

Meeting on Jewish
Property - Oct 9, 1947.
attending at 5:30 pm
528-1778

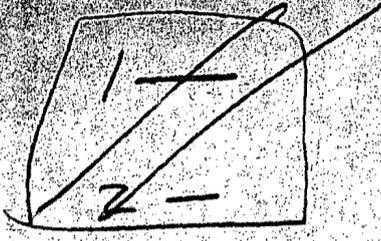
1. Mr. Hennendurges
2. Mr. Kiefer
3. Mr. Bundy
4. Miss Hall
of Dept of State
5. Mr. Pourroy
of Nat. Archives
(former NARA
officer at
Offenbach).

17 pg skip
(305254)
my fault
make sure to
check last #
before this new doc

R6 59
Lot 620-4
Box 28

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 968071
By BHM NARA Date 7/9

305255



Torah - all have been cut up - no religious value - only ^{for} museum exhibits -

Identified Silver by Silvermiths of Holland by name
Free masonic items
7-8000 items
Much Dutch returned

Aspects of the problem of identification were discussed.

305257

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By BAM NARA Date 7/9

REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the recovery of books & archives
in Bavaria has just begun -
Some thought

1 - 1 1/2 million books
would turn up in
Bavaria -

Problem in Austria

Restituable materials
in custody of Mil-
Govt -

Col. McKee - Head
of Rep & Rest Br -
in Vienna - Von Sostrom
is his main
document dept
in Salzburg

Work for G2 - USA
under Col Mc Christian

305258

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Bavaria — under 3rd Lt
Under Capt. Rae —
He estab. principle
that restituable material
stay where it was —

Clam was Archive
Officer —

Offenbach ^{now U.S.} is zonal
Dept. ~~of~~ ^{however} Booles were
brought to Offenbach
from Bavaria
without Rae's consent.
Bencovitz reported to
Evans —
Maj. Borne refused
to fight Rae.

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305259

~~Mr. Meeting of Jewish Property~~
~~Concerning Restitution~~
Restitution made
to Czechoslovakia

Few Jews in Austria
should ~~not~~ be heirs of property
at Offenbach: ^{objects were not returned}
De facto ^{to the last} ^{in 1945} ^{by officers} ^{for tented}
De jure ^{Policy stipulated} ^{return should be made}

~~Should be informed that~~
~~with cultural property is~~
~~they should be spiritual~~
materials ~~should not be~~
~~open market -~~ ^{sold on}

Frankfurt - 200 Jews -
not educ in Helber

Offenbach - 5 Jews
Germ Jews refused to stay -
no accurate estimate

305260

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ADO - Mr. Bowles, Mr. Anderson

October 7, 1946

ADO - Miss Hall

Memorandum of Conversation on Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property

This memorandum explains the proposal of a newly created international Jewish organization making direct claim for Jewish cultural property in American occupied zones. This was apparently advised by Mr. Barnett of QA, proposed in a letter from Professor Jerome Michael and favorably answered by General Hilldring.

ADO, to my knowledge, was not consulted. I saw the correspondence in Mr. Stimson's office, when he asked me for advice. It seems to me that his memo is valuable for the record in the Department, as I do not believe the proposal is the best or proper solution for a problem, even one with so many inherent difficulties. I also feel sure that the claims for Jewish losses will be sympathetically received by all Allied countries and that it will have to come up for further study. At the same time, it seems obvious that the political implications under the present tension are very great.

*E.S. [unclear] new
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]*

ADO:ARHall:mbv

10/7/46

305261

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Lot 620-4
Box 28

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 968071
By DAM NARA Date 7/9

Meeting on Jewish Property, October 9, 1947, at 5:30 p.m., Rm. 528, 1778

Attending:

Mr. Hemmendinger

Mr. Kiefer

Mr. Bundy

Miss Hall

of the Department of State

Mr. Pomrenz

of National Archives, (former MFA&A officer at Offenbach)

Mr. Pomrenz stated: restitution made to Czechoslovakia. Few Jews in Austria, should not be heirs of property at Offenbach.

De facto: Objects were not returned to the East by MFA&A officers, Polish Government entered claims.

De jure: Policy stipulated return should be made.

Jewish cultural property is spiritual material, should not be sold on the open market.

Frankfurt, 200 Jews, not educated in Hebrew.

Offenbach, 5 Jews, German Jews refused to stay, no accurate estimates.

Bavaria under 3rd Army, under Captain Rae. He established principle that restitutable material stay where it was. Clem was Archives officer.

Offenbach is now a U.S. zonal depot. Books, however, were brought to Offenbach from Bavaria without Rae's consent. Bencovitz reported to Evans. Major Borne refused to fight Rae.

The recovery of books and archives in Bavaria has just begun.

Horne thought one to one and a half million books would turn up in Bavaria.

Problem in Austria:

Restitutable materials in custody of military government.

Colonel McKee, Head of Reparations and Restitutions Branch in Vienna, Von Sastron in Linz Main, documents depot in Salzburg. Work for G-2, USFA under Colonel McChristian.

Torax

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By <u>BAM</u> NARA Date <u>7/9</u>

- 2 -

Torah: all have been cut up, no religious value, only for museum exhibits.

Identified silver: by silversmiths of Holland, by mark.

Free masonic items. 7 to 8000 items, much Dutch returned.

Aspects of the problem of identification were discussed.

Jewish organization in New York, representation of Europe, Palestine and US, in organization. "Heirless Property".

Clay says State must certify organization is OK.

305263

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Authority <u>NNN 918071</u>
By <u>RAM</u> NARA Date <u>7/9</u>

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF MESSAGE CENTER

INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

Paraphrase not required

FROM: OMGUS Berlin Germany sgd Hays

TO: Chief of Staff US Army for CSCAD

INFO: EUCOM for Property Division: Reparations and Restitution
Branch: OMGUS Karlsruhe

Nr.: CC 7072

13 December 1948

Reurad WK 92699 we are pleased to note that you are in general agreement with the plan put forward in our CC5822.

As to your query on the method of handling these items which have come from Eastern Europe and thus would in the absence of extenuating circumstances be subject to external restitution, we would recommend the following:

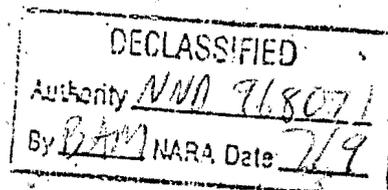
These items would be turned over to the JCR along with the other material but military government, in the case of these items, would receive a custody receipt containing a commitment by the JCR that they would maintain collections in this category intact and in such condition that they could be restituted to the countries of origin on request of military government. This would enable the utilization of these items for the time being and would also leave military government in a position where it could fulfill its restitution obligations.

This proposal has been discussed with Mister Kagan of the JRSO which I understand is composed of the same organizations which are represented in the JCR and is qualified to speak for JCR in this matter. Mister Kagan reacted favorably to this suggestion. He indicated he would communicate with his superiors and obtain their views.

If this proposal is acceptable there, we would appreciate being so informed soonest. We will work out the details of transfer with the JCR representatives here.

The report on the Offenbach Depot lists nearly 400,000 books and other objects in depot, almost all of Jewish origin. Of these about 10,000 be subject to restitution although not claimed and 29,000 are from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, plus some non Jewish material from these countries. All others appear either to have originated in Germany or to be completely unidentifiable. With exception of Baltic material mentioned above, all non Jewish material has been restituted

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There is also a small quantity of Jewish unidentified material in Wiesbaden and Munich central collecting points in addition to much falling under military government law, No. 59.

Note: CC 5822 is CM IN 1059 (7 Sept) CAD

Action : CAD

INFO : CAD (STATE), ID, OUS, PO

CM IN 9005

(14 Dec 48)

DTG ~~XXXXXX~~

131755z

es/6

SECRET

305265

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Authority <u>NND 968071</u>
By <u>BAM</u> NARA Date <u>7/9</u>

C
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. HANDLE AS SECRET CORRESPONDENCE
PER PARAS 511 and 60a (4) AR 380-5

From: CINCEUR Berlin Germany agd Clay
To : Dept of Army for CSUSA Wash DC; for CSCAD
Nr : CC 5822 4 September 1948

Reference is made to CC 9983 July 47.

The large quantity of Jewish cultural material in our possession at Offenbach Depot and elsewhere has given me some concern for a long time. The liquidation of the restitution program accentuates this concern.

There appears to be uniform agreement in principle that such Jewish cultural property should be turned over to a representative Jewish organization to be used in the interest of perpetuating Jewish Art and culture. This organization should act as a trustee in receiving such property and distributing it to public or quasi public religious, cultural or educational institutions as it might designate. Both the first receiving organizations and the designated institutions should agree to place Military Government in a position to comply with any subsequently established claims for restitution or otherwise and generally to keep Military Government harmless.

Doctor Joshua Starr Executive Secretary of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Incorporated a New York membership corporation of 1841 Broadway New York City is presently in the Theater inventorying such property. I am advised that this organization is adequately representative of the leading US and international including German Jewish organizations and that it desires to take over such property and distribute it to such institutions as it might designate under an arrangement broadly outlined above This would not be a delivery or procedure under Military Government law number 59 but, I am informed, that the Jewish restitution successor organization which has been designated to claim Jewish property under that law, would consent to and approve of such an arrangement with Jewish Cultural Reconstruction incorporated.

CM IN 1059

(7 Sep 48)

SECRET

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By <u>BAM</u> NARA Date <u>7/9</u>

I plan to enter into such an arrangement unless you do not approve that I proceed along these lines with the said Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Incorporated. Further more, it is desirable that the inventory be completed and the turnover take place as expeditiously as possible. Pending the formal completion of such an arrangement and in contemplation that it will be completed, I propose to give appropriate directions that Doctor Starr, Executive Secretary of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Incorporated and his assistants, be permitted to inventory, catalogue and report to Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Incorporated the contents of such inventory and cataloguing of the property collected at the Offenbach Archival Depot in so far as this material is Jewish content or ownership and, furthermore, that Doctor Starr and his assistants be given cooperation to the end that similar material outside of Offenbach may be recovered, inventoried, catalogued and reported.

NOTE: CC 9983 is CM IN 3995 (24 July 48) CAD

ACTION: CAD

INFO : CAD (STATE), ID, OUS, PO

CM IN 1059

(7 Sep 48)

DTG: 041730Z wfp/C

SECRET

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Jewish Cultural Prop

DRAFT CABLE TO USFA AND ONGUS

CONFIDENTIAL

Re USFA's P 7891 Oct, P 1220 Feb, ltr AG 333ACA/X
3 Feb, airtels to USFA WARI 90948 Nov, WARI 97338 Mar.
Subj is Jewish religious objects uncovered in inventory
of Hungarian loot train.

Subject to ONGUS concurrence request these items
be transferred to Offenbach Archival Depot, ANZONE GERMANY,
for ultimate treatment in accordance general policies to
be developed re disposition considerable quantities similar
items uncovered in Germany and assembled Offenbach.
Request USFA and ONGUS take necessary steps and advise.

OS:APK:fermlg
3/30/48

ADO

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incoming Tel WARX 97338 10 Mar 1948

From CSCAD cite SCOR

To: COMGENUSFA, Vienna
(Control 4532)

" Reurad Feb P.1220 and ur ltr
AG 33ACA/X of 3 Feb. Inspection
Report and Inventory of looted
Judaica items found in Austria
is subj.

Your report and recommendation
under consideration - Request
you hold items pending further
instructions. "

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305269

Incoming Tel. P 7891 8 Oct. 1947

From: COMGENUSFA, Vienna -

To: Dept of the Army for CSCAD
ECON

Reference WARX 85682 Para I D,

Request earliest instructions re disposition of ecclesiastical items, particularly Jewish religious ceremonial regalia uncovered in inventory of Hungarian loot train

CSCAD 387.6 - 25 Feb. 1948
the following: Letters from Ray J. Laux, Lt. Col. transmitting
Despatch AG 333 ACA/X 3 Feb 1948

From: Hdqrs U. S. Forces in Austria
APO 777, U. S. Army

Subject: Inspection Report and
Inventory of looted Judaica
Items found in Austria.

To: Chief Civil Affairs Div.
Attn: Econ. Div.

Enclosure: Letter Hq, Zone Command,
Austria 19, Jan 1948
w/1 incl = inventory with objects
numbers, ~~and~~ descriptions & condition

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Review (nop.)

Confidential

Incoming Tel. WARK 90948 22 Nov. 1947

From CSCAD cite ECON.

To COMGENUSFA, Vienna, Austria

" (Control 6866)

Para 3 - Instructions re Jewish religious items will be issued separately. Meanwhile, suggest that if not already done you have inspected by Jewish chaplain or other qualified person to verify nature of items - Please advise results inspection - "

Incoming Tel. P-1220 - 2 Feb. 1948

From: COMGENUSFA, Vienna, Austria
signed Keyes, cite ECON.

To: Dept of Army for CSCAD
(Control 735)

Reurad WX-90948 -

" - - - - - Reference para. 3:

Report of inspection and detailed inventory of Jewish items together with recommendations for disposition dispatched by letter this date "

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By BHM NARA Date 7/9

X
2534

Call Mr. Stinson *

Jewish section

Jerome Michael's

in Times

to Mr. Hildrup

Friday

Germans to moved rare Jewish
 cultural treasures - after
 surrender, they remained in
 Czechoslovakia - one town given -

- What is the procedure

to follow -

Lett. Jewish Friends
 representatives world wide -
 Com. being formed
 Proposal gone to Berlin
 for approval with approval
 by War & State Mr. Henning

External Assets Law No. 5

Legislative Assets -

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305272

Much case bought ptes in
Holland took to Spain -

If Spanish Gov't refuses to
restore comes under Law No. 5 -
and Allies could claim
them - liberated & neutral -

Tripartite
Quadrupartite

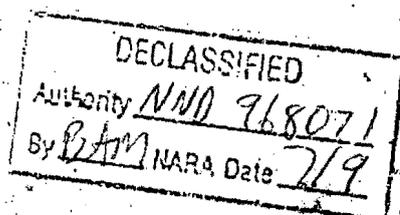
U.S. has proposed
Rumanian, Hungary -
(Belgium not mentioned)

Through the process

Treasury forwarded letter to
Bureau of Customs - Question
of holding a conference between
State, Treasury - & another agency
Violation of regulation
Emergency

305273

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

With: Le - Mr. B.H. Brown

N.Y. Times, August 17, 1947, "shortly to go on public sale, unidentifiable property turned over to Jewish agencies, International Refugee Organization. Precious stones, rugs, antiques, paintings, silver and non-monetary gold, sale under Paris Agreement.

Mr. Kellogg a naturalized citizen, German-born, with an art collection in Berlin, had come to see Mr. Brown. I referred him to DS to file claims.

Mr. Hemmendinger said the report is in error, only sale of non-monetary gold, jewels, silver, etc. Much of the jewelry is from poor people, will realize for less than expected, about one million.

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By BAM NARA Date 7/9

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

August 19, 1947

With: Mr. Hemmendinger

Jewish organization "heirless property", question of persecution of Jewish Libraries staff of UNESCO. Dr. Carter in Paris wrote to Department in September. Mr. Bullard has drafted a reply and he read it to me. As a preliminary step, expressed general approval, Trustee Corp. established in New York. Mr. Bullard drafted letter. Ivor Coll. in Offenbach, once at Vilma, sent to New York City, a new corporation set up. Master file, first copies, in Mr. Kiefer's office.

Mr. Hemmendinger:

August 19, 1947

Cable to OMGUS: "Further communication heirless property" to be settled.

Mr. Hemmendinger said, August 11, 1947, Major Crook had looked into copyright on a previous occasion.

No copyright on Old Masters--Legal.

On 202 paintings.

me
Cor
ver
KW
fig

me
Cor
ver
KW
fig

me
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ver
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fig

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305276

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

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By <u>BAM</u> INARA Date <u>7/9</u>

305277

DRAFT TO COMUS

Saw Mr. Kiefer Oct 6,
and obtained his consent
to changes I suggested.

Priority - Confidential

Reurad CC3682.

1. We have shared our concern re Jewish Cultural property
offensach, but as indicated ourad Sept. 1947 WARR 3682 had deferred
instructions disposition thereof pending recognition successor
orgn and establishment procedures heirless and unclaimed property
under WC law 59.

2. We agree that Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. is
appropriate agency to make final disposition much of this property.
Specifically, JCR could handle immediately all heirless and unclaimed
Jewish cultural property acquired by Jewish Restitution Successor
Organization under law 59. It would also be appropriate agency to
receive all unidentifiable Jewish cultural property, particularly
at offensach, such arrangement being analogous to transfer of
non-monetary gold to ISG.

3. Disposition of looted Jewish cultural property which is
identifiable as to national origin and possibly even ownership
presents problem which, we believe, should receive most careful
consideration. Presumably major portion this property from Eastern
Europe including Jewish cultural property looted from Lithuania,
Latvia Estonia mentioned ourads CC 3645, CC 3699 and technically
subject to restitution to country of origin. Appears to us that
ultimate disposition this category of identifiable property would
be based on adjustment ~~to~~ 2 considerations of which you are no
doubt also aware:

1637A.

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(a) Almost complete disorganization of Jewish cultural and community life in Eastern Europe in comparison to 1939, rendering restitution on basis existing principles of questionable value.

added by CE

(b) Desire of this govt in matter of cultural property ^{recognized} not to infringe on any rights which other govts might have re restitution.

4. We agree you proceed as rapidly as possible with inventory mentioned arod, including participation of Doctor Starr and associates as indicated. Also perceive no reason why you should not immediately negotiate with conditions suggested arod an agreement with JCR Inc. for turnover property mentioned para 2 above and commence such transfer as soon as possible.

5. We would welcome any recommendations developed by you, possibly in cooperation with JCR re disposition property discussed para 3 above, ~~as well as comprehensive data, possibly on compilation~~ ~~inventory, re quantities, types and countries involved. If it~~ ~~should then be decided JCR to have role in disposition this~~ ~~property, details could be incorporated in supplementary agreement~~ ~~with JCR.~~

all omitted on Oct. 6.

OSD:SP:SP/Refer:MM 2-23-48 III CE SE

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305279

6

The following changes in attached draft cable to CMGUS are suggested:

In paragraph 2, sentence 1, add - "with protection for Military Government in case established claims are presented."

