub-Section one painting on tin, representing Madonna and child and angel, size about 8 x 11', in gold frame, on backside label Hermann Tautz, Stockholm, mark in pencil Fischhorn No 250.

*Evelyn Tucker*

EVELYN TUCKER  
Representative MFA & A

Salzburg, 7 November 1947

103341

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

26801

HEADQUARTERS  
ZONE COMMAND AUSTRIA  
APO 541, US ARMY

RECEIVED RD & R  
Time 11:45  
Date JAN 18 1949  
No. 8

AG 386  
PC and R File 413/

7 January 1949

SUBJECT: Paintings of Alleged Hungarian Origin

TO : Commanding General  
United States Forces in Austria  
APO 777, US Army  
USACA Section, R D and R Division  
Reparations and Restitution Branch  
Attn.: Miss Tucker

1. Enclosed are receipts, dated 5 January 1949, for the turnover of 1,167 paintings, which are believed to be of Hungarian origin, to the Austrian Federal Government.

2. Items numbered 355, 415, 487, 977-981 incl. have been released to two Hungarian refugees. Item 1176 is being retained in PC depot as it may be subject to restitution to the Dutch Government. Not included in the turnover were items numbered 448, 624, 739, 740, 742, 1065, 347, 756, 690, 1090, 1085, 210, 777, 966 as they are in use by the U.S. Forces in Austria. It is requested to secure Mr. Garrison's signature on the attached list of 5 paintings which are in use in your headquarters and submit 3 copies of the signed list to Ministerialrat Reith and one to Dr. Kirchner to be attached to their receipts. Please return one signed copy to this office for our files.

3. No Schedules "A" are attached since Min. Rat Reith, who is in the possession of 5 inventories, offered to furnish RD&R Division with 2 copies. It is hoped that you will be able to obtain a third inventory from Dr. Demus so that your receipts will be complete.

4. One receipt plus Schedule "A" is in the files of this office.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

11 Incls.:

1. 3 Receipts dtd 5 Jan 49  
2. 1 List of Paintings & 7 copies

D. D. WHITAKER  
Captain AGD  
Asst Adjt Gen

Telephone: SALZBURG 5365



RG 260  
Entry USACA - General Records  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

Skipped #  
103342 (too)  
103343

RECEIVED RD & R  
Time: 11:15  
Date: JAN 24 1949  
No. 8

HEADQUARTERS  
ZONE COMMAND AUSTRIA  
APO 541, US ARMY

AG 386  
PC and R File 413/

21 January 1949

SUBJECT: Release of Paintings of Alleged Hungarian Origin

TO : Commanding General  
United States Forces in Austria  
APO 777, US Army  
USACA Section, R D and R Division  
Reparations and Restitution Branch  
Attn.: Miss Tucker

1. Returned herewith are the signed Schedules "B"  
of Austrian receipt dated 5 January 1949 covering the  
release of subject paintings.

2. One copy has been retained for our files.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*J. A. Fitzpatrick*  
J. A. FITZPATRICK  
CAPT AGO  
ASST ADJ GEN



5 Incls.:  
Original and 4 copies of  
Schedule "B" dtd 5 Jan 49

Telephone: SALZBURG 5365

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General Records  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103344

*Original copy of receipt is 1175 planchet*

HEADQUARTERS ZONE COMMAND AUSTRIA  
PROPERTY CONTROL AND RESTITUTION BRANCH  
APO 541, US ARMY

Date: 5 January 1949

Place: Salzburg, Residenzpl. 1

1. Receipt of the items described in attached Schedule "A", which are believed to be of Hungarian origin, from the Commanding General, United States Forces in Austria, is hereby acknowledged on behalf of the Austrian Federal Government by the undersigned Ministerialrat JOSEF REITH, who is duly authorized to receive said items and to execute this receipt and agreement.

2. The objects listed on Schedule "A" will be held by the Austrian Government in accordance with higher directives and their acceptance releases the Commanding General, United States Forces in Austria from all responsibilities or claims with respect to them.

Vernon R. Kennedy  
VERNON R. KENNEDY  
Chief  
Property Control and  
Restitution Branch

(Signature)

Ministerialrat JOSEF REITH  
(Signature typed)

Leiter der Abteilung 2  
des Bundesministeriums fuer  
Vermoegenssicherung und  
Wirtschaftsplanung  
(Title or capacity of signer)

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103345

C O P Y

ESMcK/tl

21 March 1949

Federal Ministry for Property Control  
and Economic Planning  
Vienna I., Hohenstaufengasse 3  
ATTN.: Ministerialrat Reith

Subject: Release of Paintings of Alleged Hungarian  
Origin

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to receipt dated 5 January 1949, signed by Ministerialrat Josef Reith, covering the release to the Austrian Government of 1175 paintings of alleged Hungarian origin (less numbers 355, 415, 487, 977 - 981, which were previously released to the Hungarian refugee owners.)

The following list of paintings is not available at this time for release and should be deleted from your copies of Schedule "A" attached to the receipt signed by you on 5 January 1949:

210	624	740	777	1085
347	690	742	966	1090
448	739	756	1065	

Our copies of Schedule "A" are being amended accordingly and you will be duly notified when the above listed paintings are available for release to you.

Very truly yours,

JAMES A. GARRISON  
Chief, RD&R Division

Telephone: VIENNA B-48424  
CC: PCO, Salzburg

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103346

S C H E D U L E "C"

The following paintings which are included in Schedule "A" are in use by RD&R Division, USACA Section, Hq. USFA, (Custodian Lt.Col. Frederick W. Hodge):

- 448 ✓ SANTHAL 1913: Brook in winterlandscape, oil/cartoon, 31 x 23 cm, nice golden frame
- 624 ✓ ARTIST UNKNOWN: Holy Virgin with sleeping little Jesus and young saint, oil/copper, 16,5 x 21,5 cm, with broad golden frame (250 Fisckhorn, Stockholm)
- 739 ✓ ARTIST UNKNOWN: Portrait of a lady, on porcelaine plate, round, diam. 16 cm, golden frame,
- 740 ✓ ARTIST UNKNOWN: Society with horses and tent, Dutch style, oil/wood, 58 x 35 cm, golden frame
- 742 ✓ ARTIST UNKNOWN: Two peasant women and peasant at the field, oil/wood, 34 x 24 cm, framed, under glass
- 741 ~~Landscape with sheep and shepherd, oil on canvas, 54x45, w. frame~~  
- - - - - nothing follows - - - - -

*JW Hodge*  
FREDERICK W. HODGE  
Lt. Col. FA  
Administrative Officer,  
RD&R Division, USACA

Vienna: 5 January 1949

RG 260  
Entry USACA - General  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103347

Hungary

## LISTE DER KARPETTE ZUM TRANSPORT NACH UNGARN.

MUN. NR.	AUTHOR:	SUBJECT:
44395	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44396	China, mod.	Carpet
44397	Smyrna, "	Carpet
44398	Persia ab 1940	Runner
44399	Scumah, mod.	Carpet
44400	Persia	Carpet
44401	Oriant, mod.	Carpet, prayer-rug
44402	Smyrna, "	Carpet
44403	Persia, "	Runner
44404	Caucasia ab 1940	Carpet
44405	Orient, 1940	Kelim-runner
44406	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44407	Persia, mod. ab 1940	Carpet
44408	Caucasia ab 1940	Carpet
44409	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44410	Orient	Carpet
44411	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44412	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44413	Persia, ab 1940	Carpet
44414	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44415	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44416	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44417	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44418	Orient, 1940	Kelim
44419	Persia ab 1940	Carpet
44420	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44421	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44422	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44423	Persia, ab 1940	Carpet
44424	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44425	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44426	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44427	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44428	Orient, mod.	Carpet, Kelim
44429	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44430	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44431	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44432	Persia ab 1940	Carpet
44433	Asia - untyp.	Carpet, prayer-rug
44434	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44435		Carpet
44436	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44437	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44438	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44439	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44440	Europe, mod.	Carpet in oriental style
44441	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44442	Central Asia	Carpet
44443	mod.	Carpet
44444	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44445	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44446	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44447	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44448	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44449	Caucasia, mod.	Carpet
44450	Central Asia, Afghan	Carpet
44451	Persia ab 1940	Carpet, prayer-rug
44452	Orient, ab 1940	Carpet
4453	Afghan, mod.	Carpet

103348

DECLASSIFIED

Authority May 968071  
By WBD NARA Date 6/15/11

	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44458	Oriental, mod.	Carpet, now hand - woven
44457	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44458	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44459	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44460	Oriental ab 1900	Carpet
44461	Smyrna mod	Carpet
44462	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44463	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44464	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44465	Kazak	Carpet
44466	Europe, Smyrna mod	Carpet, hand - woven
44467	Europe, Orient "	Carpet, hand - knotted
44468	Shivwan ab 1900	Carpet
44469	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44470	Oriental, mod.	Carpet
44471	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44472	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44473	Oriental	Carpet, or table - cover
44474		Carpet
44475	Orient, Persia, mod.	Carpet
44476	Orient, Persia, Mod.	Carpet
44477	Kazak, ca. 1900	Carpet
44478	Oriental	Carpet
44479	Kazak ab 1900	Carpet
44480	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44481	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44482	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44483	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44484	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44485	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44486	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44487	Orient ab 1900	Carpet
44488	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44489	Orient, mod.	Prayer-rug
44490	Smyrna, mod.	Carpet
44491	Saraband	Carpet
44492	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44493	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44494	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44495	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44496	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44497	modern	Carpet
44498	Central Asia - India mod.	Carpet
44499	Daghestan mod.	Carpet
44500	Persia, mod.	Carpet
44501	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44502	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44503	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44504	Orient, mod.	Carpet, Kerman
44505	Europe ab 1900 - 1920	Carpet
x 44506	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44508	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44509	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44510	Caucasia ab 1900	Carpet
44511	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44512	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44513	Persia ab 1900	Carpet
44514	Orient, mod.	Carpet
44515	Central Asia ab 1900	Carpet

X 44507 Oriental ab 1900 Carpet

103349

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NAA 968071  
By WPS NARA Date 6/15/91

R6 59  
(20x17)

44517	Persia	Carpet
44518	Shivwan, late 19th c.	Carpet
44519	Orient	Carpet
44520	Baluchistan, small	Carpet
44521	Orient, late 19th c.	Carpet
44522	Europe, mod.	Carpet
44523	Persia	Carpet
44524	Persia	Carpet
44525	Caucasia	Carpet
44526	Europe	Carpet
44527	Smyrna	Carpet
44528	Persia	Carpet
44529	Smyrna; Europe?	Carpet
44530	Orient	Carpet

103350

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MM 968071  
By NBB NARA Database

R659  
Box 17

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM

# Department of State

05235

INDICATE THE POSITION  
CHARGED TO

卷之三十一

THE FEDERAL COMPUTER

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARY SYSTEM**

BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA, 1865-1866. - The following is a list of the names of the men who were members of the Georgia State Convention at Brunswick, in 1865-1866.

10. The following table summarizes the results of the study. The first column lists the variables, the second column lists the sample size, and the third column lists the estimated effect sizes.

For more information about the study, please contact Dr. Michael J. Hwang at (319) 356-4550 or via email at [mhwang@uiowa.edu](mailto:mhwang@uiowa.edu).

WILLIAMSON, ROBERT L., JR., and RICHARD A. HARRIS. 1973. The effect of temperature on the development of *Leucaspis* (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) on *Coccothrinax* (Arecaceae). *J. Entomol. Soc. Florida* 34: 1-10.

For more information about the study, please contact Dr. Michael J. Hwang at (319) 356-4550 or via email at [mhwang@uiowa.edu](mailto:mhwang@uiowa.edu).

WILLIAM TROTTER

RECORDED BY COMPUTER SYSTEMS INC. FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENTAL  
STAFF. SOURCE IS AN AUTOMATIC POLICE RADIO TRANSMISSION FROM THE LOS ANGELES  
POLICE DEPARTMENT. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNEDITED AND UNCORRECTED.

Digitized by Google from the Internet Archive

For more information about the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, please call the NICHD Information Resource Center at 301-435-2936 or visit the NICHD Web site at [www.nichd.nih.gov](http://www.nichd.nih.gov).

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1937 10-1400

For more information about the study, contact Dr. Michael J. Koenig at (314) 747-2100 or via e-mail at [koenig@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:koenig@dfci.harvard.edu).

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

For more information about the study, contact Dr. Michael J. Hwang at (319) 356-4000 or email at [mhwang@uiowa.edu](mailto:mhwang@uiowa.edu).

1938-1940. The first two years were spent in the field, the last two in the laboratory.

卷之三十一

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1962 - 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. - LECTURE

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS CLASSIFIED. IT IS PROHIBITED.

CHINESE LIBRARY USES ONLY

103351

DECLASSIFIED

Authority May 968071  
By WBD NARA Date 6/15/11

R659  
Box 17

CONFIDENTIAL - CIO

(REF ID: A6300) Dated 10-15-21. 2018. Item No. 2505/5  
395/26-322. By 2018/10/10. File No. 2505/5-4573, Sec 4, P 526. 21858

22091. No document. Photo negative and prints are incomplete or broken.

Original document contains a large number of small holes, possibly from insects.

Document will be destroyed as soon as possible and documents

will be reprinted or replaced as soon as possible. This document will

be destroyed after completion of the above action.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NY 968071  
By WBD NARA Date 6/15/11

103352

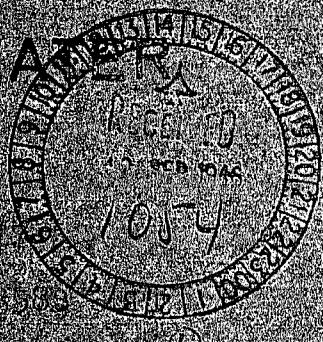
~~DECLASSIFIED~~

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND775059  
By 09 NARA Date 10/11/99

R6260  
FCB records  
B 396

HOUSE FOCUSES EUROPEAN THEATRE

STAFF MESSAGE CONTROL  
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE BY



947

EDD CUSHING (7) 43-991-46

THE GRANITE CO.

COPY NO 54

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE HANDLED AS CORRESPONDENCE OF LIKE CLASSIFICATION WITHOUT  
PARAPHRASE OR DECODE

103353

# TELEGRAM SENT

To: SECSTATE WASHINGTON

Date: AUGUST 14, 1946, 5 pm

No.: 1544

Code: SECRET

Charged to:

1-1142

## PARAPHRASE

In cooperation special committee Hung Jewish community Hung Govt plans arrangement permitting return to owners identifiable property taken from Germany and now held in Am zone Austria. Committee to determine whether and if so how much of remaining property should be used for benefit Hung Jewish community or made available to international Jewish relief organizations. Sent Dept; repeated to Paris as No. 329, Berlin as 98 and Vienna as 233. Nyaradi told me today he expects to go to Washington and New York in September on behalf Hung Govt to discuss policy involving disposition of above mentioned property with our Govt and Jewish leaders.

SCHOENFELD

HFAS:cs

hm

840.1 - Jewish Property / 11.9 - Hung Property - US Zone  
103354

Enclosure to Despatch No. 772  
dated January 2, 1946 from  
American Mission, Budapest,  
Hungary.

Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days (published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No. 85 of the official gazette Budapesti Kozlony) concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithed several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubted property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the human standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal and central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureaus are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troupes, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original

owners.

103355

Enclosure to Despatch No. 772  
dated January 2, 1946 from  
American Mission, Budapest,  
Hungary.

Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days (published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No. 85 of the official gazette Budapesti Kozlony) concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithed several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubted property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the human standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal and central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureaus are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troops, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original

owners.

103356

Enclosure to Despatch No. 772  
dated January 2, 1946 from  
American Mission, Budapest,  
Hungary.

Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days (published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No. 85 of the official gazette Budapesti Kozlony) concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithed several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubted property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the human standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal and central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureaus are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troops, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original

owners.

103357

Enclosure to Despatch No. 772  
dated January 2, 1946 from  
American Mission, Budapest,  
Hungary.

Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days (published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No. 85 of the official gazette Budapesti Kozlony) concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithe several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubted property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the human standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal and central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureaus are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troops, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original

owners.

103358

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775042

By MIKARO Date 8-3-49

CopyRESTRICTED

Enclosure to Despatch No. 772  
dated January 2, 1946 from  
American Mission, Budapest,  
Hungary.

Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days (published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No. 85 of the official gazette Budapesti Kozlony) concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithed several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubted property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the human standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal and central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureaus are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troops, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original

Rg 84, Box 103, File 840.1. owners. 103359

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775042

By JMWIA Date 8-3-49

**TELEGRAM SENT**

To: SECSTATE WASHINGTON

Date: AUGUST 14, 1946, 5 pm

No.: 1544

Code: SECRET

Charged to:

1-1142

**PARAPHRASE**

In cooperation special committee Hung Jewish community Hung Govt plans arrangement permitting return to owners identifiable property taken from Germany and now held in Am zone Austria. Committee to determine whether and if so how much of remaining property should be used for benefit Hung Jewish community or made available to international Jewish relief organizations. Sent Dept; repeated to Paris as No. 329, Berlin as 98 and Vienna as 233. Nyaradi told me today he expects to go to Washington and New York in September on behalf Hung Govt to discuss policy involving disposition of above mentioned property with our Govt and Jewish leaders.

840.1 - Jewish Property / 711.9 - Hung Property - US Zone

SCHOENFELD

HFAS:cs

hm

103360

Pg 84, ext 105, file 840.1

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 775042  
By NYAGWAR Date 8-3-49TELEGRAM RECEIVED *R*MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

From: USPOLAD BERLIN

JUL 9 1946

Date: July 7, 10 a.m. 1946

No.: 9243

Code: Confidential DABEST HUNGARY Received: July 8 at 10:50 a.m.

COINTEGR	✓
POLITICAL	✓
ECONOMIC	✓
ADMINIS.	✓
CONSULAR	
16-B148FORMAT	

## PARAPHRASE

Re: AGWAR's telegrams WK 93185 of July 2 to  
USFET and USFA.

Suggestion to effect there be no immediate disposition of gold train or for rehabilitation of Stateless persons be made pending consideration of plan discussed in Berlin by Minister Nyaradi. About 200,000 Jews remain in Hungary; formation of Jewish Rehabilitation Agency there.

Sent as 1661 to Dept; repeated as 43 to Budapest, 80 to Vienna, 195 to Paris for Mason and Ambassador Murphy.

HEATH

gfw

103361

Rg 84, box 103, file 840.

840.1 - Jewish Property & 111.9 - Dyn. Prop. -  
Property - 111.9 - Dyn. Prop. -

**A MAGYARORSZÁGI IZRAELITÁK  
ORSZÁGOS IRODÁJA**  
**BUDAPEST, VII., SIP-UTCA 12.**

BUDAPEST, VII., SIP-UTCA 12.

TELEFON: 423-930.

Dr. M / Ké  
Szám: 1903/1946

**Válasz esetén szíveskedjék erre a számra hivatkozni.**

Artur Schoenfeld Esq.,  
U.S.A. Minister in Hungary,  
Budapest

C. H. K.

We should be much obliged if you would kindly arrange that the inventory of the so called "golden train" made by the U.S. troops and giving details of contents thereof, be put at our disposal.

The contents of the train being Jewish property, we should like to make representations regarding the fate of same for case it shall be returned at this early date. For this purpose we need the inventory urgently

We remain with sincere thanks in anticipation

yours respectfully:

CENTRAL BOARD OF THE JEWS IN HUNGARY

*Munkácsy*  
Dr. Munkácsy  
massaging-director

~~Stöckler  
Präsident~~

Action  
Explained to Mr. Kao that such a matter is  
for the U.S. Mission to request action of  
(1) They should get the Hungarian  
Foreign Office to request intervention of  
the PCC  
Government of State Dept. can only do good  
principles  
Prayer to God in aid of U.S. Army & friends  
despatched to Madrid, 14/4/68 RST

Pg 89, Box 103, File 840, 1

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 775042  
By IMAKARA Date 8-3-99

No. 772

United States Mission,

RESTRICTED

Budapest, Hungary, January 2, 1946

**SUBJECT:** Desire of Jewish Population to Recover  
Valuables from American Occupied Areas

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter dated December 20, 1945, addressed to me by the Temporary Managing Committee of the Central Bureau of Hungarian Jews concerning the desire of the Jewish population of Hungary to recover jewels, art objects and other valuable property taken from them under the Nyilas regime and later transported to areas now occupied by United States armed forces. In conversation, on December 27, 1945, with the gentlemen who presented the letter, I told them that the matter seemed to be one for the Hungarian Foreign Office.

I am enclosing the copy for such action as the Department may deem appropriate.

Respectfully yours,

H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld

Enclosure:

Copy of letter of the Temporary  
Managing Committee of the Central  
Bureau of Hungarian Jews

File No. 840.1

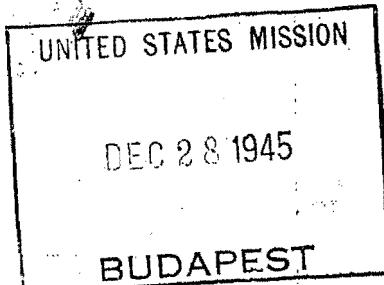
RSF:msm:lk

In ozalid

RESTRICTED

103363

Rg. 84. Box 103, File 840.1



Dear Sir,

During the German occupation of Hungary a decree has been issued by the government of those days /published the 6th April under No. 1600/1944 in No.85 of the official gazette Budapesti Közlöny/ concerning the declaration and sequestration of Jewish property. In terms of this decree, all the Jews living in Budapest declared their estate before the competent excise bureau's and deposited every amount or object of precious metals and all other valuables, so as jewels, precious stones, carpets, objects of art in the designed banking institutes. In the country, all valuables in Jewish property - even golden wedding rings - have been collected by official persons before the Jews have been transported to gathering places in order to be deported.

The valuables deposited by Jewish persons or by the authorities that have collected them have been loaded up, later, in railway-cars and carried away in Western direction, and, as the defeat of the German Army became evident, transported to Austria, after having been tithed several times. Finally, the remainders of these valuables, namely 24 railway-cars loaded with gold, jewels, etc. were surrendered to the American troops in Austria.

As these valuables were considered, even in terms of the nazi-decrees, as Jewish deposits, they never ceased to be the indoubtless property of their original owners.

The Jews having been robbed also of everything else they possessed, so as clothes, underwear, furniture, etc. it is not only their undoubted right to claim that the objects stored in the railway-cars under American Control, should be rendered to them, but their demand is justified from the humane

984, box 65, file 840.1 Sel. 1946 Nov. 2/46  
103364

standpoint too. By recovering a part of the valuables lost, many of them could begin to rebuild their homes and their existence.

