

JEWISH RESTITUTION SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York 16, N.Y.

October 5, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: JRSO Executive Committee

From: Saul Kagan

RE: JRSO Claims under Public Law 626

I am enclosing herewith a report on the background and present status of the claims filed by the JRSO under P.L. 626. This report was prepared by Mr. Seymour J. Rubin, who acts as Washington counsel of the JRSO.

Saul Kagan

336595

Report to Executive Committee of Jewish Restitution Successor Organization

Re: Heirless Assets in the United States

Public Law 626 was passed in the closing days of the Second Session of the 83rd Congress. It culminated years of effort on the part of various Jewish organizations -- effort directed at enactment of legislation which would put heirless assets in the United States at the disposal of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, for the benefit of surviving persecutees. Although the law was enacted in July 1954, and signed by the President in August, the passage of the legislation itself was merely the first step in what is clearly to be the difficult program of obtaining these assets or their proceeds, and making them available for the intended relief purposes.

The bill -- now Section 32 (h) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, as amended -- provides for designation by the President of a successor organization, or organizations, to heirless or unclaimed property in the United States. This property is defined by reference to the persecutee-return provisions of the Trading With the Enemy Act -- that is, it is property which would be returned to a living persecutee or his heirs, were he alive or had he heirs to claim it. The designated successor organization has a number of obligations in regard to administration and use of the property or funds which it may receive -- accounting regularly, the obligation to return to persecutees who turn up within two years, etc. The 1954 series of amendments restrict use of the property to use for persecutees (a) in the United States and (b) who are needy, and they prohibit use of any of these funds for administrative expenses. The bill provides for a limitation of \$3 million to the amount which can be made available to a successor organization.

Immediately after enactment of the legislation, steps were taken directed at the Presidential designation of the JRSO as the successor organization under the bill. Theoretically, Public Law 626 allowed the possibility of designation of more than one successor organization. As a practical matter, however, there was never any interest in this matter of successorship to heirless assets on the part of organizations other than Jewish organizations. An application for designation as the appropriate successor organization to Jewish heirless assets (these being apparently all the heirless assets) was prepared, together with a variety of supporting documents ranging from the certificate of incorporation of the JRSO to a memorandum on the history and responsibilities of that organization. These documents were filed almost immediately upon enactment of the legislation and, in fact, were discussed with governmental officials before the legislation was actually signed by the President. Nevertheless, for a variety of reasons, designation of the JRSO was delayed until January 1955. At that time, an Executive Order was issued by the President designating the JRSO as an appropriate successor organization, and no other designations have been or are likely to be made.

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Even prior to designation of the JRSO, Messrs. Kagan and Rubin had had extensive discussions with the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice as to procedures for the filing of claims. In the very nature of the case, the JRSO cannot have adequate knowledge of the claims which may legitimately be filed. This is obviously because the persons who would have had knowledge have all disappeared. The JRSO is therefore faced with the necessity of devising procedures which would enable it to file at least tentative claims which could subsequently be investigated and substantiated.

The JRSO suggested a procedure to the OAP which involved the OAP compiling a list of all those vesting orders on its books as to which no claim for return had been made. Such a list would obviously include not only the names of persecutees whose assets were heirless but also the names of Germans or other enemy nationals who were in no sense persecutees. It was then proposed by the JRSO that it would go over these lists and try to identify those cases which were likely to represent heirless assets rather than enemy assets.

The OAP, however, rejected this procedure on the ground that it would place an undue administrative burden on that Office. The alternative procedure was thereupon worked out, under which the OAP turned over to the JRSO extensive lists of names. These names included all of those persons named in the vesting orders of the OAP. Although it was at first assumed by the OAP itself that these lists included only persons from whom property had been vested, it became evident upon examination that names of persons included in the vesting orders, such as custodians of property, were also included on the lists. The JRSO undertook to prepare lists of those persons who were apparently Jewish. These lists, which have been gone over a total of three times, were then submitted to the OAP, which, in turn, indicated on a copy of the lists those cases in which there was no conflicting claim for return of the property involved. The remaining names were taken to be prima facie cases of Jewish heirless property.

Although the above procedure was that generally followed, towards the end of the filing period it became impossible to submit the lists to the OAP for check, and claims were therefore filed without the preliminary OAP check to see if adverse title claims existed. As a result, the JRSO found it necessary to come to a general arrangement with the OAP, under which it agreed that in those cases in which the OAP made an adjudication of return to an individual, the JRSO claim could be considered automatically to be withdrawn. In these cases, the JRSO obviously has no claim, since there is a surviving claimant.