In paragraph 5 - "We would welcome any recommendations developed by you, re disposition property discussed in paragraph 3 as well as report on Jewish materials made possible by the work of Mr. Schwimmer and Rabbi Rochman."

QRH.

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By <u>BAM</u> NARA Date <u>7/9</u>

305280

OFD - EP - Mr. Kiefer

October 6, 1948

ORX - ILI - Miss Hall

Disposition of Jewish Cultural Property.

Considerable data and inventories of Jewish Cultural property are contained in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Section, COMUS, Monthly Reports. The following summarized information is pertinent to the present problems.

In the latest report from the Offenbach Archival Depot for April 1948, a table of unidentifiable materials in Offenbach is given.

154,000 items in Hebrew and Yiddish
72,187 items in various languages of Jewish content
1,276 incunabulae and MSS
2,456 Religious and ritual materials

These items are now being sorted by a Rabbinical student, Mr. Schwimmer, and Rabbi Rochman of Zeilshain. The Director of Offenbach says that their work is of highest importance in solving one of the most difficult problems of the Offenbach Archival Depot (March 1948 Report) and that a report is not possible until the work has further progressed. It may be that such a report is now available.

The Offenbach Archival Depot has issued in its monthly reports various inventories and lists. For example, country by country owners are listed by name with the number of books belonging to each. In Eastern Europe the number of books belonging to each individual owner and the total to each community is extremely small, generally but one or two books to an owner and only a few hundred to a community.

For example to Czechoslovakia the books have been identified as belonging to a total of 15 owners. However,

Seven own - 1 book
five own - 2 books
One owns - 22 books
One owns - 35 books
One owns - 4,093 books

Of the 470 Lithuanian libraries and owners:

207 own 1 book
153 own less than 10 books
96 own less than 50 books
10 own more than 100 books
3 own more than 300 books
1 owns 750 books

of these owners 180 are in Kovno, 77 are in Kaunas and 213 are scattered thru out the country.

These are pitifully small holdings, individually and nationally.

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Their limited amount make it all the more desirable that they should be restored to the remnant groups in each country. Furthermore the Offenbach Archival Depot reports (Monthly Report, April 1948) that, "Conferences with various competent authorities has shown that actually only a small percentage of the materials has value, either culturally or financially."

Identifiable materials should be returned to the owner nation for restitution to the rightful owners or representative organization in accordance with regular restitution procedures as soon as politically feasible. Recommendations can be publicized that Jewish national groups who may wish to do so, can transfer their property to the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Incorporated or directly to institutions famous for their Hebrew collections as the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Royal Danish Library in Copenhagen, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, etc.

This has already been done by the Jewish community of Murnberg, which was about to emigrate from Germany and turned over to the American Joint Distribution Committee 10,000 books "to do with them as was found best." OAD Monthly Report, August 1946.)

It might be mentioned that it would not appear to be appropriate for the JCR incorporated in the United States to remove any substantial amount of these materials from Europe to New York, particularly the few valuable rare books of the Torah Room.

Such transfer was proposed in OAD, Monthly Report, August 1946, p. 8.

"It is recommended that excessive legality be dispersed with..."
It is suggested that the Torah scrolls be shipped to the Jewish Theological College (Jewish Theological Seminary of America) in New York "with whatever stipulations deemed necessary to protect the interests of the U. S. Government."

However, if the Jewish owners themselves wished to transfer such materials to the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York that would be a proper procedure, and entirely removed from any possible criticism.

cc: III - Mr. Sauer

OSK:ILI:AS:all:mab

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By BMM NARA Date 7/9

305282

Pandey

A. F. Kiefer

5417

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGUS

ACTION

PO:OUSA:CAD:State

FROM CE/CAD SITE ECOM

Reurad CC 7072. Jewish cultural property, is subject. Your recommendation re disposition Jewish cultural property otherwise restitutable Eastern Europe is approved, if acceptable to JCR. Request you continue advise all developments.

CFB:EP:AKKiefer:mem
12/23/48

ILI CE L/E O
(initial blue copy)

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305283

property this category be worked out directly between ONGUS and reps in Germany of JCR. Any property remaining unclaimed after due diligence find owners eid of course be disposed of by JCR without further condition.

Will advise you further developments.

*Note: called
Mr. Keifer &
he assured
me that
Jewish Cultural
Property would
not be sold.
ARH.*

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Authority NNA 918071
By BAN NARA, Date 7/9

305284

A. F. Kiefer

8417

Pending

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIG

ACTION

PO:OEA:CAD:State

FROM OS/CAD OITS EOOB

Reurad OS 7072. Jewish cultural property, is subject. Your recommendation re disposition Jewish cultural property otherwise restitutable Eastern Europe is approved, if acceptable to JCR. Request you continue advise all developments.

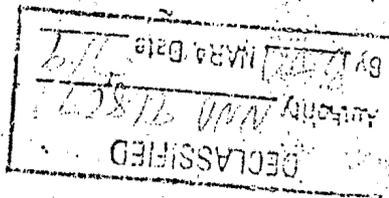
OFD:EP:AK:Kiefer:ms
12/23/48

ILI CE L/E O
(initial blue copy)

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By BAM NARA Date 7/9



Box 28

L 679 187

To be certified and returned to
 Cliché

25

May 3, 1945

In reply refer to
 CU

My dear Mr. Gilmore:

The Department has received a letter dated April 12, 1945, from Mr. Ginzberg, President of the American Academy for Jewish Research, referring to a large cache of Jewish ceremonial objects, rare Hebrew books and manuscripts which were recently uncovered by United States troops. Mr. Ginzberg is recommending that all remaining Hebrew historical and ceremonial objects of art found in the possession of the Germans be transferred to the Hebrew University in Palestine. A copy of Mr. Ginzberg's letter is enclosed.

It would be appreciated if the Roberts Commission would take this matter under advisement and inform the Department of whatever consideration may be given this recommendation in order that a suitable reply may be made to Mr. Ginzberg.

Sincerely yours,

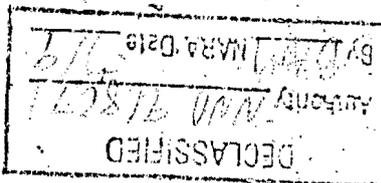
Eugene M. Anderson
 Assistant Chief
 Division of Cultural Cooperation

Enclosure:
 From Mr. Ginzberg,
 April 12, 1945.

Mr. Joan A. Gilmore,
 Acting Secretary-Treasurer,
 The American Commission for the Protection
 and Salvage of Artistic and Historic
 Monuments in War Areas,
 National Gallery of Art,
 Washington 25, D. C.

CB:Gale:chr 5/3/45

305286



Box 28
 1st 670-4

(COPIED: CU:chr)
 (COMPARED: CU:chr)

April 12th
 1945

My dear Mr. President:

Recent reports that a large cache of Jewish ceremonial objects, rare Hebrew books and manuscripts were uncovered by our victorious troops leads me respectfully to submit the following recommendation.

I believe that it would be nothing less than justice for you to instruct the American representative on the Reparations Commission to advocate that all remaining historical objects of a Jewish nature such as rare manuscripts of early Hebrew treatises, Hebrew editions of the "Bible" and various ceremonial objects of art found in the possession of the Germans be transferred to the Hebrew University in Palestine.

I should like to call your attention to a recent communication from heads of the Rabbinical schools in Rome and Paris who informed me that the Germans wilfully destroyed every Hebrew book which they were able to lay their hands on. Such behavior attests to the fact that the few remains of Jewish culture in Europe had best be removed from German safe-keeping. It was only for the perverted reasons of monetary gain and racial exploitation that all objects of Hebrew origin were not destroyed by the Germans. Clearly, the future should see these few and therefore even more highly valued historical treasures in safer hands.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Louis Ginzberg

Louis Ginzberg

Franklin D. Roosevelt
 President of the United States
 The White House
 Washington, D. C.

305287

16, Wiesbaden, Landesmuseum
Property Division
Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point

Wiesbaden, Germany
June 19, 1951.

Mr. Saml Kagan,
JRSO,
Fürther Strasse 112,
Justizpalast,
Nürnberg.

Dear Mr. Kagan:

Enclosed please find the receipts for the silver and ceramic objects as well as for the paintings of our List I. Kindly sign the receipts and return to us four copies of each. Additionally we are sending you a receipt for the shipment to Israel. The objects mentioned in this receipt are actually included in the receipt for paintings of our List I, but according to Herr Peemoeller we need these forms for the customs. As soon as we have received a message from our Frankfurt office that the shipping orders are prepared we will let you know about it.

In connection with the Burghardt, Frankfurt, material, Herr Peemoeller already sent you a memo. The only thing I myself could add is, that the stuff is really junk, altogether not very bulky and modern, partly work of amateur artists. 27 pictures are either on panel or cardboard, 32 paintings on canvas with stretchers and 26 on canvas only.

On Thursday, June 14, after having received our files from Frankfurt, Miss Neumann and Miss Wille started with the work of the remaining lists as requested by you. They are now preparing the list of material which is registered as Jewish identified objects. This means that the names of the former owners are known to us, but that we have no further dope on the case. This list consists of two parts. The first part gives the name of the owners and, if available, the former address. The second part gives the name again and the description of the items registered under this name. We hope that this list will be accomplished on June 27.

Very truly yours,

von Schmidt auf Altenstadt
Property Officer

Enclosures.

305288

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <u>and 775057</u>
DATE <u>6/15/86</u>

Ltr. AG 000.4 (G-5-RDR) 12th Army Gp. 11 July 45 Subj: Unauthorized
Moving of Works of Art., cont'd.

AG 000.4 -CA

1st Ind

JJR/rgw

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY, APO 758, U S Army, 26 July 1945

TO: See Distribution.

1. For your information and compliance.

2. The location of all movable works of art, archives and other cultural materials, not in their pre-war locations, especially those confiscated by the Nazis or looted by the Germans or their allies from territories occupied by them, is a primary concern of Military Government. All chance finds and repositories should be reported as soon as they are discovered.

3. Specific location, state of security, names of allied and German personnel responsible for security and pertinent details are required.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HAISLIP:

DISTRIBUTION:

Military Government

Detachment FLB2	40
ELG2	65
ELC3	100
E2C2	15
G-5, 7th Army	25
AG Records	2

John E. Pederson
 JOHN E. PEDERSON
 Major, AGD
 Asst Adjutant General

RG 260 BOX 84
ENTRY 1

File Misc

Ludwig Schölk

DIREKTOR DER OLYMPIA BÜROMASCHINENWERKE A. G.

NIEDERLASSUNGEN IN FRANKFURT AM MAIN
KAISERSTR. 40 - HAMBURG - KÖLN - MÜNCHEN
STUTT GART - ESSEN - NÜRNBERG - HANNOVER

FRANKFURT AM MAIN
GRAFENSTRASSE 141 - FERNRUUF 566119
August 17th, 1947.

Colonel N e w m a n
Wiesbaden
Haydnstrasse.

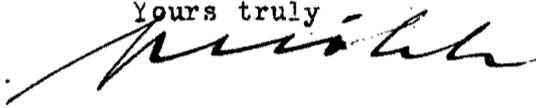
Dear Sir,

Since generations we have a 16th Century Hebrew-Latin Dictionary, printed 1587 in Lyons/France, in our family.

My aunt, an old lady of 72, is willing to sell it. Should you happen to know of a Jewish Community or Library in America, to whom this unique edition would be of interest? In this case would you kindly send someone for inspection, as the book is extremely valuable and tremendously heavy.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly



*Reply 2 Sept
Recommend we get in touch
with Dr Peiser, legal Advisor ADIC
Sandweg 7 Frankfurt*

305290

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *and 77505*
B. MARA Date *6/18/84*

RG 260 BOX 84
ENTRY 1

Subc. TV
TAH/el File

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR HESSE
WIESBADEN, GERMANY
ECONOMICS DIVISION

APO 633
3 Sept 1947

ED 007 (RES/MFA&A)

SUBJECT: Hebrew-Latin Dictionary

TO : Herrn Ludwig Schölich
Olympia Büromaschinenwerke AG
Frankfurt am Main
Grafenstrasse 141

Dr Newman has passed to me for reply your request for information as to what Library or Jewish Community in America might be interested in acquiring the 16th century Hebrew-Latin dictionary described in your letter. I would suggest that you get in touch with Dr Peiser, the Legal Advisor to the Allied Joint Distribution Committee at Sandweg 7 in Frankfurt (telephone: 42813 or 33190). Dr Peiser is well-informed in such matters and is the man most likely to be able to put you in touch with interested institutions. Should you succeed in finding a purchaser, it will be necessary for you to obtain an export license from the Import - Export Branch of this Headquarters, as unlicensed sale or export of books printed before 1750 is not permitted.

FOR THE DIVISION DIRECTOR:

THEODORE A. HEINRICH
CHIEF, MFA&A Section

305291

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: 70nd 77505
DATE: 6/18/84
MARA Date 6/18/84

See WCP 1949

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR HESSE
Property Division
APO 633 US Army

Wiesbaden, Germany
20 June 1949

SUBJECT: Receipts for Jewish Cultural Properties

TO : Director
OMG for Germany (US)
APO 742, US Army
Property Division
ATTN: Reparations and Restitutions Branch

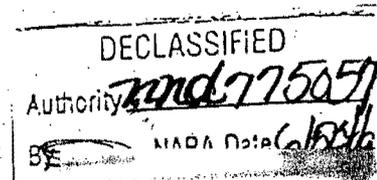
Forwarded herewith in duplicate for your information and records are the below indicated four receipts for Jewish Cultural properties held in the Offenbach Archival Depot and transferred to the Jewish cultural Reconstruction Inc. in accordance with the Frankfurt Agreement of 15 Feb 1949 between the Office of Military Government (US) for Germany and Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc.

- JCR 1, dated 8 Mar 1949, for 22 cases containing 4743 Prayer-Books in fair condition;
- JCR 2, dated 22 Apr 1949, for 497 cases containing 32,384 items German Judaica and 45,219 Hebrew, Total 77,603 items in fair condition;
- JCR 3, dated 19 May 1949, for 69 cases containing 7,103 Hebrew books;
- JCR 4, dated 20 May 1949, for 17 cases containing 4025 books German Judaica.

JOHN R. CAIN
Deputy Chief
Property Division

Incl.: a/s

305292



ROAD BOND, PROPERTY DIVISION 30 Apr 48 Monthly Report

Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek, Frankfurt	78,958 items
Rothschild Library (Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek, Frankfurt-M)	335 items
British Zone, for distribution by MFA&A Office	10,219 items
Library of the Ludwig University, Giessen	112 items
St. Georg's Seminary Frankfurt-Main	1,799 items
German Freemasonic materials turned over to Mr. Koehler, representative of the "Grosse Nationale Mutterloge zu den 3 Weltkugeln", and Mr. Treese, Lodge "Wilhelm zur Unsterblichkeit".	49,853 items
Degusa (Gold- und Silber-Scheideanstalt vorm. Rosslor, Frankfurt-Main)	29 items
Social Democratic Party	89 items
Communist Party	31 items
German Labour Organizations	795 items
	<hr/>
	2,403,456 items

D. 1. Materials in Course of Processing.

a) Hebrew and Yiddish Unidentifiable Books.

This lot, comprising as it does the most significant category of the unidentified residue now at Offenbach is being sorted and classified. The beginning of this operation was mentioned in the monthly report for March, and during the past month additional assistance was obtained which will speed the task greatly. Rabbi Rockman of Zellshelm is now giving all of his spare time to the extremely complicated task of evaluating and cataloging.

Conferences with various competent authorities has shown that actually only a small percentage of the materials has value, either culturally or financially. It also appears unlikely that any large number of books will be found to be identifiable, since the ownership marks found are in most cases very old.

The present sorting plan, which is experimental, operates as follows:

Category I. Books which are identifiable as to ownership.

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By WSN [unclear] 7/11/68

OAG, OMGH, PROPERTY DIVISION 30 Apr 48 Monthly Report

Category II. Books on which identification is doubtful.

(These are materials bearing markings probably more than 100 years old, or having several identification marks where it cannot be established which is the valid one. Illegible signatures, partly obliterated or faded ex-libris, etc. also fall in this category.)

Category III. Unidentifiable Materials.

These are being broken down in various sub-groups. The materials having value as rare books, special bindings, etc. will be processed for the rare book section in the Torah Room. Less valuable materials will be re-packed for storage.

b) Torah Room.

Two additional lots of vestments and menial synagogue ornaments comprising well over 1000 items were received during the month. The first, brought to the Depot from Backnang was examined by two Rabbis who gave their opinion that about half of the lot could no longer be considered as having either cultural or religious significance because of their condition. Most of these articles are of silver and, apparently with a view to melting them down, had been hammered flat. No restoration work is possible. The remainder of this shipment is damaged, but repairable in most instances. The second lot was received from the Foreign Exchange Depository, Frankfurt. A few items have considerable value as museum pieces. The remainder has no special significance. None of the items in either of the two lots is identifiable as to owner but country of origin can be determined on a small percentage of ornaments.

Photographing and cataloguing of these two shipments is now going on.

c) Shipment from the Saltmine at Heilbronn.

The shipment from the Saltmine at Heilbronn, consisting of 40 cases of Saarbrücken Museum Material and 39 cases of Archives of the City of Ludwigshafen have not been thoroughly examined so far. The museum materials consist largely of ancient pottery and related objects.

It appears that at least a portion of the Ludwigshafen Archives are irretrievably lost through the action of salt water. It has been established that for a period of 15 days following the end of the war the pumps which served this portion of the mine were not in operation. The archives became thoroughly saturated. In the partial drying which followed salt crystals formed which in some cases pierced the entire book. These spoilt materials fortunately do not form a great part of the collection. The deplorable condition of these materials, removed from what has generally been considered one of the best of the US Zone repositories, raises questions concerning the condition of the books, archives and other cultural materials still known to be in repositories which cannot be properly inspected or cared for because of lack of personnel.

DECLASSIFIED Authority MM 968071 By WML

not restitutable.
Action on declaration 13 843 completed.