Considering these facts the undersigned Jewish Office submits to you the request kindly to dispose that the above-named valuables should be brought back under proper safety measures to Hungary and rendered to their legal owners. Our Central Bureau, and the Central Bureau of the Orthodox Jewish Community, are the legal nad central representative organs of Hungarian Jews, the control of which is extended to all Jewish communities in Hungary and as such, these Bureau's are ready to assume the task of taking over, with the help of the Commissioner of the Hungarian State, the above-named valuables from the American troops, of transporting them to Hungary and of restoring them, after careful investigation, to their original owners. As for the pieces the right of possession of which cannot be cleared up in a reassuring way, they should be employed, by the above-named Bureau's, to support the Hungarian Jews having suffered so many losses and injuries. Our two Central Bureau's are ready to take part, by their delegates, at the negotiations in view of the delivery of the above cited values with the American Headquarter, and to name, with your agreement, their delegates.

We hope, dear Sir, that you kindly will support our demand and grant your help in order that the valuables robbed from Hungarian Jews should be rendered to us and put under control of our Bureau. A similar demand has been forwarded by way of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We repeat our request and are

Sir,

faithfully yours

The 20th December 1945.

Central Bureau of Hungarian Jews  
Temporary Managing Committee

*Israel Munkácsy*  
Dr. Munkácsy  
Managing Director

*Stockler*  
Stockler  
President

To

Mr. ARTHUR SHOENFELD  
Minister resident of the USA.  
BUDAPEST

By 89, Box 65, File 840.1

103365

RG 59  
 Entry 1a62-D-4  
 Box 17

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority NWD960071  
 By JM NARA Date 8/25/94

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: 4/25/49

SUBJECT:

PARTICIPANTS: Eve Tucker  
 and  
 Ardelia R. Hall

COPIES TO:

670 1-1498

Kassel Museum paintings are stored in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna under Quadrapartite Control.

Ted has the full official reports. (Publicity in summer 1946 in Russian Occupation and Communist paper blamed U.S. as trying to steal the paintings.) Russian member said that return should await a peace treaty. Dr. Demus when he approached the British member (Ted has his name) who said that return should await Austrian treaty.

Auction of objects by IRO created a great criticism in Vienna. Entire collection of Györ Museum in.....train loot. People ask more questions. Major Langer is the officer who handled the whole disposition of Hungarian train objects. Restitution of Hungarian and Italian property is left up to Austrian government. It was never inspected by MFA&A until Miss Tucker removed 1200 paintings.

PTgo -  
 Need strict decisions. Major Anastasius is now the Chief of MFA&A section in Frankfurt, moved from Karlsruhe when Howard left. Ted and Steve said he used to be in charge of the shipping department and that he knew nothing about Fine Arts. Lt. Col. McKee (returned home around June) Chief of Rest. Branch went to Frankfurt and met him and told Miss Tucker that Anastasius was a member of the Paris Conference on Fine Arts or on restitution. (Look up his record in Department of Personnel.

310723

103366

DECLASSIFIED

Authority ND0960021  
by JM NARA Date 8/25/94RG 59  
Entry (lot 6) - D-4  
Box 17

James A. Garrison (Civilian) who is Chief of Reparations and Restitution in Vienna was former city manager of Houston, Texas and outright crooked.

A big fight is going on right now with Manfred Wiess the Hungarian industrialist over control of factories and property moved from Hungary. Want it kept under American control. Better watch Garrison. They didn't want control.

Miss Tucker has left certain claims unfinished. See Miss Tucker's report, need for an MFA&A officer in Austria. It might be able to put final problems under Ted in OMGUS. Don't leave anything to the discretion of officers in Austria.

What about Austrian loot? Everything returned from Austria after the Auschluss.

Latter part of 1947 long telegram from Washington (JCS?) on restitution. Art will be returned to country of origin. Everything will be returned regardless how removed. This interpretation has been applied to the Goering and Hitler collections.

Never had a directive requiring that claimant government give satisfactory proof of duress. Get copies of the directives in the hands of MFA&A in Germany and Austria.

Now trying to clear out Collecting Point and are liquidating Munich CCP in accordance with 5 categories that Miss Tucker, Mr. Munsing and Breitenbach are being ordered to go right ahead and transfer all the art property to get rid of it within two months.

First Bezirk (Zone) is the International Zone of Vienna.

103367

Reparations, Deliveries and Restitution  
Reparations and Restitution Branch  
APO 777, U.S. Army

16 February 1949

SUBJECT: Final Status Report - Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives.

TO : Director, USACA Section,  
Headquarters, United States Forces in Austria.

THROUGH: Chief, Reparations, Deliveries & Restitution Division

1. In the time that was available to me I have done everything possible to wind-up and close-out the restitution of fine arts in the US Zone of Austria. Some additional matters could be closed out if time permitted, and if release could be obtained on certain fine arts being used by US Forces.

2. It is a matter of regret to me that USACA did not attach enough importance to my handling of this delicate and explosive work, about which only I am familiar, to allow me to bring it to a successful conclusion. It is of no comfort to me that it was the actual T/O position of Fine Arts Officer that was eliminated as of 1 Feb 49, because this reveals USACA's approach to this problem as all the more deplorable. As of Jan 1949 OMGUS had 239 fine arts people on its payroll.

3. I would like to pay tribute to the unqualified support I have had at all times in my work from both the Bundesdenkmalamt and the Bundesministerium für Vermögenssicherung und Wirtschaftsplanung. I strongly recommend that future handling of fine arts in the US Zone be coordinated closely with these two offices, otherwise you will discover that a nation is extremely jealous of its cultural heritage and these offices will work against you instead of with you.

4. Matters which are still pending have been covered as explicitly as possible in this Final Status Report, not so much for my protection but in order that the work may be carried on to completion by a person unfamiliar with it.

*Evelyn Tucker*

EVELYN TUCKER  
MFA&A Officer  
RD&R Division  
USACA Section, USFA

Distribution:

- Original - Director, USACA
- 1 copy - Chief, RD&R Division
- 1 copy - Zone Command Austria
- 1 copy - MFA Files (R&R Branch)
- 1 copy - personal file

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103368

## INDEX

	<u>Pages</u>
<b>I. Present Art Depots, Contents and Comments</b>	
a) Art Depot in Residenz Palais, Salzburg ....	1 - 4
b) Property Control Warehouse, Camp Truscott..	4
c) Art Depot, Landhaus, Linz.....	4 - 5
d) Schloss Efferding near Linz.....	5
e) Depots of German Cultural Property.....	6
<b>II. Former Art Depots, Contents and Comments</b>	
a) Alt-Aus see Saltmine.....	6
b) Schloss Fischhorn, bei Zell-am-See.....	6
c) Schloss Mittersill bei Zell-am-See.....	6 - 7
d) Miscellaneous Nazi Art Depots.....	7
<b>III. Special Problems, with Recommendations</b>	
a) Stift St. Florian near Enns .....	8 - 9
b) Schloss Klessheim, Salzburg.....	9 - 10
c) High Ranking Officers' Villas, Resorts & Clubs.....	10 - 11
d) Salzburg Gold Coin Collection.....	11
e) Valuable Austrian Paintings Stolen.....	12
f) Austrian Tapestry in New York.....	12 - 13
g) Austrian Painting under Military Custodian- ship.....	13
h) Hungarian Oriental Rugs.....	13
i) Custody Retained on Property released to the Jurisdiction of the Austrian Government	13 - 15
<b>IV. Fine Arts Removed from Austrian Repositories to the Central Collecting Point in Munich</b>	<b>15 - 16</b>
<b>V. Pending Restitution Claims</b>	
US Claims	- 13 pending.....
Austrian Claims	- 14 pending.....
Belgian Claims	- 3 pending.....
Czech Claims	- 8 pending.....
Dutch Claims	- 10 pending.....
French Claims	- 11 pending .....
German Claims	- 14 pending .....
Norwegian Claims	- 1 pending .....
Polish Claims	- 7 pending .....
Russian Claims	- 1 pending .....
Yugoslav Claims	- 10 pending .....
	79 pending

RG 260  
Entry VSACA - Mem.  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NNP 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103369

considered as purely an internal Austrian matter and of no interest to this Headquarters.

- e) For Depots containing German Cultural Property in the US Zone of Austria - See Inclosure //1.

II. FORMER ART DEPOTS, CONTENTS AND COMMENTS

a) Alt-Aussee Saltmine

This former Nazi Art Depot was completely cleared of all non-Austrian art as of 28 May 48, and complete jurisdiction and control of this mine, and its contents, released to the Austrian Government as per our letter of 14 June 1948, with the exception of a few items enumerated in this letter which were actually brought out of the mine on 14 July 1948.

The one exception to all of the above is the huge Hans Makert canvas roll "Venice greeting Catherine Cornare", size 1050 x 400 cm (Alt-Aussee No.2075) owned by the National Gallery of Berlin and located in the Springerwerke cave of the mine. The entrance doors were repaired after the bomb damage by the Nazis and they are now too small to allow removal of the huge painting.

b) Schloss Fischhorn bei Zell-am-See

This former Polish Art Depot has been completely cleared and the last painting which we had under control in Salzburg (Lady with Neck Frill - dated 1637, artist unknown), claimed by Mr.Gildemeister, owner of the Schloss, was directed to be released to Mr.Gildemeister 9 Feb 49.

The following modern furniture, which was brought to the Schloss by the SS was left there for us in dependents' billets (it will eventually be disposed of by the US Quartermaster, as it is of no interest to any Art Mission):

- 27 modern chairs, all upholstered in green
- 7 modern chairs, plain wooden backs, seats upholstered in green
- 1 bench, upholstered in green
- 16 straightback chairs, without arms, seats upholstered in white leather
- 5 easy chairs with arms, seats and backs upholstered in white satin cloth
- 2 rugs - modern and uninteresting
- 1 Oriental rug, about 8 x 4 - badly worn
- 1 Oriental rug, about 5 x 5 - believe modern copy.

c) Schloss Mittersill near Zell-am-See

Jurisdiction and control of Schloss Mittersill, including the modern SS furniture which was brought in during the war and the remainder of the Tibetan Collection of the former Sven Hedin Institute, was released to the Austrian Government on 9 Nov 1948.

RG 260  
Entry VSACA Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103370

All furniture and furnishings from this castle presently being used by US personnel should be returned as soon as possible as this is a protected Austrian monument and the Austrians are trying to rehabilitate it.

- d) The following former Nazi Depots were cleared long ago and now contain (if anything) purely Austrian property:

(1) Stift Kremsmuenster	-Austrian Depot (some odds and ends of Rothschild property)
(2) Schloss Lichtenberg, near Saalfelden	-Austrian Depot (contains Museum Collections of the City of Salzburg)
(3) Schloss Ennsegg, Enns	-Austrian Depot (Lanckoronski Bondy, etc)
(4) Schloss Ebensweir	-Austrian Depot (Clam Gallas Collection, etc)
(5) Monastery of Spittal /Phyrn	-which allegedly contained Hungarian Library Books and Archives; was never handled by MFA
(6) Schloss Prielauf near Zell-am-See	-cleared because Prof.Thorak was ordered by the Austrian courts to return this property to the former Jewish owners. French claim to the 15th Century Fireplace built in the castle was relinquished and the Austrian Government notified on 17 Jan 1949. A French claim is still pending against some of Prof.Thorak's antique furniture, which is now in another location -- see French Claim #349
(7) Lauffen Saltmine	-cleared
(8) Hallein Saltmine	-cleared
(9) Heimathaus, Bad Ischl	-cleared
(10) Schloss Kogl, St.Georgen Land Upper Austria	-cleared
(11) Villa Welz, Gmunden	-cleared
(12) Schloss Mondsee	-cleared
(13) Schloss Sieghartsstein	-cleared
(14) Schloss Leopoldskron	-cleared
(15) Spittalskirch, Bad-Aussee	-cleared

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Hen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103371

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Recommend an investigation be made of the property removed to Vienna by General Clark's aids to determine if it includes any Museum items or loot from Allied Nations.
  - (2) Recommend that the painting in the Cavalierhaus Officers' Club (French Claim #674) be released to the French immediately.
- c) High Ranking Officers' Villas, Resorts and Clubs

No investigations have never been made in any of these places to ascertain if they contain fine arts covered by restitution claims, though I have been informed that Villa Trainblick, together with many other items of possible museum value, has a Millet painting, and that the General's Villa in Linz contains a Van Dyck.

The inaccessibility of these places to the Fine Arts Officer has been all the more reprehensible because many of these places were taken over intact from the Nazis who had used them for similar purposes. Therefore, I have been in the untenable position of being required to locate and identify looted fine arts in the US Zone of Austria but forbidden to check the one best source.

The following French fine arts are located in Villa Warsburg, Salzburg:

17th Century Tapestry -French Claim  
size 320 x 240 cm # 233  
Welz Inv. No.E-49

Four Louis XV Chairs -French Claim  
red beige upholstery #52  
Welz Inv. No.E-100 to 103

The following property which is included in Dutch Claim #70, and was officially restituted to the Dutch Government on 23 Jan 1947 (Dutch Receipt N-33), was removed from the depot in St. Florian for use in one of the following three villas: Hatschek Villa (Officers' Club), Fehrer Villa (General's Villa) or Rommel Villa (Executive Officers' Villa):

1 Rococo Consols Table  
1 Chinese Rug (design is same on both sides)  
1 Italian Rococo Mirror

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103372

Dutch Claims (continued)

- 109 - Most of the items covered by this claim were forwarded to the CCP, Munich, on 26 Sep 1947. The Dutch have dropped their claim to one pen-drawing by van BLAERENBERGHE which belongs to the Rothschild Collection - pending is one painting "Horse at Watering Place" by Dirk STOOP which is in Art Depot in Salzburg on which we are awaiting proof of ownership from the Dutch.
- 135 - Investigation pending.
- 137 - Report of Mr.Rust of Survey Team, dated 19 Nov 1948, is unsatisfactory as the painting is supposed to be in the possession of the Gallery which is located in the 9th Bezirk. Mr.Rust merely reports that the owner of the Gallery lives in the French Zone and investigation is impossible. Further investigation should be made.
- 142 - Painting "Roses" by HUGLI, acquired in Holland is in the Blum Collection (German) in Bad Gastein. PC&R Section has been requested to bring to Salzburg for release to the Dutch. (The declaration from Germany covering the acquisition of this painting in Holland specified "Landscape" by Hugli which was in the Blum Collection in Bad-Gastein -- our inventory of the Blum Collection in Bad Gastein specifies a painting "Roses" by Hugli. This discrepancy is believed to be merely in the nomenclature.

Total - 10

French Claims

- 52 - (See new claim #401) claim covers 4 Louis XV Chairs which are located in Villa Warsburg (Villa of the Commanding General in Salzburg), they should be released and restitution made to the French.
- 232 - Investigation in Vienna is pending
- 233 - (New Claim #400) claim covers a 17th Century Tapestry which is located in Villa Warsburg (Villa of the Commanding General in Salzburg), it should be released and restitution made to the French.
- 235 - Awaiting report from the CCP, Munich
- 349 - The French have dropped their claim to the 15th Century Fireplace installed in Schloss Prielau by Prof Thorak; the Marble Sculpture "Leda and the Swan" is in the Art Depot in Salzburg; report of investigation has just been received on the other items. It must be studied and decision made on restitutability of other items.

RG	260
Entry	USACA-Gen
File	Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103373

French Claims (continued)

- 373 - Report has just been received from the Director of Intelligence. It should be studied and decision made on restitutability of property claimed.
- 625 - This claim covers 50 paintings packed in 8 crates allegedly located in the Saltmine of Bad-Aussee. This saltmine is located half way between Bad-Aussee and Alt-Aussee and is commonly known as the "Alt-Aussee Saltmine". The French claim alleges these 50 paintings were looted from Mr. Fouldaptinger during the German occupation of France. This is contrary to what I was told by Major Bonzom who told me he was sending me a claim for 50 paintings located in the saltmine which were owned by a Frenchman who was a former Austrian. He said he had already checked with the Bundesdenkmalamt and the property was definitely in the saltmine. I said it was quite probably true but since it was the property of a former Austrian it was an internal Austrian matter and Mr. Fouldaptinger would have to apply to the Austrian Government for restitution (I have checked the Alt-Aussee Inventory and have found no property recorded under this name. It must be borne in mind that Alt-Aussee has been cleared of all identifiable non-Austrian art and this is at present a strictly Austrian Depot and no attempt should be made by any US personnel to enter this depot unless they are accompanied by either Ministry or Bundesdenkmalamt representatives.) No action whatsoever has been taken on this claim as it has just been received.
- 626-A painting "Diana" by DIAZ was offered for sale by Frederick Welz of Salzburg to the Oesterreichische Galerie. The Galerie knowing that Mr. Welz had been in difficulties because of his acquisitions in France during the war and knowing Diaz was a French master, turned a photograph of this painting over to the Bundesdenkmalamt with the request that it be cleared with me prior to their purchase. A check of the French publications of looted art revealed a painting "Femme a demi nue, merchant" by DIAZ (#3410 - no dimensions) to be missing. Inasmuch as "Diane" was a half naked woman walking or marching, I sent the photograph to the French for investigation. The Curator of the Louvre Museum, Paris replied it was not identical with the particular painting, but it was possible it was another looted painting and he would advise later. On the basis of this, the French submitted a claim

RG	260
Entry	VSACA-Gem
File	Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103374

I was permitted to check a few rooms at the Officers' Club, and I was told the Real Estate Section had checked Hommel Villa -- both were negative. Inasmuch as I could not tell the Dutch that the above three items were probably in the General's Villa in Linz, we wrote the Dutch Mission on 23 Nov 1948 that this property had lost its identity and we were unable to locate it. The file was thereupon closed (but this has not yet been accepted by the Dutch).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Recommend that the Fine Arts in Villa Warsburg (French Claims Nos. 52 & 233) be restituted to the French immediately.
  - (2) Recommend that the Fehrer Villa in Linz be checked to ascertain if the three Dutch items (Dutch Claim #70) referred to above are located there.
  - (3) Recommend that all high-ranking officers' villas, resorts and clubs be checked by a representative of this office (accompanied by an Austrian Art Expert) in an effort to locate looted property covered by restitution claims, also Museum items of either Austrian or German provenance, and all such property found to be removed at once.
- d) Salzburg Gold Coin Collection

This coin collection, which was in one large chest, was stored during the war in the Hallein Saltmine by the Salzburg Museum for air-raid protection. At the beginning of the occupation it was removed by the US Military Detachment at Hallein (Commanding Officer Capt. Howard Mackenzie). About 2500 of the coins were looted by the personnel of this Detachment and all investigations to-date have been negative. I have not had the heart to write the Austrian Government that this valuable gold coin collection has been irretrievably looted by the very people who were charged with its safe custody. (This file is at present in the safe of this Branch, as the last report which came from 1st Army Headquarters, in New York, was marked confidential).

RECOMMENDATION

Notify the Bundesdenkmalamt of the above.

e) Valuable Austrian Paintings stolen

The following Austrian paintings and engravings disappeared while under US control in 1945 and every effort should be continued to locate them, as they are of great artistic value:

From Lauffen Mine - owner Kunsthistorische Museum

Landscape - by Berchem (Inv #623)  
Faith - by Haemskerk (Inv #1953)

RG 260  
Entry VSACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103375

French Claims (continued)

and requested that it be taken under control. I have discussed this matter personally with Frederick Welz who stated it is not possible this painting came from France as proof can easily be produced it comes from an old Austrian Collection. I said if that was the case, the French could not possibly prove that it was looted in France. The painting has not been taken under formal control but can be produced by Mr. Welz. It should be borne in mind that the photograph of the painting in Austria was given to the French by this office so if the French produce no proof other than to return this photograph with a request for restitution, under the circumstances it cannot be considered sufficient.

672 - Claim has just been received and has not been processed.

673 - - ditto -

674 - Covers painting "Diana & Astarion" by VALLIN which is located in Cavalierhaus Officers' Club, Salzburg. Should be released and restituted to France.

Total - 11

German Claims

16 - Investigation pending.

17 - Available for release.

20 - - ditto -

28 - - ditto -

30 - A total of 28 paintings are in the Art Depot, Salzburg, and are available for release.

35 - The 8 large Wall Panels are stored in Stift St. Florian but their release must be cleared through the Ministry.

36 - The antique furniture, paintings and objects of art are presently being used in Villa Warsburg and the adjoining Villa occupied by the General's private guards in Salzburg. They are not available for release at this time.

37 - The Cembalo (Neupert) is in Stift St. Florian and release must be obtained through the Ministry.

38 - The DAUBIGNY Landscape is in the Art Depot in Salzburg and is available for release.

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Gem  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103376

the Bundesdenkmalamt has been requested to make a check at the Kunsthistorische Museum, which long prior to the war had probably the best collection in the world of tapestries and might therefore have been recipient of especially good tapestries which were allocated to various Museums under the Naziregime.

- 235- This claim covers Polish archives which were allegedly transferred "partly to Germany partly to Austria" with no other information being given. This claim has just been received and has not been processed. The only possible place to check is with the Oesterreichische Staatsarchiv, Stiftgasse 2. These people have always cooperated 100% with me and I believe an inquiry there as to whether they have any archives from Poland will be answered truthfully without any hesitation. If they state they have never received any Polish archives the Poles should be so advised and the claim closed.
- 255- This claim, which has just been received, covers "Works of Art" which the Poles advise "will be indicated later". No action has been taken to-date.

Total - 7

Russian Claims

17 - This claim covers church property and roubles. No church property has yet been located but 46,770 roubles were located at the Sparkasse, Bad Aussee, and are under control. Case is pending.

Total - 1

Yugoslav Claims

65 - Awaiting report from Salzburg.

171 - (New claim #336) Claim originally was for Yugoslav Military Archives. Investigation revealed they were German military archives on Yugoslavia so claim was disallowed. Yugoslavs then stated included were some cultural books. Investigation revealed this was correct. These are ready for restitution except that CPOT Div. wanted to remove the German military archives first. Our office file is with Lt. Col. Buchanan, of CPOT Division, who borrowed it.