-3-

A variety of other problems arose during the period between January 1955, when the JRSO was designated by the President, and August 1955, the expiration of the one-year filing period contained in the statute. A considerable amount of consultation with the OAP on detailed matters of record was obviously necessary. The work in Washington rose to such a volume that it became apparent that a full-time representative of the JRSO there was required, and Mr. Werner M. Loewenthal, who had just completed an assignment as Restitution Officer with the Office of the United States High Commissioner in Germany, was appointed to this position on June 20, 1955. He has worked in close coordination with the undersigned, who has acted during the period as Washington counsel for the JRSO. Mr. Loewenthal has had a staff of from two to three clerk-typists working with him.

The volume of work in the Washington office is apparent from the fact that between July 1 and August 23, the filing deadline under Public Law 626, the Washington office filed 3,094 out of a total of over 8,000 JRSO claims which had been filed.

A great many of the claims filed by the Washington office arose in cases involving estates and trusts. In many of these situations, the check of the OAP lists had produced claims filed by the JRSO in the name of one or another of the persons named in the vesting order, but not in the name of the person who was the actual beneficiary of the estate or trust. It was necessary to file in the name of the latter person, and claims in this category formed a major portion of the claims filed directly by the Washington JRSO office.

During this period also, one of the many problems concerned the so-called "omnibus accounts" in the OAP. These are accounts in the United States, held in the names of Swiss, Dutch or French banks, where the names of the actual depositors in the accounts are not known. It is possible that a major part of these accounts represents the funds of persons who were enemy nationals. On the other hand, there exists a substantial possibility that some portion of these accounts may be the funds of persecutees who were seeking to avoid the foreign exchange restrictions of Germany. A letter describing this situation, and suggesting that JRSO be considered informally to have claimed such portion of these accounts as might be found later to belong to persecutees, was sent to the OAP, but the request was rejected.

Thereupon, some 325 vesting orders in this category were located by the Washington JRSO office and claims filed describing these orders in terms which make it possible to identify the property in some detail.

Another problem arose out of negotiations between the United States and the Netherlands with respect to return of so-called scheduled securities. These were securities held in the United States which presumptively had been

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looted. By agreement between the governments, these securities were to be returned to the Netherlands Government for distribution to the true original owners or their heirs. It is clear, however, that some portion of this property is heirless, and, in cooperation with the Department of State, the JRSO has filed a claim with respect to that portion of these securities identified by the Netherlands Government as heirless. This claim is in a sense protective, since it is possible that these securities will eventually go to the Jewish community of the Netherlands rather than to the JRSO.

Individual cases are on occasion of some particular interest. Such a one is that which involves a highly complicated proceeding in the OAP generally known as the von Clemm case. It has been suggested that a portion of the property involved in this case, several packets of diamonds, amounting to sums estimated to be more than \$200,000, may in fact be heirless Jewish property. These diamonds were brought into the United States in asserted violation of customs regulations and, aside from the problems involved in proving the heirless character of the property in a situation in which few or no facts are available to the JRSO, there is also the problem of the claim of the Customs Bureau that if the diamonds are not German property to be vested by the OAP, they are diamonds which were entered into the United States illegally and should therefore be forfeited to the Customs Bureau. Despite a considerable amount of work which has already been done on this case, much more detailed work remains to be done if a serious effort is to be made to obtain this property.

By August 23, 1955, something in excess of 8,000 claims of varying degrees of validity had been filed with the OAP.

Although considerable work on the problems to be described in this section has already been done, it seems appropriate to deal with these problems in this rather than the previous section of the report.

The JRSO problems, once the mass of claims has been filed, resolve themselves into two major categories. These concern the procedure for "cleaning up" the relatively undigested mass of claims which has been filed and putting these in some kind of workable shape; and secondly, working out a procedure for the processing of the claims and the recovery, as speedily as possible, of the proceeds of heirless property.

With respect to the first problem, that is cleaning up the claims, a considerable amount of work obviously has to be done and, in fact, is currently being done. Because of the method by which the claims were filed, the JRSO has on file a great many of what are obviously worthless claims which merely clutter up the records. The reason for this is inherent in the method which the JRSO was compelled to adopt in filing the claims and the materials made available to it for that purpose. As has been pointed out, for example, the list of names furnished by the OAP, which was the fundamental working document for the JRSO, contained names of custodians of property and of persons having some relation to that property,

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even though they might not be the beneficial owners of that property. Thus, if property were held by one Israel Cohen, for the benefit of Joseph McCarthy, it is almost certain that a claim has been filed by the JRSO as successor to Israel Cohen, even though no property right of Cohen has in fact been vested. Such a claim should obviously be withdrawn.