- 5. Bamberg, RB Ober- und Mittelfranken, LK/SK Bamberg
From the Neue Residenz the following material was removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich:
 - a) 460 different objects (antique weapons, armour, uniforms etc.
 - 5 crates and) tin figures
 - 2 cabinets)

The above items allegedly belong to Focke, a former Wehrmacht officer stationed in Castle Lauenstein. The material had been evacuated from Castle Lauenstein. Present address of Mr. Focke unknown.

b) Several hundred books of mixed ownership. The books are of mediocre value. They have been evacuated from Castle Lauenstein.

- c) 4 paintings, viz.
 - 1) 1 altar-wing, late Gothic, "St. Paul", 60 x 23,5 cm
 - 2) 1 " " " " " " "St. Peter", 60 x 23,5 cm
 - 3) 1 " " " " " " "Christ Saviour", 31 x 52
 - 4) 1 Peter Brueghel, "St. Peter on the Waves, sinking" 100 x 67 cm

These four paintings belong jointly to Baron Gerhard von Pölnitz of Aschbach and Baron Dr. Götz von Pölnitz of Hundshaupten. This material was formerly in a bank safe in Bamberg under the custody of property control. Because of the joint ownership and Baron Gerhard von Pölnitz' political background, the material cannot be returned to the owners.

- 6. Buch, RB Oberbayern, LK Starnberg
Basic: Declaration 1423 - Zinkgraf
 - item No 80 - L. Neubert, "Landscape", oil, Austria
27 x 27 cm
 - item No 141 - Nooteboom, "Landscape", oil, Holland
18 x 27 cm
 - item No 220 - Nooteboom, "Mountain Landscape" Holland
oil, 20 x 31 cm

were indicated to be in the possession of Mr. Anton Woerner, Buch/Ammersee. Investigations revealed that Mr. Woerner does no longer possess these paintings. He made the following statements:

"Referring to the paintings from the Galerie Zinkgraf, these small landscapes were acquired as presents for my former employees and were distributed amongst them. The list of distribution is destroyed too. Witnesses, however, can certify this fact. It is very difficult to identify these special objects by inquiries from the former employees. For instance did I get no answer at all from employees no longer with the firm, with whom I had worked before. I will try my best also in this matter."

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By WMI [unclear] / [unclear]

"... My inquiries regarding the small paintings acquired at the Galerie Zinkgraf were without success. I could not get any positive informations from those present and former employees of the firm Sager & Woerner, that I could get into contact with. As the paintings in question were of a rather decorative manner and of no particular value, they probably got into the hands of some of the subordinate employees, whose name and especially whose address in the British and Russian Zone can no longer be ascertained by me."

It is suggested to cancel these items from declaration 1423.

7. Degerndorf, RB Oberbayern, LK Rosenheim

One oilpainting "von Hindenburg" 1,20 x 102 cm formerly belonging to the War-Academy, was removed from the Officer's Club, 66th Constabulary Squadron, Degerndorf, to the Central Collecting Point Munich.

8. Erlangen, RB Ober- und Mittelfranken, LK Erlangen

In november 47 Summary Military Government Court Erlangen investigated a case involving Jesco von Puttkammer. There was not sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution. In the meantime Jesco von Puttkammer repatriated to Brazil.

At the time of the investigation

- 36 silver coins,
- 16 copper coins and
- 1 aluminium coin

were confiscated. These coins were removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich.

9. Erlangen, RB Ober- und Mittelfranken, LK Erlangen

According to a report by the French Liaison officer, Capt. Doubinsky, the art dealers Georg and Maria Thann, Erlangen, have acquired during the war a considerable amount of antique furniture and other objects of art in France.

The following objects have been located and were removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich :

- one clock, Biedermeier style, value RM 130.-
 - one chair, baroque style, value RM 118.-
 - removed from Georg and Maria Thann, Erlangen,
 - one writing desk, Empire style, value RM 150.-
 - removed from Meyer-Rutz, Erlangen,
 - one old cupboard,
 - removed from Mr. Palm, Erlangen.
- Removal of objects will continue.

10. Falkenberg, RB Oberpfalz, LK Tirschenreuth

From the repository of Schloss Falkenberg the following four paintings of Polish origin were removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich:

- 1) oil-painting with gold frame showing a storm at sea entitled "La Buraska" by Feliks M. Wygrsywalzki, 1923
- 2) oil-painting with gold frame showing an English hunting scene, by Wojciech Kossak, 1926

3) oil-painting with gold frame showing a Western U.S. cowboy riding herd, by Wojciech Kossak, 1930. On the back of the picture is a rubber stamp reading :

ZAKLAD POZLOTNICZY
ANTONI GORAKIWWICZ
WERSCOWA, KREDYTOWA 16.

4) water-color with gold frame bearing the inscription Dolina Koscieliska, St. Dziemanski. On the back of the picture is a rubber stamp, partly reading:

E DYTRY, WARSZAWA.

All pictures bear in the back the names HAGEMANN (REVEKANT) scribbled in red crayon.

As this castle was taken over by the Gestapo and SS during the war, the paintings were probably brought by them. It is also possible that the pictures were brought to Falkenberg by some prominent Poles which were kept in the castle under surveillance from January 45 to March 45. The names of these Poles are:

- SOSNKOWSKI, brother of Polish fieldmarshall in London exile government,
- RONIKIER, Earl of, Polish ambassador to Germany in 1918
- LUBOMIERSKI, with wife
- OKULICZ.

11. Gaukönigshofen, RB Mainfranken, LK Würzburg
Basic: Declaration 9569 - Netherlands - France

Reference is made to letter this office to OMGUS dated 5 May 48, by which the following action on above declaration was reported: "1. Investigations which were carried through by this office in order to remove paintings as per declaration 9569 to the Central Collecting Point Munich revealed that the holder of the objects, anneliese Wilhelm, Gaukönigshofen near Würzburg, has in the meantime changed her residence and lives now at Buschstr. 14 Neunofen near Ludwigshafen/Palatinate. 2. Since Ludwigshafen is not in the area of this office the declaration is herewith returned to you for further action."

12. Geyern, RB Ober- und Mitteliranken, LK Weissenburg
Basic: Declaration 12 508 - Belgium

Belgian Claim dated 12 May 47

Basic declaration lists three oil-paintings and one wooden statue. This office removed from Dr. Ferdinand Bachseitz, Geyern, to the Central Collecting Point Munich :

one oil-painting by Raffiaen "Mountain Landscape"

Investigations continue in order to trace the remainder of objects, which could not be found in the house of Dr. Bachseitz, Geyern.

Declaration 12 508 partially cleared.

13. Greifenstein, RB Ober-und Mittelfranken, LK Ebermannstadt
The following material was removed from Castle Greifenstein into the custody of the Central Collecting Point Munich:

- 5 crates of books belonging to Deutsche Bibliothek Berlin
- 16 crates of books belonging to the Reichstauschstelle Berlin
- 12 different instruments, electrical.

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Authority MM 968071
By WML 7/1/68

14. Gufflham, RB Oberbayern, LK Altötting
This office was informed by the Landesamt für Vermögensverwaltung, Altötting, that at Gut Gufflham there were stored 80 frames

formerly belonging to Heinrich Hoffmann. These frames were removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich.

15. Hersbruck, RB Ober- und Mittelfranken, LK Nürnberg

Basic: Declaration 1150 - Netherlands

Netherlands Claim 4655 dated 11 October 46

The following action was taken on above declaration:

- item No 1 - 6 - furniture - not of cultural value
- item No 7 - 1 oil-painting by Van Os, 1892, 24 x 18 cm
"Landscape with Church and Figures" gold-frame, was removed to the Central Collecting Point during this month
- item No 8 - 1 oil-painting, 17th century, 22 x 17 cm,
"Male Half-length Picture" brown frame
- item No 9 - 1 oil-painting, by Ivan Son, 26 x 19 cm,
"Mother with Child and Dog" gold-frame
- item No 10 - 1 oil-painting, Gothic style, 19,5x21 cm,
"Virgin", half-length picture, gold-frame
- item No 11 - 1 oil-painting, 17th century, 30 x 23 cm,
"Figure on Horseback", gold-frame
- item No 12 - 1 oil-painting, 17th century, 41 x 27 cm,
"St. Valentin and the Poor Man" gold-brown-frame
- item No 13 - 1 oil-painting, peasant-art, 27,5x40 cm,
"Landscape", gold-frame
- item No 14 - 1 charcoal-drawing, 1649, 19 x 25 cm,
"Landscape with Church"
- item No 15 - 1 charcoal-drawing, 1650, 19 x 25 cm,
"Landscape with River"

The above items were removed to the Central Collecting Point Munich during this month.

Action on basic declaration and claim completed.

16. Kaufbeuren, RB Schwaben, LK Kaufbeuren

Basic: Declaration 13 354 - Poland

- item No 1 - carpet (300 x 500 cm) - turned over by Mr. Karl Deinhardt to the Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wirtschaft, Amt für Rücklieferung, Munich, on 27 May 1947.
- item No 2 - not of cultural value
- item No 3 - not of cultural value
- item No 4 - not of cultural value
- item No 5 - one picture, 16 x 22 cm, signed illegible
"Moorish Architecture" was removed from Mr. Deinhardt to the Central Collecting Point Munich
- item No 6 - one painting by K. Buchowska, 46 x 56 cm,
"Girl in National Dress" was removed from Mr. Karl Deinhardt, Kaufbeuren, Alleeweg 2 to the Central Collecting Point Munich.

Action on declaration 13 354 completed.

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC WARFARE

M.C.

31.1.1945.

PRESS AND BROADCAST UNIT

(HEDDON HOUSE)

Date: 30.1.1945.

Reference No. 2024/1B1/1.

From: GERMAN EUROPEAN SERVICE IN ENGLISH.

Topic: KAUNAS CATHEDRAL USED AS SYNAGOGUE.

The Jewish Soviet General, Chernyakhovsky, has requisitioned Kaunas Cathedral which is now being used by the Jews as a synagogue after the removal of the crucifix, chalice and other valuable gold church ornaments.

Copies have been sent to

W.A.

E.A.B. 10 (EWA)

R.W.D. I & II (Mr. Brooke Willis)

RG 239

305299

Box 43

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NAV 50168

By WBJ NARA Date 6/8/77

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC WARFARE

CIW/5

PRESS AND BROADCAST UNIT
(HEDDON HOUSE)

Date: 4.2.45.

Reference No. 2029/4A1/10

From: SOVIET HOME SERVICE

Topic: GEORGIA: CENTRAL ARCHIVES ACQUIRE OLD DOCUMENTS

The Central Historic Archives of Georgia have acquired a large number of old manuscripts in Georgian, Persian, Arabic, Turkish and Latin. Among them are: Two charters written on a parchment in the old Georgian language, one date 1473 and the other 1542; the Order of King Irakly II dated 1769 on the formation of troops drawn from the church going peasantry; also a muniment dated 1753 issued by Anthony I. An Arabian manuscript of the Koran of the 16th and 17th centuries has also been acquired. The total number of old manuscripts held in the archives is 60,000.

Copies have been sent to

W.A. MR. BROOKE-WILLIS I & II
EAB 10 (EWA)

RG 239

Box 43

305300

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NAV 50168
By MBP NARA Date 6/8/97

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Please return to Receiving Section. Are copies needed? *See Stinson*

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

INFORMATION COPY

FILE COPY

4

Action: ESP
Info :
S
U
C
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A-H
OCD
FC
OIC
DC/R

Praha
Dated September 11, 1946
Rec'd 1:35 p.m., 11th.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Control 3312
Paraphrase before communicating to anyone.
SECSTATE

1653, September 11, 3 p.m.

Re Department's 1079, August 30, requesting my comments on communication received from Commission on European-Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, New York.

On making informal inquiries in informed circles, I learn that the Czechoslovak authorities have thus far made little progress in finding and tabulating the various valuable Jewish religious and cultural treasures which may have been brought to Czechoslovakia from various points in Europe. I believe, however, that if formally requested to do so by our Government, the Czechoslovak authorities would be disposed to restore to the original owners such of these objects as may ultimately be found and identified.

I gained the distinct impression that the Czechoslovak Government does not consider that it has any legal or moral right to retain such of these objects as may be found.

STEINHARDT

LMS:ES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NM 968071*
By *WBE* NARA Date *6/15/11*

305301

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

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4

Action: ESP
Info :
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Praha
Dated September 11, 1946
Rec'd 1:35 p.m., 11th.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Control 3312

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mg
Selver
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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STEINHARDT

LMS:ES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NM 968071*
By *MB2* NARA Date *6/15/71*

305302

Silver
INFORMATION
COPY MCS

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

1-D
Action-ESP
Info:
C
EUR
A-B
A-C/R
A-H
OCD
PC
OIC
DC/R

Berlin via War
Dated September 21, 1946
Rec'd 6:52 p.m., 21st.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Control 7130
No paraphrase necessary.

SECSTATE

2225, September 21, 8 p.m.

URTEL 1808, August 30.

Feel that Czech Government might appropriately be asked to place reference jewels and valuables or a commensurate money sum at the disposal of the stateless persons funds. Questionable whether substantial amounts of property in question could be identified and restituted. Rare cultural and religious pieces might be turned over to some agency.

MURPHY

CAD:JRMc

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



305303

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *MM 968071*
By *WBJ* NARA Date *6/15/11*

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ES - Mr. Stimson:

DATE: October 7, 1946

FROM : A-H Mr. Hemmendinger *ah*

SUBJECT: Jewish Cultural Treasures in Germany and Austria.

I thank you for a copy of your memorandum dated September 24, 1946. As I believe I stated to you in my telephone conversation, I believe that the provision to which you take exception is stated too broadly and must be applied with caution. I anticipate that OMGUS will point this out in its reply which is awaited, and it will be necessary for the Department to consider the entire question and determine future action. No doubt your observations will then be fully considered.

I suspect that the proponents of the plan would find ^{some of} your speculations with respect to the dangers of abuse offensive, since their object is to rescue the treasures of the Jewish cultural and religious tradition from the mire into which they have been trampled in Europe.

The idea of retribution has not to my knowledge been suggested and certainly had not entered my mind.

Mr. Barnett is no longer with the Department.

A-H:NHemmendinger:hjh

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Authority NY 968071By WSD NARA Date 6/15/71

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In reply refer to
 ES: 740.00119 EW/9-346 CS/V

*Did not go out
 See memo 7-11-4-74
 W*

My dear Mr. Michael:

Reference is made to your letters of August 26 and September 3 relating to looted Jewish cultural treasures in Germany and Austria.

The American Embassy in Praha has informed the Department of its belief that the government of Czechoslovakia would be inclined to return to the rightful owners such of these treasures as may be ultimately found and identified, and that the Czech Government is not inclined to assert any legal or moral right to retain such objects.

The Department has advised its mission in Praha to request the Czech Government to make every effort to find and restitute to the government of the claimant's country all looted cultural objects which might be in Czechoslovakia, including Jewish cultural objects. The Department has requested the cooperation of the governments of neutral liberated, and allied countries in a program for the restitution of looted cultural objects not found in Germany and Austria. Under this program, as under the program of restitution from Germany and Austria, restitution is to be made to the government of the country from which the objects were looted, and includes Jewish cultural objects on a basis of equality with other objects. The Department is recommending that objects identified as having been looted in Germany from Jews or nationals of any of the United Nations or Italy and Austria should be returned to the commanding general of the zone in Germany from which looted. The Department is further suggesting that objects looted from Jews in Italy and Austria or in ex-enemy countries in Europe other than Germany be restituted to the governments of these countries.

The Department has requested its mission in Praha to mention to the Czech Government your proposal for the creation of the Trustee corporation, and the interest of your commission in the residue of looted Jewish cultural treasures which might be found in Czechoslovakia

and

Mr. Jerome Michael,
 Acting Chairman,
 Commission on European
 Jewish Cultural Reconstruction,
 1841 Broadway,
 New York 23, New York.

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By *WBS* NARA Date *6/15/11*

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and which might not be claimed or restituted under other programs. The mission is requested to urge the Czech Government to make efforts to locate and preserve such objects.

Sincerely yours,

J. H. Hilldring
Assistant Secretary

NOV 8 1946

Quita RAS
ES:RHStimson:pkf

10-24-46

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CE GA *ADK* PG
Jwa
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A file copy of the original file is available.

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Authority *NM 968071*
By *WSD* KAR Date *6/15/73*

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T.M.S.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 14, 1946

SUBJECT: Restitution of Jewish Cultural Treasures from and to the Various Countries of Europe, and the Role of the Proposed International Jewish Trustee Corporation.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Baker, ES
Mr. Mason, ES
Mr. Stimson, ES
Mr. Hemmendinger, A-H
Mr. Keefer, GS

COPIES TO: Mr. Baker
Mr. Mason
Mr. Stimson
Mr. Hemmendinger
Mr. Keefer
Miss Hall, ABB

1-1403

The general problem was discussed. Mr. Hemmendinger stated that criticisms from General Clay, American House, Germany, of the trusteeship proposal were along the lines of those made by Mr. Stimson in his memorandum of September 24. Mr. Keefer and Mr. Hemmendinger stated that the objectionable provisions for seizure of Jewish cultural treasures in German public museums, libraries and archives had been dropped from the plans for the trusteeship in recent conversations with Mr. Michael. Mr. Baker and Mr. Stimson pointed out that Mr. Michael's proposal for restitution of Jewish cultural treasures by the Government of Czechoslovakia direct to the proposed International Jewish Trustee Corporation was a departure from the rule of restitution from governments to governments established by Department policy, quadripartite procedure, and the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1945.

Mr. Baker showed Mr. Hemmendinger and Mr. Keefer the text of the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1945, which set up a procedure for restitution from neutral and liberated countries to the governments of the liberated countries. Mr. Hemmendinger and Mr. Keefer desired to have Jewish cultural treasures turned over by the

governments

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governments of the countries in which they are now located directly to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation, by way of an exception to the established principle that restitution should be made by such governments to the governments of the countries from which the objects were looted.

Mr. Stimson expressed the opinion that if the trustee were allowed to define Jewish cultural treasures, there would be a possibility of abuse and complications. Mr. Mason expressed the opinion that in Germany at least the Allied occupation authorities would decide in each case whether an object claimed by the trustee is a Jewish cultural treasure, and whether to transfer it to the trustee.