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Cen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103377

I. PRESENT ART DEPOTS, CONTENTS, AND COMMENTS

a) Art Depot in Residenz Palais, Salzburg

This depot was inspected by me on 2 Feb 49 at which time it was found to be in order, except that 19 paintings were out on a loan basis to US personnel (this list is in the Depot file):

- (1) 58 paintings of unknown origin (Inventory in File)
- Comments
- These paintings were removed originally from Schloss Fischhorn, and have been cleared by the Poles, French and Dutch. A few paintings appear to be Hungarian, otherwise they are believed to be entirely German and Austrian. The list is presently being checked by the Bundesdenkmalamt and has also been forwarded to the CCP, Munich, for check.
- (2) The following 7 miniatures: These small paintings were confiscated French end of 17th Century by the Austrian Police from an Austrian named Georg Schmidt, who alleged he bought them from a Mrs. Mueller who had in turn gotten them from a soldier. They were turned over to the Bundesdenkmalamt, but later released to me by Dr. Demus for check. All efforts to identify them have to-date been futile and it is recommended that they be returned to the Bundesdenkmalamt.
- French end of 17th Century  
"Portrait of a Cardinal"
- French end of 17th Century  
"Portrait of a lady"
- Dutch (?) possible restored  
"Portrait of a Young Man with Frill"
- French beginning of 19th Century  
"Lady with black lace-veil"
- French (?) 17th Century  
"Portrait of a bearded Man wearing a lace-collar"
- Dutch 17th Century-Peter Neev  
"Eiberation of St.Peter"
- Successor of Browers-17th Century  
"Head of a Man with slightly opened mouth and fur cap"
- (3) 28 paintings belonging to the Haus der Kunst, Munich. (Inventory in File)
- These paintings are available for release when arrangements have been completed in Munich for the transport of German Cultural Property.

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Cen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103378

(4) The following six paintings were removed from Alt-Aussee Saltmine in July 1948:

- a) "The Condemned" - Dutch Master, 16th Century
- b) "Gentlemen with Wig and Blue Coat" - Unknown Dutch Master
- c) "Allegoric Scene" - by Droochsloot
- d) "Boy with Lobsters" - by Giuseppe Recco
- e) "Cave with White Horse feeding and View of a Landscape" - by Dirk Stoop
- f) "Mountain Landscape with Milking Scene in Fore-ground" - (marked J-1155) by Dutch Artist (probably Berchem)

(5) 1 Tapestry "Eagle with Prey"  
size 2.24 x 2.82 m

The PC&R Section, ZCA, has been directed to release to the Austrian Government paintings "a", "b", "c" and "d". (Reasons for this release are in the file). Painting "e" is covered by Dutch Claim/109, for which we are awaiting proof of ownership. No information is available on painting "f".

(6) Allegorical Tapestry with two Human Figures and three Cherube, size 3.41 x 3.85 m

This was brought into the depot along with property picked up under French Claim #23, but did not check with the description of the tapestry claimed by the French, neither have I been able to identify it from the voluminous publication of the removals from France during the war. However, photograph has been furnished the French RD&R Div. for check in France.

(7) The following 6 paintings:

- "Young Ox in Stall" - by P.O. van Qos
- "River Landscape" by Karl Girade
- "The Drinker" - by Wilhelm v. Mieris
- "Horses in the Stall" - by W. Verschnur
- "Cows in the Water" - by L.deHaas
- "Pike Fishing" - by S.A. Krausz

Not actually in the Art Depot but is under custodianship of the Salzburg Landesregierung in the Residenz Palais. Mr. Welz "thinks" Greiser acquired it in France for Castle Klessheim. The French were sent photo on 11 Feb 49 and requested to check it in France.

These paintings were stored in the Kurhaus Wunsche, Hofgastein, in 1944 by a German art dealer named Lohmann from Wuppertal-Elberfeld, Germany, and removed to the Art Depot in Salzburg by me in May 1948. They have been checked thoroughly by the Dutch but to-date all investigations are negative. It is recommended that they be returned to Germany in the transport of German Cultural Property.

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Cem  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103379

Comments

- (8) 1 Marble Sculpture:  
"Leda and the Swan" together  
with large marble shell-  
shaped base
- This is French property  
(see French claim #349).  
and is being held under  
control pending investigation  
of other items covered by the  
same claim.
- (9) 1 Gothic wooden Sculpture
- This was ordered to be released  
to the Austrian Government on 14 Jan 49  
as being property of alleged Hungarian  
origin.
- (10) 1 Japanese Game Table
- Removed from Alt-Aussee Saltmine  
and to-date unidentified.  
It is recommended that this be  
released to the Austrian Government.
- (11) The following 3 paintings  
were found in the Property  
Control Warehouse:
- a) "Female Nude" - by Fried Pal  
(probably Hungarian)  
b) "Two Clergymen", all on wood, Artist unknown  
c) "Diana and Nymphs Bathing"-  
by Cornelius PORLENBURGH
- PC&R Section, ZCA, has been instructed  
to add "a" to the list of Hungarian  
paintings which were released to the  
Austrian Government on 5 Jan 49;  
unable to identify "b" to-date; "c"  
is covered by Dutch Claim #101, on which  
we are awaiting proof of ownership.
- (12) Painting "Landscape" -  
by Daubigny
- Covered by German Claim #38 and  
available for release when arrangements  
have been completed in Munich for the  
transport of German Cultural Property.
- (13) 2 Woodcuts by a German artist  
which were erroneously included  
in an Austrian transport from  
Munich
- These Woodcuts are available for  
release when arrangements have been  
completed in Munich for the transport  
of German Cultural Property.
- (14) About 300 books of the Sven  
Hedin Library which were removed  
from Schloss Mittersill
- Inventory has been sent to the  
Historical Section of CMUS for check,  
as Washington is interested in publications  
during the Nazi regime of these  
East-Asia scientists.
- (15) 3 Picture Frames
- Found in PC Warehouse, Salzburg
- (16) 1 large sized Persian Rug  
(badly worn)
- This was removed from Schloss  
Mittersill. It is not castle property  
and is of no interest to any of the  
Art Missions. Recommend that it be  
released to the US Quartermaster.

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103380

Comments

- (17) The following property was removed from Schloss Mittersill by Lt. Col. Smith for use in his Salzburg apartment:

1 Rug (brown)  
2 Bear Rugs  
1 Runner  
1 Scatter Rug (Oriental design)  
2 small Bathroom Rugs

This property should never have been put into the Art Depot. It was borrowed by Smith from Schloss Mittersill and is castle property, therefore it should have been returned to Mittersill. Recommend this be released at once to the representative of Schloss Mittersill, as the Austrians are trying to rehabilitate this castle.

b) Property Control Warehouse, Camp Truscott, Salzburg

- (1) The 10 cases of theater literature stored here, which were removed from Alt-Aussee Saltmine, on investigation were determined to be almost entirely Austrian, therefore PC&R Section, ZCA, was instructed on 7 Feb 49 to release them to the Austrian Government.

1400W

- (2) The 13 photograph albums which were removed from the von Ribbentrop property in Sept 48 by Mr. V.R. Kennedy (and are still in his custody) should be sent to Washington as directed by this office in Nov 48.

- (3) The following valuable painting was found to be missing from the Ribbentrop property during my inspection on 3 Feb 49 (neither is it included in the inventory of this property prepared by PC&R Section, ZCA, in Nov 1948):

"White Horse" - by Albert CUYP, 1605  
Size about 8" x 8", oil on wood  
Number stamped on rear "A 3704"

for supply  
or file  
before 1st April  
SAC/PLW

I requested CID investigation on 7 Feb 49 covering the theft of this painting - which is estimated to be worth about \$ 10,000,- (because of its age and scarcity of paintings by this artist).

c) Art Depot, Landhaus, Linz (now located in the vaultroom)

- (1) 29 large size paintings (inventory in file) which were found in the streets of the village St. Agatha, Land Upper Austria, by peasants after the bombing of an SS transport. Paintings were stored in the village inn, later in Schloss Ennsegg and eventually brought to Linz. These paintings were intended for the Linzer Kunstmuseum but it is believed they are mostly of Austrian provenance.
- (2) 3 additional paintings belonging to the above group are stored in the Landesmuseum, Linz, because they were too large to get into the vaultroom.

RG 260  
Entry VSACA - Glen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103381

- (3) Of the 4 paintings and 2 rugs which were originally removed from a Hungarian barge on the Danube at Asbach, (which I located through checking records of the village secretary of Asbach back through (1945) investigation revealed the 4 paintings were still in the vaultroom:

House on the border of a forest - by Paul Laszlo  
115 x 90 cm

Landscape in the mountains - by Katona Nandor  
60 x 50 cm

Landscape, Hungarian Lowland with Farm - by Bihar Sandor  
120 x 80 cm

Flock of Sheep with Shepherd in background a well-  
by J. Grunwalt, 75 x 65 cm

Investigation revealed following disposition of the two rugs:

1 Rug, Persian, Reddish, 6 x 3 1/2 m -  
is in use in Mr. Mackenzie's office in Linz

1 Rug, Persian, Reddish, 3 x 2 1/2 m -  
receipted for by Lt. Col. McKee on 2 June 48

- (4) Of the three rugs (plus one White Bear Rug which is a ruin) which were with the block of 27 paintings I restituted to the Hungarians on 15 Apr 48, investigation revealed the following disposition:

1 Rug, Persian, 5 x 3,20 m -  
is in use in Mr. Shaw's office in Linz

1 Rug, 1.25 x 2.50 m  
1 Rug, 1.50 x 3.55 m  
receipted for by Mr. Loeffler on 22 Apr 47

1 White Bear Rug (ruin)  
located in vaultroom

The four paintings and six rugs referred to in items 3 and 4 above were recommended by me to be released to the Austrian Government (as alleged Hungarian property) in accordance with General Keyes letter to Chancellor Figl of 13 Apr 48 and Lt. Col. McKee's order of Nov 48 (see my letter to the Bundesministerium fuer Vermoegenssicherung und Wirtschaftsplanung dated 7 Feb 49).

a) Schloss Efferding near Linz

This depot has been cleared of all non-Austrian property, the only possible exception being the antique armor, owned by Landesmuseum Linz. Inasmuch as not all of the antique armor collection from Castle Konopiste (Czech Claim No. 362) has been recovered we wrote the Bundesdenkmalamt on 26 Jan 49 and requested that they check with Museum Officials in Linz to ascertain if the Landesmuseum received any allocations of antique armor from the Nazis during the war. If they advise it did not (except possibly from some Austrian private collections, such as Rothschild, etc) then what remains in this depot must be

RG 260  
Entry VSACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103382

### III. SPECIAL PROBLEMS, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

#### a) Stift St. Florian near Enns

The huge quantity of antique furniture, paintings and objects of art (probably about 20 freight carloads) which were brought into Stift St. Florian during the war by the Rundfunk Broadcasting Company was released under trusteeship to the Austrian Government in 1946 by Property Control as a German business enterprise, though Rundfunk has no assets whatsoever except this apparent loot. This property was allocated to Rundfunk by the Nazis for the refurnishing of Stift St. Florian, which was to be the central Nazi broadcasting station.

A large scale restitution of French looted fine arts from the above (covering tapestries, oriental rugs, paintings, and furniture) was returned to France in 1946.

A smaller restitution of valuable antique furniture, paintings and objects of art, from the above, was identified as coming from the Lanz Collection, Amsterdam, and was released to the Dutch in 1948.

About 5 truckloads of the best items of the above property were removed from St. Florian in 1945-46 by Military Government Land Upper Austria for use in American billets, which have never been checked to ascertain if French, Dutch or other looted property is included.

The property which presently remains in Stift St. Florian - about 10 freight carloads - has been checked thoroughly by numerous art experts and missions, but no one appears to be interested in it.

This property consists of large paintings, large furniture and objects of art, and huge baroque mirrors. It is believed that it came mostly from castles in Austria and Germany.

Mr. Unsing, Director of the Central Collecting Point in Munich will come to Austria soon to inspect this property, but it is doubtful if there will be much interest on his part.

#### RECOMMENDATION

There is no more logic in holding Rundfunk Broadcasting Company under trusteeship to the Austrian Government (to which it is a white elephant because its only asset is "art loot" and the Austrian Government must pay the administrator it is forced to maintain out of its own pocket) than there would have been in turning the Linzer Kunstmuseum over to the Austrians as a German enterprise - and it was the greatest enterprise

RG 260  
Entry USACA-ESM  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103383

of all - with 400 tons of art loot in Alt-Aussee saltmine alone.

This is a German business enterprise only because it was so declared by this division. It was the Nazi broadcasting headquarters and its business was Nazi broadcasting - its only asset art loot.

If there is no interest in returning certain items to Germany which may be determined to come from looted German collections, recommend that the Austrian trusteeship be annulled and the property released to the Austrian Government for use in the Austrian economy. (Mr. Mapes in Property Control has advised me this can be done).

b) Schloss Klessheim, Salzburg

This castle formerly belonged to the Habsburg Family but was little more than a ruin at the beginning of the Nazi regime. It was completely renovated, furnished and decorated by the Nazis into a luxurious Schloss for visiting celebrities, mostly with French loot. However, most of the furniture and furnishings presently in the castle are copies of antiques which were made especially for Klessheim. There are some paintings, tapestries and some original French antique furniture remaining in the castle but all efforts at identification to-date by the French or other Missions have been futile. The possibility must not be overlooked of much of this property coming originally from such places in Salzburg as the Residenz Palais, former official residence of the Prince Archbishop. All paintings, tapestries and French antique furniture remaining in Schloss Klessheim have been checked by this Headquarters, MFA&A Section, OMGUS, and the Bundesdenkmalamt against claims with negative results. Schloss Klessheim was released from Property Control Salzburg, Spring 1948, without prejudice to future restitution claim.

The Cavalierhaus Officers' Club (on Klessheim Estate) was erected by the Nazis as a guest house and was completely furnished and decorated with apparent loot. It has been used from the beginning of the occupation as an Officers Club. No Art Restitution Missions have ever been allowed entrance in this Club. I was allowed entry only after securing permission from the Chief of Staff in Salzburg. I made notes on the paintings and tapestries, and later secured photographs, though no identifications have been made to-date, with the exception of the following painting:

"Diana and Astaron" by I.A. VALLIN  
oil on canvas, 60 x 82 cm

which is covered by French Claim No.674.

In the beginning of the occupation several truckloads of antique furniture, paintings and objects of art, were brought to Vienna to furnish the General's Villa. No investigation has ever been made of this property to ascertain if it contained fine arts covered by restitution claims.

RG	260
Entry	USACA-Cen
File	Revisis
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103384

Hope - by Heemskerk (Inv #1946)  
Female Portrait - by Rubens (inv #711)  
Portrait of a Gentleman - by van Dyck (Inv #694)  
Sketch for a Ceiling - Venetian School (Inv #6398)  
Christ - by Antonello da Messina  
(photographs of above in file)

From St. Agatha Depot of the Kunsthistorische Museum

Small Flower painting - by Jan Breugel (Inv #548)  
(photograph in file)

From Alt-Aussee Saltmine - owner Alfons Rothschild

Duerer Engraving "Knight, Death and Devil"  
VIII KG 175 AR 879

Duerer Engraving "Madonna with Grasshopper"  
XI KG 382 AR 40

Duerer Engraving "Adam and Eve"  
XI KG 375 AR 41

Duerer Engraving "Hubertus"  
XIV KG 552 AR 745

Rowlandson Pen Drawing "The Man sick with Palsy"  
II KG 261 AR 761

Rowlandson Pen Drawing "Unexpected Visit"  
II KG 371 AR 765

f) Austrian Tapestry in New York

Every assistance should be given the Austrian Government in securing the release from Customs in New York of the following tapestry owned by the Kunsthistorische Museum, which was looted from an Art Depot in Zellsee, Bavaria (Austrian Claim #110):

Serie CV 2 Landscape with figures

No. 5 Landscape with river and trees.  
in the foreground girl and youth.  
Flower border, 387 by 246 cm.

The above tapestry was located and identified in New York when it was offered to an Art Dealer on Madison Avenue, but was later confiscated by the New York Police upon request of Mr. Leonard, Director of the Art Collecting Center in Munich (together with four other tapestries stolen from the same depot belonging to the Bavarian National Museum). Since Spring 1948 it has been held by Customs Officials in New York. Dr. Demus, President of the Bundesdenkmalamt, is now in Washington and said he would take this matter up with the Austrian Embassy in an effort to secure their release for return to Europe.

g) Austrian Painting under Military Custodianship

The following painting which is under Military

RG 260  
Entry USACA Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103385

Custodianship of Leo Bittner, Mondsee, Schwarz-  
indien 75, has been determined to have come from  
Sepp Neugschwandner of Oberlainsitz 35, near  
St. Martin, Land Upper Austria (Russian Zone):

"Descent from the Cross" oil on canvas,  
2.40 x 1.54 m, allegedly  
by Giulio ROMANO  
(Raffael is believed to have  
painted the figure of Christ)

Investigation revealed that Neugschwandner was  
sentenced on 9 March 1948 as an illegal Nazi to  
one year in prison (2nd grade) and to confiscation  
of property. Neugschwandner was therefore attempting  
to illegally dispose of property which had been  
confiscated by the Austrian Government. This matter  
was referred to the Bundesdenkmalamt on 3 Nov 1948, as  
a matter within the jurisdiction of the Austrian  
Government, with request that they notify this office  
when Military Custodianship should be terminated.

b) Hungarian Oriental Rugs

Investigation is incomplete on the case of Lt. Col.  
R.C. Raleigh, Fort McClellan, Alabama, who signed  
for 26 Hungarian Oriental rugs which he failed to  
turn in before he was returned to the States (see  
Hungarian Claim #234)

i) Custody retained on Property released to the  
Jurisdiction of the Austrian Government

- (1) The following paintings from the so-called  
Welz Collection, which were released to the  
Salzburg Landesregierung on 19 Dec 47, are  
still being used by USFA in the following  
specified locations:

<u>Painting</u>	<u>Location</u>
"Harvest in Maxglan" by Anton Doll Landesgalerie #449	Villa Warsberg

"Mountain Ridge on the Radstaetter Tauern" by Anton Schiffer Landesgalerie #450	Hq ZCA
--	--------

"St. Peter's Cemetery in Winter" by Heinrich Burckel Landesgalerie #478	Hq ZCA
---	--------

<u>Painting</u>	<u>Location</u>
"Romantic Landscape" - German about 1820 Landesgalerie #480	Hq ZCA

"View of Salzburg" - by Mandl Franz Zaver Landesgalerie #523	Hq ZCA
--	--------

"Dancing Peasants" - by Halwander Josef Landesgalerie #568	Hq ZCA
--	--------

RG	260
Entry	USACA-Gem
File	Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103386

Painting

Location

"Laufen near Ischl" -  
by Anton Schiffer  
Landesgalerie #581

Villa Warsberg

"Landscape of Salzburg seen in the direction Gaisberg and Nockstein" 1 1797  
by Dies Albrecht Christoph  
Landesgalerie #590

Hq ZCA

(2) The following paintings of alleged Hungarian origin, which were released to the Bundesministerium fuer Vermoegenssicherung und Wirtschaftsplanung on 5 Jan 49 are still being used by USFA in the following specified locations:

Painting

Location

"Rivulet flowing between House in Landscape"  
Artist unknown,  
water-color, 26 x 35 cm  
Hung. Inv #210

Hq ZCA, Mr.V.R.  
Kennedy's office

"Sunset with Peasant-house at a Lake" - by Komaromi  
Kacz oil-canvas,  
31 x 42 cm, broad  
golden frame, Hung. Inv #347

Mr. James Langer's  
apartment

"Peasant Woman" - by R.Zuber  
oil/wood, 29 x 23 cm  
Hung. Inv #690

Camp.Truscott

"White Angora Cat" - by Heyer A.  
oil/canvas, 50 x 40 cm  
Hung. Inv #756

Col.Haines,  
Camp Truscott

"Forest Landscape in Winter with Woman collecting Wood"-  
by Ezenthaly Ferencz  
oil/canvas, 47 x 56 cm  
Hung. Inv.#777

Hq ZCA, Mr.V.R.  
Kennedy's office

"Picture of an Old Castle" -  
Artist unknown  
oil/canvas, 58x40 cm  
Hung. Inv.#966

Hq ZCA, Mr.V.R.  
Kennedy's office

"Head of a Man" -  
artist unknown  
oil/cartoon, 34 x 24 cm  
Hung. Inv.#1065

Mr. James Langer's  
apartment

RG	260
Entry	USACA
File	Ken Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	NND 785010
By	SR
NARA Date 9-1-99	

103387

<u>Painting</u>	<u>Location</u>
"Old Peasants with Pitcher" - by Csillag colored etching, 31 x 23 cm Hung. Inv #1085	Camp Truscott
"Winterlandscape with big Trees" by Olgos colored etching, 35 x 26 cm Hung. Inv #1090	Camp Truscott
"Brook in Winterlandscape" - by Santhal oil/cartoon, 31 x 23 cm Hung. Inv #448	Mr. J.A.Garrison's offices RD&R Div, Vienna
"Holy Virgin with sleeping little Jesus and young Saint" Artist unknown oil/copper, 16,5 x 21,5 Hung. Inv #624	RD&R Div, Vienna Mr. J.A.Garrison's offices
"Portrait of a Lady" - Artist unknown on porcelaine plate, dim. 16 cm, Hung. Inv #739	RD&R Div, Vienna Mr. J.A.Garrison's offices
"Society with Horses and Tent" - (Camping Scene) Dutch School, 18th Century, oil/wood, 58 x 35 cm	Mr. J.A.Garrison's offices RD&R Div, Vienna
"Two Peasant Women and Peasant at the Field"- Artist unknown oil/wood, 34 x 24 cm Hung. Inv #742	Mr. J.A.Garrison's offices RD&R Div, Vienna

IV. FINE ARTS REMOVED FROM THE AUSTRIAN REPOSITORIES  
TO THE CENTRAL COLLECTING POINT IN MUNICH

Agreement has already been reached between OMGUS and USFA for the handling of this problem in Munich. Inasmuch as the restitution of identifiable fine arts in the Collecting Point (which were removed from Austria) is nearing completion, segregations are now being made of this property into the following five categories:

Category I

Pre-war German fine arts. To be retained in Munich.

Category II

Pre-war Austrian fine arts. To be returned to Austria.

Category III

Fine Arts believed to be of  
Allied Origin - documentation  
of which is not complete. To be retained in  
Munich.

RG	260
Entry	USACA
File	Ken Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103388

Category IV

Paintings by Austrian artists,  
origin unknown, with no export  
stamp and/or bearing export  
stamp of Nazi office during  
Anschluss.

To be returned to Austria

Category V

Property of unknown origin  
(odds and ends)

To be returned to Austria

Preliminary segregation has already been made into the above five categories. These lists have been checked thoroughly by me and coordinated with the Bundesdenkmalamt. Letters have been written to the CCP in Munich which recommended many transfers to other categories. In Munich they are also reading the microfilm of the Nazi correspondence covering the acquisition of many of the paintings. When this is completed the final segregation into the five categories will be supervised by Dr. Edgar Breitenbach, Chief Art Investigator of the CCP. These final five categories then should be checked carefully with the Bundesdenkmalamt (telephone Miss Schmidt or Ministerialrat Koucic - R-22515) so that the Austrians may be assured that none of their fine arts, which they know are in the CCP, are being restrained in Munich.