Similarly, the JRSO succeeds to the rights only of those persons who are persecutees under Section 32 of the Trading With the Enemy Act and who would, if alive, themselves be eligible for return. Corporations are specifically excluded from such eligibility. Despite this, the JRSO has on file numerous corporate claims containing possibly Jewish names, and these will also have to be withdrawn.

For various reasons, it is important that this work be done expeditiously. In the first place, we have been able to work out with the OAP a short-form "notice of claim", upon which all of the JRSO claims have been filed and which is a rather unusual document in OAP history. Despite some difficulties, we have had a considerable amount of cooperation in this regard and with regard to the special docketing of JRSO claims, etc., from the OAP. This cooperation, and particularly the cooperation extended with respect to the filing of claims merely on the basis of information and belief implies the obligation to withdraw those claims which are clearly not well founded. Moreover, the withdrawal of such claims will give the JRSO -- and the OAP -- a more clear idea of how many claims, and in what amount, are actually involved.

Secondly, the JRSO is faced with the alternatives of processing the individual claims or of attempting to obtain a bulk settlement. It needs little demonstration to show that processing of even 2,000 or 3,000 claims would be an interminable and most difficult job. Addresses would have to be obtained out of the records of the OAP, which in many cases does not have such addresses. Work would have to be done in Germany to try to establish the persecutee status of the person involved. Evidence would have to be presented to the OAP, and in many cases a hearing would have to be held. All of this would be done at a time when it is quite likely that the OAP will be burdened by a large number of claims for return filed by non-persecutee German nationals, if the Administration proposal for returns of up to \$10,000 is adopted.

It has therefore seemed imperative that the JRSO look toward a bulk settlement rather than the individual processing of these thousands of claims. The OAP, however, has taken and does take the position that a bulk settlement is impossible under present legislation. It therefore becomes imperative to obtain a modification of the present legislation. Any such modification, it is believed, should not merely authorize a bulk settlement, but should facilitate the making of such a settlement.

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With these ends in view, Mr. Loewenthal and the writer have had numerous conferences with the OAP. Procedures have now been worked out under which the following steps will be taken:

(a) The clearly untenable claims of the JRSO will be withdrawn.

(b) A list will be compiled of all remaining claims of the JRSO.

(c) A supplementary list will be prepared of JRSO claims in cases in which there is an adverse title claim.

(d) The OAP will furnish figures as to the total amounts involved in categories (b) and (c) above.

In addition, the OAP has reserved the question of whether we will be able to get figures on the amounts involved in individual claims from the Office of the Comptroller. (In many cases, this information is contained on the JRSO docket which is being made available to us and which will, of course, be incorporated into our records.)

When the above information has been obtained, we propose to check a representative sample of the claims where sufficient information is available to make checking possible. (It has also been requested that the OAP furnish us with information as to names, addresses, etc.; again, a considerable amount of such information is available from the JRSO docket which has been opened up to us.) From this examination, we should be able to estimate how many of our claims are actually for heirless property. Applying that percentage to the total figures which we will previously have received, we should be able to come to some kind of reasonable estimate of the amounts which are involved in the JRSO claims, and which should therefore be the target figure for a bulk settlement.

Much of the above work is already in progress. In addition, the writer has had conferences with Mr. Harlan Wood, Chief Counsel of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Trading With the Enemy Act, and with Mr. Smithy of the Senate Legislative Counsel's Office. An amendment to S. 2227, the Administration bill dealing with partial return of enemy private assets, has been prepared and has been discussed with these gentlemen. Its principle -- that is the principle of a bulk settlement of JRSO claims -- seems to have met with their approval. Moreover, the OAP has apparently slowly come to the conclusion that a bulk settlement of these claims would be desirable. It may be added that the State Department has indicated its concurrence with the principle of a bulk settlement and will probably be willing to press the OAP on this point.

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Assuming that the principle of a bulk settlement will be accepted and that it can be enacted at the next session of the Congress, in one form or another, the main question will be that of the amount of such a settlement. It is too early to tell what amount will be involved. Our efforts are presently directed towards establishing a sufficient body of data for estimates in support of a minimal bulk settlement figure, which we would like to introduce in the course of the efforts to obtain legislation authorizing a bulk settlement.