Mr. Stimson expressed the view that both the governments of the countries in which the objects are now located, and the governments of the countries from which they were looted should be given an opportunity to consent or refuse consent to the transfer of the objects to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation. In the case of Jewish objects looted in Poland and now in Czechoslovakia, or looted in France and now in Switzerland, the Government of the United States or COMUS or the Zone commanders in Germany and Austria, or the AOC have no authority to consent to the transfer of these objects to the proposed trustee. Mr. Mason stated that the United States can only suggest such action to the governments having possession of, or a legal claim to, the objects.

In the case of Jewish cultural objects looted in a European country other than Germany, for example, Poland, and now in the American Zone in Germany, Mr. Stimson's view is that, although the United States may have the physical power to transfer these objects to the proposed trustee instead of to the Mission sent by the Government of Poland, this should be done only with the consent of the Polish Mission or Government in each case or for each class of objects.

Mr. Stimson expressed the opinion that the governments of the countries from which the objects were looted and of those in which the objects are now located should be approached during the process of creating the trustee with the question whether they would consent to the

transfer

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transfer of looted Jewish cultural treasures to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation in cases in which the individual Jewish owners have died without heir or in case the Jewish community served by the objects has been destroyed or dispersed. This view seemed to receive the assent of the conferees.

Mr. Stimson felt that his draft telegram and letter were somewhat premature because the ACC has not completed an agreement on restitution to ex-enemy states. Mr. Hammendinger and Mr. Keefer felt that they were premature because the general approach referred to above has not been made, and the proposed international trustee has not yet been established.

It was decided that the draft telegram and letter would be held by Mr. Stimson pending further developments, and that he would keep in touch with Mr. Keefer and Mr. Hammendinger.

Mr. Stimson stated that ADO was interested in the problem, and he suggested that they be consulted.

RE:RStimson:MK

11-14-46

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Authority NM 968071
By WBJ NARA Date 6/15/11

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation
And Supplementary Observations
 By Ralph H. Stimson.

DATE:
September 24, 1946

SUBJECT: Jewish Cultural Treasures in Germany and Austria:
 Comments on one phase of the proposal for an International Jewish Trustee Corporation submitted by the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction.

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. Hemmingdinger - A-H
 Mr. Stimson - ES
 Miss Hall - ADO

COPIES TO:

GPO 1-1493

I thanked Mr. Hemmingdinger for sending me a copy of Mr. Hildring's letter of September 18 to Professor Jerome Michael, Acting Chairman, The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, in reply to his long letter of August 26 regarding the creation of a membership corporation or an international Jewish trustee to receive Jewish cultural treasures in Europe.

I questioned the wisdom of the provision in Mr. Michael's letter that the commanding general of the United States Forces for Germany and the same for Austria "or other appropriate agencies of the United States shall transfer to the Corporation, as trustee for their former Jewish owners and for the Jewish people, all Hebraica and Judaica and all other Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of occupation, of whatever nature and in whatsoever possession, which are included in any of the following categories:

"*****"

"d. Those which are now owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly-owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions, except such as the United States is required by existing international arrangements to which it is a party to dispose of otherwise."

sent. Saw?

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I stated that these provisions opened up a wide field of action, which it might be difficult to defend. Under them, a collection of books and manuscripts on Jewish history legally owned by a university or library, or paintings or music scores by Jewish artists or composers or depicting Jewish subjects or themes (e.g. many of Rembrandt's paintings, drawings and etchings) legally owned by public museums, libraries, or archives in the American zone of Germany and Austria would be seized by United States troops or officials and turned over to a Jewish trustee corporation for distribution to Jews or Jewish organizations in all parts of the world, unless the United States is a party to some specific international agreements requiring different treatment of some of the objects. I stated that this appeared to be a very general action resembling replacement in kind or substitution, but going much beyond anything which had been considered or agreed to with regard to non-Jewish cultural property. It appears also to resemble reparations, although it has generally been understood that enemy-owned cultural objects would not be used for reparations. It gives the impression of an act of revenge on the part of the Jews using the American Army and American officials as a reverse version of the Einsatzstab Rosenberg. Under the loose general wording of the proposal it might be considered an authorization to loot German-owned cultural treasures having some Jewish references or associations for the benefit of the world Jewish community.

Mr. Hemmingdinger explained that the Jewish representatives who discussed the proposal with State Department officials originally proposed merely a form of replacement in kind or substitution. They were told that the Roberts Commission was opposed to using German cultural objects for replacement, and that no replacement program had been agreed to. Mr. Barnett of GA advised them to drop the replacement provision and substitute the general provisions quoted above. Mr. Hemmingdinger did not oppose these provisions although he recognized that they were very general, and should be considered more in detail later. Mr. Hemmingdinger seemed inclined, however, to defend the provisions, apparently as a form of retribution.

It should be pointed out that the seizure of German and Austrian cultural property would be contrary to the restitution policy of the Department, contrary to quadripartite

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restitution principles and procedures, and contrary to the accepted principle that German cultural treasures are not to be used as reparations. To be sure the "Draft Agreement on Restitution of Article of Cultural Value" proposed by the Roberts Commission in 1945 and accepted by the Department¹ provided for replacement in kind from German cultural objects of looted cultural objects which were lost or destroyed. However, the Allied Control Council for Germany has not yet agreed on a replacement program. If adopted, such a program would probably be limited to instances of proven loss or destruction of specific objects of proven ownership. The replacement would probably be made to governments acting on their own behalf or on behalf of individual claimants. If such a program is adopted, it would be open to individual Jews or Jewish organizations to make such claims through their respective governments. Article 9 of the draft agreement on Restitution of Articles of Cultural Value reads as follows: "Works of art and objects of artistic and historic value used in connection with religious ceremonies or edifices of any faith which have proved ecclesiastical ownership prior to 1938 may not be used for replacement in kind." It appears that the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction is asking the Department of State to modify this section of its policy in order to permit the transfer to an international Jewish trustee corporation of the objects used in connection with Jewish religious ceremonies or edifices in Jewish communities in the American Zone of Germany and Austria which communities have been wiped out. Since the objects are no longer needed for religious purposes at the site of the former communities, it is proposed that they be transferred to an international Jewish trustee for distribution to existing Jewish religious communities which can use them. I believe that the Department should be very sympathetic with this proposal, and modify its policy accordingly. However, it is suggested that in every case, the proper procedure is for the international Jewish trustee to make its proposal to the government having the legal right to dispose of the objects in question, that is to the government having sovereignty over the territory in which the destroyed and/or looted religious community was located. In the case of Germany, this would be at present either the Allied Control Council, the zone commanders acting under approved quadripartite procedures, and the German local or provincial courts having jurisdiction of the matter. It seems illogical to deny the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation the use of a controlled system of individual

1. See Department's telegram to London no. 4490 of June 5, 1945.

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replacement in kind or the transfer of cultural property of destroyed Jewish religious communities; and to substitute therefore a sweeping general provision for military seizure of German and Austrian cultural treasures in public museums in the American Zone claimed by the corporation to have a Jewish character or association, as a species of reparations, without any formal legal procedure or review by properly constituted governmental judicial agencies.

I told Mr. Hemmingdinger that such a seizure of German and Austrian cultural property might be contrary to international law and agreements to which the United States is a party.

I find that Article 56 of Hague Convention No. II of 1899 and the same article of Hague Convention No. IV of 1907 respecting the laws and customs of war or land forbids the seizure of the property of municipalities or that of institutions dedicated to religion, charity, education, and the arts and sciences even when state property, and provides that such seizure should be made the subject of legal proceedings. Both of these conventions were ratified by the United States. In spite of Article 2 of the 1907 Convention which stipulates that the provisions contained in the convention "do not apply except between contracting powers, and then only if all the belligerents are parties to the convention," the principles set forth in the convention have been held to apply to the present war with Germany.

The verdict of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg on the indictment against Alfred Rosenberg found against him that "He directed that The Hague rules of land warfare were not applicable in the occupied eastern territories."² Article 56 of The Hague rules is declaratory of existing customary international law on the subject. Compliance with these rules is the established policy of the Government of the United States. This is shown by the fact that the United States ratified both the 1899 and the 1907 Hague Conventions on the rules of land warfare, and that the United States War Department's Basic Field Manual incorporates the provisions of Article 56 as Paragraph 318 of its "Rules of Land Warfare." Moreover, the United States is a party to the Pan American Convention signed at Washington on April 15, 1935 on the "Protection of Artistic and Scientific Institutions and Historic Monuments" which contains similar provisions.

2. The New York Times, October 2, 1946, p. 22, Col. 8.

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By WBE NARA Date 6/15/11

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A collection of books and manuscripts on Jewish history in the possession of a great German library or university is in good hands and open to use by scholars. The same collection distributed to Jewish organizations in various parts of the world might become dispersed, lost, or destroyed, fall into inexperienced hands, be inaccessible to scholars, and even become a means of transmitting funds for political purposes.

Mr. Hemmingdinger stated that the reason for the provision was that the Jewish community in various parts of Germany and Austria has been destroyed, and the Jews killed or dispersed. Consequently, there is no longer a need for Jewish cultural objects in the libraries and museums in those communities, and they should be sent to the communities in Palestine or elsewhere to which the Jews have emigrated.

So far as religious articles and books used only by such Jewish communities, this seems a reasonable proposal. However, any agreement on this subject should be carefully worded to avoid the general implications pointed out above. Collections assembled through Jewish contributions or taxation of Jewish communities might be claimed if the Jews have been killed or dispersed. Collections belonging to the German people as a whole or non-Jewish foundations and of general scholarly, historic, or artistic interest, should not be seized, requisitioned, acquired at forced purchase, or used as reparations. The adoption of a program of replacement in kind for Jewish cultural objects should await and be a part of a general replacement program, if and when adopted by the four powers.

Article 3 of the proposal for a trusteeship corporation provides that "When the corporation shall have been constituted trustee as aforesaid, it shall send a technical mission of limited size into the American Zone of occupation which shall:

"c. Ascertain what Hebraica and Judaica and what other Jewish religious or cultural objects are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions in the American Zone of occupation, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions."

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The article continues by providing that the commanding generals of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria shall on their part admit the corporation's mission to the American Zone of occupation, give its members free access to all places in which Jewish religious or cultural objects are kept or stored and provide them with such "other assistance and such transportation and other facilities as are reasonably necessary to enable them to perform their functions."

Under the proposal, the American commanding generals furthermore are to "c. Seize and take into their possession all Hebraica, Judaica and other Jewish religious and cultural objects which are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian State, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions.

This Jewish technical mission, it should be noted, is to have much more power and authority than any of the missions sent by national governments to claim restitutable objects. The Jewish mission may visit any public or private collection of cultural objects in Germany to search for such objects. On its behalf, the American commanders are to seize all public collections in Germany of Jewish cultural objects, apparently as defined by the Jewish mission, and turn them over to the Jewish trustee corporation. This appears to make a private claimant or a voluntary organization representing or trustee for private claimants, the judge of what public property shall be seized on their behalf by the United States Government as a very general species of replacement in kind, or as reparations.

It should be emphasized that the seizure by the United States Army of any cultural objects legally owned by German museums, libraries, or archives in the American Zone of occupation in Germany and Austria would be a violation of international law as stated in Article 56 of The Hague rules of land warfare. Such action by American officers would moreover be a violation by them of paragraph 318 of the War Department's Basic Field Manual on the "Rules of Land Warfare."

In my opinion, such action is contrary to the policy or interests of the United States. It would complicate the security problems of the United States Zone and tend to perpetuate a feud. The protection of the members of the Jewish mission making a survey for such illegal action might be difficult. Even if a program of replacement in kind is decided upon eventually, it should be done by proper legal proceedings having a judicial character. Some control and review of the claims of the Jewish mission should be maintained. Monuments and fine art officers or other officials of the AMG should be brought into the

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picture as advisers or reviewers.

It would be unjust to apply replacement or transfer measures against German cultural collections in the American Zone only. Such proposals should not be applied in the United States Zone unless and until adopted as a quadripartite measure for application in all zones.

If an international Jewish trustee corporation is established and given custody of looted Jewish cultural property in Europe, (i) its powers should be so limited as to prevent its seizing German cultural property as replacement in kind or reparations, its claims to looted Jewish cultural property should be subject to review by military government authorities in the various zones of operation and by the local courts.

The Government of the United States should be careful to avoid approving and lending official and military assistance to a program couched in such general terms that it could be used as the basis for the creation of a Jewish agency, resembling the notorious Einsatzstab Rosenberg in reverse, which Jewish organization acting in a spirit of revenge could loot with the assistance of United States troops, German public museums, libraries, and archives, of any cultural treasures which, in the opinion of the personnel of the Jewish mission, had a Jewish character. It is contrary to elementary principles of justice that a claimant be the judge of his own claim. Government agencies, and especially troops, should not be placed under the direction of private claimants.

Public museums, libraries, and archives are an international public trust. Their protection is of interest to scholars and connoisseurs all over the world. The Nazis violated this trust, and earned the condemnation of the civilized world. It is to be hoped that the Government of the United States will not follow their example, even in a minor degree.

The Government of the United States should further assure itself and make certain that the cultural objects turned over to the international Jewish trustee corporation would not be sold to raise funds for political purposes.

Mr. Hemmingdinger stated in reply to my questions that the Jewish organizations which it is proposed to invite to participate in the corporation are well established and well known Jewish religious and cultural associations, representing

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By WBE NARA Date 6/15/11

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all Jews in the United States, in Palestine and to some extent in Europe. Some of the organizations are international in membership. Others are confederations of local organizations. He feels that the corporation would be on a very high level of integrity, that it would be cultural and scholarly in character, and that it would have a character and prestige approaching that of an international governmental agency.

The restitution program as set forth in the Department's draft agreement of 1945^o, the quadripartite procedures agreed to ~~the~~ date and, the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1946, all provide for restitution to the governments of the countries from which the property was looted. Individual claimants, corporations, voluntary associations, and churches including Jewish organizations, whether national or international in scope make their claims to the governments of the countries to which the objects are restituted. It is believed that the program of the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation could be carried out within this general framework. The corporation could undoubtedly be of great assistance to individual Jewish claimants in obtaining restitution of cultural and religious objects. In the case of objects whose owners have died without heirs, the corporation could apply to the appropriate governmental authorities having legal right to dispose of the objects to be appointed thereof. In case a quadripartite program for replacement in kind is *Trustee* adopted, the Jewish cultural property would of course be included. The Department should modify its policy to provide that the cultural property of destroyed Jewish religious communities would be included. The proposed trustee corporation could be of great assistance on a voluntary level in the practical operation of the program as it affects Jewish claims to cultural and religious property. However, the proposal originating in GA for the wholesale seizure by the United States Army of German-owned cultural objects in public museums, archives, and libraries in the American Zone if claimed by the trustee corporation to have a Jewish character, to have been written or produced by Jews, or to be related to Jewish culture, religion or history, should be rejected as contrary to international law and United States and Departmental policy, and as not being in the interest of the Jews themselves.

3. See No. 4490 to London of June 5, 1945.

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By *WBR* NARA Date *6/15/71*

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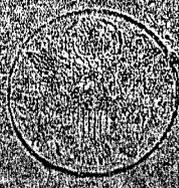
Miss Hall of ADO has read most of this memorandum, made certain suggestions regarding it, and states that she is in substantial agreement with the views expressed by Mr. Stimson.

Ralph H. Stimson

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

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ORIGIN
EU
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No. CA-5907 January 25, 1960.

sid

SUBJECT: Raggio-Browne Claims

To: The American Embassy, BERLIN

RPED INFO: Bonn, Frankfurt

Reference is made to Bern despatch No. 379 of January 14, 1960, subject: Stolen Paintings belonging to Mrs. Katherine Osborne (Browne) Raggio, inadvertently turned over to the JRSO by American authorities in Germany after World War II.

In the above despatch, Mr. Osborne Sanderson Browne has requested a copy of the "agreement or contract," whereby the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization (JRSO) agreed to return any objects given to it in error. This clause appears in the "Receipt for Cultural Objects" of the "Allied Control Authority, Reparations, Deliveries and Restitution Directorate" of the Office of Military Government (U.S.). The receipt was signed by the Director General of the JRSO, on 31 May 1949, and witnessed by the Chief, MFA&A Section, Restitution Branch, Hdqs, Office of Military Government for Bavaria (OMGB) at the Munich Central Collecting Point (MCCP). It reads,

"This receipt is given with the understanding that the property herein described is of Jewish origin but is unidentifiable as to individual ownership. The receiving agency undertakes to restore, to Military Government, properties and objects in its possession which have been delivered to it by mistake." All receipts for the restitution of cultural property by the United States Government carry a similar provision. The reason given in the receipt for the MCCP of OMGB believing that the two Raggio paintings were unidentifiable was that they had been confiscated from Jews at the Dutch border, evacuated by German customs authorities to repository Maudslayi/Breish and later to repository Kogl/Austria."

At the time that the above information is given to Mr. Browne, the American Embassy in Bern is requested to ask Mr. Browne to correct any false statement against the JRSO and the Department, he may have made to a newspaper correspondent.

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(Security Classification)

DRAFTED BY: CU/ANGAR Hall 107 1/21/60

APPROVED BY: CU/ANGAR Hall 107

CLEARANCES: CFR: Mr. Alder

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Entry 5383
Box 1

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Authority: 100-99096
Date: 7/6/99

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In a letter to the American Ambassador at Bonn, dated December 5, 1959, Mr. Brown stated, "I have advised the press concerning this scandal and I am sure now that members of the Department of State have been working the racket with JRSO perhaps involving millions of dollars of stolen property."

Mr. Browne is fully aware that the restitution in error was made by DMGUS to a former director of the JRSO and that the Department of State has been glad to assist the present director of the JRSO, in so far as possible, in correcting the mistake. He also knows that Arts and Monuments Adviser of the Department has identified the Raglio ownership of every painting restituted to them from Germany and from Austria and, during the past six months, has furnished detailed documentation to them and to their German lawyer in Dusseldorf, for the validation of their claims for immediate monetary restitution.

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Enclosure: (to Bonn and Frankfurt)
From American Embassy, Bonn, No. 379,
January 11, 1960.