V. PENDING RESTITUTION CLAIMS

US Claims

3-Investigation pending

6-Investigation at Gurlitt Art Galery was negative, however, some of the Morgenstern paintings have been identified at the CCP, Munich, and will be included in Category "I" (pre-war German Fine Arts) in the division of the Property presently being made in Germany.

7-Investigation pending

10-Investigation pending

12-Investigation pending

13-Investigation pending

16-Investigation pending

17-Investigation pending

23-One painting has been identified in the CCP, Munich, and photograph has been furnished them covering another painting - Investigation pending

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99  
103389

US Claims (continued)

27 - It is believed that some of the Berolzheimer paintings have been identified in the CCP, and a number of the valuable drawings are in possession of the Graphische Sammlung Albertina in Vienna (1st Bezirk) - Investigation pending.

37 - One painting has been recovered and restituted through the Austrian Government, two Rudolf ALT water-colors were recovered from the Alt-Aussee Saltmine and released to the Austrians - Investigation is pending on three other paintings.

38 - Investigation pending.

40 - Investigation pending.

Total - 13

Austrian Claims

34 - Sculpture believed buried under rubble of bombed Staatsgalerie, Munich --excavation work not completed

37 - Investigation pending.

39 - Claim for Prince Schwarzenberg Administration, Vienna - see comments under Czech Claim #101

46 - Czech in Munich to see if these coins have been returned or if it ties in with the numismatic work which Prof. Holzmaier, Austrian Coin Expert, was working on in Jan 1949.

47 - Painting "Bathing Woman" by Waldmueller will be returned to Austria in the next shipment.

82 - Painting "Watermill in Spring" by SCHINDLER will be returned in the transport of Austrian Art from CCP.

83 - Investigation pending.

95 - Gothic Stone Status of St. Wolfgang will be returned from Munich in Austrian transport.

109 - Investigation pending.

111 - Investigation pending.

115 - Investigation pending.

119 - Investigation pending but is negative to-date.

120 - Investigation pending.

122 - Investigation report has been received but not yet studied.

Total - 14

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Mem  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103390

Belgian Claims

- 5 - File is misplaced, should be located and checked.  
43 - Investigation pending.  
62 - Investigation pending.

Total - 3

Czech Claims

- 63 - Investigation pending.  
101 - This claim covers furniture and furnishings removed from four Prince Schwarzenberg Castles in Czechoslovakia. The property which has been located under this claim and taken under control is presently being used in the Hatschek (Guglhof) Villa in Linz, which is the Officers' Club. Inasmuch as Prince Schwarzenberg is now a refugee from Czechoslovakia and all of his property there has been confiscated, it is recommended that this property be released eventually to the Prince Schwarzenberg Administration in Vienna (where the Head Office has always been located) and that the Czech claim for the return of this property, which could not be considered to be art treasures essentials to the cultural heritage of Czechoslovakia be rejected (see special folder for "Prince Schwarzenberg Administration").  
388 - File is missing, should be located and checked.  
391 - Investigation pending.  
392 - Investigation pending.  
444 - There is an old note in our files that tapestries were recovered and sent to Munich. This is presently being checked.  
460 - New claim just received, not yet processed.  
462 - New claim just received, not yet processed.

Total - 8

Dutch Claims

- 70 - Has been dropped from active claim list but the file is really still open and requires more investigation (see comment "c" under Special Problems). This was discussed today with Mr. de Boer and he pointed out that no mention had ever been made of one large rug in their claim. Inasmuch as, to the best of my knowledge, restitution was made to the Dutch of property which was definitely identified by Mr. Wijsenbeck, Dutch Art Expert, it is possible they were unable to find the large rug which is claimed. However, this can be checked

RG 260  
Entry VSACA-Cen  
File Records  
Box 158

03391  
DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

16391

checked very easily with Mr.Janeczka, administrator of the Rundfunk Broadcasting Company in St.Florian.

- 84 - awaiting reply from CCP, Munich  
(see also Dutch Claim #91)
- 90 - Dorotheum records reveal van GOYEN painting was purchased by Robert Harner of Vienna, which he denies - should be checked further (see new claim #138)
- 91 - Investigation has been negative, but claim is such that we advised the Dutch on 8 Feb 49 we should hold in abeyance for six weeks before dropping from our records. Discussed this with Mr.de Boer of the Dutch Mission and he stated they were writing us a letter requesting us not to close this file without first clearing the matter with them, as the paintings claimed by them are of such value that they want to check the matter thoroughly in Holland and it may require as much as three months. Under the circumstances recommend that this case not be closed prior to checking with the Dutch Mission.
- 95- This claim was dropped from our active claim list in Jan 1949, however, after discussion with Mr.de Boer I promised to reinstate it in view of their letter, dated 12 Jan 49, which was delivered to me on 15 Feb. The Dutch pointed out that they have furnished us positive proof (which is in the file) that Dr.Saffert did have this property in his possession and requested that the matter be more thoroughly investigated. (New Claim #143).
- 101- (See new claim #139) one painting "Diana and Nymphs Bathing" by Cornelius POELENBURGH is in the Art Depot Salzburg, and on which we are awaiting proof from the Dutch (all other items covered by this claim have either been restituted to the Dutch or released to the Austrians). Mr. de Boer advised me they definitely have a record in Holland of a painting "Diana and Nymphs Bathing" by POELENBURGH which was looted but they are having difficulty getting the details on this particular case. He pointed out that so many records were lost due to fire and bomb damage. No one else is claiming this painting and it is unknown to both Mr.Frederick Welz and Dr. Funke of the Landesmuseum in Salzburg (it was found in property belonging to Welz and the Landesmuseum), therefore recommend this painting be released to the Dutch if other identification is impossible.

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Her  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103392

Yugoslav Claims (continued)

285 - Investigation to-date has been negative and the Yugoslavs were advised on 7 Feb 1949 it would be necessary to drop this claim unless they could produce more positive information concerning the location of the original archives allegedly stolen from Belgrade. Suggest the claim be held open for about six weeks and then dropped if no further information is received.

305 - This claim is very complicated and concerns Austro-Hungarian Empire Archives which were removed from Yugoslavia during the war, which appears to have had the effect of forcing the Yugoslavs to live up to an Archives Agreement of 1922 covering the division among the various countries which formerly comprised the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Austrian Staatsarchiv submitted a proposed solution to the controversy which we forwarded to the Yugoslavs on 14 Jan 49. No reply has yet been received from the Yugoslavs.

306 - Sent to Liaison Section for translation.

307 - -ditto-

308 - -ditto-

309 - -ditto-

310 - -ditto-

317 - -ditto-

Total -10

GRAND TOTAL OF PENDING CLAIMS -79

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxNothing followsxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

EVELYN TUCKER  
MFA&A Representative

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Gem  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103393

PROBLEM

Recent operations in the field have met with difficulties, the majority of which have been outlined in recent reports. These difficulties stem from the following sources:

1. Insufficient U.S. Personnel to carry out the monumental job of property locating and claims investigation. This organization has had to rely, except for key personnel, upon Austrian investigators with the result that investigators have not prepared claims for restitution but have delayed restitution and in some cases obstructed same.
2. Some causes of the present difficulties arise from the expectation by the present holders of undeclared property of a restitutable category that the Austrians might gain control of the restitution program in the near future, through the Austrian treaty. Therefore these owners and/or custodians try not to relinquish any part of property claimed until they can be sure that they will not later be allowed to retain possession of same.
3. The source of the present trouble is occasioned by the fact that all property of restitutable category has been held in Austria now for two years following the war and many Austrian have come to believe, following their general non subscription to the declaration law that it would not be found and if found, might not be restituted. This property remaining so long here has therefore become intergrated into the general Austrian economic program, mostly as a means for expansion when it has not already been utilized for repair and reconstruction of firms damaged in the war.

Added to the difficulties of the field personnel is the fact that the field offices have been subject to constant reorganization. Further, representative personnel from the R. & R. Branch in Vienna also suffer from lack of sufficient personnel to oversee work of the Missions which takes place after the work of the field officers has been completed. It is absolutely essential that the investigations, which precede the arrival in the U.S.Zone, of Missions to receive the restitution of property, be accurate, reliable, and complete so as to free the field representative of any activities with regard to investigation in order that he might deal entirely with the physical restitution and supervision of the activities of the missions in the field.

-1-

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152 156

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103394

PROPOSITION FOR REORGANIZATION.

In view of the difficulties stated above, it is recommended by the undersigned that a reorganization of the activities, both of the field personnel and the representative personnel be made to overcome these same difficulties so that the working program of restitution can proceed more efficiently at a faster pace to the satisfaction of the missions and to the satisfaction, it is also believed, of the Austrians. The proposition is outlined in three separate paragraphs below in the order in which they seem most desirable to the undersigned based upon his experience in the field.

1. It is recommended that a study of the Austrian restitution laws be made to insure that they conform with the U.S. Restitution Policies and that when this is found to be the case, that an appropriate ministry office be informed that it will be given the mission to investigate claims and property subject to restitution and that following restitution, it will station personnel with each mission in the U.S. Zone to assist the mission in effecting the return to the claimant country of the material restituted. This office will further be informed that it will concur exactly with the U.S. Policy, that the arbitor of all questions will be the R.& R. Branch, U.S.R.D.&R. Division. Under this plan, the Austrian personnel in the field offices will be cut or turned over to the Austrian Restitution Office, though this office will continue to exist as field liaison and for maintenance of present files and CEM cards which have become of great value in checking investigations. R.D.&R. field representatives will then concern themselves:

(1) with inspection of the field work of the missions and the Austrian Restitution Office, and to arbitration of questions between these parties.

(2) With restitution which consists of execution of receipts. Naturally, preliminary to the release to the Austrian of these restitution activities, the Austrian Government must guarantee that they will pursue this work with the diligence calculated to give satisfaction to the claimant governments, and to the U.S. This plan would have an advantage later of having readily available an organization within the Austrian Government which could effectively work with the R.& R. Commission, which, it is presently planned will remain in Austria following the evacuation by the four powers and inasmuch as the activities of these Austrian offices would have been guided by the U.S. Restitution policies, we could have a great deal of assurance that these policies would later

-2-

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152 154

103395  
DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

be carried out under any four-power R.& R. Commission. Lastly though this plan on 1st execution would seem to aggravate the difficulties outlined in par (2) such is not the case for par (2) refers to property holders and not to the Austrian Restitution Offices. These offices though set up by law to carry out restitution, sit with their hands in their pockets on the outside looking in. Psychologically it is supposed that they would snap at the chance to be given work that would justify their existence. And, when they understand the essential justice of our restitution program it is believed that they will bring the private and state custodians into line. Further though we would be giving the Austrian State Offices work which would relieve our offices only of details so that we can more effectively carry out the general program, it would seem to them a gesture commensurate with the general U.S. attitude.

2. The second plan, also calculated to resolve some of the difficulties noted above requires the retention of the present field offices, but changes the present method of investigation, i.e. permanent restitution missions would be stationed in the U.S. Zone with the power to investigate all their claims to their satisfaction under guidance of the personnel in the field offices. Restitution would have to be carried out as it is at the present time, except the field representative would journey to the field upon notification by the field office that investigation had been completed and would effect or deny as the case may be, restitution to the investigating mission who would then commence shipment. Although this plan would be satisfactory to the missions, it would necessitate some increase of the personnel in our field office and the Austrians would feel as they feel now, that they are on the short end of the restitution program. I personally believe that if the Austrians are given more responsibility for restitution that they will cooperate to a great degree especially when this sense of responsibility emanates from the highest Austrian political offices as it would in the case of the proposition listed above.

3. The third and last alternative to the present situation is to leave the restitution program much as it is but to engage in the field office and the R.& R. Branch, Vienna, the necessary qualified U.S. personnel to pursue an efficient program of restitution. I estimate that this program will require an additional employment of at least five men of officer grade and that before it can be expected to be put into operation, these people will spend about one month or more getting their feet on the ground, much

-3-

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152-156

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

103396

of which will be accomplished through instruction of these new personnel by the R.D.& R. Field representatives. This program can also leave us open to criticism by the missions who cannot judge of the efficiency of the work of our personnel in the field at times when claims are denied and the Austrians on the other hand will continue to feel that the restitution program proceeds predominantly at their expense. Further, when the time comes for the machinery set-up under the treaty to take over it will have no organization with which to work and restitution, which unlike reparation, concerns property subject to rapid dissipation will wait more lengthy of time until the Austrian offices find out just what is required of them.

RG  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box \_\_\_\_\_

260

152 156

103397

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NWD 785010
Bv. SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RICHARD P. WEEBER  
Major CE

ACTIVITY REPORT  
COVERING FIELD TRIP TO UPPER AUSTRIA  
FROM 7 AUGUST TO 10 AUGUST INCL.

WEDNESDAY, 7 August 46: Clear to partly cloudy, hot.

A.M. - With Mr. Varvasovszky, Chief of Hungarian Restitution Mission, and Austrian Civ. Driver Walter Rausch left Vienna for Linz at 0900 hrs. in jeep No. 20651316. 10 km. North of Enns, slight mishap on road. While passing a truck on an uphill grade, an Austrian Civ. passenger car approached us at a high speed--driver Rausch pulled to left bank of road (opposite the truck) but the driver of the civilian passenger car apparently became excited and sideswiped first the truck and then our jeep. No damage to jeep, but passenger car smashed left rear and right front fenders. Gave the driver my name and address and continued trip to Linz. Arrived in Linz at 1310 hrs. Had lunch at Casual Company, where I arranged at the same time for billets for the civilian driver.

P.M. - 1400 to 1520 hrs. at Landhaus, Military Government Headquarters. Reported with Mr. Varvasovszky to Colonel Hanna's office; the Commanding Officer was out but we were received by his Executive Officer, Lt. Colonel Hanford. Then to S-2 office re registration, and finally to Hotel Wolfinger where billets were assigned to Mr. Varvasovszky. I was assigned to Hotel Linzerhof.

Then trip to Herman Goering Werke re inspection of the firm EMAG. Mr. Varvasovszky is anxious to have the firm returned this month. EMAG was formerly the largest agriculture machinery manufacturing concern in Hungary, and the return of this firm would apparently be quite a boost to Hungarian morale in regards to assistance from U.S. to Hungarian economy. Besides, the EMAG plant is urgently needed at Hungary for the manufacture of agriculture machinery. Re status of EMAG, see Inclosure I.

THURSDAY, 8 August 46: Partly cloudy, hot and sultry.

A.M. - With Mr. Varvasovszky, went to the Property Control Office at Linz. The Hungarian Representative explained to the PCO, Lt. Johnson, the general outline of the Hungarian Mission's restitution function. The Hungarian Mission is not so much interested in the returning of as much Hungarian property as possible to Hungary at once, but mainly to maintain the status quo in regard to the Hungarian property now located in the U.S. Zone of Austria. Mr. Varvasovszky appears to be very much afraid that too much of the Hungarian property in the U.S. Zone of Austria has already been used for the benefit of the Austrian economy; partly in a legal way through direction by American Military Government officials and partly through dishonest means. Mr. Varvasovszky would very much appreciate it if only Hungarian citizens would be appointed as administrators for Hungarian property as he is afraid that an Austrian administrator would divert part of the property to Austrian interests.

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152 156

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

103398

Went with Mr. Varvasovszky to the Austrian State Railway Office at Linz re the turning over of the 7 trains of unserviceable freightcars. The former President, Mr. Wilhelm, with whom I had discussed this matter on 16 July, has since been dismissed. The new acting President, Engineer Franz Hafok, fortunately was well-informed about this case. Obtained a list of car numbers for these <sup>trains</sup> cars and made arrangements that the Linz Railroad Section will ship these trains to Enns, the Russian Border Control Station. From Enns the Vienna Railroad Section will use their locomotives to pull these trains to the Austrian-Hungarian border town of Srass-Sommerein. From there the Hungarian Railroad will take over. These trains will be shipped as soon as Mr. Varvasovszky has obtained the necessary clearance through the Russian Zone. We shall contact, in coordination with the Transportation Division (Mr. Baumgartner), the Viennese Main Railway Office (President Mr. Kahn), regarding the shipment of the 7 trains to Hungary.

For the matter of in-place restitution of Hungarian locomotives, Mr. Varvasovszky will send a special Hungarian railroad expert to Vienna.

P.M. - 1300 to 1500 hrs, with Sgt. Howell re drawing of liquor from the Linz Warehouse. Then with Yugoslav Lt. Vecernik, for whom we had brought along 50 kg. of nails, went to the Quartermaster Depot at Wells. Lt. Vecernik, who is handling the shipping of machinery from Schlierbach, complained of being out of food since he has no car which would permit him to drive to the Transient Mess at Wells to eat--drew 3 cases of C-rations for him. Then with Lt. Vecernik went to Schlierbach. Unfortunately the Father Prior was absent but his representative told me that the two former German Army Officers, Colonel Karl Kopecky and Captain Philipp v. Liebezeit, were at Schlierbach on 31 July and had made an inspection through the Monastery. For this purpose they had presented to the Prior documents from the Yugoslav Government. Returned to Linz at 1930 hrs.

FRIDAY, 9 August 46: Cloudy, occassional rain.

A.M. - Inspection trip to Fire Department School at Linz. According to reports from the Public Safety Division, 3 Hungarian ambulances and 2 motor trucks were supposed to be located there and ready for turning over to the Hungarian Mission. In rear of that school found large assembly of former German Army vehicles, all in unserviceable condition. Among these we finally located the 3 ambulances and the 2 trucks. They are in very poor condition and could only be shipped to Hungary by rail in their present state.

At the Fire Department checked also in regards to the Rumanian claim for the fire truck and other fire department materials. Could not locate Item 1 and 2 (water pumper) of the Rumanian claim, nor the fire fighting automobiles. In the Fire Department Warehouse, however, there is a very large stock of fire hose, helmets, gas masks, bedding, small motorized hand pumps, and other small fire fighting equipment.

-2-

RG

260

Entry

File

Box

103399

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 785010

By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Then to see Military Government Transportation Officer, Captain McCarthy. As per Mr. Varvasovszky, there are hundreds of vehicles of Hungarian origin listed in the files of the Verkehrsamt, Linz (a Mr. Dantzenberg in charge). Mr. Varvasovszky would like to have a copy of the list. He also stated that on many occasions cars owned by Hungarians have been requisitioned by the Austrian authorities, and also the registration papers were taken. Captain McCarthy pointed out that since the 1st of August only those persons who could prove ownership were able to obtain vehicle drivers' permits from his office.

Then a short visit with Lt. Col. Harris, Public Safety Officer. We informed him of our visit to the Dire Department this morning. Lt. Col. Harris had no knowledge of the condition of the 5 vehicles which were to be turned over to the Hungarian Mission and had assumed they were in running condition. Lt. Col. Harris (whose fiancee is a Hungarian refugee) assured Mr. Varvasovszky of the assistance of the Public Safety Office in regard to locating Hungarian vehicles which may have been illegally acquired by Austrians and also would keep him informed of Hungarian vehicles in storage which come to the attention of the Austrian police.

P.M. - Trip to Wells--Gunskirchen re the status of the International Machine Trading Company for which the Hungarian Government has presented a claim. Mr. Varvasovszky had complained to this office that machinery from this firm was being taken away to the Ordnance Center at Wells. Gunskirchen is located about two miles east of Wells and one-half mile north of the main highway to Salzburg. The International Machine Trading Company (IMHAG) is located in two warehouses next to the railroad station. This firm has also been requisitioned by Headquarters USFA Ordnance Service. (See Inclosure 2 regarding status of plant as well as the so-called "Hungarian Motor Pool".)

Returned to Linz at 1930 hrs. after having had a most excellent dinner at Wells Transient Mess.

SATURDAY, 10 August 1946: Partly cloudy, hot.

A.M. - Called on Lt. Col. Huddleston, C.O. of the 52nd Ordnance Group at Linz, re International Machine Trading Company (IMHAG) at Gunskirchen. Col. Huddleston is the C.O. of the various Ordnance Detachments in U.S. Zone, Austria, and as such, also directs the Ordnance Center at Wells (C.O. there is Major E. Hopper). Ordnance Group at Linz is located in the downtown section, about 3 blocks east of the City Square. Explained to Col. Huddleston, after identifying myself, that we had received a protest from the Hungarian Mission re equipment removal from IMHAG, that the IMHAG firm cannot be considered as a CEM plant, that it is a relocated firm from Hungary for which the Hungarian Government has filed a claim for restitution and that, while Ordnance had requisitioned IMHAG in December 1945, it would not be possible to remove machinery and other property items from the firm's present premises without approval from

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 159 156

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103400

the PCO, Linz. The Colonel replied at first that he would not deal with the PCO, etc., but only with the M.G. appointed Administrator Dorrin, who had approved all removals so far. Had to overcome the "old" G-4 line of thought that everything captured by the U.S. Army is first and last OEM property, with first priority to the Service Forces. Finally succeeded in convincing the Colonel that as far as the IMHAG plant goes, restitution has priority over Army-Ordnance's present needs, even if the plant had been formerly requisitioned. He stated that IMHAG probably would be released in two or three months, but that he would want to take certain machinery from there to Wels, etc. While our discussion at first was somewhat loaded with tension, my parting was extremely cordial and I am sure that Ordnance will not remove any further items from IMHAG without first obtaining the OK from the PCO.

Short call again on Captain McCarthy, MG Transportation Officer; wanted first to get his statement regarding the remaining Hungarian motor vehicles in the forest near Gunskirchen-Vitzing before proceeding to Wels. Captain McCarthy stated that he had nothing to do with these vehicles and the removal, etc., was all being done upon orders by the Ordnance Center at Wels.

Thence with Mr. Varvasovszky to Wels. While I called on Major E. Hopper, the C.O. of the Ordnance Center at Wels, Mr. Varvasovszky went ahead to Gunskirchen-Vitzing to get data on "Hungarian Motor Pool" from Colonel Dulosy, one of the acting Directors of IMHAG.

The Ordnance Center at Wels is located at the outskirts of Wels, south of the main highway. It occupies the premises of the former German owned firm Flugzeug und Metallbau, Wels. The Austrian Director of the firm is a Mr. Franz Phillip (who is using one of the passenger vehicles requisitioned from IMHAG).

After discussing the IMHAG Firm's status with Major Hopper, who had only been at Wels for about two months, but appeared to be well informed and was extremely cooperative, the following agreement was reached:

1. Ordnance will release (derequisition) the IMHAG plant within three or four weeks.
2. No IMHAG owned machinery will be moved from Gunskirchen to Ordnance Center, Wels.
3. Only those machines will be removed from the IMHAG premises which were brought by Ordnance from Wels to Gunskirchen.
4. The IMHAG typewriter, which was removed to Ordnance Center, Wels, on 7 August, will be returned to IMHAG within two or three weeks.