The further program therefore includes continued work on the processing of the claims, as above described, and continued work with respect to the legislative proposals and their acceptance both by the Administration and by the Congress. The problems dealt with up to now have been of great complexity and have taken an enormous amount of time. It is very likely that they will take even more time in the future, particularly if such matters as the von Clemm case should come to a head and if the proposals with respect to a bulk settlement should arrive at a point where intensive work will have to be done on both the estimates and the legislative aspects of the matter.

---

Seymour J. Robin

September 1955

336802

*Handwritten signature: Murray Hill*

**THE**



**AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

386 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y. Cable Address, "WISHCOM, NEW YORK"

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ALAN M. STROOCK, *New York, Vice-President*  
FRANK L. SULZBERGER, *Chicago, Vice-President*

July 6, 1950

Dear Eli:

You may wish to glance into the House Report on, and final text of S 603 which please find attached. I am enclosing also Bob Morgenthau's original covering letter, and would appreciate your kindness in returning these documents at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

*Eugene*  
Eugene Hevesi

Mr. Eli Rock  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

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Encs. (3)

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In view of the short period of time remaining before the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Conference, we would appreciate your sending one copy of your comments directly to

Mr. Saul Kagan  
119 rue St. Dominique  
Paris 7e, France

336604

*Working with the Army Dept*

**THE**



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FRANK L. SULZBERGER, *Chicago, Vice-President*

May 3, 1950

Dear Eli:

I hasten to send over by messenger Dave Glickman's contribution for your revision.

Cordially,

*Eugene*  
Eugene Hevesi

Mr. Eli Rock  
The American Jewish Joint  
Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York 16, N.Y.

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W11 Rock

Moses Lukasser

*W. U. S. Post*  
*Pradig*  
April 14th, 1948  
*Erney*

**Developments of possible pertinence to the Vice-Chairman's Report**

Within the last several weeks, two developments have occurred in my work which I believe may be worthy of mention. They are as follows:

**A. Jewish Restitution Commission**

After many months of delay, we have been informally advised that action is now being taken by the State Department regarding the application for recognition submitted by the Jewish Restitution Commission last November. The action of the Department, participated in by the Department of the Army also, consists of a cable to General Clay which states that the Jewish Restitution Commission is approved as an appropriate successor organization, provided that title to real estate and other immovable property will be held in a German subsidiary corporation.

Although the effect which this cable will have is not clear, and although there has not yet been any action by OMGUS in Berlin to implement this cable (only OMGUS can effect the actual formal designation of the Jewish Restitution Commission), it does seem clear that this cable realizes our basic objective of recognition of the Jewish Restitution Commission as distinguished from a German type of successor organization previously and strenuously urged by various individuals in the State Department and Army Department. The requirement that title to real property be vested in a German corporation will not involve any difficulties, inasmuch as it had already been the plan and intention to set up such an organization in Germany, provided that the Jewish Restitution Commission was clearly and officially designated as the exclusive Jewish successor organization. The latter, of course, only represents our position at this stage and we cannot be completely assured that this will in fact be the resolution of the problem until official action has been taken in Berlin. However, it does seem at this stage that such a step will be taken.

I am not certain as to just how you may use the above material in the monthly report, inasmuch as this information has reached us only informally and inasmuch as the formal communication to Mr. Warburg, conveying the action of the State Department, has not yet been received. We understand that the latter communication is practically on the way, and I would suggest that you might like to call me before actual preparation of the report to ascertain whether the latter has arrived. Depending on whether the latter takes place, you will have to say either more or less on this subject, it seems to me.

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## B. Heirless Property in the U.S.

As you perhaps know, the JDC together with other Jewish organizations has devoted considerable time, in the last several months, to preparing legislation which will permit the turning over of heirless Jewish assets in this country to a successor Jewish organization or organizations to be designated. Under the Final Act of the Paris Conference on Reparations and Article 8 of the Five-Power Agreement of June 1946, it was provided that heirless assets in neutral countries should be turned over jointly to the JDC and the Jewish Agency for the rehabilitation and resettlement of surviving Jewish persecutees. Since the date of their enactment, however, practically nothing has been done to implement these agreements, largely because the neutral governments have partly been loath to turn these assets over, and partly because the neutral governments have been able to point to the inactivity of the allied governments regarding heirless assets within their own boundaries.