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Entry 5383
Box 1

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Authority: 990996
By: 71 NARA Date: 7/6/99

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OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)

STAFF CABLE CONTROL

DATED 140116Z

INCOMING MESSAGE

157B July 46

935/14/hs

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

FROM : AGWAR FROM WDSKA

TO : OMGUS
USFA

INFO : USFET

REF NO : WX-94368

Reurads June CC-6925, June CC-7121.

Commission European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Committee Recovery Jewish Cultural Property of World Jewish Congress and Dr Magnes of Hebrew Univ have proposed to State plans for disposition of Jewish religious cultural treasures found Germany and Austria. Plans contemplate retention responsibility by OMGUS or by officially appointed trustee with Jewish Advisory Board making actual decisions and Library Congress assisting classification and ascertaining former status. Plans also contemplate OMGUS creating tribunals pass upon claims. Proposals for distrib provide identifiable Pvt owners would get property; Jewish communities and institutions only to extent capable making full use thereof with due regard percentage former Jewish populations surviving. Objects not within foregoing categories to be distributed according world-wide needs Jewish institutions and communities.

Summary proposed reply by State to these organs follows:

1. State agrees general principles distrib but prefers OMGUS and USFA not retain responsibility for disposition and that board of advisers should be constituted instead as trustee adequately representing all interested organs and institutions.

AGC IN 32302

RESTRICTED

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Exempt from paraphrase. Handle in compliance with AR 380-5.

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R E S T R I C T E D

REF NO : WX-94368

LETTERS:

2. If such body is created, State will recommend OMGUS that property American Zone originating in Germany be turned over to it forthwith.

3. With respect property originating outside Germany and property in other 3 zones State will propose seeking quadripartite apvl turning over property to board or if shall seem more expedient seeking consent each claimant Govt to such disposition on ad hoc basis.

Your comments desired.

Pending policy decision request you make no further restitution whether external or internal fr Offenbach and similar dept without express apvl State.

USFA please advise also whether any Jewish cultural or religious property found Austria involving problem restitution.

CC-6925; 14 JUNE 46, ECON
CC-7121; 18 JUNE 46, ECON

ACTION : ECON

INFORMATION : O/SS

- FIN
- POL AFF
- IA&C
- LEGAL
- CONT OFF
- CIV ADMIN
- TRANSP
- AF

ECON DIV DATE:	
Branch	Act Info
Exec	
Personnel	
Report & Stat	
Policy & Coord	
Req & Alloc	
Food & Fuel	
T&C	
Industry	
Restitutions	
Supply & Proc	
Comptrol	
D/Mission	
File	

AGC IN 32302 15 JULY 46 1315B CB/hs

R E S T R I C T E D

WA

106-260

OMPS

MEGA SECTION CHIEF

Box 722

FILE: ATOC 109~

Office of Public Affairs,
Division of Cultural Affairs,
Headquarters Building,
Frankfurt, Main,
July 29, 1952.

Re: OSSch/Rosbg-DR

Dear Dr. Ostertag:

Your letter of July 9 to Foreign Exchange Depository, Frankfurt, was sent to me for reply. The two drawings, registered under the numbers WIE 5481, 5482, were transferred from the Wiesbaden Collecting Point to the Jewish Restitutions Successor Organization (IRSO) on July 5, 1951 because the Jewish owner was unknown at that time. It is suggested that you request the release of the objects from the IRSO whose offices are at the Palace of Justice in Nuernberg.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Breitenbach
Cultural Institutions Officer
Information Centers Advisory Staff

Herrn

Dr. Ostertag, Rechtsanwalt und Notar
(14A) Stuttgart-S.
Charlottenstr. 15A
Postschliessfach 451.

Box 104
R6 260
092 98

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Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305323

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: PUB:DCA - Mr. E. Breitenbach

Date: July 25, 1952

From: E:FN - K. A. de Keyserlingk

Subject: Sketch and Drawing by Moritz v. Schwindt

With reference to our telephone conversation, I enclose herewith inquiry of July 9, 1952 received from Dr. Ostertag, Stuttgart, attorney for Dr. Wilhelm Rosenberg, as well as my exchange of Office Memoranda with Mr. F. J. Roberts.

I have advised Dr. Ostertag that the matter has been referred to you as per enclosed copy of my letter of today.

Enclosures: a/s

No. Wic 5481 + 5482

transferred by WCCP, as unknown Jewish property to JRSO, Nürnberg

shipment 334 dated July 5, 1951

receipt signed by Mrs. Danel Kegan.

E:FN:KAdKeyserlingk/is
Tel: 8708

*Box 104
R6 260
092 98*

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305324

Finance Division
External Claims Branch
Headquarters Building
Frankfurt/Main

July 25, 1952.

Dear Dr. Ostertag:

Your reference OSSch/Rosbg-Dr

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 9, 1952 inquiring on behalf of Dr. Wilhelm Rosenberg, Pforzheim, about a pencil sketch and a drawing by Moritz v. Schwindt.

No trace of these two items has been found in the records of the Foreign Exchange Depository, which was dissolved some time ago. It is however possible that the items in question were directed to Monuments & Fine Arts Branch, Wiesbaden, and we have therefore referred your letter to Mr. E. Breitenbach, Division of Cultural Affairs in the Office of Public Affairs, HICOG.

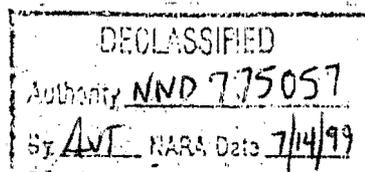
Sincerely yours,

K. A. de Keyserlingk
Chief
External Claims Branch

Dr. Ostertag,
Stuttgart-S,
Postschliessfach 451.

E:FN:KadeKeyserlingk/is/8708

Box 104
R6 260



305325

OFFICE OF THE U. S. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR GERMANY

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: E:FN - Mr. K.A. de Keyserlingk
From: E:IND- F. J. Roberts
Subject: Art Objects: Italian Pencil Sketch
Sketch by Moritz v. Schwindt

Date: July 23, 1952

Do not have any recollection that above items were ever held by FED. Not likely to have been accepted as late as April 1948 but would have been directed to Monuments & Fine Arts Branch, Wiesbaden since clear distinction existed by that time between art objects and foreign exchange assets.

Enclosures: Letter from Dr. Ostertag
Office Memo 18 July

E:IND:FJRoberts/hr
Tel. 3717

Box 104
R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305326

OFFICE OF THE U.S. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR GERMANY.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: E:PM - Mr. F. J. Roberts

Date: July 18, 1952

From: E:FN - K. A. de Keyserlingk

Subject: Letter from Dr. Ostertag, July 9, 1952.

Enclosed herewith is letter from Dr. Ostertag, Stuttgart, concerning a sketch and a drawing by Moritz v. Schwindt.

Do you remember anything about these two items having at any time been deposited with the F.E.D.? After I have your comments I intend to pass this letter on to Mr. Breitenbach.

Enclosure:

Subject letter.

EN:KAdeKeyserlingk/lg/8708

Box 104
R6 260
092 98

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305327

RECHTSANWALT UND NOTAR DR. OSTERTAG
RECHTSANWÄLTE DR. ULMER UND DR. WERNER
(14A) STUTTGART-S, CHARLOTTENSTR. 15A DR. SEYFARTH

POSTANSCHRIFT: OSTERTAG, ULMER U. WERNER
(14a) STUTTGART-S, POSTSCHLISSFACH 451

Foreign Exchange Depository
Reichsbank Building
4/5 Taunus-Anlage

Frankfurt a. Main
APO 757, US-Army

TELEFON: 91277 u. 95176
POSTSCHECKKONTO:
STUTTGART 20663
BANKKONTO:
BANKVEREIN FÜR WÜRTT.-
BADEN STUTTGART
TELEGRAMM-ADRESSE:
OSTERJURA

Neue Telefon-Sammelnummer 241241

IHR ZEICHEN:

IHRE NACHRICHT VOM:

UNSER ZEICHEN:

DATUM:

RECHTSANWALT DR. OSTERTAG

OSSch/Rosbg-DR

9.7.52

BANK FÜR LEISTUNGEN

Bitte bei Antwort

Betr. Italienische Bleistiftzeichnung und
Zeichnung von Moritz v. Schwindt

In der Geltendmachung von Rückerstattungs- und Entschädi-
gungsansprüchen vertrete ich Herrn Dr. Wilhelm Rosenberg,
der jetzt wieder in Pforzheim, Martinsbau, Dillsteinerstr. 3a
wohnhaft ist.

Aus der Kunstsammlung des Herrn Dr. Rosenberg hat seiner-
zeit Herr Prof. Goetzel, Bad Liebenzell, Schwarzwald die
obengenannten Gegenstände im Besitz gehabt und im Jahr
1945 der amerikanischen Militärregierung zur Verfügung ge-
stellt, da er einen Eigentümer nicht kannte. In der Zwischen-
zeit hatte sich mein Mandant als Eigentümer gemeldet. Dies
wurde auch von Herrn Prof. Goetzel Herrn William A. Lovegrove,
Archives Officer, Baden-Baden, Villa Stefanie mitgeteilt.
Wie daraufhin in Erfahrung gebracht werden konnte, soll die
ital. Bleistiftzeichnung und die Zeichnung von Moritz v.
Schwindt seit April 1948 bei Foreign Exchange Depository,
Reichsbank Building 4/5 Taunus-Anlage, Frankfurt a. Main,
APO 757/US Army deponiert sein.

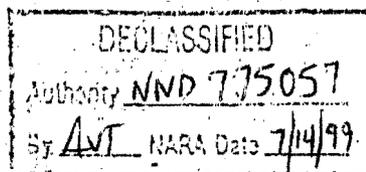
Ich bitte um Mitteilung, ob dies zutrifft und ob Sie noch
weitere Unterlagen benötigen, dass die Gegenstände an
meinen Mandanten ausgehändigt werden können.

Hochachtungsvoll
Rechtsanwalt

Dr. Ostertag

Benützen Sie bitte bei der Adresse nur die Postschließfach-Nummer 451 anstatt der Straße.

FOI 104
092 98



305328

Out slip 334

16, Wiesbaden, Landesmuseum
Office of Economic Affairs
Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point

July 3, 1951

Mr. Saul Kagan,
Jewish Restitution Successor Org.
112 Fuertnerstrasse,
Nuernberg

Dear Mr. Kagan:

Whilst closing up our storage rooms we did discover two more drawings (Wiesb. No. 5481 & 5482) which were confiscated from a certain Professor Goetzell, Bad Liebenzell. According to our information these two drawings are former Jewish property. The owners can not be discovered thus and therefore Mr. Howe decided to turn these drawings over into your custody. The drawings are rather small and therefore I think it advisable that we deliver them to your Frankfurt office for further action. Please sign the enclosed receipts and return four copies to our office.

Very truly yours,

v. Schmidt auf Altenstadt
Property Officer
Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point

Encls: a/s above

Telephone: Wiesbaden 21279

305329

*Box 104
R6 260
092 98*

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By <i>AVT</i> NARA Date 7/14/99

Outship 334

OFFICE OF THE U.S. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR GERMANY
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
PROPERTY DIVISION

The receiving agency agrees that the occupying power and its agents and representatives shall be saved harmless from any claim for loss, damage or deterioration suffered by any item from the date of its removal from the original owner to the transferee to the custody of JCR Inc.

RECEIPT FOR JEWISH CULTURAL PROPERTIES

Place Wiesbaden

Date 05. Juli 1951

Mr. Saul Kagan

1. The undersigned Mr. Saul Kagan authorized representative of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc., hereby acknowledges on behalf of JCR Inc. from the United States High Commissioner in Germany receipt for the items described in Schedule A, attached hereto which have this day been delivered to JCR from the Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point-Archival Depot.

2. The Scheduled Jewish cultural properties transferred herewith to JCR Inc., in accordance with the Frankfurt agreement of 15 February 1949 between the Office of Military Government (U.S.) for Germany and Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc., were wrongfully separated from owning individuals and organizations in Europe during the period of Nazi rule and were subsequently taken into protective custody by Military Government.

3. JCR Inc. in accepting custody therefor, certifies that individual ownership of subject items cannot be determined and undertakes to act as trustee for the Jewish people in the distribution of said property to such public or quasipublic religious, cultural or educational institutions as it sees fit, to be used in the interest of perpetuating Jewish art and culture, or to utilize them for the maintenance of the cultural heritage of the Jewish people, and to this end further undertakes to maintain the physical integrity of all such properties which had not been so damaged as to prevent normal use.

4. Properties transferred in the present receipt, unidentifiable and hence not the proper subjects of claims under Law 59, fall under one or more of the categories checked below:

- a. Jewish books, archives and miscellaneous documents in various languages.
- b. Torah scrolls and miscellaneous synagogue vestments, prayer shawls, etc.
- c. Jewish ritual objects of precious metals and including precious stones.
- d. Paintings and furnishings of previous but specifically unidentifiable Jewish ownership.
- e. Such other Jewish cultural properties as the Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany shall agree to transfer to JCR, and which shall be transferred in accordance with special conditions.

(over)

Form HICOG - 47
(15 Feb 51)

*Box 104
R6 260*

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date: 7/14/99

305330

5. The receiving agency undertakes to restore to the Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany, until June 30, 1952, for proper disposition any object which has been delivered to it by mistake and is not covered by the special provisions. After June 30, 1952, the receiving agency is empowered to make proper disposition of the aforementioned property.

6. The receiving agency agrees that the occupying power and all its agents and representatives shall be saved harmless from any claim for loss, damage or deterioration suffered by any item from the time of its removal from the original owner to its transfer into custody of JCR Inc.

RECEIPT FOR JEWISH CULTURAL PROPERTIES

- 1.) WIE No. 5481 Drawing Moritz von Schwind
Presentation in the temple
- 2.) WIE No. 5482 Drawing German, 19th cent.
Landscape

Witness: Thomas C. Howe Signature: Saul Kagan

Thomas C. Howe, Cultural Affairs Adviser, U.S. High Commissioner for Germany, Wiesbaden, Germany. Mr. Saul Kagan, Authorized Representative, J.C.R., Wiesbaden, Germany.

Signature & Office typed: Thomas C. Howe
 Place: Wiesbaden
Central Collecting Point
APC 633

Date: _____
 Title or Capacity of Signer: Authorized Representative J.C.R.

Distribution:
 Original and one copy - HICOG (Prop Div)
 2 - OLCH
 2 - JCR Inc.

Properties transferred in the present receipt shall be distributed as follows:
 a. Jewish books, archives and miscellaneous documents, etc.
 b. Torah scrolls and miscellaneous synagogue ritual objects.
 c. Jewish ritual objects of precious metals and including Jewish articles.
 d. Paintings and furnishings of synagogues and Jewish homes.
 e. Such other Jewish cultural properties as the Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany shall agree to transfer to JCR and which shall be transferred in accordance with special conditions.

305331

Box 104
 R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 775057
 by AVT NARA Date 7/4/99

Office of the United States
30, 1952 for proper
to it by mistake and is
powered to make proper
its agents and representatives shall
suffered by any item from the

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

July 9, 1951

Mr. v. Schmidt auf Altenstadt
Property Officer
Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point
16, Wiesbaden, Landesmuseum
Office of Economic Affairs
HICOG

Dear Mr. v. Schmidt auf Altenstadt:

With reference to your letter of July 3, 1951, please find four copies of the signed receipt for the drawing: Moritz von Schwind - Presentation in the Temple - and the drawing: German, 19th Century Landscape, your Wiesbaden Nos. 5481 and 5482.

Sincerely yours,


SAUL KAGAN
Director

Tel.: Nuernberg 61041
ext 3

Plans and Operations Board

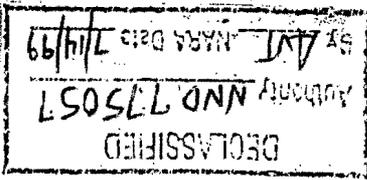
Incls.: a/s.

305332

Box 104
R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305333



RG 260
Box 104

July 9, 1951

Mr. v. Schmidt auf Altenstadt
Property Officer
Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point
16, Wiesbaden, Landesmuseum
Office of Economic Affairs
EICOG

Dear Mr. v. Schmidt auf Altenstadt:

With reference to your letter of July 3, 1951, please find four copies of the signed receipt for the drawing: Moritz von Schwind - Presentation in the Temple - and the drawing: German, 19th Century Landscape, your Wiesbaden Nos. 5481 and 5482.

Sincerely yours,

SAUL KAGAN
Director

Plans and Operations Board

Tel.: Nuernberg 61041
ext 3

Incls.: a/s.

P a c k i n g - L i s t

Lfd.No.	Box No. 1	Subject	Author
1.)	MH.No. 2313/1	Beer Jug with Tin Cover	Creussen 17th c
2.)	" " 2313/2	" " " " "	Creussen, 17th c
3.)	" " 2313/3	Tobacco-Box with Tin-cover	Creussen, 17th c
4.)	" " 2313/4	Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover	Upper Silisia, 17th cent.
5.)	" " 2313/5	Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover	Upper Silesia, 17th cent.
6.)	" " 2313/6	Beer-Jug	Creussen, 17th
7.)	" " 2313/7	Tobacco-Box with Tin-Cover	Creussen, late 17th cent.
8.)	" " 2313/8	Beer-Jug with Tin-cover	Upper Silesia, 17th cent.
9.)	" " 2313/9	Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover	Creussen, 1654
10.)	" " 2313/10	Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover	Creussen. 1674
11.)	" " 2313/11	Cover and tin mouth Wine-Pot with Tin -	Creussen, 17th c
12.)	" " 2313/12	Spice-Box	Creussen, late 17th cent.
13.)	" " 2313/13	Beer-Jug (mug)	Creussen, 2.h. 17th cent.
14.)	" " 2313/14	Beer-Jug	Creussen, 17th cent.
15.)	" " 2313/15	Tobacco-Box with Tin-Cover	Creussen, 1650
16.)	" " 2313/16	Beer-Jug with Cover	Creussen, 17th cent.
17.)	" " 2313/17	Barrel with Screw Cover	Upper Silesia 17th cent.
18.)	" " 2313/18	Apostle-Jug	Creussen, 17th cent.
19.)	" " 2313/19	Beer-Jug with Cover	Upper Silesia, 18th cent.
20.)	" " 2313/20	Beer-Jug	Creussen, 17th cent.