-4-

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152 156

103401  
DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

5. IMHAG owned vehicles, requisitioned by Ordnance, will be returned, as soon as proof of ownership is established.
6. Major Hopper will "attempt" to have a search made through the files (of his predecessors) in order to prepare for us a list of inventory of the materials and spare parts which were requisitioned from IMHAG last spring (without ever having given any receipt for this material to IMHAG officials or the PCO; value about 2 million shillings, as per Colonel Dulosy).

In order to forestall any black market activities by IMHAG in vehicles, once the plant is derequisitioned by Ordnance, the suggestion of Major Hopper that the plant then should close down was concurred. (Note: After IMHAG is released by Ordnance the best thing would be to let IMHAG repair those "Hungarian Motor Pool" cars, preparatory to the return of this firm to Hungary--provided no "hitch" occurs which would make it advisable not to reconstitute IMHAG at present to Hungary.)

In this connection, it was interesting to hear from Major Hopper, "that Ordnance has no interest in the remaining 50 odd unserviceable Hungarian claimed motor vehicles still remaining in the woods at Vitzing, and that removal of vehicles from there was all being handled through Captain McCarthy's office at Linz. As against Major Hopper's statement in this matter, Captain McCarthy had stated to me this A.M. (see above), that Ordnance Center, Wels, was handling the removal of these Hungarian vehicles.

This case again shows that R. & R. personnel must make continued field investigations and keep close check on developments since apparently the PCO, Linz, due to extreme shortage of personnel (he is alone) cannot be fully aware of the conditions of each individual restitution case. At the same time it should also be pointed out that our present R & R field personnel staff is too small to properly fulfill its assigned missions.

Drove back to Vitzing-Gunskirchen and picked up Mr. Vervasovszky at the farm quarters of Colonel Dulosy. Obtained some additional data regarding recent requisitions (see Incl. 2). In summary, the following equipment was removed since 3 August 1946:

1. 19 Motor vehicles (taken by "Fahrbereitschaft" with assistance of Ordnance vehicles), 4 of which apparently definitely belonged to IMHAG (including 3 trucks, 1 passenger car and 1 motorcycle, all in running condition). No receipt was given.
2. 1 Typewriter (7 August). No receipt was given.

-5-

RG- 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 157 156

103402  
DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

3. About 12-tons of food supplies (flour, wheat, etc., as per Colonel Dulosy), confiscated on 5 or 6 August 1946. These food supplies were the remainder of 4 carloads of food which IMHAG had brought from Hungary. IMHAG had maintained a worker's kitchen for the 150 Hungarians living at or near Ganskirchen. Dulosy's main complaint was, in this respect, that the food was taken away by Austrian civil officials from Wels without giving IMHAG a receipt for it; that he had hoped to use these supplies for the workers on their trek back to Hungary and that the Austrians should have given this food at least to the Hungarian Red Cross or DP Camps and not issue these supplies to stores in Wels.

All in all it appears that some organized "raids" had apparently been taking place against IMHAG since the beginning of August by Austrian officials (perhaps with the silent sanction of unauthorized American personnel). It is hoped that the writer's inspection trip stopped any further unauthorized removals from IMHAG--however this will be possible only if a close follow-up is kept on IMHAG matters.

Left Linz for VIENNA, 1600 hrs, -- arrived OK at 2000 hrs.

*Richard P. Weeber*  
RICHARD P. WEEBER  
Major CE  
Asst. Chief, Reparations  
and Restitution Branch

-6-

RG 260  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 152 156

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103403

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRIA  
Reparations, Deliveries & Restitutions Division  
APO 777 US Army

21 June 1949

TO : Chief, RD&R Division  
SUBJECT: Final Status Report - Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

1. Reference is made to the Final Status Report - Monuments Fine Arts & Archives as prepared by Miss Tucker on 16 Feb 1949, copy of which is attached.
2. Effort has been made to liquidate as much of the pending business of Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives as was possible in the time existent.
3. Attached hereto is a report containing pending action on Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives affairs.
4. References to Miss Tucker's report are by page and paragraph numbers as listed in her report.
5. Those items in Miss Tucker's report not discussed in this report have either been disposed of or dropped. Records concerning the disposal of any of these items is available in the R&R Branch.

I. PRESENT ART DEPOTS, CONTENTS, AND COMMENTS (pg. 1)

a) Art Depot in Residenz Palais, Salzburg

This depot has been almost completely cleared. Those items remaining are numbered according to the numbers shown in Miss Tucker's report.

Comments

(5) 1 Tapestry "Eagle with Prey"  
size 2.24 x 2.82 m (pg. 2)

French representative has stated that he does not believe this tapestry is French. Indications are that this tapestry is definitely prewar Austrian. When final clearance has been obtained from the French, recommend that this be transferred to the Austrian Government and listed as a restitution.

(6) Allegorical Tapestry with two Human Figures and three Cherubs,  
size 3.41 x 3.85 m (pg. 2)

Not actually in the Art Depot but is under custodianship of the Salzburg Landesregierung. The French were sent a photo on 11 Feb 1949 and requested to check it in France. Current indications are that this is not French but will remain as unknown property. If so, recommend it be transferred to the custody of the Austrian Government as unknown property in the usual manner.

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Gen. Records  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By S2 NARA Date 9-1-99

103404

Comments

- (14) About 300 books of the Sven Hedin Library which were removed from Schloss Mitter-sill (pg. 3)

Inventory has been sent to the Historical Section of OMGUS for check, as Washington is interested in publications during the Nazi regime of these East-Asia scientists. If no word has been received by 1 July 1949, recommend a tracer letter be sent to OMGUS. If the results are negative, recommend it be transferred to the custody of the Austrian Government as property of questionable origin.

b) Property Control Warehouse, Camp Truscott, Salzburg (pg. 3)

14204

Notice has been received that the 13 photograph albums remaining in the von Ribbentrop collection are being forwarded to Washington for disposition. These should be turned over to ODI on receipt for forwarding to the Library of Congress as in the case of the previous 69 albums which were also forwarded in a like manner.

64QH

- (3) The valuable painting "White Horse" by Albert Cupp has been referred by AG letter to the CG, ZCA for investigation. Word has been received that a Board of Officers has been appointed to investigate this case. A copy of the final recommendations and action by this Board should be attached both to Miss Tucker's original request for CID investigation and to the file concerning the von Ribbentrop collection.

Because the remainder of the von Ribbentrop property is considered as private property, recommend that R&R Branch drop all interest in this property, except for a clearance on the above-mentioned painting "White Horse". Austrian and German laws have been passed which would allow the proper disposition of this property, and since this property is already under the jurisdiction of the PC Branch, the R&R Branch should take no further interest.

c) Art Depot, Landhaus, Linz (pg. 3)

- (1) 29 large size paintings were found in the streets of the village St. Agatha, Land Upper Austria, near the end of the war. Whereas letters have already been forwarded to ZCA to release these paintings to the Austrian Government as unknown property, certain of these paintings have been claimed by the Dutch. Therefore, the transfer of the entire group of paintings has been held up pending investigation of the Dutch claim.

(2) Same as (1) above.

(4) 1 rug, Persian, 5 x 3.20 m is still in use in Mr. Shaw's office in Linz, and is properly accounted for.

- 2 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Cen.  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103405

## II. FORMER ART DEPOTS, CONTENTS AND COMMENTS (pg. 5)

- a) The Hans Makart canvas roll "Venice greeting Catherine Cornaro", size 1050 x 400 cm (Alt-Aussee #2075) owned by the National Gallery of Berlin and located in the Springer-werke cave of the mine. This painting is subject to restitution to Germany. However, it is so large that it can not be moved through the door of the saltmine. Both the Austrian Government and OMGS are aware of this fact. Recommend that nothing be done about this painting at present since it is in a perfect state of preservation in its present location and the German authorities do not seem to be particularly anxious to have it returned to Berlin at this time.

b) Schloss Fischhorn by Zell-am-See

The last painting retained under U.S. control entitled "Lady with Neck Frill" was released to Miss Gildemeister on 9 Feb 1949. Miss Gildemeister stated that she is going to sue the U.S. Government for damages which she alleges occurred while the painting was under U.S. control. I have investigated this matter and determined that certain scratches did exist on the painting when it was released to Miss Gildemeister. However, there is no record existing as to whether or not these damages occurred before, during, or after the painting was under U.S. control. It has been ascertained that the PC&R Section, ZCA, took special precaution to protect this particular painting from damage because of the persistent nagging and antagonistic attitude displayed by Miss Gildemeister throughout all discussions concerning this painting. I do not believe that in a U.S. Claims Court Miss Gildemeister could present sufficient evidence to constitute a valid claim against the U.S. Government. This subject may result in nasty letters from the Gildemeisters and possibly through the U.S. Legation at some future time.

## III. SPECIAL PROBLEMS, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pg. 6)

e) Valuable Austrian Paintings Stolen

It is questionable whether the inventory of paintings missing from the various saltmines as listed by Miss Tucker were actually stolen, but it is evident that they are not presently in their reported locations. There is little effort that can be made under the present organization of the R&R Branch to locate these paintings. The only logical course is to maintain the inventory of the missing paintings so that if they should be located at a future date, their ultimate destination will be known.

f) Austrian Tapestry in New York

This problem does not belong to the R&R Branch. It is an affair between the Austrian Government and U.S. Customs Officials.

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Cen.  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103406

g) Austrian Painting under Military Custodianship

This problem belongs to the Austrian Government and the R&R Branch should not be involved.

i) Custody Retained on Property released to the Jurisdiction of the Austrian Government

- (1) The 8 paintings listed in this paragraph should be returned to the custody of the U.S. Government. One of these paintings entitled "Mountain Ridge on the Radstaetter Tauern", #450, is missing and no trace can be found. This painting was in the office of Maj. Gen. H.G. Collins and is reported to have disappeared some time between the departure of Gen. Collins and the arrival of Maj. Gen. Kendall. This property under the jurisdiction of the Austrian Government results in Gen. Kendall being responsible to the Austrian Government for property which he has never had. Since all of these 8 paintings are being used in U.S. Offices, recommend that the receipt to the Austrian Government for these 8 paintings be withdrawn and that they be retained under U.S. custody.

IV. FINE ARTS REMOVED FROM AUSTRIAN REPOSITORIES TO THE CCP, MUNICH

Agreement was reached in Feb 1949 between OMGUS and USFA for the handling of this problem in Munich. The property was segregated into the following 5 categories and this segregation was questioned on 1 June 1949:

Category I

Prewar German fine arts To be retained in Munich

Category II

Prewar Austrian fine arts To be returned to Austria

Category III

Fine arts believed to be of  
Allied origin - Documentation  
of which is not complete To be retained in Munich

Category IV

Paintings by Austrian artists,  
origin unknown, with no export  
stamp and/or bearing export  
stamp of Nazi office during  
Anschluss To be returned to Austria

Category V

Property of unknown origin  
(odds and ends) To be returned to Austria

- 4 -

RG 260  
Entry USACA-Oen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103407

According to CCP Munich, only 220 items out of approximately 5000 items in question were subject to be returned to Austria and were so returned in early June 1949. According to Mr. Munsing of the Munich Art Collecting Point, all items of this collection were identified by means of the microfilm of the transactions which were obtained from the Russians in Dresden. Mr. Munsing further stated that the greater part of this collection turned out to be German and was therefore retained in Germany. The Austrians will protest this very vigorously. USFA is not in a position to take any definite stand on the Austrian protest without saying that the CCP Authorities were either prejudiced or dishonest. If the Austrian Government protests to Washington on the subject, and Washington requests recommendations, recommend that a neutral board, consisting of officers and/or civilians, be appointed to re-examine the documentations of these 5000 items to determine whether or not proper disposition has been made. This is a lengthy and tedious process but will result in an equitable settlement in case the protest and dispute on these items continues.

V. PENDING RESTITUTION CLAIMS (pg. 14)

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <u>US Claims</u>       | #38 - Investigation pending  |
| <u>Austrian Claims</u> | #39 - No change in status  |
| <u>Belgian Claims</u>  | #5 - No change in status   |
|                        | #43 - Investigation pending  |
| <u>Czech Claims</u>    | #101 - No change in status   |
|                        | #462 - Investigation pending   |
| <u>Dutch Claims</u>    | #70 - No change in status  |
|                        | #109 - No change in status   |
|                        | #135 - Investigation pending   |
| <u>French Claims</u>   | #626 - Investigation pending   |
| <u>German Claims</u>   | #36 - The antique furniture, paintings and objects of art are presently being used in Villa Warsburg and the adjoining Villa occupied by the General's private guards in Salzburg. Four items of this group were returned to Germany in May 1949. No further effort should be made to return this property to Germany at the present time. |
|                        | #34 - Investigation pending  |
|                        | #16 - Investigation pending  |
|                        | #48 - No change in status  |

RG	260
Entry	USACA-Cen
File	Records
Box	158

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 785010
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103408

Soviet Claims #17 - No change in status

Yugoslav Claims #65-1 - Reinstated

VI. CLAIMS SUBSEQUENT TO 16 FEB 1949 AND ACTION TAKEN

Since 16 Feb 1949 certain new art claims have been received and old claims have been reopened. Of this group of claims, only those which are still pending are listed below:

Dutch Claims #144 - Investigation pending

#145 - " "

French Claims #677 - " "

#678 - " "

Polish Claims #256 - " "

Total pending art claims - 20

E. S. MCKEE  
Lt. Col. Inf.  
Head, R&R Branch

Incl.:

Final Status Report, dtd 16 Feb 49

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Aer  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SP NARA Date 9-1-99

103409

C  
O  
P  
Y

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRIA  
Reparations, Deliveries & Restitution Division  
Reparations and Restitutions Branch  
APO 777 US ARMY

16 February 1949

SUBJECT: Final Status Report - Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives

TO : Director, USACA Section  
Hq. United States Forces in Austria

THROUGH: Chief, Reparations, Deliveries & Restitution Division

1. In the time that was available to me I have done everything possible to wind-up and close-out the restitution of fine arts in the US Zone of Austria. Some additional matters could be closed out if time permitted, and if release could be obtained on certain fine arts being used by US Forces.

2. It is a matter of regret to me that USACA did not attach enough importance to my handling of this delicate and explosive work, about which only I am familiar, to allow me to bring it to a successful conclusion. It is of no comfort to me that it was the actual T/O position of Fine Arts Officer that was eliminated as of 1 Feb 49, because this reveals USACA's approach to this problem as all the more deplorable. As of Jan 1949 OMGUS had 239 fine arts people on its payroll.

3. I would like to pay tribute to the unqualified support I have had at all times in my work from both the Bundesdenkmalamt and the Bundesministerium für Vermögenssicherung und Wirtschaftsplanung. I strongly recommend that future handling of fine arts in the US Zone be coordinated closely with these two offices, otherwise you will discover that a nation is extremely jealous of its cultural heritage and these offices will work against you instead of with you.

4. Matters which are still pending have been covered as explicitly as possible in this Final Status Report, not so much for my protection but in order that the work may be carried on to completion by a person unfamiliar with it.

/s/ EVELYN TUCKER  
MFA&A Officer  
RD&R Division  
USACA Section, USFA

Distribution:

Original - Director, USACA  
1 copy - Chief, RD&R Division  
1 copy - Zone Command Austria  
1 copy - MFA Files (R&R Branch)  
1 copy - personal file

RG 260  
Entry USACA - Gen  
File Records  
Box 158

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 785010  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

103410

— Wärberg — { Silver shield with Salzburg  
Miss Elizabeth Wärberg { Lion rampant — July 16, 1752  
Mrs. Matisse

Two Paintings

Bellini or School of Bellini  
Bellini, St. Virgin & Child with  
Plants on each side

Pen. Collins Nov. 1945 —

Pen. Kendall's wife, June 1949 — <sup>Belonged to</sup> ~~Matisse~~

Certain things as silver already missing.

Some things were removed, others  
brought in —

Mrs. Matisse went to attic of

Wärberg in June 1952 — (Mrs. Hays-  
will have them to teat later) and

when Mrs. Matisse went to the attic  
also found almost nothing there

Mrs. Kendall had packed hers in  
~~matchballs~~ — now none

Armp?).

docs identifying

paintings as Jewish

Gergely passenger?

103411

for

Buchner

Gergely

Hall's mtg. w/ Dennis

+ State doc(s)

RG 59  
Entry lot 62D-4  
File Entry # 3104A  
Box 16

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 96071  
By 32 NARA Date 10-12-99

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DeWald

Venice

Mr. Walter Dohring, D/I High Commissioner  
Mr. Halvor O. Bern, Special Assistant to  
Director of Quadrantite  
Mr. C. M. Terry, Acting Chief of Political Division

Vernon

Salzburg

Mr. Kennedy - now in Salzburg, N. W.  
Brief of Prop Coated Rd & P Sections  
in Salzburg, 1949/50

Mr. Dean - 1945 on

Mr. Miller was here from 1940

Main - Würfau - stopped there in Würfau  
Mostly property Nazis looted from Jews  
Plots brought to Salzburg in storage  
in Karabinierstrasse - where  
inventory was made -

Baroness Edith Weiss - who is from  
Budapest - Weiss family owned  
Steel mines & munition factories  
Her brother, Mr. Julius Weiss,  
lives at 1000 Park Avenue, N.Y.C.

103412

RG 59  
Entry Lot 62D-4  
File Entry # 3104A  
Box 16

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority AND 969571  
By SP NARA D 10-12-99

Baroness Weiss helped with Baron Rothschild  
and Kornfeld properties as the Kornfelds are her  
cousins - in which she was interested -  
Baroness Weiss is with the World Council  
of Churches - the HQs of which  
is Geneva, Switzerland - An office of  
the World Council of Churches is in  
Salzburg, Mr. Atkinson is head in Salzburg  
Working with refugees - helping to get  
them resettled.

Baroness Weiss also negotiates  
about all Kornfeld property -

Baroness Weiss and her brother  
when in NY Chief they have  
other information and contacts  
me in Washington -

One of Kornfeld's wrote and  
asked for photographs - (as the  
over painting of portrait on head of a lady  
(Sarah Bernhardt))

103413

RG 59  
Entry Lot GAD-4  
File Entry # 3104A  
Box 16

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 969671  
By S.R. MAR 10 1999

## Fischlhorn Ptg

Castle Fischlhorn about 2 1/2 hrs. from Salzburg

Ptg were brought from Poland Germany &  
Austria

Two Polish missions were in Fischlhorn  
and saw the ptgs were here until his  
~~Catafasees~~

Geldermannste: <sup>scandalous</sup> Adam's cave &  
valance certain paintings were restituted  
one ptg left with Geldermeister  
written on the back

Mr. Mrs. Geldermann may be at  
Schloss Fischlhorn

Three missing paintings:

Fischlhorn #56 Baron Peletz ~~saw~~ hanging in Schloss Fischlhorn but  
not here Has it been restituted  
to the Dutch? Restitution was made  
in April 1949 <sup>1424 PGS</sup> to Germans Were the 3  
others ~~saw~~ restituted. Mrs. Peletz may  
know

103414

RG 59  
Entry Lot 62D-4  
File Entry # 3104A  
Box 16

DECLASSIFIED  
Authorit NND 969071  
Ev 3R MAR 8 1989

Wiesbaden had about 11,000 pieces of silver from a train.

Address of Matis — stays with a Major  
his wife was a born Warberg

Ptys in Mansberg - in residence of <sup>W&H</sup>  
General Colliers - later <sup>Sept</sup> Kendall & Mrs  
Kendall - Baron Preys brought down & painted  
now a gen: Lawyer

Mrs. Mattei should be allowed  
to teach this year — [initials]

Time is there still Records & Receipts were kept office, and then

~~Request should come from Army  
Maybe some Fishermen there ) see~~

~~Austrian Bundeskanzler went to make  
a invention while Baron Preter~~

Mrs. Mallis could assist Dr. Dobeck.

In "Cavaleris House" in grounds

A Schloss-Klasslein - still vereidigt  
an Penn Officers Club with self-lures

Mr. Kennedy & Mr. Dean lived in a  
small room.

Little House of Doctor von Erbach (the "Doll House") the Cavalier's House were a

103415

RG 59  
Entry Lot G2D-4  
File # 3104A  
Box 16

lot of painting - Mrs. Beattie would  
know where the lot is; click  
Baron Preiss made - He made  
the inventory for Cavalier's House  
when he made an inventory of the  
Schloss Klessheim and Schloss Klagenfum  
has been returned to the Austrian  
Court - used for official parties -

[Signature]

103416

RG 59  
Entry Lot 62D-4  
File Entry # 3104A  
Box 16

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 969571  
Ex 32 MAR 02 1999

CHIEF RABBI DR FRANCIS HEVESI

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN HUNGARY.

Hungarian Jewry consists of three separate denominations i.e. three shades of cult and worship. Each of these denominations has its own organization.

Orthodox Judaism is lead and controlled by the s.c. CENTRAL BUREAU OF ORTHODOX JEWS /Orthodox Központi Iroda/. President of this institution is Mr. Samuel Kahan-Frankl and its chief secretary Dr. Emery Reiner. There has been a Central Committee on this organization, but most members, both rabbis and laymen of this central board have been deported. Orthodox Jewry has suffered heavy numerical losses during the Nazi occupation of Hungary, because the bulk of orthodoxy lived in the country and has been at a very early date taken away mostly into the death chambers of Auschwitz. According to official estimations, from about 550.000 orthodox Jews there still exist about 50.000, the greatest part of them in Budapest.

The second organization, the s.c. STATUS QUO ANTE /Conservative, but not orthodox Jews/ has virtually ceased to exist.

The liberal wing of Hungarian Jewry is organized in the same manner as orthodoxy, having a central office called the NATIONAL JEWISH BUREAU /Országos Izraelita Iroda/. Its membership counts today about 150.000. There is a board of directors at the head of this organization under the chairmanship of Mr. Louis Stockler. This board consists of five lay members and two rabbis, one of them Dr. Edmund Kálmán, vicepresident of the Rabbinical Association, the other Dr. Francis Hevesi, the chief rabbi of Budapest, president of several cultural associations and chairman of the Rabbinical Association.

103417

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

This form of organization came into being as a consequence of the liberal legislation of the years 1868 and 1895, which gave security for exercising religious freedom. The Central Bureaus were constituted in a perfectly democratic manner, the leaders being elected by the delegates of every congregation in the country. They represented the congregations before Government Authorities and took over the orders of the Government for the Congregations.

On 20th, March 1944, this liberal system was replaced by a "Judenrath", a mere organ of the Germans, working according to their schedule forced on the whole subjugated Europe.

After the liberation of Budapest, the remains of old legal organizations overtook their task amidst entirely changed state of things.

As the result of deportation there remained about 200.000 Jews out of approximatively 1.000.000. In Budapest there are living about 140.000 Jews / formerly 250.000/ and about 60.000 people, who returned from various forced labour and deportation camps are scattered all over the country. Not even ten percent of the former Jewish population of country cities returned till today. In this last cipher the people who returned to territories now again belonging to Czechoslovakia, U.R.S.S., Roumania and Yougoslavia, are not included. These ciphers cannot be looked upon as definite until the deported still living in several camps in Germany and the prisoners of war from Russia return.