For these reasons and for the more direct and obvious reason that it was felt desirable to reclaim such foreign Jewish assets in the U.S. in any event, the Jewish organizations some time ago delegated to the writer and the representatives of the American Jewish Congress the task of conferring with officials in Washington regarding the enactment of necessary and appropriate legislation. After several months of discussion, agreement has now been reached regarding the language of a proposed amendment to Section 32 of the Trading With the Enemy Act, which will recognize a Jewish successor organization as the legal successor in interest to deceased Jewish owners of foreign assets in this country, and which will enable the Jewish successor organization to regain these assets for the rehabilitation and resettlement of surviving Jewish persecutees.

These technical steps having been cleared, it is now anticipated that one or more of the Jewish organizations dealing with political matters will submit this amendment to Congress and press for its enactment. If successful, such an amendment might apply initially to German Jewish "enemy" assets amounting to from \$1-2,000,000. (Given other developments, it is possible that the amendment will also later be applicable to considerably larger amounts of assets which have hitherto only been "frozen" rather than "vested" as enemy assets in the hands of the Alien Property Custodian and which may soon be turned over to the Alien Property Custodian.)

ER:AU

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JEWISH RESTITUTION SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION

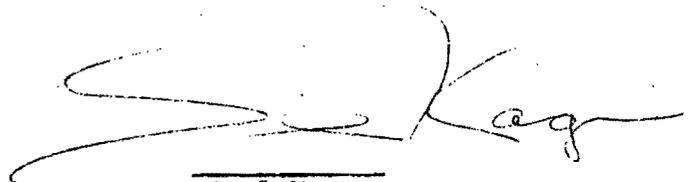
3 East 54th Street  
New York 22, N. Y.

July 31, 1958

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Committee  
FROM: Saul Kagan  
RE: Heirless Asset Bill

I sincerely regret to advise you that the Bill providing for the bulk settlement of JRSD claims to heirless assets vested by the Office of Alien Property will not clear the present session of Congress. The House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee decided at yesterday's session to table the Bill. According to Congressman Dollinger who introduced the Bill and championed it, the reason for the Committee's action was not objections to the Bill in and of itself, but opposition to piece meal legislation in the field of disposition of German assets. The meeting was apparently quite stormy but finally by a vote of 14 to 10 the Committee decided to table our Bill until the Committee can take action on all the bills in this area and determine general policy.



Saul Kagan

336608

*File*  
*working with the*  
*July 13, 1950*  
*Enemy*

July 13, 1950

MEMORANDUM

To: *Gen. Mr.* Dr. Eugene Hevesi  
From: *Gen. Mr.* Seymour J. Rubin *SR*  
Subject: *Mr. S.* 603 *only legal action - 1 (9)*

*I told* Mr. Ben Hill Brown, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, phoned to tell me that State is getting in touch with people on the Hill to see what troubles Bennett and O'Hara

and to see if their objections cannot be removed. *classmate of mine at the University of Michigan and that I was slightly acquainted with him, we both were members of the Michigan SW Club and having been fellow members of various athletic teams at the University. He reviewed our newspaper coverage regarding and Congressman Ford explained that he had no real knowledge*  
cc: Mr. Rock said that he had been asked by Congressman Bennett of Michigan to tell Mr. Cohn that he did not understand that Congressman O'Hara (of course Mr. Morgenthau) had to see Hill) and that the sentiment of Senate, House and several groups is that the bill should not be passed on the second reading of the House but that it should be taken up again later on as a vehicle for discussion. He suggested that we discuss the merits of the bill with Congressman Bennett and Ford.

I have orally presented this information to Mr. Morgenthau and have said that Judge Handberg took the matter up with the House leadership with a view to have Representative Martin put his subject behind the Hill and speak to Congressman Bennett and O'Hara or with a view toward having the leadership agree that the bill might be taken up in some way other than as the present attempt.

*Mr. Handberg* also met with Mr. Hill Brown, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, and asked that the Senate should be advised if any possible objections and O'Hara. Mr. Brown said that he would check the Department and make inquiries with those people who he said he would call and let me know if there was any news.

cc: Mr. Morgenthau  
Mr. Rock  
Mr. Hill

336609



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
300 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NEW YORK  
Telephone MURRAY HILL 3-0001  
July 12, 1950  
*Handwritten: 7/12/50*

MEMORANDUM

To: **Dr. Eugene Hevesi**  
From: **Seymour J. Rubin**  
Subject: **Heirless Property Legislation - S. 603**

I talked with Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Michigan yesterday with respect to S. 603. When S. 603 was called on the consent calendar of the House of Representatives on July 10, Mr. Ford asked unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