Box 104
R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

305334

Packing List No. 2.

See No. 2

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1.) Mun. No. 2313/21 | Beer-Jug Tin-Cover | Creussen 17th c. |
| 2.) Mun. No. 2313/22 | Beer-Jug, Tin Cover | Creussen early
18th c. |
| 3.) Mun. No. 2313/23 | Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover | Creussen 1725 |
| 4.) Mun.No.2313/24 | Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover | Creussen late
17th c. |
| 5.) Mun.No. 2313/25 | Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover | Creussen 17th c. |
| 6.) Mun.No. 2313/26 | Tobacco-Box with Tin-Cover
and Handle | Creussen 1681 |
| 7.) Mun.No. 2313/27 | Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover | Upper Silesia
17th c. |
| 8.) Mun.No. 2313/28 | Beer-Jug with Tin-Cover | Banslau? 17th c. |
| 9.) Hds.No. 6519 | Milk Canakin | 17th Century? |
| 10.) Wis.No. 6520 | Milk Canakin | Unknown |
| 11.) Wie.No. 6521/1-2 | 2 Wine Pitchers | Unknown |
| 12.) wie.No. 6522 | 1 Pitcher | German, unknown |
| 13.) wie.No. 6523/1-2 | 2 Coffee-Pots | 18th Cent.? |
| 14.) wie.No. 6524/1-2 | 2 Milk-Pitchers | 18th Cent. |
| 15.) | | |

305335

Box 104
R 6 260
092 98

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARS Date 7/14/99

Packing List No. 3

Box No. 3

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1.) | Wie. No. 4424/1-10 | 10 pieces Silver Service | Paris about 1900 |
| 2.) | Wie. No. 6525(a&b) | 1 mortar with a beater | Unknown |
| 3.) | Wie. No. 6526 | 1 Oil Lamp | Unknown |
| 4.) | Wie. No. 6527 | 1 Small Pan with two Handles | Unknown |
| 5.) | Wie. No. 6528/1-3 | 3 Large Plates | Unknown |
| 6.) | Wie. No. 6529/1-2 | 2 Dishes | Unknown |
| 7.) | Wie. No. 6530/1-5 | 5 Small Plates without Brim | Unknown |
| 8.) | Wie. No. 6531/1-5 | 5 Small Plates | Unknown |

305336

Box 104
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

Packing List No. 4

Box No. 4

<u>Wie. No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Author</u>
1.) Wie.No. 6064/1-20	20 Patterned Mugs	Unknown
2.) Wie. No.6065/1-16	16 Engraved Mugs	Unknown
3.) Wie.No. 6082/1-6	6 Cream Jugs	Unknown
4.) Wie.No. 6076/1-5	5 Snuff Boxes	Unknown
5.) Wie.No. 6069/1- 3	3 Mugs with Round Base	Unknown
6.) Wie.No. 6070/1-9	9 Half Shell Mugs	Unknown
7.) Wie.No. 6071/1-5	5 Barrel Shaped Double Mugs	Unknown
8.) Wie.No. 6072/1-10	10 Salt Cellars	Unknown
9.) Wie.No. 6073/1-6	6 Salvers	Unknown
10.) Wie.No. 6087/1-5	5 Small Silver Toys	Unknown
11.) Wie.No. 6063/1-24	24 Plain Mugs	Unknown
12.) Wie.No. 6068/1-8	8 Mugs on Stand	Unknown
13.) Wie.No. 6067/1-11	11 Mugs on Ball Shaped Feet	Unknown
14.) Wie.No. 6080/1-9	9 Small Pill Boxes	Unknown
15.) Wie.No. 6066	1 Mug with Lid	Unknown
16.) Wie.No. 6074/1-2	2 Basket Shaped Bowls	Unknown
17.) Wie.No. 6075	1 Large Bowl on Feet	Unknown
18.) Wie.No. 6077/1-4	4 Spice Boxes	Unknown
19.) Wie.No. 6078	1 Sugar Bowl with Lid	Unknown

continued on
page 2

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Box 104
86 260

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By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

Packing List No. 4

Box No. 4 etc.

	Wie No.	Subject	Author
20.)	Wie.No. 6079	Screw Neck Top Flask (round)	Unknown
21.)	Wie.No. 6081/1-3	3 Cream Jugs	Unknown
22.)	Wie.No. 6083/1-2	2 Egg Cups	Unknown
23.)	Wie.No. 6084	1 Sugar Bowl	Unknown
24.)	Wie.No. 6085/1-2	2 Candlesticks	Unknown
25.)	Wie.No. 6086	1 Low Candle Holder	Unknown
26.)	Wie.No. 6089	1 Small Silver Tray	Unknown
27.)	Wie.No. 6090/1-4	4 Chains	Unknown
28.)	Wie.No. 6091	1 Heart Shaped Pendant	Unknown
29.)	Wie.No. 6092	1 Sculpture	Unknown
30.)	Wie.No. 6093/1-19	19 Large Soup Ladles	Unknown
31.)	Wie.No. 6094/1-14	14 Soup Ladles	Unknown
32.)	Wie.No. 6095/1-12	12 Gravy Ladles	Unknown
33.)	Wie.No. 6096/1-3	3 Cake Spatulas	Unknown
34.)	Wie.No. 6097/1-45	45 Soup Spoons	18th cent.
35.)	Wie.No. 6098/1-44	44 Soup Spoons	19th Cent.
36.)	Wie.No. 6099/1-32	32 coffee Spoons	Unknown
37.)	Wie.No. 6101/1-40	40 Knives	Unknown

Continued on
Page 3

305338

Box 104
R 6 260
092 98

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

Packing List No. 4

Box No. 4 ctd.

38.)	Wie.No. 6100/1-18	18 Dessert Knives	Unknown
39.)	Wie.No. 6102/1-8	8 Forks	Unknown
40.)	Wie.No. 6103/1-18	18 Knife & Fork Sets	Unknown
41.)	Wie.No. 6104/1-4	4 Carving Sets	Unknown
42.)	Wie.No. 6105/1-2	2 Spoon & Fork Sets	Unknown
43.)	Wie.No. 6088	1 Sugar Tongs	Unknown
44.)	Wie.No. 6106	1 Bone Saw	Unknown
45.)	Wie.No. 6107/1-10	10 Coffee Spoons	Unknown

305339

Box 104
R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <u>NND 775057</u>
By <u>AVT</u> NARA Date <u>7/14/99</u>

Packing List

Packing - List
BOX V.

1.) WIS No. 5304

Metalwerk

- Unknown, Modern
- 3 Hängeleuchter aus Messing
- 1 Chanukkaleuchter aus Messing
- 1 Bronzefigur (David mit Harfe)
- 2 Hänger aus Messing

305340

Box 104
R6 260

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

Box No. VI.

<u>W.No.</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Dep.Possessor.</u>
1. Wie No. 3165/54	Unknown	Portrait	I.E.J. Frankfurt
2. 3165/55	Unknown	Portrait	" "
3. 3165/22	F. Harburger	Flower Stillife	" "
4. 3165/4	F. Harburger	Flower Stillife	" "
5. 3165/23	C. Cipra	Landscape	" "
6. 3165/21	Hern. Junker	Purchase of Fish for Sabbath	" "
7. 3165/36	Fr. Harburger	Landscape	" "
8. 3165/35	Unknown	Woman's portrait	" "
9. 3165/34	F. Harburger	Stillife with fruit	" "
10. 3165/24	F. Harburger	Stillife with fruit	" "
11. 3165/33	F. Harburger	Landscape	" "
12. 3165/27	Capon	Nude	" "
13. 3165/2	Giessel	Jewish Theologians	" "
14. 3165/31	F.H. (Harburger?)	Woman's Portrait	" "
15. 3165/32	F. Harburger	Womans portrait	" "

305341

Box 104
R6 260

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Authority NND 775057
By AVT NARA Date 7/14/99

Box No. VII.

<u>WIE No.</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1. 3623/5	Painting	Honigberger	Portrait of a lady
2. 3623/6	Print	Luigi Kasimir	View of Zürich
3. 3623/7	Print	Unknown 17th cent.	
4. 3623/8	Photoportrait of	W. Furtwängler	
5. 3623/9	Print	Unknown 17th cent	
6. 3623/10	Print		View of Bad Mergentheim 1923
7. 3623/11	Print	Rabinowitch	View of Zürich
8. 3623/12	Silkpainting	modern	Silkpainting (broicered)
9. 3113	Painting	Iyes, Jan	Portrait of a young man
10. 5950	Painting	E. Knecht	Serpentara Landscape
11. 3165/98	Painting	v. Falada	Portrait of a Rabbi (?)
12. 3165/13	Print	Unknown	Gravestone Scene
13. 5952	Painting	K. Hoff	Portrait of a soldier
14. 4066/26	Painting	Unknown about 1870	Stillife
15. 3165/10	Painting	Unknown	Man's portrait
16. 3165/7	Painting	Unknown	Portrait
17. 3165/5	Painting	D. Ville (?)	David and Goliath
18. 3165/39	Drawing	Spanish 18th et.	Festimonial
19. 3325/21	Painting	Munich Painter 19th cent	Sketch after Rubens
20. 4065/3	Painting	South German about 1540	Virgin and child
21. 4065/10	Painting	Dutch 17th cent.	Horses in a stable

2

305342

Box 104
R6 260
092 98

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 775057
By <u>AVT</u> NARA Date 7/14/99

P a c k i n g - - L i s t

B O X V I I I .

1.)	WIE NO.	3623/4	Woodwork	Frame, painted canvas mounted on wood, oval
2.)	MAR	" 105	Painting	German, 19th century Huntsman
3.)	"	" 106	"	Storch Carl, 20th century Portrait of a bearded man
4.)	WIE NO.	3165/6	Painting	Unknown Portrait
5.)	"	" 3165/11	"	Unknown Man's portrait
6.)	"	" 3165/15	"	Unknown Portrait of a Rabbi
7.)	"	" 2721	"	Beer, W.A. Landscape
8.)	"	" 3165/46	"	Unknown Portrait of a woman
9.)	"	" 3165/44	"	Copy by M. Chafira Entombment of Christ
10.)	"	" 2125	"	Denis, Simon
11.)	"	" 3165/70	"	Beckmann Portrait of two women
12.)	"	" 3165/67	"	Middle, 19th cent. Rider on a horse
13.)	"	" 3165/65	"	German, beginning 19th cent. Portrait of a man
14.)	"	" 2120	"	Ryckardt, David The Alchemist
15.)	"	" 3165/69	"	Unknown Portrait
16.)	"	" 3165/68	"	Unknown Portrait of a man
17.)	"	" 3165/71	"	F. Harburger Nude
18.)	"	" 3165/50	"	Unknown Portrait
19.)	"	" 3165/48	"	J.W. Wytes Portrait
20.)	"	" 3165/51	"	3165/51 Francis Harburger Flower Stillife
21.)	"	" 3165/73	"	Unknown Portrait
22.)	"	" 3165/53	"	Felix 1900 (?) Portrait
23.)	"	" 3165/62	"	M. Battenberg, 1918 Portrait of a Lady
24.)	"	" 3165/74	"	Herkel Landscape
25.)	"	" 3165/83	"	Unknown Portrait

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P a c k i n g — L i s t (Page 2)

Box VIII

- | | | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 26.) | WIE No. | 2445 | Painting | Altheim, W.
Saint with Bear | |
| 27.) | " | " | 3165/81 | Painting | Unknown, early 20th cent.
Two nudes |
| 28.) | " | " | 3165/86 | Painting | Egon Schiele, 1915
View in a town |
| 29.) | " | " | 3165/82 | Painting | J.J. Becker
Portrait |
| 30.) | " | " | 3165)75 | Painting | Erich Heckel 1916
Landscape |
| 31.) | MU. No. | 36499 | Textiles | Kazak, Caucasia, 19th cent.
Carpet | |
| 32.) | " | " | 6649 | " | Flemish, 17th cent.
Tapestry: Alexander-battle |

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P a c k i n g - L i s t

B O X IX.

- | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| 1.) | WIE No. | 3623/1 | Print | Print by Kriehuber
Assembly of men |
| 2.) | " " | 3623/2 | Watercolour | Watercolour by Schmid
Stillife by bread |
| 3.) | " " | 3623/3 | Watercolour | Watercolour by Schmid
Landscape |
| 4.) | " " | 3132 | Painting | Junker, Justus
Woman plucking a goose |
| 5.) | " " | 3165/19 | Woodwork | Unknown
Relief in shape of a
house |
| 6.) | " " | 3165/43 | Sculpture | Unknown
Relief with standing
young man |
| 7.) | " " | 3165/14 | Painting | Unknown
Portrait |
| 8.) | " " | 3165/20 | Painting | E. Carriere
Mythological Lovescene |
| 9.) | " " | 3465 | Painting | South German, about
1470
St. Rupert |
| 10.) | " " | 3466 | Painting | South German, about
1470
St. Erasmus |
| 11.) | " " | 3165/63 | Painting | Knapil, 1938
Flower Stillife |

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P a c k i n g - L i s t

B O X X.

- | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1.) | WIE No. | 5058/14 | Painting | Unknown, 19th cent.
Sketch | |
| 2.) | " | " | 5058/13 | " | Unknown
Sitting nude |
| 3.) | " | " | 5058/12 | " | Unknown, 19th cent.
Portrait of a Man |
| 4.) | " | " | 5058/11 | " | Unknown, 19th cent.
Portrait of a Man |
| 5.) | " | " | 5058/10 | " | Unknown, 20th cent.
Two landscapes (sketches) |
| 6.) | " | " | 5058/9 | " | Unknown, 20th century
Restaurant's scene |
| 7.) | " | " | 5058/3-8 | Prints | Cubistic figures (5 plates)
Unknown, modern |
| 8.) | " | " | 5953 | Painting | Unknown about 1850
Portrait of an old lady |
| 9.) | " | " | 5951 | Painting | R. Roman
Bridge over a rocky valley |
| 10.) | " | " | 5058/1 | Painting | Unknown, modern
Sketch |
| 11.) | " | " | 5058/2 | Painting | Unknown
The Virgin and Child |

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Packing List

BOX XI.

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|----------|----------|---|---|
| 1.) | WIE | No. 5963 | Painting | L. de Silvestre
Portrait of Councillor
von Litzelburg | |
| 2.) | " | " | 4385 | Painting | South German, about 1480
St. Stephan and St. Lawrence |
| 3.) | " | " | 4384 | Painting | South German, about 1480
Apostles Philipp and
Matthew |
| 4.) | " | " | 3165/76 | " | Early 16th cent.
Copy: Milanese School
Virgin and Child
and St. John |
| 5.) | " | " | 6133/2 | Prints | Various
Set of 9 portefeuilles |

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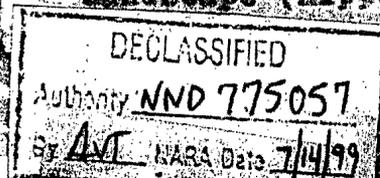
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P a c k i n g L i s t

B O X X I I .

- | | | | |
|------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1.) | WIE No. 4423/6+7 | Drawing | Alt, Th.
Two illustrations for
a Fairy Tale |
| 2.) | " " 4423/8 | Drawing | Dies, W. v.
Portrait of a girl |
| 3.) | " " 4423/9+10 | Drawings | Schwanthaler, L. v.
St. Anne, St. Michael |
| 4.) | " " 4305/17 | " | German, about 1800
Italian Landscape |
| 5.) | " " 4305/18 | " | Moessner, J.
Mountainous River Landscape |
| 6.) | " " 4305/19+20 | " | Alt, J.
Two park landscapes with
mythological figures |
| 7.) | " " 1781 | Painting | Defregger
The rest before a Cottage |
| 8.) | " " 1780 | " | Bürkel
Rest before the inn |
| 9.) | " " 1827 | " | Kriechenfried
A scientific in his studio |
| 10.) | " " 1775 | " | A.Z. Franke
In the studio of the painter |
| 11.) | " " 1778 | " | Hugo Kauffmann
Two hunters in an inn |
| 12.) | " " 1779 | " | Lier
House in the mountains |
| 13.) | " " 1777 | " | Hans Thoma
Two sitting girls |
| 14.) | " " 1783 | Drawing | Boecklin (incorrectly listed as)
Peasant pair with horse |
| 15.) | " " 1774 | Painting | Meister, E.K. G.
Three girls in a park |
| 16.) | " " 1773 | Painting | Attributed to Boucher
Small shepherd |
| 17.) | " " 1772 | " | Rudolf Alt
Courtyard |
| 18.) | " " 1771 | " | Rudolf Alt
Renaissance Courtyard |
| 19.) | " " 3165/79 | Print | Unknown
Mourning Jews in Jerusalem |
| 20.) | " " 5960 | Painting | J. Vonck
Hunting Stilllife |
| 21.) | " " 5961 | Painting | Unknown, 17th cent.
Stilllife with fruits and
crayfish |
| 22.) | " " 5962 | " | Unknown, German, beg. 19th cent.
Boy's Portrait |
| 23.) | " " 6039 | Print/engrav-
ing | K.E. Forberg
Portrait of J.K. Koch |
| 24.) | " " 6058 | Print/Litho | Merian
Landscape (Rippoldsau) |
| 25.) | " " 6059 | | |

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B O X XII.

26.)	WIE No.	6060	Print/Engraving	Schenk Portrait of Schalk
27.)	"	6061	Print/Aqua tints	Weichelt View of the town of Lörrach
28.)	"	6062	"	Weichelt View of the town Baden-Baden
29.)	"	6043	" /Engraving	J.M. Seligmann Hyacinthe, King of Great Britain
30.)	"	6044	" /Etching	J.A. Nothnagel The niggard
31.)	"	6053	" /Etching	A. van de Velde Calf (Copy?)
32.)	"	6042	" /Engraving	J.M. Seligmann Martagon virginiana
33.)	"	6041	"	J.M. Seligmann Martagon canadense majus
34.)	"	6040	"	J.M. Seligmann Narcissus jacobaeus
35.)	"	6038	" /Etching	A. Tempesta Portrait of a warrior
36.)	"	6037	" /Engraving	G. Ghisi Venus in the forge of Vulkan
37.)	"	6036	" /Etching	C.W. Kolbe Forest landscape with bridge and rider
38.)	"	5987	Drawing	E. Krause Girl's portrait
39.)	"	5986	"	E. Krause Sketch
40.)	"	6057	XXXXXX Print/Engr.	E. Roger Portrait of Marie Antoinette
41.)	"	6056	Print/Engraving	Ch. C. Bervic Louis XVI in his coronation robes
42.)	"	5983	Drawing	C. Cignam Biblical Scene
43.)	"	5976	Painting/Watercolour	Joh. Nepomuk Ott The old monastery of the Dominican order at Konstanz
44.)	"	4422/5	Various	1) 38 pencil drawings (nudes) 2) 15 mode-sketches 3) 4 chalk drawings (portraits) 4) 1 pencil drawing (portrait) 5) 12 lithos by Forain 6) 1 photo

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P a c k i n g -- L i s t (Page 3)

B O X XII.