The situation of the returned is very sad. No complete families returned. There is no single family which has not suffered the most tragical losses, "there is not a house where there was not one dead".

It represents a great problem how these people will find again their place in the economic and social life of the country. In the task of reconstructing religious life we also meet at every step with unconquerable difficulties and hindrances of both psychological and technical nature.

In 1944 the Jews have been robbed of all their

103418

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

--3--

movables and realties. Today the houses and homes are by Government orders being returned to the owners coming home, but they find only very small remains of their movable goods i.e. furniture, dresses, household utensils, jewelry and effects.

The goods of those, who did not come home underlie now to the competence of a new, recently organized Government office, the s.c. COMMISSARIATE OF ABANDONED FORTUNES /El-nagyott Javak Kormanybiztosaga/. This office works only since May 1945 and therefore we have as yet no data of the success in searching, discovering and taking hold of the movables of the deported Jews, because these fortunes have been collected by the Nazi Government and "sold" to the non-Jewish population for trifling sums, and another part of the Jews' goods has been delivered as a gift of the Hungarian nation to the German population.

Therefore the most essential problems of Hungarian Jewry are of a./ psychological /reconciliation/, b./ material /giving help to the needy, rebuilding of Jewish wealth, replacing of tools for work, ~~reestablishing~~ the Jews in their lost positions/, c./ organizatory character /reorganization of Jewish life/.

Hungarian Jewry now at the very beginning of its recovery from the catastrophical blows of the near past is striving energetically to meet all these problems.

Its own power is not yet sufficient for this. We need urgently the help of our coreligionists overseas. Nevertheless we, of course, do not want to rely entirely on the help coming from abroad but we try to put into work our organizations well renowned from the past half century and to establish new instruments of work if needed. Our organizations are today in a very difficult position struggling against misery and the poor conditions. Their heavy material losses are not to be replaced and, therefore, these organizations need substantial and urgent help from

103419

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

--4--

abroad. The most important institutions are the following:

A.// ON CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS LINE:

a./ Jewish Congregations of which those in Budapest and about 12 in the big country cities are now already in full activity. About 150 smaller country-congregations are only beginning to reorganize and in more, than 500 country towns and villages Jewish life simply ceased to exist. This mere fact demonstrates the greatness of the task to rebuild Jewish religious life in Hungary.

b./ Training of rabbis and teachers:

Beside the still working JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY of Budapest, there have been several Yeshiboth in the country, which are replaced today by a newly founded institution in Budapest. The JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY has received severe blows during the Nazi and fascist regimes and also during the siége of Budapest. The German occupation-forces used our building as an internment camp, the fascist as a casern. They destroyed the furniture, they robbed the libraries, depriving us of very precious manuscripts and codices. During the siége the building has been partly destroyed.

In the same building was the TEACHERS SEMINARY OF HUNGARIAN JEWRY. All damages of the Theological Seminary have struck also this institution.

In MISKOLC there was an orthodox TEACHERS SEMINARY FOR JEWISH WOMEN, which till today did not begin its work again.

c./ SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL SOCIETIES:

Hungarian Jewry has had world-renowned associations for fostering Jewish sciences, literature and arts. Chief among them is the HEBREW HUNGARIAN LITERARY SOCIETY /Izraelita Magyar Irodalmi Társulat, IMIT/ which beside notably precious scientific publications edited the Hungarian translation of the Bible, a valueless contribution to human culture.

NATIONAL HUNGARIAN HEBREW CULTURAL ASSOCIATION / Országos Magyar Izraelita Kozmuvelődési Egyesület

103420

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NID 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

--5--

OMIKE/specialized in holding lectures, organizing exhibitions of art, in supporting scholars, artists and students of the Universities.

Both these institutions have to fight against very rude conditions today.

On Orthodox line there existed the ASSOCIATION FOR HELPING THE YESHIBOTH / Tomhei Yeshiboth.-Jesivakat Támogató Egyesület/ supporting more than 2000 students of several Yeshiboth and kitchens and colleges.

The UNION OF THE OBSERVERS OF THE SABBATH / SHOMREI SHABBATH- Szombattartok Országos Egyesülete/ represented all interests of the observers of Sabbath in their shops and undertakings.

B./ PRESS.

Before the Nazi occupation Jewish press could appear without any restriction. Several Jewish newspapers weekly, monthly papers and other periodicals/ have been issued, among them famous scientific and literary publications, which have gained acknowledgement all over the world. Even under the Nazi rule there appeared an official weekly paper and a scientific periodical.

There is ~~today~~ no Jewish paper in Hungary at all for the time being, whereas the Allied Control Commission has issued such licences to every other denomination in Hungary, the Jewish denomination till today did not get the permission to publish its own paper. It is to us a deep secret how this can be possible in the age of resurrecting Democracy.

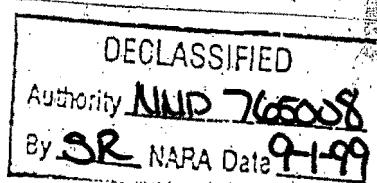
C./CHARITIES.

In almost every town and in Budapest in every district there have been charitable organizations to help and feed the needy and the poor, Womens' Auxiliaries, Welfare Societies, Childrens' Care Institutions, Orphanages, Philanthropist Organizations, Educational Institutions, Hospitals, etc.

All these organizations are unable today to fulfill their noble callings. They, who so liberally distributed help, themselves are in need of urgent help. In the past excellent care was given to the sick in the hospitals of the Jewish communities.

103421

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65



--6--

Although these our efficient and fine institutions continue their work, as they did even in the darkest days of our persecution, nevertheless they could not be up to their very difficult tasks without help from abroad.

Budapest, 5th August. 1945.

103422

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

CHIEF RABBI DR FRANCIS HEVESI.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN HUNGARY.

103423

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Research and Analysis Branch

R & A No. 2027

THE JEWS IN HUNGARY

Description

This report covers the social, political and economic position of the Jews in Hungary prior to the Nazi occupation; the economic discrimination against and expropriation of the Jews under the pro-Nazi government; the subsequent establishment of ghettos and concentration camps followed by mass deportations; the question of Hungarian responsibility and public reaction; Allied and neutral attempts at intervention and rescue. It deals with events through the period ending in September 1944.

Washington  
19 October 1944

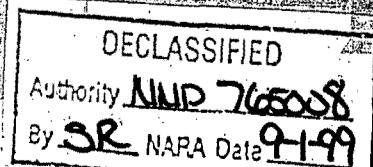
This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 USC 31 and 32, as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

Copy No. 87

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103424

(67700)



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<b>Summary</b>	iii
<b>I. The Jewish Situation in Pre-Occupation Hungary</b>	<b>1</b>
A. Historical Background	2
B. The Situation in the Twentieth Century	4
1. The Economic Position	6
2. Social Stratification	8
3. The Political Position	8
<b>II. The Jewish Situation in Nazi-Occupied Hungary</b>	<b>13</b>
A. Legal Definition of Jews	13
B. Adoption of a "Jewish Badge"	14
C. Limitations of Employment	15
D. Restrictions on Movement	15
E. Economic Discrimination and Expropriation	15
F. Cuts in Food Rations	17
G. Creation of a New Jewish Organization	17
H. Establishment of Camps and Ghettos	17
I. Deportations	19
J. Responsibility	21
K. Public Reaction	23
<b>III. Intervention and Rescue Measures</b>	<b>25</b>
A. The Brandt Affair	25
B. Neutral and Allied Intervention	26
C. The "Horthy Offer"	28
D. Situation in September 1944	29
<b>Appendices:</b>	
I. Jewish Leaders of Hungary	31
II. Jewish Leaders in Exile	33
III. Anti-Semitic Parties in Pre-Occupation Hungary	34
IV. Anti-Semites in Pre-Occupation Hungary	35
V. Leading Anti-Semites in Collaborationist Government	42

103425

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 7605008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84
Entry _____
File _____
Box 65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUMMARY

At the time of Germany's occupation of Hungary ( 19 March 1944 ) the population of that country included almost a million confessing and "racial" Jews --- hitherto the largest and best-treated Jewry in Axis Europe.

For over one thousand years Jews had played an active role in the national existence of Hungary, and by the twentieth century had become completely fused with the life of the country and formed a considerable part of its commercial and professional middle class.

Anti-Semitism began to take root in Hungary in the 1920's following that country's defeat in 1918 with its consequent loss of territory and prestige. Economic competition and the need of the reactionaries for a scapegoat provided the bases for active anti-Semitism during this period.

With the growth of Nazi power and influence in the '30s, the Horthy regime adopted an active anti-Jewish policy both as a means of bartering with Hitler and stealing the thunder from domestic Nazis.

The Hungarian Government, however, did not always follow suggestions from Berlin and maintained a higher degree of political independence than other Nazi satellites. In order to avoid the complete alienation of the Allies, the Horthy regime hesitated at following the Nazi policy to its ultimate goals of deportation, starvation and extermination.

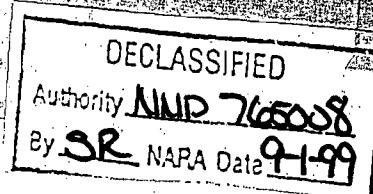
Following the German occupation in 1944, new discriminatory legislation was drafted after the Nazi model. Within the space of weeks the yellow badge was introduced, property confiscated, professions and civil service barred to Jews, enterprises closed down, bank accounts blocked, ghettos and concentration camps established, and, finally, the bulk of Hungarian Jewry deported. The result of these measures has been the expropriation of an estimated \$4,000,000,000 of Jewish property and the deportation of 800,000 Jews, 640,000 apparently to extermination centers.

This report deals with events occurring through the period ending in September 1944.

iii

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103426



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

CONFIDENTIAL

THE JEWS IN HUNGARY

I. THE JEWISH SITUATION IN PRE-OCCUPATION HUNGARY

At the time of the Nazi occupation (1944) Hungary's Jewish population had become the largest in Axis Europe. According to the census of 1930, Hungary had 444,567 Jews, the fifth largest Jewish population on the continent (excluding the USSR), but in the following years its Jewish population climbed in the relative scale, as Jews were killed by the hundreds of thousands in other European countries. At the same time, the number of Jews within Hungary increased as territory containing sizable Jewish populations was annexed from Rumania, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia:

100,000 in Sub-Carpathian Russia (formerly Czechoslovakia)

50,000 in Southern Slovakia (formerly Czechoslovakia)

170,000 in Transylvania (formerly Rumania)

17,000 in the Bacska (formerly Yugoslavia)

Besides these accretions, 20,000 refugees immigrated from Poland, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Slovakia.

In the most important regions under Hungarian control at the end of 1943, Jews represented the following percentages of the population.

Hungary Proper

Transdanubia 2.3 percent

Hungarian Lowland (incl. Budapest) 6.9

Zemplan County 8.5

Szabolcs and Ung Counties 6.5

Szatmar, Ugccsa, Bereg Counties 6.2

New Territories

Southern Slovakia 4.1

Sub-Carpathian Russia 14.1

Transylvania 4.2

Bacska 1.0

Between 1939 and 1943 alone over 1,000,000 Polish and 227,000 Rumanian Jews are reported to have been slain.

CONFIDENTIAL 103427

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765058  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

YEARBOOK OF JEWISH LIFE  
YAHADUT HUNGARIYAH VI MOLTAUTIA HISTORIK

lived in Budapest, where they constituted 20.3 percent of the total population of war-time Hungary. (A.D.) Consequently their role in the Jewish population. Thus Budapest assumed Warsaw's pre-war position as the largest to greater end of his people. (Gond nincs mi lehetsel ezt elmondani mivel nincs)

Jewish community in Europe. Other Hungarian cities

had no negligible Jewish populations either. The following table lists the cities with large Jewish populations included:

<u>City</u>	<u>Jewish Population</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Population</u>
Budapest	11,396	13.0
Miskolc	10,826	19.0
Munkacs	10,500	60.0
Debrecen	10,044	13.0

The average percentage of Jews in the general urban population in 1930 was 14.3 percent; in the rural population, 2.8 percent.

#### A. Historical Background

The Jews of Hungary enjoyed a unique position prior to Hungary's Nazi-style deportation of 400,000, amounting to 100,000. The occupation by the Nazis. On the one hand there existed an elaborate discriminatory legislation that virtually eliminated them from the economic life of the country. At the same time they had become so completely fused with the native population that despite its membership in the Axis, the Hungarian Government was reluctant to adopt the Nazi concept of "racism" with its consequent mass deportations, planned starvation and mass extermination.

The explanation for this anomaly is to be found in the history of the Jews in Hungary, for Jewish settlement in Hungary antedates its conquest by the Hungarians. There is evidence that Jews lived in Hungary as far back as the Roman era, although the bulk of Hungarian Jewry arrived during more recent times.

During the medieval period Hungarian Jews suffered the same disabilities and persecutions as their co-religionists in the rest of Europe; they lived in ghettos, wore yellow badges, and paid "toleration taxes". Despite these handicaps, however, Hungarian Jewry flourished and made itself an integral part of the social and economic life of the country. The Jews finally received full citizenship in 1867. The emancipation edict granted them "the same privileges in the exercise of all civil and political rights as the Christian inhabitants," and repealed "all laws, practices, and decrees which [were] in opposition to this provision."

CONFIDENTIAL 103428

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

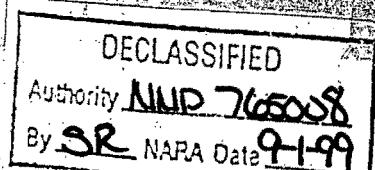
As early as 1855 Jewish religious and educational institutions received annual state subsidies. And in February 1869, the Jewish religious community of Hungary was granted the right to form its own organic statute, and representative organization, to maintain public confessional educational institutions, and to levy specific Jewish community taxes, in the collection of which the state tax collection service would cooperate.

With the beginnings of industrial capitalism in Hungary (during the 1870's), the city of Budapest, as the center of political and economic life, offered many economic opportunities to the Jews. The Hungarian middle class filled the civil service and looked down upon commercial endeavor; the German minority were mainly prosperous farmers; the other minorities (Rumanian, Slovak and Serbian) were economically backward. The Jews as a group in society, were thus in a favored position, for they were already experienced in trade, commerce and banking, and were familiar with economic conditions elsewhere. They came to Budapest in large numbers, mainly from the southern and western counties. The same process took place on a smaller scale in the towns and villages where increased commercial opportunities similarly attracted many Jews.

With this trend toward urbanization, the process of assimilation among the more bourgeois but adherent to orthodoxy and beliefs also quickened. Baptism and intermarriage became fairly common. Up to 1920 statistics on baptisms show a constant increase.

<u>Years</u>	<u>Baptisms</u>
1896-1900	261
1901-1905	420
1906-1907	3650
1919	7,146
1920	1,925
1921	327
1922	499
1923	412
1924	433
1925	458
1928	451
1929	488
1931-1935	753
1936-1940	2,259

1. Arthur Ruppin, The Jews in the Modern World, London, 1934, pp. 329-331. The enormous increase in 1919 was due to the White Terror, many Jews hoping to escape its persecution by baptism. This was possible, since the White Terror was not "racist" in the Hitlerian sense. Jews were not persecuted on account of religion, but only because they were Communists or Socialists.



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

At the same time, a reverse flow was discernible. The conversions away from Christianity to Judaism are shown in the following table:

Year	Number of Jews	Percentage of Population
1919	137	6.2
1920	168	
1921	243	
1922	340	
1923	311	
1924	315	
1925	326	
1928	271	
1929	204	

Due to the relatively large number of conversions to Christianity, as well as to the high rate of intermarriage with Christians and the low birthrate among the Jews, the percentage of Jews in the general population fell from 6.2 percent in 1910 to an estimated 4.5 percent in 1940.

Year	Number of Jews	Percentage of Population
1910	471,355	6.2
1920	473,345	5.9
1930	444,567	5.1
1940 (est.)	420,000	4.5

#### B. The Situation in the Twentieth Century

By the beginning of the twentieth century, the Jews had become completely fused with the life of the country. During the existence of the Dual Monarchy, they constituted the commercial middle class of Hungary, developed its industries and trades, and contributed much to the cultural life of its cities. During the first World War, the Jewish community played its part in the country's sacrifice of life and property -- over 10,000 Jews are reported to have died in combat.

With the defeat of Hungary in October 1918, the country lost three-fourths of its territory and became a more or less homogeneous Magyar state. As a result, its aristocracy and bureaucracy lost their estates and positions in Slovakia, Ruthenia, Croatia and Transylvania. Members of this large dispossessed group were forced to seek economic opportunities in a more restricted geographic area. As a result, competition in the field of commerce was somewhat sharpened, and the Jew began to lose the unique place he had occupied under the Hapsburgs.

- The higher figures for 1922 to 1925 were probably due to the fact that many Jews, baptized in 1919, returned to Judaism.

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

Internal chaos followed Hungary's military collapse. When control of the government was finally won by the reactionaries, known at that time as the "Whites," a wave of anti-Semitism swept the country. Hungarian Jewry was made the scapegoat for the Bolshevik uprising under Bela Kun. Jewish teachers, professors, judges and other public servants were removed or demoted. More than a thousand Jews are known to have perished during this "White Terror."

In 1920 the first numerus clausus law was enacted, limiting the ratio of Jewish students at the universities to their proportion in the total population of the country, i.e., to five percent of the total number of students. With this move as a start, technical anti-Semitism became a feature of Hungarian constitutional life. Even the stabilization of the government by the Regency of Admiral Horthy in 1920 failed to stem the attacks on Jews. Later attempts by the governments of the next fifteen years were more successful, but although anti-Semitism may have waned during this period it remained a permanent weapon in the political arsenal of the Horthy government. The factors making for the continued maintenance of anti-Semitism were:

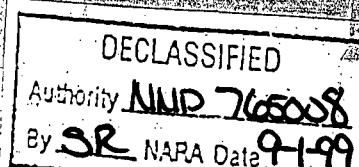
1. The desire of urban German and Catholic middle-class elements in Budapest to take over the economic positions of the "big" Jews.
2. The opposition of the landed gentry to land reform. The popular dissatisfaction that existed had to be appeased and the Jewish minority offered the most readily accessible scapegoat.
3. The fact that anti-Semitism provided a common platform upon which urban reactionaries and landowners could unite.
4. The exploitation of the Bolshevik revolution led by Bela Kun (who was of Jewish extraction) as a justification for the maintenance of a reactionary and totalitarian political trend.

Under the Regency, the Jews officially remained partly excluded from civil service and public education, and were somewhat limited in their commercial activities by the refusal of certain licenses. At the same time, the restrictions were modified under the various premiers. Count Stephen Bethlen (1921-31), for example, suppressed the anti-Jewish disorders. During the administrations of Count Julius Karolyi (1931-1932), and Julius

103431

1. Law No. XXV of 1920.

CONFIDENTIAL



RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

In Gömbös (1932-36), the situation of the Jews improved. Even Gömbös, a former militant anti-Semite, declared, upon assuming the premiership, that he had well reconsidered his attitude toward the Jews, and invited their participation in the life of the nation. A law enacted in 1926, which provided that Jews were to be represented in the Upper House by one reform and one orthodox Rabbi, may be said to be fairly typical of the period. (The political considerations responsible for this trend are outlined under Section 3, (page 8, below).)

1. The Economic Position. In the economic field, however, the Jewish position continued to deteriorate. As former Christian civil servants and aristocrats entered commerce and the free professions, competition in these fields constantly increased. Between 1920 and 1930 the number of gentile physicians in Budapest doubled to reach 5,000 while the number of Jewish doctors rose from 2,100 to only 2,600. During the same period, the proportion of Jews engaged in commerce fell from 45 to 40 percent, although their absolute number rose by nearly 9,000. In 1920, the Jews represented 5.4 percent of the gainfully employed population of Hungary; in 1930, 5.1 percent. This decline was more pronounced in certain occupations:

#### PERCENTAGE OF JEWS

	1920	1930
<u>Law:</u>	49.2	34.9
<u>Medicine:</u>	64.5	54.5
<u>Transportation:</u>	14.5	7.3
<u>Journalism:</u>	49.2	35.3
<u>Education:</u>	27.3	24.7

As a result of this deterioration in the economic position of Hungarian Jewry, the percentages of Jews in each of the principal occupation categories had become by 1930 as follows:

103432

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84
Entry _____
File _____
Box 65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Non-Jews</u>
Trade and Credit (including banking and insurance)	40.0	60.0
Pensionists, rentiers, and house-owners	9.1	90.9
Public service and free professions	8.9	91.1
Industry	8.3	91.7
Transportation	3.7	96.3
Day labor	1.4	98.6
Domestic service	1.0	99.0
Mining	0.8	99.2
Agriculture	0.3	99.7
Other occupations	5.7	94.3

Within some of these categories of occupations, the distribution of Jews in 1930 was as follows:

	<u>Percentage</u>	
	<u>Jews</u>	<u>Non-Jews</u>
Trade and Credit:		
Independent	45.6	44.4
Office workers and salesmen	47.6	42.8
Physical workers	29.1	70.9
Industry:		
Independent	11.0	89.0
Office employees, engineers, etc.	33.4	66.6
Physical workers	5.6	94.4
Independent (laboral) Occupations:		
Independent (professionals)	34.2	65.8
Office employees	7.4	92.6
Physical workers (office boys, etc.)	3.1	96.9

It is thus apparent that participation of Jews in independent undertakings and white-collar work was obviously far greater than their percentage of the general population (approximately 5 percent), even in the physical labor categories they were also represented by sizable proportions.

1. The high percentage of Jews in law and medicine was counter-balanced by their smaller participation in public service, engineering, etc.

103433

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NAPA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

2. Social Stratification. In 1920 and 1930 the Jewish and Christian populations were represented in the following social classes:

Distribution Among Jews

	1920 Percentage	1930 Number	1930 Percentage
Middle Class	45.9	91,840	43.1
Intellectuals	22.9	53,473	25.1
Laborers	31.2	67,917	31.8
	100.0	100.0	

Distribution Among Christians

	1920 Percentage	1930 Number	1930 Percentage
Middle Class	41.8	1,670,000	44.1
Intellectuals	4.9	199,475	5.3
Laborers	53.3	1,916,187	50.6
	100.0	100.0	

3. The Political Position. Despite the economic tension, the political position of the Jews steadily improved until 1933. The reasons for this rested outside the Jewish community itself. Hungary continued to be chiefly concerned with the recovery of lost territories, in which several hundred thousand Jews lived. They were Hungarian in language and culture, and in Transylvania, Slovakia and Sub-Carpathian Russia, they maintained a substantial Hungarian press. Consequently it was apparent to the government that it would be poor strategy to alienate this large group by the actual practice of anti-Semitism.