I discovered that Congressman Ford was a classmate of mine at the University of Michigan and that I was slightly acquainted with him, we both being members of the Michigan "M" Club and having been fellow members of varsity athletic teams at the University. We renewed our acquaintance over the telephone and Congressman Ford explained that he had no real knowledge of S. 603. He said that he had been asked by Congressman Bennett of Michigan to take the action which he did; that he understood that Congressman O'Hara of Minnesota was opposed to the bill; and that the sentiments of Messrs. O'Hara and Bennett seemed to be that the bill should not be passed on the consent calendar of the House but that it should be taken up where there was an opportunity for discussion. He suggested that we discuss the merits of the bill with Congressmen Bennett and O'Hara.

I subsequently passed this information on to Mr. Morgenthau and suggested that Judge Patterson take the matter up with the House leadership either with a view to have Representative Martin put his support behind the bill and speak to Congressmen Bennett and O'Hara or with a view toward having the leadership agree that the bill might be taken up in some way other than on the consent calendar.

I also subsequently talked with Ben Hill Brown, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, and asked that the Department of State do what it could vis-a-vis Bennett and O'Hara. Mr. Brown said that he doubted whether the Department had much influence with these gentlemen but that he would do what he could and let me know if there were any results.

cc: Mr. Morgenthau  
Mr. Rock  
Mr. Cohn

336610

March 6th, 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Survey of OAP Vesting Orders to Obtain Estimate of Heirless Jewish Accounts

In connection with the pending amendment to Section 32 of the Trading with Enemy Act designed to turn over heirless Jewish vested accounts for charitable purposes, various estimates have been made regarding the total value of such heirless accounts. Most often, the value has been estimated as between \$500,000 and \$2,000,000. Although no factual or statistical evidence was available at the time the latter estimates were made, it was the usual opinion that only the smaller accounts would remain heirless and unclaimed. Generally, and this fact is known to all Jewish charitable and refugee organizations working in the field, the wealthier members of the German Jewish community succeeded in escaping from Germany in a far higher ratio than the poorer members. Even if the owner of the account in this country was not himself able to escape, one or more heirs of the wealthy family were almost always able to make their way out. In the case of the typical small Jewish shopkeeper in Germany, however, who may have set up a small account in the U.S., escape was often too difficult and expensive, with the result that he and his entire family were wiped out in much higher ratio than among the more affluent groups. Based on this history of the Jewish experience in Germany, it has been suggested that there would not be many large accounts which could qualify as heirless and unclaimed.

In an effort to obtain a basis for estimate which would be more grounded in actual statistical fact, it was decided several weeks ago to have a group of fairly recent German-Jewish emigres in this country survey the some 14,400 vesting orders which have thus far been issued by the OAP. Specifically, the members of the survey team were instructed to examine the names of the former owners of all of the vested accounts with a view to picking out those names which appeared to be Jewish. By calculating the values of these "Jewish" accounts, it would then be possible to form an estimate of the total Jewish accounts.

The individual members of the survey team were carefully selected on the basis of their activity and familiarity with Jewish life in pre-war Germany. Recognizing the difficulties of ascertaining religious or cultural identification from alone, it was felt that intelligent scrutinizing efforts on the part of such a team would nevertheless produce a more valuable groundwork for estimate than has hitherto existed.

Survey Results

Of the total number of the 14,400 vesting orders surveyed, it was found that approximately 1,200 vesting orders appeared to bear names which were clearly Jewish. Although it may be that a few names were included which were not in fact Jewish, there seems to be every reason for assuming that this list of 1,200 is essentially correct.

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The 1200 names were further broken down as follows:

- a) Names which were discarded because the vesting order revealed the name to be that of a trustee or agent rather than the owner. (Where the name of the owner appeared in the body of the vesting order, a new card was prepared for that name and included in the categories below) . . . . . 150
  - b) Patent cases -- These names have also been discarded for the reasons (1) that the OAP experience with patent accounts generally, according to our information, has shown the accounts to be of relatively little value, and (2) that the patents would in many cases have belonged to wealthier groups of the population who, for the reasons stated above, would be likely to have claimed them already . . . . . 375
  - c) Cases where return orders have already been issued . . . . . 97
  - d) Cases which do not fall in the above categories and which appear to contain assets of value, with the exception of those where the account is part of an estate . . . . . 198
  - e) Cases where the vesting order indicates that the account is part of an estate . . . . . 412
- 1,232

Qualitative Break-Down of Assets

Based on the above, categories a), b) and c) have not been dealt with further and instead attention has been concentrated on categories d) and e), for which a qualitative examination and breakdown has been made. In the case of category d) it was discovered that of the 198 vesting orders 73 represented cases in which title claims have been filed, thus giving basis for assuming that the owners or their heirs are alive and that the accounts are not heirless. With reference to the remaining 125, it was found that the total value came to . . . . . \$336,380.00

In round figures, this shows an average value of \$2,700 for each vesting order in the category.