- | | | | | |
|------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| 45.) | WIE No. | 3165/88 | Painting | A. Favory
Bathing Women |
| 46.) | " " | 4423/1 | Drawing | Hackart, Hans
Head of a young girl,
Reverse: Head of a monk |
| 47.) | " " | 4423/2 | " | Herth, R. de Fresnes
Lady on a bench |
| 48.) | " " | 4423/3 | " | Trübner W.
Female nude |
| 49.) | " " | 4423/4 | " | Gallsit, Louis
Domestic Happiness |
| 50.) | " " | 4423/5 | " | Braith, Anton
Goats on a pasture |
| 51.) | MUN | " 11074 | Painting | Eduard Grütner, 19th cent.
(Copy after 18th)
Supraporte:
allegory of architecture |
| 52.) | MUN. | " 21036 | Drawings | H. Matisse, 1922
Sitting girl |

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P a c k i n g - L i s t

B O X XIII.

- 1.) WIE no. 3165/87 Painting Pitger, Copy after Tizian
Mythologian Scene
- 2.) MGN No. 11075 Painting Eduard Grützner
19th cent. (Copy after 18th c.)
Supraporte:
Allegory of painting
- 3.) MGN No. 11116 Painting Eduard Grützner
19th cent. (Copy after 18th c.)
Supraporte:
Allegory of sculpture

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

An das
 Zentralanmeldeamt
 Friedberg / Bad Nauheim

den 20. Dezember 1948

Betr. : Wiederzutmachungsbehoerde Wiesbaden

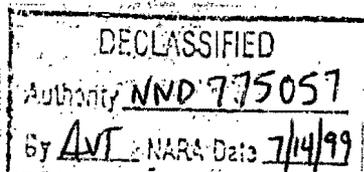
- I. Die gefertigte JRSO wurde durch Ausfuhrungs-Verordnung vom 23. Juni 1948 als Nachfolge-Organisation im Sinne der Artikel 8, 9, 10 und 11 des Gesetzes Nr. 59 der Militaerregierung anerkannt. Sie hat ihren Sitz in New York. Zuschriften werden an die Adresse: Nurnberg, Fuertherstrasse 301, erbeten.
- II. Gestuetzt auf die Art. 8, 9, 10 und 11 des Gesetzes Nr. 59 der Militaerregierung ueberreicht die JRSO die folgende Anmeldung eines Rueckerstattungs-Anspruches nach dem oben genannten Gesetz.
- III. Nach dem 31. Januar 1933 und insbesondere waehrend des Krieges haben das Reich und seine Organe, die NSDAP und ihre Organe sowie Einzelpersonen juedische rituelle Gegenstaende aller Art, insbesondere solche aus Silber, aus Synagogen und aus Privatbesitz in einer Weise erworben oder an sich gebracht, die eine Entziehung im Sinne des Art. 8 des Gesetzes Nr. 59 darstellt.
- IV. Eine Anzahl dieser Gegenstaende wurde nach der Besetzung Deutschlands an verschiedenen Plaetsen aufgefunden und im Wiesbaden, Collecting Point, deponiert.

Bezuglich eines Teils dieser deponierten Gegenstaende konnten die Eigentuerer festgestellt und ausgeforscht werden. Bezuglich des Restes ist zwar kein Zweifel, dass sie aus juedischem Besitz stammen und dass sie ihren Eigentuemern infolge der rassistischen Verfolgung entzogen wurden, diese Eigentuerer koennen jedoch entweder nicht identifiziert oder nicht ausgeforscht werden. Die Zahl der Gegenstaende, bezueglich welcher ein Eigentuerer nicht identifiziert oder ausgeforscht werden konnte, ist 9846.

Insofern bezueglich dieser 9846 rituellen Gegenstaende nicht fristgerecht ein Rueckerstattungsanspruch angemeldet wird, geht mit Ablauf der Anmeldefrist das Eigentum an die JRSO ueber.

a. Bl. II

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

Blatt II zum Antrag betr. rituelle Gegenstände
 Collecting Point, Wiesbaden

20. Dec. 1948

V. Wir stellen daher den

A N F R A G E

- 1) zu Recht zu erkennen, dass die in Wiesbaden Collecting Point deponierten 9845 rituellen Gegenstände, soweit sie nicht von den individuell Berechtigten Fristgerecht beansprucht werden, an die JRSO zu übergeben und auszuhandigen sind.
- 2) Diese Anmeldung zu Händen der Monuments, Fine Arts and Archiv Branch, Property Division, OMAA, zumstellen.


 Dr. George Weis
 Director

für die
 Jewish Restitution Successor Organization

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Amt für Vermögenskontrolle
und Wiedergutmachung
Abt. Wiedergutmachung

Aktenzeichen: W1/Wsb/A/1095 Ia
(Bitte bei allen Eingaben obiges
Aktenzeichen angeben.)

Wiesbaden, den 2 Juni 1950.
Friedrichstraße 49
Tel. Nr. 27017 Pe/Au.

RB

Subject: JRSO Restitution Claim, dated 20 Dec 1948.

To: Office of the Land Commissioner for Hesse
Economic Affairs Division
Property Branch
Collecting Point (Landesmuseum)
W i e s b a d e n
APO 633 US Army

Thru: Landesamt für Vermögenskontrolle und
Wiedergutmachung in Hessen
Abt. Wiedergutmachung
W i e s b a d e n - Biebrich

1. Attached is a copy of a restitution claim filed by the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, dated 20 Dec 1948, referring to 9846 ritual objects which allegedly have been deposited at Wiesbaden Collecting Point.
2. This Restitution Agency gathered from a conversation held with Claims Examiner Mr. MOERLER from Internal Restitution Supervision Branch (HICOG) that these ritual objects have been selected, categorized and distributed to various places by a commission out of the state of Israel.
3. This Agency is kindly asking to be informed about your opinion on the aforesaid subject.

Ebert
(Ebert)

Encl.

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REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

copy for Miss Hall and Mr. Anderson, ADO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation
And Supplementary Observations
By Ralph H. Stinson.

September 24, 1946

SUBJECT: Jewish Cultural Treasures in Germany and Austria:
Comments on one phase of the proposal for an International Jewish Trustee Corporation submitted by the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction.

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. Henningdinger - A-H
Mr. Stinson - ES
Miss Hall - ADO

COPIES TO:

I thanked Mr. Henningdinger for sending me a copy of Mr. Hilldring's letter of September 18 to Professor Jerome Michael, Acting Chairman, The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, in reply to his long letter of August 26 regarding the creation of a membership corporation or an international Jewish trustee to receive Jewish cultural treasures in Europe.

I questioned the wisdom of the provision in Mr. Michael's letter that the commanding general of the United States Forces for Germany and the same for Austria "or other appropriate agencies of the United States shall transfer to the Corporation, as trustee for their former Jewish owners and for the Jewish people, all Hebraica and Judaica and all other Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of occupation, of whatever nature and in whatsoever possession, which are included in any of the following categories:

"a.

"d. Those which are now owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly-owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions, except such as the United States is required by existing international arrangements to which it is a party to dispose of otherwise."

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I stated that these provisions opened up a wide field of action, which it might be difficult to defend. Under them, a collection of books and manuscripts on Jewish history legally owned by a university or library, or paintings or music scores by Jewish artists or composers or depicting Jewish subjects or themes (e.g. many of Rembrandt's paintings, drawings and etchings) legally owned by public museums, libraries, or archives in the American zone of Germany and Austria would be seized by United States troops or officials and turned over to a Jewish trustee corporation for distribution to Jews or Jewish organizations in all parts of the world, unless the United States is a party to some specific international agreements requiring different treatment of some of the objects. I stated that this appeared to be a very general action resembling replacement in kind or substitution, but going much beyond anything which had been considered or agreed to with regard to non-Jewish cultural property. It appears also to resemble reparations, although it has generally been understood that enemy-owned cultural objects would not be used for reparations. It gives the impression of an act of revenge on the part of the Jews using the American Army and American officials as a reverse version of the Einsatzstab Rosenberg. Under the loose general wording of the proposal it might be considered an authorization to loot German-owned cultural treasures having some Jewish references or associations for the benefit of the world Jewish community.

Mr. Hemmingdinger explained that the Jewish representatives who discussed the proposal with State Department officials originally proposed merely a form of replacement in kind or substitution. They were told that the Roberts Commission was opposed to using German cultural objects for replacement, and that no replacement program had been agreed to. Mr. Barnett of GA advised them to drop the replacement provision and substitute the general provisions quoted above. Mr. Hemmingdinger did not oppose these provisions although he recognized that they were very general, and should be considered more in detail later. Mr. Hemmingdinger seemed inclined, however, to defend the provisions, apparently as a form of retribution.

It should be pointed out that the seizure of German and Austrian cultural property would be contrary to the restitution policy of the Department, contrary to quadripartite

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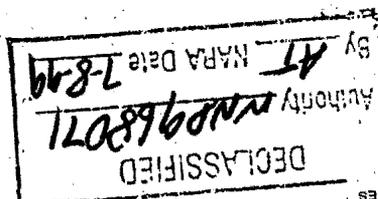
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restitution principles and procedures, and contrary to the accepted principle that German cultural treasures are not to be used as reparations. To be sure the "Draft Agreement on Restitution of Article of Cultural Value" proposed by the Roberts Commission in 1945 and accepted by the Department provided for replacement in kind from German cultural objects of looted cultural objects which were lost or destroyed. However, the Allied Control Council for Germany has not yet agreed on a replacement program. If adopted, such a program would probably be limited to instances of proven loss or destruction of specific objects of proven ownership. The replacement would probably be made to governments acting on their own behalf or on behalf of individual claimants. If such a program is adopted, it would be open to individual Jews or Jewish organizations to make such claims through their respective governments. Article 9 of the draft agreement on Restitution of Articles of Cultural Value reads as follows: "Works of art and objects of artistic and historic value used in connection with religious ceremonies or edifices of any faith which have proved ecclesiastical ownership prior to 1938 may not be used for replacement in kind." It appears that the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction is asking the Department of State to modify this section of its policy in order to permit the transfer to an international Jewish trustee corporation of the objects used in connection with Jewish religious ceremonies or edifices in Jewish communities in the American Zone of Germany and Austria which communities have been wiped out. Since the objects are no longer needed for religious purposes at the site of the former communities, it is proposed that they be transferred to an international Jewish trustee for distribution to existing Jewish religious communities which can use them. I believe that the Department should be very sympathetic with this proposal, and modify its policy accordingly. However, it is suggested that in every case, the proper procedure is for the international Jewish trustee to make its proposal to the government having the legal right to dispose of the objects in question, that is to the government having sovereignty over the territory in which the destroyed and/or looted religious community was located. In the case of Germany, this would be at present either the Allied Control Council, the zone commanders acting under approved quadripartite procedures, and the German local or provincial courts having jurisdiction of the matter. It seems illogical to deny the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation the use of a controlled system of individual

1. See Department's telegram to London no. 4490 of June 5, 1945.

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replacement in kind or the transfer of cultural property of destroyed Jewish religious communities; and to substitute therefore a sweeping general provision for military seizure of German and Austrian cultural treasures in public museums in the American Zone claimed by the corporation to have a Jewish character or association, as a species of reparations, without any formal legal procedure or review by properly constituted governmental judicial agencies.

I told Mr. Hemmingdinger that such a seizure of German and Austrian cultural property might be contrary to international law and agreements to which the United States is a party.

I find that Article 56 of Hague Convention No. II of 1899 and the same article of Hague Convention No. IV of 1907 respecting the laws and customs of war or land forbids the seizure of the property of municipalities or that of institutions dedicated to religion, charity, education, and the arts and sciences even when state property, and provides that such seizure should be made the subject of legal proceedings. Both of these conventions were ratified by the United States. In spite of Article 2 of the 1907 Convention which stipulates that the provisions contained in the convention "do not apply except between contracting powers, and then only if all the belligerents are parties to the convention," the principles set forth in the convention have been held to apply to the present war with Germany.

The verdict of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg on the indictment against Alfred Rosenberg found against him that "He directed that The Hague rules of land warfare were not applicable in the occupied eastern territories."² Article 56 of The Hague rules is declaratory of existing customary international law on the subject. Compliance with these rules is the established policy of the Government of the United States. This is shown by the fact that the United States ratified both the 1899 and the 1907 Hague Conventions on the rules of land warfare, and that the United States War Department's Basic Field Manual incorporates the provisions of Article 56 as Paragraph 318 of its "Rules of Land Warfare." Moreover, the United States is a party to the Pan American Convention signed at Washington on April 15, 1935 on the "Protection of Artistic and Scientific Institutions and Historic Monuments" which contains similar provisions.

2. The New York Times, October 2, 1946, p. 22, Col. 8.

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A collection of books and manuscripts on Jewish history in the possession of a great German library or university is in good hands and open to use by scholars. The same collection distributed to Jewish organizations in various parts of the world might become dispersed, lost, or destroyed, fall into inept hands, be inaccessible to scholars, and even become a means of transmitting funds for political purposes.

Mr. Hemminger stated that the reason for the provision was that the Jewish community in various parts of Germany and Austria has been destroyed, and the Jews killed or dispersed. Consequently, there is no longer a need for Jewish cultural objects in the libraries and museums in those communities, and they should be sent to the communities in Palestine or elsewhere to which the Jews have emigrated.

So far as religious articles and books used only by such Jewish communities, this seems a reasonable proposal. However, any agreement on this subject should be carefully worded to avoid the general implications pointed out above. Collections assembled through Jewish contributions or taxation of Jewish communities might be claimed if the Jews have been killed or dispersed. Collections belonging to the German people as a whole or non-Jewish foundations and of general scholarly, historic, or artistic interest, should not be seized, requisitioned, acquired at forced purchase, or used as reparations. The adoption of a program of replacement in kind for Jewish cultural objects should await and be a part of a general replacement program, if and when adopted by the four powers.

Article 3 of the proposal for a trusteeship corporation provides that "When the corporation shall have been constituted trustee as aforesaid, it shall send a technical mission of limited size into the American Zone of occupation which shall:

cccc

"c. Ascertain what Hebrew and Judaica and what other Jewish religious or cultural objects are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions in the American Zone of occupation, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions."

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The article continues by providing that the commanding generals of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria shall on their part admit the corporations mission to the American Zone of occupation, give its members free access to all places in which Jewish religious or cultural objects are kept or stored and provide them with such "other assistance and such transportation and other facilities as are reasonably necessary to enable them to perform their functions."

Under the proposal, the American commanding generals furthermore are to "c. Seize and take into their possession all Hebraica, Judaica and other Jewish religious and cultural objects which are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian State, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions."

This Jewish technical mission, it should be noted, is to have much more power and authority than any of the missions sent by national governments to claim restitutable objects. The Jewish mission may visit any public or private collection of cultural objects in Germany to search for such objects. On its behalf, the American commanders are to seize all public collections in Germany of Jewish cultural objects, apparently as defined by the Jewish mission, and turn them over to the Jewish trustee corporation. This appears to make a private claimant or a voluntary organization representing or trustee for private claimants, the judge of what public property shall be seized on their behalf by the United States Government as a very general species of replacement in kind, or as reparations.

It should be emphasized that the seizure by the United States Army of any cultural objects legally owned by German museums, libraries, or archives in the American Zone of occupation in Germany and Austria would be a violation of international law as stated in Article 56 of The Hague rules of land warfare. Such action by American officers would moreover be a violation by them of paragraph 318 of the War Department's Basic Field Manual on the "Rules of Land Warfare."

In my opinion, such action is contrary to the policy or interests of the United States. It would complicate the security problems of the United States Zone and tend to perpetuate a feud. The protection of the members of the Jewish mission making a survey for such illegal action might be difficult. Even if a program of replacement in kind is decided upon eventually, it should be done by proper legal proceedings having a judicial character. Some control and review of the claims of the Jewish mission should be maintained. Monuments and fine art objects of other officials of the AMG should be or

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picture as advisers or reviewers.

It would be unjust to apply replacement or transfer measures against German cultural collections in the American Zone only. Such proposals should not be applied in the United States Zone unless and until adopted as a quadripartite measure for application in all zones.

If an international Jewish trustee corporation is established and given custody of looted Jewish cultural property in Europe, (1) its powers should be so limited as to prevent its seizing German cultural property as replacement in kind or reparations, its claims to looted Jewish cultural property should be subject to review by military government authorities in the various zones of operation and by the local courts.

The Government of the United States should be careful to avoid approving and lending official and military assistance to a program couched in such general terms that it could be used as the basis for the creation of a Jewish agency, resembling the notorious Einsatzstab Rosenberg in reverse, which Jewish organization acting in a spirit of revenge could loot with the assistance of United States troops, German public museums, libraries, and archives, of any cultural treasures which, in the opinion of the personnel of the Jewish mission, had a Jewish character. It is contrary to elementary principles of justice that a claimant be the judge of his own claim. Government agencies, and especially troops, should not be placed under the direction of private claimants.

Public museums, libraries, and archives are an international public trust. Their protection is of interest to scholars and connoisseurs all over the world. The Nazis violated this trust, and earned the condemnation of the civilized world. It is to be hoped that the Government of the United States will not follow their example, even in a minor degree.

The Government of the United States should further assure itself and make certain that the cultural objects turned over to the international Jewish trustee corporation would not be sold to raise funds for political purposes.