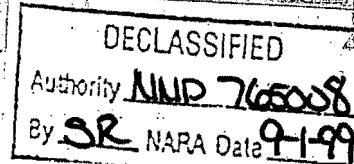
Meanwhile, Nazi influence was beginning to make itself felt in Hungary. And when Hungarian Nazis were elected to the parliament in 1936, it was apparent that Nazi propaganda was showing results. Nazi newspapers, clubs and front organizations, with obvious ties in Berlin, mushroomed all over the country. The weak attitude of the Premier, Kalman Daranyi, moreover, was thoroughly exploited by the Germans.

After 1938, the Horthy regime refurbished its anti-Semitic policy for use as a means of barter with Hitler, hoping that anti-Jewish legislation would assuage the Nazis. The first fruit of this policy was the anti-Jewish law of May 1938 which provided for a gradual reduction over a period of five years of the participation of the Jews in the economic

103434

1. Law Nr. XV of 1938: "Act for the More Efficient Protection of Economic and Social Balance."

CONFIDENTIAL



RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

65

and cultural life of the nation to 20 percent. The chief aim of this kind of legislation was to weaken the position of the domestic Nazis by appropriating the anti-Semitic plank of their platform. This cost the ruling group nothing; on the other hand, it deprived the domestic Nazis of their *raison d'être*.

Upon the Nazi seizure of Austria, the prestige and influence of Hitlerism grew apace and was not without effect on Hungary. Premier Bella Imredy, openly acknowledged his approval and support of the Nazis. Imredy was, however, ousted on the suspicion that he was of part-Jewish origin. Under his successor, Count Paul Teleki, the Nazis made considerable headway in the parliamentary elections of 1939 and returned thirty members.

Teleki's cabinet, although hostile to German encroachment in Hungarian politics, on 4 May 1939, adopted a second and far more sweeping anti-Jewish law, which had been drafted by the preceding Imredy cabinet under the growing pressure of Germany and the domestic Nazis.

Aimed at expressing the anti-Semitic policy of the government, and yet placating the Church in its concern regarding communicants and converts of Jewish extraction, the new law emerged as one of the most complicated documents in the vast field of anti-Jewish legislation.

Amplifying the earlier anti-Jewish law, the new act provided for the reduction or exclusion of Jews from Hungarian economic life. Jewish judges of the royal courts were to be retired by 1 January 1940; Jewish teachers were to be removed by 1 January 1943. Within five years after enactment of the law, all licenses held by Jews for the sale of monopoly products were to be revoked; in certain commercial operations Jewish employees were to be reduced gradually to a 12 percent quota. Jews were not excluded from law, medicine, engineering, the theatre, journalism, dentistry and handicraft; but no vacancies in these pursuits were to be filled by Jews until their proportion in each was reduced to 6 percent. Furthermore, the number of Jewish college and university students was to be

1. Imredy is said to have had a Jewish grandmother and a Jewish great grandfather. However, after the Nazi occupation, he was found not to be Jewish by a special investigation commission.  
2. Law Nr. IV. of 1939.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103435

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

reduced at once to 6 percent, while Jewish technology students were limited to 12 percent. The law also empowered the authorities to compel the Jews to turn over or to lease their real estate to non-Jeys. No trade licenses were to be issued in any town or village before the percentage of Jewish licenses in that town or village became less than 6 percent of the total. Over forty-three thousand Jews were arrested and tried during 1940 alone for violating the various clauses of this complex legislation. Of these, however, only four hundred were imprisoned and the remainder fined a total of nine million pengö.

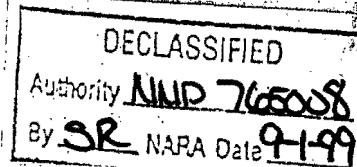
In June 1940, the Budapest Jewish Community published a preliminary estimate of the effects of this second Jewish Law upon Jews in Hungary proper. According to this estimate, over 140,000 persons, including dependents, were affected. White collar workers, salesmen and other commercial representatives, professionals, and holders of special monopoly and trade licenses were slated for statutory elimination from economic life. The total number involved represented 31.5 percent of the Jewish population of "Trianon Hungary". The percentage of those deprived of livelihoods in all of Hungary may be put at between 45 and 50 percent, which would mean that some four hundred thousand Jews in Hungary were without subsistence in 1943.

Despite strong opposition by both Social Democrats and the Church, the Nazi line was followed in other fields. Labor camps for Jews were established. In May 1942, Premier Kallay declared in parliament that every able-bodied Jew would be sent to a labor camp. This threat never fully carried out, but there were some 60,000 to 150,000 Jews (so widely do the reports vary) between the ages of 18 and 60 engaged in compulsory work in labor camps and battalions under military command. These persons were used for general construction work and fortifications within Hungary and on the Russian front, where they are reported to have been placed at the disposal of the Organization Todt. Those who worked in Hungary are said to have been relatively well-treated, whereas the latter were subject to the usual German ill-treatment and were exposed to the dangers of a battle front.

1. Cf. OSS CID # 28759, 15 February 1944; OSS CID # 26480, 31 December 1943; OSS CID # 29061, 25 February 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103436



RG 84  
 Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Box 65

As Hungary drew closer to the Reich, the tempo of anti-Semitic action was increased. In January 1940, a decree of the Minister of Education dismissed all Jewish teachers immediately, although according to the Law of 1939 they were to be retired gradually until their complete disappearance in 1943. On 16 November 1940, the Minister of Commerce decreed that only those Jewish tavern and innkeepers who employed gentile help would be permitted to keep their licenses until the final date provided by the 1939 law. Between January and April 1940, Jewish newsdealers, traveling salesmen and peddlers lost their licenses. In October 1940, the Hungarian parliament, upon the return of Transylvania with its large Jewish population, passed a law depriving Jews of representation in the Upper House. On 15 May 1941, a decree provided that a Jewish employee called into military service could be replaced only by a gentile. In

1942, Jews were excluded from the army, and, by another decree, from the civil service. Marriages between gentiles and Jews were banned in August 1941 under pain of five years' imprisonment for both parties. Heavy penalties were also fixed for extramarital relations between gentiles and Jews.

The Hungarian Government, despite this mass/anti-Jewish legislation, did not always follow advices from Berlin. With the possible exception of Finland, it maintained a far greater measure of political independence than the other satellites of the Reich. The Hungarian Government, moreover, with an eye to the deteriorating military fortunes of the Reich and the necessity of impressing the Allies, adopted no official policy of physical violence.

2  
With one exception, Hungary, before the occupation, did not follow the Nazi policy of mass deportation, planned starvation and mass extermination. Prior to the occupation there were no ghettos and no yellow

1. They were required to render labor service under Army command instead.
2. The darkest spot on the Hungarian record before the occupation occurred in July 1941, when 18,500 Jews who could not produce birth certificates authenticating their Hungarian citizenship were deported to German-occupied Eastern Galicia. Here they were turned over to the German Army and according to eye-witness accounts, 11,500 were slaughtered by Ukrainian bands under German command. The remaining 7,000 were hastily returned by order of the Hungarian Army command.

CONFIDENTIAL

103437

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

badges in Hungary, nor was there any indication that these trappings of the New Order would have been introduced by the Hungarian Government of its own free will.

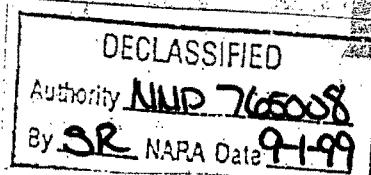
As a result, the persecuted Jews of the neighboring Axis lands looked upon Hungary as a place of refuge. Some 3,000 Polish, 6,000 Slovak, 2,500 Croatian, and 2,000 German and Austrian Jews, among others, managed to enter the country illegally and find refuge. These refugees later attracted the attention of the American Government which participated in efforts to evacuate them. The German press even made loud demands that Hungary cease being a "Jewish paradise" and threatened action if a more satisfactory line were not taken. Hungary, however, although not a Nazi hell, was far indeed from being a "paradise" for the Jews. Economic restrictions deprived many of all means of livelihood; Jews were largely declassed and lost their political rights.

In summary, it may be said that, prior to the occupation of 19 March 1944, the policy of the Hungarian Government toward the Jews had been one of opportunism. On one hand, the Horthy regime sought to placate the Nazis -- German and domestic --(as well as help the urban reactionaries to their share of plunder) -- by adopting anti-Jewish legislation; while, on the other, it endeavored to appease the United Nations by avoiding large-scale physical violence.

1. This, of course, does not overlook the medieval period. See p. 3.  
2. OSS CID # 30059, 15 March 1944; OSS CID # 29755, 7 March 1944.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103438



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

## II. THE JEWISH SITUATION IN NAZI-OCCUPIED HUNGARY

The German occupation of Hungary on 19 March 1944 ended the period of partial toleration for Hungarian Jewry. In general, the pattern of anti-Jewish measures introduced by the Sztojay government was merely a repetition of German anti-Semitic legislation since 1933. But, while in Germany the political, economic and physical liquidation of the Jews was spread out over a period of ten years, in Hungary the same measures were crammed into a few weeks.

During the first days of the occupation the stage was set for future anti-Jewish activities. The Hungarian press and radio laid down a continuous barrage of broadcasts and articles to "prove" the Jewish responsibility for the war, for the economic crisis, for social discrepancies, and for all national and international ills in general. Ten days were allotted for these necessary preliminaries and on 30 March the first new anti-Jewish measures were published.

### A. Legal Definition of Jews

The first of these decrees, defining who was to be considered a Jew, accepted as its basis section 9 of Article XV of the Law for Race-Protection of August 1941. According to the purely negative definition of the 1941 law only such persons who have not more than one Jewish-born grandparent were declared "non-Jews." Persons with two Jewish-born and two Christian-born grandparents may be considered as non-Jews, provided that they were born as Christians or were baptized before reaching the age of seven. There were, of course, further ramifications of these categories. This earlier legislation, enacted under the Teleki government, was designed to prevent mixed marriages between Jews and non-Jews, and its definition was applicable only in cases of marriage or sexual intercourse between Jews and gentiles. It had no bearing whatsoever on the political and economic rights of Jews which were regulated by the first and second Jewish laws, enacted under Daranyi and Imredy.

After Hungary had entered the war (June 1941), the definition of the Law for Race-Protection was adopted as the basis for enforcing a ruling that Jews were not to serve in the army, but were required to render compulsory military labor service instead. The laws of 1944 proceeded to extend the restrictions.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

103439

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NWD 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

According to an official statement of 5 May 1944, the category of the half-Jews was further limited by establishing two categories of half-Jews who are to be considered as non-Jews:

1. Half-Jews whose Jewish parent was of Christian faith at the time of marriage are for all purposes considered as non-Jews.
2. Half-Jews whose Jewish parent had never been baptized or had been baptized only after the birth of the half-Jew in question are considered as non-Jews provided that they themselves were baptized before they reached the age of seven. Their acceptance as non-Jews, however, becomes invalid if they are, or have been, married to a partner of partly or fully Jewish origin.

This amplification allows those of the first category to be considered as non-Jews even if married to persons of Jewish origin. The second category, on the other hand, is still restricted by that stipulation.

By the supplement of 15 May 1944 exemptions are allowed only for holders of high military distinctions, severe war casualties, and those individuals who received recognition from the government for their "exemplary attitude" in the counter-revolutionary movements of 1919.

B. Adoption of a "Jewish Badge"

Simultaneously with these acts, the government published a decree according to which any one considered a Jew according to the above definitions was compelled to wear a six-pointed yellow star, four inches in size. Violators of this order were subject to fine and imprisonment up to six months. On 5 April, the day the order went into effect, the Official Gazette (Budapesti Kozlony) published a list of those persons not required to wear the yellow star. These included: 1. priests, monks, nuns, deacons and deaconesses of the Christian denominations; 2. wives, widows and children of those who were exempt on account of high military honors; 3. widows and orphans of this war; 4. foreign nationals living in Hungary; 5. husbands or wives already belonging to a Christian religion if their wives or husbands are not Jews; widows of non-Jews provided they already belong to a Christian religion. Exemption in these latter cases applies only if the children born of these marriages did not belong to the Jewish faith.

CONFIDENTIAL

103440

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

C. Limitations on Employment

Two other significant decrees on the German model were also promulgated on 30 March. The first of these prohibits the employment of non-Jewish domestic servants in any household which has a Jewish member. The second decree provides for the dismissal of all Jews from the civil services, municipal administration, public corporations, and public works. Jewish lawyers and notaries public were to cancel their membership in the Chamber of Lawyers by 31 May, and Jewish members of the Press, Theater, and Film Chambers had to resign by 30 April.

D. Restrictions on Movement

On 5 April, the first day on which the Jews were compelled to wear the yellow star in Hungary, steps were taken to control their movements. The decree, as published in the Official Gazette, provided that Jews could not use automobiles; could not travel on trains, boats, or busses without written permission from the authorities; could not be given permission to travel on express trains or in dining cars; and were forbidden to appear in, or attend, theatrical performances.

The travel ban had the effect of preventing Jews from evacuating from the vicinity of possible bombing targets. This purpose was confirmed by Major-General Voros, Government Commissioner for Evacuation, who stated explicitly on 7 April that Jews were forbidden to emigrate from Budapest. In connection with the evacuation of children from the capital, László Bodó, the deputy-mayor of Budapest, informed the public by posters on 12 April that Jewish children were excluded from the evacuation.

E. Economic Discrimination and Expropriation

The elimination of Jews from economic life was decreed on 6 April. Twenty-five percent of the Jewish employees were to be dismissed by 30 April, a further twenty-five percent by 31 May, and the other fifty percent were allowed to continue in their positions for another six

1. Pester Lloyd, 31 March 1944.
2. Budapesti Kozlony, 31 March 1944.
3. Magyar Isidor Lapja, 31 March 1944.
4. OSS CID #85138R, 21 July 1944.
5. OSS CID #91919, 26 June 1944.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103441

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765058  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

months (until 1 October 1944) on condition that application by their employer was granted by the Government Commissioner. In pursuance of this decree all Jews who still hold leading posts in the management of Hungarian banks, industrial and commercial enterprises were eliminated as of 26 April.

On 15 April, the Sztojay government took another step on the German pattern. Every Jew was obliged to declare all his real estate and personal property, provided its value exceeded ten thousand pingo, with an addition of three thousand pingo for each member of the family. As the basis for evaluation, the obviously elastic concept of "market value" was used. All funds in excess of three thousand pingo, gold and platinum articles, jewelry and precious stones were to be confiscated. All bank accounts were blocked, and only a maximum of one thousand pingo per month could be paid out to Jews from these sources, according to an addition to this decree published on 5 May.

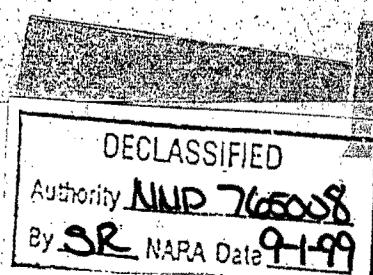
The next step was taken on 20 April. The Minister of Trade and Transport ordered the closing down of all Jewish-owned shops and the confiscation of stocks and inventories. According to the terms of this decree all Jewish businessmen were compelled to close their establishments immediately and to report them to the proper authority. The owner of the business and his employees were to enter such a closed establishment only to take inventory. The owner was to continue paying his Christian employees, but was forbidden to sell or transfer his stocks or installations. If the stocks were perishable, they were to be handed over to Christian shopkeepers or cooperatives within four days. Where the business was of national importance, it was to be continued under new Christian management.

As a result of these measures, the Jewish population of Hungary is reported by the Budapest press to have lost twenty billion pingo (approximately four billion dollars). Of the thirty thousand stores and shops in Budapest alone, some eighteen thousand owned by Jews were closed and their owners left destitute.

1. Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 19 July 1944.
2. OSS CID #86231R, 26 July 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103442



RG 84  
 Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Box 65

On 26 April the puppet government, again acting upon German inspiration, required all Jews living in Budapest and the surrounding area to surrender their ration cards for sugar, fats and meat.

New ration cards were then issued which restricted the food allotted them, and forbade them to purchase butter, eggs, poppy seeds, paprika, rice and all meats except beef.

#### G. Creation of a New Jewish Organization

On 21 April the Official Gazette published a decree establishing the Association of Hungarian Jews (which bears a strong resemblance to the Nazi-created Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland). The Association replaced all the various Jewish organizations dissolved by order of the Ministry of the Interior and its primary function, according to Magyarorszag, was "to see that the anti-Jewish laws are scrupulously carried out." The following leaders of the Jewish community were appointed to the executive committee of the organization:

Samu Stern, President of the Jewish Community of Budapest

Erno Peto, Vice-chairman of the Jewish community

Karoly Wilhelm, Administrator of the Jewish community of Budapest

Dr. Bela Berend, Rabbi of Budapest

Rabbi Samu Kahan Frankl, Chairman of the Orthodox Jewish congregation of Budapest

Lipot Freudiger de Obuda, Chairman of the Conservative Jewish community of Budapest

Andor Tork, author and journalist

Dr. Jozsef Nagy, chief physician of the Jewish Hospital

Dr. Janos Gabor, legal advisor of the Jewish Community of Budapest

Undoubtedly as the result of powerful Catholic pressure, a separate organization was established for baptized Jews on 6 July.

#### H. Establishment of Camps and Ghettos

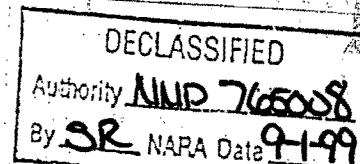
With the announcement of the government order of 31 May regulating the housing of Jews, the situation of the Jews in Hungary rapidly approached its climax. As a preliminary measure, all flats and dwellings in Budapest were to be registered by their tenants. During the spring of 1944 an increasing stream of county and municipal orders poured forth, each seeking to outdo the other in anti-Jewish housing legislation. A few examples of this legislation taken from the Hungarian press (1944) follow:

25 April -- the Jews were to be expelled from Munkacs (Mukacs) and Ungvar (Uzhored) Hungarian towns with large Jewish populations; the

1. Pesti Hirlat, 23 April 1944.
2. Cited in Pest, 13 May 1944 (News Digest 1457).
3. Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 8 July 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103443



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

same measures were to be taken in Kassa. (Kosice)

29 April -- The mayor and police of Szabadka (Subotica) fixed the district in which the town's 4,300 Jews could live. On the average, four Jews would be lodged in each room. Every Szabadka Jew had to leave his present home by 5 May. They were forbidden to remove stoves, electrical equipment, and blackout equipment from their houses, and were required to submit a list of their stored furniture.

The Ujvidék (Nový Sad) Jews were to be moved to Szabadka, the Tisza-line Jews to Szeged, and the Danube-line to Baja. Altogether 2,000 Jews were to be moved to Szabadka, which would then have a population of 6,300 Jews living in a segregated district.

30 April -- The Jews of Nagykanizsa were moved into a ghetto surrounded by barbed wire. Jews may only leave the ghetto when taken to work.

2 May -- In Miskolc thirteen thousand Jews were placed in a ghetto. During the early part of May ghettos were to be set up in Szeged and Ujpest. In the latter town, the ghetto was situated in the industrial area.

3 May -- A fenced-in ghetto was set up in Nagyvárad. The ghetto was to be used by thirty thousand Jews and their resettlement was to take four days. Jews could leave the ghetto only between nine and ten o'clock.

12 May -- A ghetto in Pécs was set up near the main railway station for the accommodation of 3,400 Jews. Baptized Jews were to receive a special place in the ghetto. Jewish doctors could practice only in the ghetto.

15 May -- Roughly sixty thousand Jews in the Pest district were being settled in ghettos in twenty-two communes. This measure was to be concluded on 30 May. It was decreed further that Jews from communities of over ten thousand inhabitants should be settled elsewhere.

17 May -- According to the Berliner Börsen Zeitung, 320,000 Jews living in areas east of the Tisza had been taken to ghettos or camps.

The various items reporting the concentration of Jews in ghettos indicate that these measures have assumed two general forms:

1. All Jews living in communities with a population of ten thousand or less were forced to leave their homes and could take with them

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103444

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

belongings weighing not more than fifty kilograms and funds not exceeding fifty pengo". They were forcibly transported to some larger city with an established ghetto, or if none were available, to an assembly camp.

2. Jews living in the larger cities were rounded up and confined to special districts in ghettos. According to the press reports, there was no attempt at uniformity in the carrying out of these measures in the various parts of the country. In Kassa, for example, all Jews were expelled from the city and a camp was set up for them outside the city area proper. At Sataljaujhely on the other hand, the ghetto was set up inside the town and included fifteen thousand Jews who had been transferred from smaller localities in the county. More generally, however, the ghetto was established in the city's industrial area, near the railway yards or other military targets.

With respect to Budapest with its three hundred thousand Jewish inhabitants, no attempt was made to establish an enclosed ghetto. Instead the apartment houses of the capital were designated as either "Jewish" or "Christian" depending upon which group occupied a majority of the apartments.<sup>1</sup> Jews were to vacate "Christian" houses, and Christians were to move from "Jewish" buildings. Another general principle adopted was that "a Jewish family has the right to only one room."<sup>2</sup> Thus if a four-room apartment were occupied by a Jewish family, three other Jewish families were to be settled in the apartment. It is reliably reported that this checkerboard housing pattern was adopted with the definite aim of preventing Allied air raids on the capital. The belief was said to be that if a separate Jewish quarter were established, only the non-Jewish portion of the city would be bombed and the ghetto spared, whereas under the system adopted it was hoped that the Allies would be loath to bomb the city. A similar reason is said to have impelled the location in other cities of ghettos near industrial areas, railroad yards, etc.

#### I. Deportations

The stage was now set for the logical culmination of the program—the deportation and subsequent extermination of Hungarian Jewry. At the

1. Pest, 13 June 1944.  
2. Magyarorszag, 13 June 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103445

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

time of the German occupation there were in Hungary about eight hundred thousand confessing Jews and some two hundred thousand Christians defined as Jews by the decree of 31 March.

Following the concentration of Jews in various camps and ghettos reports of deportation of Jews began to leak out of Hungary. Crammed freight cars were said to be discharging their human cargo at various extermination centers. At first these reports from Polish and Jewish underground sources were generally disregarded in view of the vigorous denials of the Hungarian government.

The complete story, however, begins to emerge from detailed reports of Swiss and Swedish officials who have left Hungary recently, International Red Cross representatives in Hungary, members of Polish, Slovak and Jewish resistance movements, and from other reliable secret sources.