The above figure of \$336,380.00 must be further qualified by the fact that all title claims have not yet been sent from the Washington office of the OAP to the New York regional office (where the instant survey was conducted). Since the information furnished is that approximately 3/5 of all claims have been sent to the New York office from Washington, it has been assumed that the above number of 73 represents only a 3/5 figure and that 50 more title claims, or the remaining 2/5's, may therefore be anticipated as deductible from the above figure of 125 vesting orders. Calculating these at a \$2,700 average, it is necessary to deduct another \$135,000 from the \$336,380, thus leaving a total for this category of . . . \$201,380.00

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Because of the factor of time, and because of their more complicated character, it was not possible to make the same qualitative examination of the various accounts in category (e), that is, the estates. Instead, a sample of 42 estate vesting orders was selected, of which 12 were found to contain title claims on file. Of the remainder, the average value of each vesting order was found to be approximately \$3,000.

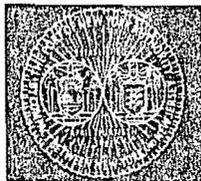
Taking the total number of <sup>442</sup> 370 vesting orders for estates, it is fair to assume that approximately 60% of the cases will have title claims. (The percentage of cases under category d) above in which title claims were filed was 62%.) When the remaining 40%, or ~~148~~ 148 vesting orders, is multiplied by the average value of \$3,000, a total is obtained of . . . . .

495,000  
~~644,000~~  
696,380  
\$645,380

The combined total of the categories d) and e) is thus found to be

In addition to the above values, it is necessary to recognize that there may be as many as another 200-300 "eligible" names contained in the vesting orders which are not "Jewish sounding" but which would nevertheless eventually be found, upon investigation, to be heirless and Jewish. Taking 200 as the figure for this purpose and multiplying it by an average value of \$3,000 per account, an additional amount of \$600,000 is obtained. It is recognized further that there may be some patent orders which are found to qualify and that the estate values, as estimated above, may be somewhat conservative. For all of these reasons, it is suggested that the actual total figure may approximate a value of \$1,500,000.

CONCLUSION: The value of these accounts in the hands of the OAP which will be found to be Jewish and heirless, are estimated to be . . . \$ 1,500,000.00



**THE PORT OF NEW YORK AUTHORITY**

*111 Eighth Avenue at 15th Street New York 11 NY*

**DEPARTMENT OF PORT DEVELOPMENT**

*Walter P. Hedden*

DIRECTOR

ALGONQUIN 5-1000

**PLANNING BUREAU**

*Frank W. Herring*

CHIEF

May 5, 1950

Dr. Eugene Hevesi  
American Jewish Committee  
386 Fourth Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Eugene:

Enclosed is a revision of the memorandum on alien Jewish property held by the Office of Alien Property Custodian. I have taken the liberty of revising the original draft rather considerably and hope that the result is satisfactory.

The statistical revisions, included in the attached, have been checked and double-checked. I am frankly at a loss to understand how the authors of the original draft completely ignored the results of the analysis of the sample of the 412 cases covering properties which are parts of larger estates. However, be this as it may, the final tabulation comes within the limits you indicated are desirable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David L. Glickman".

David L. Glickman

DLG/es  
Attached

336614

May 4, 1950

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Survey of Office of Alien Property Custodian Vesting Orders to Obtain Estimates of Heirless Jewish Accounts.

Background

A Subcommittee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has before it a proposed amendment to Section 32 of the Trading with the Enemy Act. This amendment provides that the proceeds of heirless accounts currently vested in the Office of Alien Property Custodian be used *and formerly owned by individuals persecuted under the Nazis* for relief and rehabilitation of victims of Nazi persecution, and for other charitable purposes related thereto. The amendment also provides that successor organizations be established to administer these proceeds. This memorandum presents an analysis and estimate of the Jewish portion of the heirless property held by the Office of Alien Property Custodian.