Mr. Hemmingdinger stated in reply to my questions that the Jewish organizations which it is proposed to invite to participate in the corporation are well established and well known Jewish religious and cultural associations, representi

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By AT NARA Date 7-8-99

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all Jews in the United States, in Palestine and to some extent in Europe. Some of the organizations are international in membership. Others are confederations of local organizations. He feels that the corporation would be on a very high level of integrity, that it would be cultural and scholarly in character, and that it would have a character and prestige approaching that of an international governmental agency.

The restitution program as set forth in the Department's draft agreement of 1945³, the quadripartite procedures agreed to the date and, the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1946, all provide for restitution to the governments of the countries from which the property was looted. Individual claimants, corporations, voluntary associations, and churches including Jewish organizations, whether national or international in scope make their claims to the governments of the countries to which the objects are restituted. It is believed that the program of the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation could be carried out within this general framework. The corporation could undoubtedly be of great assistance to individual Jewish claimants in obtaining restitution of cultural and religious objects. In the case of objects whose owners have died without heirs, the corporation could apply to the appropriate governmental authorities having legal right to dispose of the objects to be appointed thereof. In case a quadripartite program for replacement in kind is adopted, the Jewish cultural property would of course be included. The Department should modify its policy to provide that the cultural property of destroyed Jewish religious communities would be included. The proposed trustee corporation could be of great assistance on a voluntary level in the practical operation of the program as it affects Jewish claims to cultural and religious property. However, the proposal originating in GA for the wholesale seizure by the United States Army of German-owned cultural objects in public museums, archives, and libraries in the American Zone if claimed by the trustee corporation to have a Jewish character, to have been written or produced by Jews, or to be related to Jewish culture, religion or history, should be rejected as contrary to international law and United States and Departmental policy, and as not being in the interest of the Jews themselves.

3. See No. 4490 to London of June 5, 1945.

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Miss Hall of ADO has read most of this memorandum, made certain suggestions regarding it, and states that she is in substantial agreement with the views expressed by Mr. Stimson.

Ralph F. Stimson

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Return to Mr. Stinson ES

September 18, 1946

My dear Professor Michael:

I refer to your letter of August 26, 1946 with respect to the disposition of Jewish cultural and religious property found in Germany and Austria.

This Government is sympathetic to the objectives of the proposals set forth in your letter and believes that they are generally acceptable. In view of the fact that their execution requires the support and cooperation of the U. S. Forces in Germany and Austria, the War Department has been requested to forward a synopsis of the proposals to the Theater Commanders for their detailed comments.

When replies are received I shall communicate with you further.

Sincerely yours,

J. H. Hildring
Assistant Secretary

Professor Jerome Michael, Acting Chairman,
The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction,
1841 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

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Return to Mr. J. T. Wilson E.S.

COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN JEWISH CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION
affiliated with
Conference on Jewish Relations, Inc.
1841 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y.

Telephone: Circle
5-7826

C
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P
Y

August 26, 1946

General J. H. Hilldring
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Hilldring:

In the light of informal conversations with members of your staff and of more precise information regarding the contents of the Offenbach Archival Depot, we wish to modify the proposals contained in the letter to you of the Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, dated June 5, 1946, relative to the custody and ultimate disposition of the books and other Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation in Germany and Austria.

1. We are forming a membership corporation under the laws of the State of New York, of which we intend to invite representatives of the following organizations to serve as initial members: The American Jewish Conference, The American-Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, The American Jewish Committee, The Synagogue Council of America, The Federation of Jews from Central Europe, The World Jewish Congress and the Hebrew University. From its very inception, therefore, this corporation, hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation," will be genuinely and broadly representative of Jewish refugees from Central Europe, the American Jewish community, and the entire Jewish people, and hence, of all Jewish cultural interests. However, provision should and will be made in its certificate of incorporation and by-laws for the enlargement of its membership from time to time in order to insure that special and particular interests, such, for example, as those of the Jews who remain in Central Europe, will be represented therein. The representative character of the Corporation's membership in turn guarantees that it will possess the moral as well as the legal authority and the human and material resources necessary to enable it to perform the functions which we are about to propose that it shall have.
2. When the Corporation shall have been organized and its initial membership shall have been constituted substantially as above set forth, the Commanding General of the United States Forces for Germany and the Commanding General of the United States Forces for Austria or other appropriate agencies of the United States shall transfer to the Corporation, as trustee for their former Jewish owners and for the Jewish people, all Hebraica

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and Judaica and all other Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation, of whatsoever nature and in whosoever possession, which are included in any of the following categories:

- a. Those which were formerly owned by individual German or Austrian Jews, or by German or Austrian Jewish communities, or by German or Austrian Jewish philanthropic or cultural institutions.
- b. Those which the German armies or other agencies of the German Reich or the Nazi party removed (1) from countries to which the United States is not required to return them by virtue of any existing international arrangements to which the United States is a party or (2) from countries to which the United States is required to return them by virtue of such arrangements if claimed by such countries but which are not claimed by them within a reasonable time.
- c. Those which cannot be identified as falling within any of the above categories.
- d. Those which are now owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions, except such as the United States is required by existing international arrangements to which it is a party to dispose of otherwise.

(Explanatory Note: It is the intent of this proposal to exclude from the trusteeship those Jewish religious and cultural objects in the American Zone of Occupation which, under existing international arrangements, the United States is required to return to the countries in which they had their situs when confiscated by the Germans, if such countries shall claim them. At the same time, we very strongly feel, for the reasons set forth in our letter of June 5, 1946, and we again urge upon you, that in the case of countries, such as Poland, whose Jewish populations have been greatly diminished, the United States should endeavor to have those arrangements modified so that there need be returned to those countries only such proportion of the objects taken from them as are required in order to meet the religious and cultural needs of their surviving Jewish populations. If and when such arrangements can be made, the excess of such objects should be transferred to the Corporation, as trustee. Moreover, if the Office of Military Government is not required to return Jewish religious and cultural objects to countries from which the Germans removed them, by reason of international arrangements to which the United States is a party but only by reason of directives or other unilateral action of the Government of the United States, such directives or other action should forthwith be cancelled or, at least, modified so that in no instance will the Office of Military Government be required to restore to any country a greater proportion of Jewish religious and cultural objects which were taken from that country,

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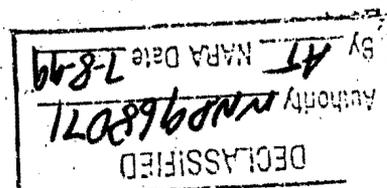
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than are necessary to meet the religious and cultural needs of its surviving Jewish population.)

3. When the Corporation shall have been constituted trustee as aforesaid, it shall send a technical mission of limited size into the American Zone of Occupation which shall:
- a. Examine and classify Jewish religious and cultural objects which are now in or may hereafter come into the possession of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria according to the following scheme:
 - (1) Objects which were formerly owned by individual German or Austrian Jews, or by German or Austrian Jewish communities, or by German or Austrian Jewish philanthropic or cultural institutions.
 - (2) Objects which were removed from countries to which the United States is not required by existing international arrangements to return them.
 - (3) Objects which were removed from countries to which the United States is required by existing international arrangements to return them.
 - (4) Objects which cannot be identified or included within any of the first three categories.
 - b. Endeavor to find and to assist the Office of Military Government in finding Jewish religious and cultural objects of the above sorts which have not yet come into, or have been improperly taken from, the possession of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria.
 - c. Ascertain what Hebraica and Judaica and what other Jewish religious or cultural objects are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions in the American Zone of Occupation, whenever and however they were acquired by such institutions.
 - d. From time to time report the results of its activities in the performance of the foregoing functions to the Commanding Generals of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria, or to their respective agents.

The Commanding Generals of the United States Forces for Germany and Austria shall on their part:

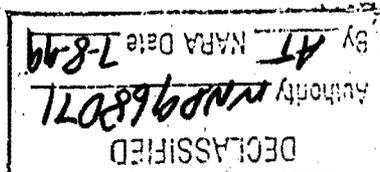
- a. Admit the Corporation's mission into the American Zone of Occupation, give its members free access to all places in which Jewish religious or cultural objects are kept or stored and, in general, freedom of movement throughout the American Zone of Occupation, and provide them with housing, food, and such clerical and other assistance and such transportation and other



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- facilities as are reasonably necessary to enable them to perform their functions.
- b. Seize and take into their possession Jewish religious and cultural objects included within any of the above categories which are from time to time discovered by the Corporation's mission.
 - c. Seize and take into their possession all Hebraica, Judaica and other Jewish religious and cultural objects which are owned by or in the possession of German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained libraries, archives, museums and similar institutions.
4. The Corporation, as trustee of the Jewish religious and cultural objects which shall be transferred to it, shall have the following powers, duties and functions:
- a. The Corporation may take possession of, and remove to any place in or outside of Germany, the Jewish religious and cultural objects which are transferred to it as trustee, at such time or times and in such lots as the Corporation shall deem advisable.
 - b. The Corporation shall dispose of such objects in the following manner:
 - (1) Objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by individual Jews shall be restored to their former owners or to their legal successors if claimed by them upon proof of ownership satisfactory to the Corporation; but any such objects which are ownerless or unclaimed or the claims to which are not satisfactorily established shall be disposed of as provided in sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph.
 - (2) Objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by a Jewish community which has survived or been reconstituted, shall be restored to the community, if claimed by it, upon proof of ownership satisfactory to the Corporation, in proportion to the prospective religious and cultural needs of the community and its capacity to retain, care for, and use such objects for their appropriate religious and cultural purposes, as determined by the Corporation. Objects falling within this category which are ownerless or unclaimed or the conditions of whose restitution are not satisfied shall be disposed of as provided in sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph.
 - (3) Objects which can be adequately identified as having been owned by a Jewish philanthropic or cultural institution which still exists, shall be restored to the institution, if claimed by it, upon proof, satisfactory to the Corporation, of ownership and of the institution's capacity to use such objects for the philanthropic or cultural purposes for which they were intended. Objects falling within this category which are ownerless or unclaimed or the conditions of whose restitution are not satisfied, shall be disposed of as provided in sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph.

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(4) Objects which cannot be adequately identified as included in categories (1), (2), and (3), objects which can be so identified but which are ownerless or unclaimed or the conditions of whose restitution are not satisfied, and objects taken from German and Austrian state, municipal and other publicly owned or maintained institutions shall be distributed among Jewish religious and cultural institutions throughout the world upon such conditions as the Corporation sees fit to impose and in such manner as will in the judgment of the Corporation best serve the religious and cultural needs of the Jewish people and especially of the surviving victims of Nazi persecution, and satisfy the desire of the Jewish people to pay tribute to those victims who did not survive, as, for example, by establishing a library in the Hebrew University in Palestine as a memorial to these martyrs for their faith.

- e. The Corporation shall have such further powers as are necessary, appropriate or convenient for the execution of its trust.
5. In order to assist and facilitate the execution of the Corporation's trust, the Office of Military Government of the United States will:
- a. Take and retain possession of and safeguard the Jewish religious and cultural objects transferred to the Corporation as trustee until, as provided in paragraph 4a hereof, the Corporation shall elect to take possession thereof.
 - b. At the expense of Germany or of the German Laender, pack and transport to points within Germany and Austria such of the Jewish religious and cultural objects transferred to the Corporation as trustee as the Corporation shall allot to German or Austrian Jewish communities or institutions, and to the German or Austrian border such of these objects as the Corporation shall elect to remove from Germany or Austria, as the case may be.
 - c. Render such other services to, and provide the Corporation with such other facilities as may be necessary to enable it to execute its trust.

Very respectfully yours,

The Commission on European Jewish Cultural Reconstruction

by (S) Jerome Michael
Jerome Michael
Acting Chairman

JM:GP

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By AT NARA Date 7-8-99

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AUTHORITY: NND 948071
BY: JTM/NARA, DATE: 7/9

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: Feb. 24th

TO : Conversation with

FROM : Mr. Kiefer, G A

SUBJECT: ~~Phonetic~~
SP.

(Ivor) Institute

in Wilna in
offenbach

~~Institute~~
Came to N. Y. -
can't return objects
to a govt not recog-
nized - so the
possessions of the
Inst. are being transferred
to N. Y.

Miss Hall ADO

Feb. 24, 1941

Send M 7 A & A
from Offenbach on Jewish
Reports to Mr. C. C.

Kiefer, G A.

Rm 10 1/2 State
Bldg.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

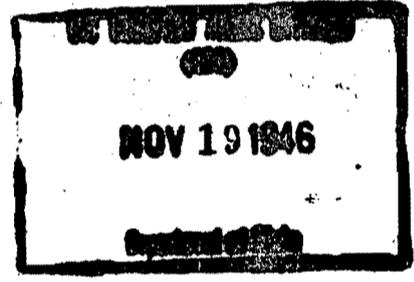
Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 14, 1946

SUBJECT: Restitution of Jewish Cultural Treasures from and to the Various Countries of Europe, and the Role of the Proposed International Jewish Trustee Corporation.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Baker, ES
Mr. Mason, ES
Mr. Stimson, ES
Mr. Hemmendinger, A-H
Mr. Keefer, GA

COPIES TO: Mr. Baker
Mr. Mason
Mr. Stimson
Mr. Hemmendinger
Mr. Keefer
Miss Hall, ADC



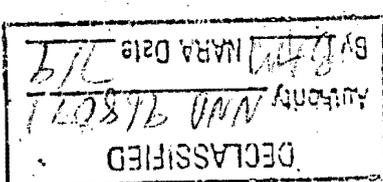
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The general problem was discussed. Mr. Hemmendinger stated that criticism from General Clay, American Zone, Germany, of the trusteeship proposal were along the lines of those made by Mr. Stimson in his memorandum of September 24. Mr. Keefer and Mr. Hemmendinger stated that the objectionable provisions for seizure of Jewish cultural treasures in German public museums, libraries and archives had been dropped from the plans for the trusteeship in recent conversations with Mr. Michael. Mr. Baker and Mr. Stimson pointed out that Mr. Michael's proposal for restitution of Jewish cultural treasures by the Government of Czechoslovakia direct to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation was a departure from the rule of restitution from governments to governments established by Department policy, quadripartite procedure, and the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1946.

Mr. Baker showed Mr. Hemmendinger and Mr. Keefer the text of the tripartite agreement of July 8, 1946, which set up a procedure for restitution from neutral and liberated countries to the governments of the liberated countries. Mr. Hemmendinger and Mr. Keefer desired to have Jewish cultural treasures turned over by the

governments

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governments of the countries in which they are now located directly to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation, by way of an exception to the established principle that restitution should be made by such governments to the governments of the countries from which the objects were looted.

Mr. Stimson expressed the opinion that if the trustee were allowed to define Jewish cultural treasures, there would be a possibility of abuse and complications. Mr. Mason expressed the opinion that in Germany at least the Allied occupation authorities would decide in each case whether an object claimed by the trustee is a Jewish cultural treasure, and whether to transfer it to the trustee.

Mr. Stimson expressed the view that both the governments of the countries in which the objects are now located, and the governments of the countries from which they were looted should be given an opportunity to consent or refuse consent to the transfer of the objects to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation. In the case of Jewish objects looted in Poland and now in Czechoslovakia, or looted in France and now in Switzerland, the Government of the United States or COMUS or the Zone commanders in Germany and Austria, or the ABC have no authority to consent to the transfer of these objects to the proposed trustee. Mr. Mason stated that the United States can only suggest such action to the governments having possession of, or a legal claim to, the objects.

In the case of Jewish cultural objects looted in a European country other than Germany, for example, Poland, and now in the American Zone in Germany, Mr. Stimson's view is that, although the United States may have the physical power to transfer these objects to the proposed trustee instead of to the Mission sent by the Government of Poland, this should be done only with the consent of the Polish Mission or Government in each case or for each class of objects.

Mr. Stimson expressed the opinion that the governments of the countries from which the objects were looted and of those in which the objects are now located should be approached during the process of creating the trustee with the question whether they would consent to the

transfer

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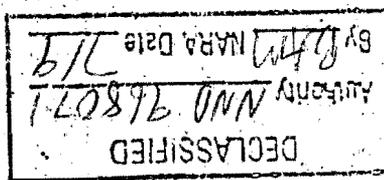
transfer of looted Jewish cultural treasures to the proposed international Jewish trustee corporation in cases in which the individual Jewish owners have died without heir or in case the Jewish community served by the objects has been destroyed or dispersed. This view seemed to receive the assent of the conferees.

Mr. Stimson felt that his draft telegram and letter were somewhat premature because the ACC has not completed an agreement on restitution to ex-enemy states. Mr. Hemmendinger and Mr. Keefer felt that they were premature because the general approach referred to above has not been made, and the proposed international trustee has not yet been established.

It was decided that the draft telegram and letter would be held by Mr. Stimson pending further developments, and that he would keep in touch with Mr. Keefer and Mr. Hemmendinger.

Mr. Stimson stated that AEO was interested in the problem, and he suggested that they be consulted.

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : ADO - Mr. Bowles, Mr. Anderson

DATE: October 7, 1946

FROM : ADO - Miss Hall

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Conversation on Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property

This memorandum explains the proposal of a newly created international Jewish organization making direct claim for Jewish cultural property in American occupied zones. This was apparently advised by Mr. Barnett of GA, proposed in a letter from Professor Jerome Michael and favorably answered by General Hilldring.

ADO, to my knowledge, was not consulted. I saw the correspondence in Mr. Stimson's office, when he asked me for advice. It seems to me that his memo is valuable for the record in the Department, as I do not believe the proposal is the best or proper solution for a problem, even one with so many inherent difficulties. I also feel sure that the claims for Jewish losses will be sympathetically received by all Allied countries and that it will have to come up for further study. At the same time, it seems obvious that the political implications under the present tension are very great.

RAH
 ADO:ARHall:mbv

10/7/46

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By [unclear] Date 7/9

Submitted to ONC US as quadruplicate for
Restitution Law - British Note
OCC US call

re: Heirless Property
Call in Frankfurt
" " Offenbach

Vilna Coll. in { Germany
Prague & Czechoslovakia
Marseille

Aspects - Two

Jewish trustee take
over heirless prop -

* Draft ~~in~~ memo on Jewish
Property held in Offenbach *

Promenantz - in Nat. Archives
Benkowitz -