Apparently the first wave of large-scale deportations began about 15 May and lasted until the middle of June. During this period alone, some four hundred thousand Hungarian Jews were deported. This group included virtually the entire Jewish population east of the Danube, especially in eastern, northern, and northeastern Hungary. This first series of deportations reliably reported to have included:

Approximately one hundred and thirty thousand from Sub-Carpathia, mainly from the towns of Beregszász, Felsővisó, Huszt, Nagyszollos, Maramarossziget, Munkács and Ungvar.

Some ninety thousand in Transylvania, primarily from Beszterce, Déz, Kolozsvar, Marosvásárhely, Nagybanya, Nagyvárad and Szászregen.

Many from Kassa, Gyöngyös, Sátoraljaújhely and Sarospatak.

Approximately seventy-five thousand from the trans-Tisza region, mainly from Kisvárda, Mátészalka, Nagykároly, Nyíregyháza and Szatmarnemeti.

1. OSS CID #78792S, 9 June 1944; and Source S, 25 May 1944.

2. Source S, 24 June 1944.

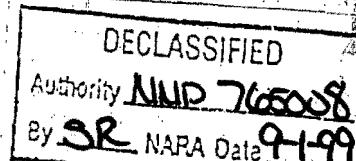
3. Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 25 June 1944.

4. Source S, 17 June 1944.

5. Source S, 24 June 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103446



RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

Some twenty thousand from certain towns in southern Hungary, including Baja, Nagykanizsa, Ujvidek, and Szabadka. Some 30,000

Prior to their deportation, these Jews were held in primitive  
quarters for periods of two to four weeks. Living conditions in these  
camps are said to defy all description. The Jews were herded together  
without regard to age, sex or health; food, clothing and water were in-  
adequate; outbreaks of typhus were not uncommon.

From those camps the deportees were loaded into freight cars  
(sixty to eighty to a car), the doors were nailed shut and then hauled  
off to Poland. En route the lack of food, water and sanitary facilities

is reported to have caused numerous deaths, but the bodies were never  
removed from the cars.

The number deported daily has been reliably estimated at twelve  
thousand: seven thousand were shipped via Sub-Carpathia, five thousand  
through Slovakia. There is little doubt that the majority of these  
Hungarian Jews were being shipped to the extermination centers of  
Birkenau and Auschwitz as well as similar establishments in eastern  
Poland. There is considerable evidence of their arrival at these  
places and the subsequent extermination of large numbers of them.

#### J. Responsibility

The problem of assessing the relative responsibility of Hungarian and German authorities for the deportations and other anti-Jewish measures is as difficult as it is important. The collaborationist

Hungarian Government has steadily maintained its innocence through the  
use of protests, newsmagazines and other channels of  
the media of the press, radio and diplomatic channels. These protesta-  
tions have emphasized two distinct points:

1. The Jews have been neither deported nor harmed. Any Jews who  
have left the country have gone as foreign workers to the Reich where  
they receive equal treatment with other workers.
2. If atrocities have been committed, they were entirely the work  
of the Germans and are unknown to the Hungarian authorities.

1. OSS CID #91919, 26 June 1944.
2. OSS CID #91919R, 26 June 1944.
3. OSS CID #89575, 27 July 1944.
4. OSS CID #78792S, 9 June 1944.
5. Source S, 24 June 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103447

DECLASSIFIED	84
Authority NND 765008	
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99	

RG \_\_\_\_\_  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

The first of these arguments was evidenced in an address by Lajos Szasz, the Minister of Industry in the Sztojay government, in which he stated, inter alia:

Nobody is aiming at the extermination or vexation of the Jews. None of the government's regulations gives any indication of such aims, which are unworthy of Hungarians. The Jewish problem cannot be solved by anti-Semitism based on hatred. We shall be very glad when the unfortunate people of Ahasuerus find a country and build up a state far from our borders.

Similarly, on 26 June 1944, in reply to an American note of inquiry regarding the treatment of Jews in Hungary (transmitted through the Swiss Government), the Sztojay government stated:

As defeatist propaganda and agitation of the Jews became more and more perceptible in this decisive phase of the war and in order to prevent repetition of 1918-1919, the government was obliged to eliminate on an increased scale the influence of the Jews. They were consequently separated from the rest of the population and put to more useful work, either in the country itself or abroad. In doing so the government and its functionaries did not fail to consider the laws of humanity and justice. If individual cases of injustice occurred, they were always due to sporadic acts of some subordinates who were responsible in each case.

Numerous Jews have been placed at the disposal of the German government as workers as was the case for years of tens of thousands of workers of Hungarian nationality and Christian faith. Treatment of these Jews is the same as that accorded other workers in work camps.

The other line of defense is more evident in a statement of 11 July 1944 by Bela Imredy:

Contrary to the alarming news spread abroad, not a single drop of Jewish blood has been shed in Hungary by Hungarian authorities or by any Hungarian hand.

This comment indicates that the Hungarians will attempt to argue that the Jewish purge has been carried out "despite" rather than "with the cooperation of" the Hungarian government and its officials. Similarly, Baron Thierry, Counsellor of the Hungarian Legation at Ankara, on 8 August 1944, personally declared to the War Refugee Board representative there, that there had been no persecution and maltreatment of the Jews in Hungary and that Hungarian authorities only assisted in the deportations in a routine way and not upon their own initiative.

1. Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 5 June 1944.
2. Source S, 5 August 1944.
3. Magyarorszag, 13 July 1944.
4. Source S, 10 August 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

103448

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

Along the same line, the Agence Telegraphique Suisse reports:

Well informed circles in Budapest categorically deny that the Hungarian authorities have maltreated or killed Jews.

The Hungarian authorities have placed Jewish manpower at the disposal of the Reich in order to meet this wish of the German ally in the interest of the joint conduct of the war without prejudicing Hungarian war production.

Budapest therefore declares that it is a question not of deportation, but of normal transfer of workers. The part played by the Hungarian authorities is limited to the technical aspects of recruiting.

While it is true that over-all Jewish policy is determined by

Gestapo agents in Hungary, headed by Standartenfuehrer Eichmann, it appears clear that:

1. The establishment of concentration camps and the brutal treatment of the inmates were the work of Andor Jaross, the former Hungarian Minister of Interior.

2. The provincial concentration camps were staffed and supervised by Hungarian personnel in collaboration with SS advisors.

3. The ruthless deportations were carried out by the Hungarian gendarmerie under orders of Baky and Endre, two Hungarian anti-Semites, then in the Ministry of Interior.

4. The most bitter opponents of the Jews in Hungary are reliably reported to be the native Hungarian Nazis and the Volksdeutsche.

5. Most of the members of the government, from Admiral Horthy on down, had been vociferous and active anti-Semites long before the German occupation.

It may be said that although Germany supplied the original inspiration for the current anti-Jewish atrocities in Hungary, the collaborationist regime has carried them out with such enthusiasm and thoroughness as to merit an equal share in the guilt.

#### K. Public Reaction

The general reaction of the Hungarian population to the government's anti-Semitic measures is difficult to characterize. On the one hand, there is evidence that large sections of the Hungarian intelligentsia and the lower middle class, in particular, have accepted the

1. News Digest 1500.
2. Source S, 27 July 1944.

103449

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority NND 765008	
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99	

RG 84  
 Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Box 65

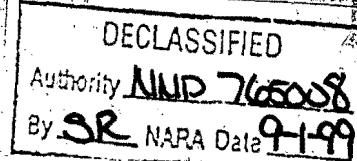
anti-Jewish propaganda. There exists ample evidence in the Hungarian press of the legal action taken against various elements in the population who sought to enrich themselves by outraging the government in their zeal to expropriate the Jews by robbery and murder. Similarly, there are reliable reports that the Hungarian gendarmerie has been prone to abuse the Jews even more than the Gestapo.

On the other hand, there are numerous reports of Hungarian assistance to Jewish fellow citizens. In the city of Nagyvarad alone, 2,004 Christians were prosecuted for having in their possession property entrusted to them by the Jewish inhabitants of the city prior to their departure. It may be said that there is no active resistance to the government's anti-Semitic measures. A certain degree of passive resistance, however, may be indicated by the arrests for aiding Jews to procure false baptismal certificates and forged identity papers, concealing Jewish property to avoid confiscation, and other similar stratagems.

1. OSS CID #91919R, 26 June 1944.
2. Source S, 19 June 1944.
3. OSS CID #91760R, 14 August 1944. It is well to remember however, that this was not always done out of altruistic motives.

CONFIDENTIAL

103450



RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~INTERVENTION AND RESCUE MEASURES~~

After nearly four years of Nazi domination of most of Europe, the world was shocked by the sudden and brutal deportation of two million Polish Jews from their homes in the Warsaw ghetto. At the same time, the Jews of Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, and Yugoslavia had been liquidated; and most of the Jewish population of Holland, Belgium, and France had been sent to the "death camps" of Eastern Europe. The fate of all these millions of European Jews had elicited relatively slight notice from a world more interested in the larger issue of the war.

The Nazi occupation of Hungary and the obvious consequences for its Jewish population soon began to draw the world's attention to Central Jewry, however, attracted the attention of the entire world. The King of Sweden, the Pope, the President, Congress, and the State Department of the United States, the International Red Cross, and the Government of Switzerland all interceded with the Hungarian Government; various neutral and allied powers, as well as innumerable private agencies, sought to ransom the Jews of Hungary or even to spirit them out of the country.

A. The Brandt Affair

One of the most bizarre developments of the Jewish situation in Hungary was the so-called "Brandt Affair". On 19 May, 1944 a Wehrmacht plane arrived in Istanbul from Vienna carrying two passengers—Joel Brandt, the Budapest representative of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and Andrew Gyorgy, a Hungarian Gestapo agent. This pair bore the following offer from high Gestapo officials in Budapest to Jewish leaders in Palestine, Great Britain and the United States, and to high Allied authorities:

As an alternative to complete annihilation of all Jews remaining in Hungary and the neighboring areas of Central Europe, and to those in Rumania, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Poland, the Nazis were willing to evacuate five hundred thousand Jews to Spain and Portugal (although not, as they specifically stated, to Palestine). In return, they required delivery of 10,000 trucks and certain quantities of tea, coffee, cocoa and soap. As an act of good faith, they were prepared, once the offer had been accepted in principle, to release the first lot of five to ten thousand Jews before receipt of the corresponding consideration. They were also prepared to exchange Jews against German prisoners of war. If the offer were rejected,

1. Source S, 7 June 1944.

2. Source S, 9 June 1944.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

103451

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

they would proceed with their program of wholesale liquidation. The emissary had to return to Budapest within a fortnight from 19 May 1944.

As a further incentive, the Nazis announced their willingness to guarantee that the trucks would not be used on the western front.

This combination of blackmail and political warfare was subject to various interpretations. It was viewed as:

1. An attempt to split the United Nations by arousing Russian suspicions of the Western Powers' willingness to deal with the common enemy;
2. A preliminary, if accepted in principle, to further barter deals to obtain a "soft" peace or immunity from criminal prosecution for high Nazi officials;
3. An instrument of psychological warfare to stir up suspicions and ill feelings among various Jewish and non-Jewish groups, depending upon its acceptance or rejection.

This offer was ultimately rejected by the Allies. The Germans were informed (through the Swiss government) that the United Kingdom and the United States would be willing to cooperate in the transfer of Jews from Axis to Allied and neutral territory but only with due regard for military necessities.

#### B. Neutral and Allied Intervention

The liquidation of a considerable portion of Hungary's Jewish population, from the very outset, was more widely publicized by the international press than the more brutal extermination of over 2,000,000 Polish Jews or those of other Nazi-occupied nations. A wave of indignation swept the world. Partly as a result of this indignation and the pressure of various Jewish organizations, a series of significant representations were made to the Hungarian Government by Allied and neutral powers. These were:

1. The United States note to the Hungarian Government.<sup>3</sup>
  2. The King of Sweden's appeal to Admiral Horthy.<sup>4</sup>
  3. The representations of the Vatican.<sup>5</sup>
  4. The intercession of the International Red Cross.<sup>6</sup>
- 103452**
1. Source S, 7 July 1944.
  2. Source S, 5 August 1944.
  3. Source S, 5 August 1944 contains the text.
  4. Text in Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 11 August 1944.
  5. Texts in Source S, 15 July 1944. The Swedish and Vatican representations, although significant and effective, are not treated here because they were fully examined in the general press.
  6. Texts in Source S, 12 August 1944.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84
Entry _____
File _____
Box 65

Although the least publicized, there is little doubt that the unprecedented action taken by the United States Government in addressing any enemy has been the most decisive. The mere fact that the note was addressed to and answered by the Sztojay Government and not by the Regent alone justifies such a conclusion.

In this note verbale, delivered on 26 June, the United States Government requested the Hungarian Government to state its intentions with regard to the Jews. It was couched in the strongest possible terms and President Roosevelt's warning of 24 March was appended to it.

There exist two versions of the answer received from the Hungarian Government. A short version dated 18 July 1944 arrived first. It declared that Hungary would permit the departure of all Jews who have entry permits from another state, Palestine included, and that the Germans had agreed to allow passage of the Jews through occupied areas. A considerably longer version was received on 5 August 1944.<sup>1</sup> It was an elaborate justification of the Hungarian anti-Jewish policy and disclaimed any maltreatment or deportation of the Jews. The note then added that during recent weeks (i.e., since the American note) the situation of the Jews had been improved notably, and gave details of the concessions made to emigration. I. Deportations for work abroad had been temporarily suspended.

2. A number of individual steps had been taken:
  - a. The four to five hundred persons who had obtained Swedish nationality from the King of Sweden could emigrate to Sweden or Palestine, and this might be done in emergency until October. Several thousand Jews were authorized to emigrate to Palestine.
  - b. On the basis of War Refugee Board proposals, the International Red Cross had been authorized to arrange for Jewish children under 10 years of age to go to Palestine.
  - c. The International Red Cross was authorized to assist materially the Jews interned in Hungary.
  - d. The deportation of baptized Jews for work abroad had been stopped.
  - e. The revision of the situation of baptized Jews already sent to work in Germany was under consideration.

1. Source S, 18 July 1944.
2. Source S, 5 August 1944.

103453

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NWD 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

## C. The "Horthy Offer"

As a result of the subsequent representations of the International Red Cross, the Hungarian Government, apparently impressed by threats and exhortations, now sought to atone for its role in the persecution and deportation of Jews. The story goes back to 21 July 1944 when the International Red Cross delegation in Washington reported that the Hungarian authorities had given the IRC Committee in Geneva official assurances that transportation of Jews beyond the Hungarian frontier had ceased and that the IRC was authorized by Hungary to furnish relief to Jews who are interned or in forced residence there. The Committee was furthermore empowered to cooperate in the evacuation of all Jewish children under ten years of age who are in possession of foreign visas. Of prime importance was the concession that all Jews in Hungary holding entrance visas for Palestine would receive permission to leave for that country.<sup>1</sup>

As a consequence of the above offer by Admiral Horthy the United Kingdom and the United States entered upon a prolonged series of negotiations. The British first suggested that the whole matter be turned over to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. Later they proposed that the formal acceptance of the offer be postponed until the two governments could reach an agreement concerning its implementation. The United States discarded both recommendations as "having a niggardly appearance" and involving considerable delay.

A compromise was finally reached and it was announced on 17 August 1944 that the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States "have accepted the offer of the Hungarian Government for the release of Jews, and will make arrangements for the care of such Jews leaving Hungary who reach neutral or United Nations territory; and also that they will find temporary havens of refuge where such people may live in safety."<sup>2</sup>

The compromise character of this acceptance is apparent. The United States had insisted throughout that Great Britain take action to implement the Palestinian phase of the Horthy offer, with few if any strings attached. The United States finally yielded on this point when the British ceased pressing for this country to meet the International Red Cross request.

1. Source S, 21 July 1944.

2. Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 18 August 1944.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 89
Entry _____
File _____
Box 65

CONFIDENTIAL

(of 25 July 1944), that "the number of emigrant Jews to be admitted to the United States should be substantially increased and a corresponding number of entry permits should be accorded."<sup>1</sup> At first there was no response.

Following this Affred acceptance of the Horthy offer, the Hungarian Government lapsed into relative lethargy. It even passively allowed the Germans to carry out smaller deportations of Jews who were not Hungarian nationals.<sup>2</sup>

Allied efforts to rescue the Jews of Hungary came to naught for the following reasons:

1. Gestapo agents of the Sondereinsatz Kommando in Budapest refused to permit the Jews to emigrate freely from Hungary.<sup>3</sup>
  2. Germany refused, furthermore, to grant transit visas to Spain, Portugal, Sweden or Switzerland.
  3. The military about-face of Rumania and Bulgaria made it impossible for Jews to depart by this route.
  4. The Allied Powers temporized and failed to accept completely this Horthy offer.
- Soon reports of renewed deportations began to leak out and it became apparent that the deportations had been resumed on the same large scale as those of May and June 1944.

#### D. Situation in September 1944

With the failure of the various attempts at expediting the rescue of Jews from Hungary, the situation apparently reached an impasse. According to a reliable source in Budapest, there remain only two hundred thousand Jews in Hungary (mostly in Budapest).<sup>4</sup> Of the deportees, 160,000 are said to be performing labor service in various German-controlled territories.<sup>4</sup> Hungarian Jews are known to be working in Lobau, Mauthausen, Waldsee and Strasshof in Austria. Some 360,000 others have been sent to the various extermination centers and the Gestapo in Budapest has admitted that they have all been killed. This German admission of guilt, however, may possibly have been planted by the Gestapo to strengthen its hand in the various barter

1. Source S, 26 August 1944.

2. Source S, 11 August 1944.

3. Source S, 16 September 1944.

4. Source S, 16 September 1944

103455

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority NND 765008	
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99	

RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

deals it is still seeking to arrange.<sup>1</sup> This strategic use, however, does not detract from its credibility in view of the numerous reports of the extermination of Hungarian Jews in Poland and Upper Silesia.<sup>2</sup> The pro-Nazi government has taken the following measures:<sup>3</sup>

1. Every able-bodied man and woman between fourteen and seventy years of age will be placed in compulsory labor service in agriculture and industry in various parts of Hungary "in the interests of national defense."
2. Those unfit for physical labor are to be transferred to special camps in the rural districts which, with the collaboration of the Red Cross (probably only the Hungarian, not the International), will be financed by the Jews themselves.
3. All infirm and elderly persons who are unable even to go to camps will be grouped in unspecified localities in "Jewish hospitals."

Of Hungary's one million confessing and "racial" Jews there are now only 200,000 remaining in Hungary, plus the additional 1,160,000 in Nazi-occupied Europe. The others have probably met death or are slated for execution. The fate of any of these who may still be alive, as well as that of the estimated 360,000 survivors depends on the speed of Germany's defeat and the proximity of Nazi collapse.

1. Source S, 4 September 1944.

2. OSS Source, 24 June 1944 and 27 June 1944.

3. Source S, 16 September 1944.

103456

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765008
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

RG 84  
 Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_  
 Box 65

APPENDIX I  
STALIN'S HUNGARIAN LIST  
JEWISH LEADERS OF HUNGARY

The official head of the "National Chancery or Organization of the Congressional Jewish Communities and chairman of the Jewish Religious Community of Budapest is Court Councillor Samuel Stern, a food-processing industrialist. Chief Rabbi of the Budapest Neolog (Reform) Community is Rabbi Dr. Francis Hevesi. Head of the Orthodox National Chancery is said Samuel Frank Kahan (Budapest); of the Conservative Community, said Rabbi Dr. B. Bernstein (Nyiregyhaza).

The Board of the Jewish Community of Budapest consisted of: Samuel Stern, chairman; Dr. Ernest Boda, vice-chairman; members Dr. Leo Buday Goldberger, textile industrialist and former member of the Upper House; Coloman Frey, former chairman of the Budapest Stock and Commodity Exchange; Henry Kalman, president of the British-Hungarian Bank; Emil Vertes, former chairman of the Association of Budapest Merchants; Dr. Emil Zahler, physician; Dr. Ernest Brody, lawyer and only Jewish member of parliament; Professor Max Rosenak, physician; Dr. Louis Lang, lawyer and former member of the Upper House.

#### II. POLITICAL LEADERS

Dr. Bela Fabian, former member of parliament; Dr. Géza Dézsi, former member of parliament and partisan of the conservative-liberal leader, Count Stephen Bethlen.

#### III. LABOR LEADERS

Dr. Imre Gyoerky, Alexander Propper, and Daniel Varna, all former Social Democratic members of parliament; and Illes Monus.

1. Reported to have died since.
2. Said to have been arrested after the occupation.

103457

CONFIDENTIAL

RG	84
Entry	
File	
Box	65

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NWD 765008  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99

IV. INDUSTRIALISTS

Baron Alphonse Weiss, head of Manfréd Weiss, Ltd.; Eugene Vida, chairman of the Hungarian General Coal Mines Co., Ltd.; Baron Andrew Hatvany, sugar industrialist; Alexander Deutsch, chemical industrialist; Gustav Lang, machine industrialist; Géza Drucker, Alexander Forbáth, and Emanuel Agoston, textile industrialists. Baptized Jews: Dr. Francis Chorin, former chairman of the National Association of Industrialists and head of the Rimamurány-Salgotrján Coal, Iron, and Steel Combine; Dr. Paul Biró, his chief aide; Dr. Joseph Hiller, chairman of Bauxite Industry, Ltd.

V. BANKERS

Dr. Emil Stein, former president of the Commercial Bank of Budapest; Dr. Stephen Perényi, former director of the Hungarian General Bank of Credit; Emanuel Halász, former director of the General Savings Bank; Baron Marcel Madarassy-Beck, chairman of the Hungarian Bank of Escompte. Baptized Jews: Baron George Ullman, Joseph Bun, Otto Konrád, and Imre Károlyi.

VI. PROMINENT JOURNALISTS

Max Markus, former chairman of the Association of Hungarian Journalists; Thomas Kőbör, former editor of Az Ujság; Imre Salusinszki, former editor of Az Est, Pesti Napló, and Magyarország; Nicholas Lázár, former editor of Reggeli Ujság; Dr. George Kecskeméti, former editor of Pestor Lloyd; Dr. Béla Zgai, former publisher of Az Ujság; Béla Zsolt, Simon Kemény, Joseph Vágó, George Kemény, Dr. Charles Sebestyén, and Sámuel Nagy.

CONFIDENTIAL

VII. PROMINENT ATTORNEYS

Dr. Charles Wilhelm, Dr. Andrew Gliecksthal, Dr. Erwin Doroghy, Dr. Ignac Friedman, Dr. Eliás Hevesi, Dr. Béla Berond, and Frederick Párkány.

VIII. PROMINENT PHYSICIANS

Prof. Max Rosenak, Prof. Ludwig Levy, Prof. Z. Aszódi, Dr. Béla Molnár, Dr. Imre Fodor, Dr. Eugene Biederman, and Dr. Ignac Farkas.

103458

CONFIDENTIAL

RG 84  
Entry \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_  
Box 65

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 765058  
By SR NARA Date 9-1-99