Several months ago, a group of fairly recent German-Jewish emigres was designated to examine approximately 14,400 vesting orders issued by the Office of Alien Property Custodian. The objective of this examination was to segregate those vesting orders which, on the basis of the group's familiarity with Jews and Jewish life in pre-war Germany, cover ~~heirless~~ *heirless* Jewish property. The members of the examining group were carefully selected; they represent a cross-section of Jewish persons with extensive experience and knowledge of Jewish affairs in Hitler's Germany. The 14,400 vesting orders examined were not a sample; they comprised all of the vesting orders issued by the Office of Alien Property Custodian. These orders covered Jewish as well as non-

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Jewish property, and also property for which individual claims by remaining heirs have been submitted as well as property which <sup>may today be presumed</sup> is today heirless.

Results of Survey

The examining group indicated that approximately 1,200 of the 14,400 vesting orders covered property which, in its opinion, was clearly Jewish in ownership. In addition, it believed that an additional <sup>1,000-1500</sup> ~~200-300~~ vesting orders probably also covered Jewish property but was not specifically being designated as such, pending detailed investigation.

Detailed and critical examination of the 1,200 orders which were clearly Jewish in origin revealed the following:

(a) 97 orders represented cases where orders to return the properties involved to <sup>the owners or their</sup> legitimately established heirs had already been issued;

(b) 150 orders covered properties listed in the names of trustees and agents rather than original owners or legitimately established heirs (where the name of the ~~owner~~ was available, the account was included in one of the categories below)

(c) 375 orders <sup>covered</sup> ~~covered claims~~ to patent rights and royalties;

(d) 412 orders covered properties which are ~~actually~~ parts of larger estates;

(e) 198 orders covered cases which do not fall into any of the above categories <sup>special and</sup> but which contain assets of value, with the exception of those where the account is part of an estate;

The vesting orders falling within category (a) do not comprise property which is heirless; they were, therefore, automatically excluded from further consideration.

The 150 category (b) orders (agent and trustee cases) <sup>were also excluded since only the status or character of the true owner</sup> will undoubtedly include some which will prove to be heirless. Their beneficiaries <sup>as recorded as pertinent to the determination</sup> exact number and value, however, cannot now be determined. This will depend

~~could be held pertinent to the determination~~  
~~by this survey purposes of the survey.~~

~~on whether the claims of agents and trustees will be validated and honored.~~

*9* The 375 category (c) orders, (patent cases) require further study before their value can be determined. ~~No estimate of their potential value is, therefore, included in this analysis.~~ *specific, individual breakdown of the accounts could therefore be made.*

*X* *9* The 412 category (d) orders (parts of estates cases) consist of cases which are extremely complicated in character. To have examined each case in detail would have required far more time than was available. In order, therefore, to arrive at a reasonable approximation of their value, a 10 percent sample, 42 cases, was subjected to intensive analysis. This analysis revealed that 12 of the 42 cases, 28.6 percent, involved properties for which claims by remaining heirs have been submitted to the Office of Alien Property Custodian, *with the result that the properties could not be regarded as heirless.* The remaining 30 cases, 71.4 percent of the sample, were found to have an average value of approximately \$3,000, with a high of \_\_\_\_\_ and a low of \_\_\_\_\_. Assuming that the sample of 42 cases is representative of all of the 412 orders in this category, 71.4 percent or 294 orders consist of heirless property. At an average value of \$3,000 per order, the total value of the heirless property in this category is \$880,000.

All of the vesting orders in category (d), the non-classified group, were examined in detail. It was found that 73 involved properties for which individual title claims by heirs have been filed. It is assumed here that all of these individual claims will prove to be valid and that the properties involved are not, therefore, heirless. The remaining 125 orders were found to have a total value of \$336,380, an average of approximately \$2,700 for each order. However, the Office of Alien Property Custodian has indicated that some additional individual claims for properties in this category of orders

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must be taken into account in any tabulation of values. It has submitted information to the effect that the 73 <sup>title</sup> individual claims already examined actually represent only about 60 percent of the total volume of such claims. Accordingly, it is assumed that an additional 50 <sup>title</sup> individual claims will be found to be valid, and that their value should be deducted from the \$336,380 total. At an average of \$2,700 per order, the total value of this deductible portion is \$135,000, leaving a net value of category (d) orders of \$201,380.

Insert X -  
Summary

1. The data presented above indicates that it is reasonable to assume that the value of specifically identifiable heirless Jewish property is ~~\$1,021,000~~ <sup>9</sup> ~~1,021,000~~ <sup>495,000</sup> consisting of the following: ~~1,021,000~~ <sup>495,000</sup> for orders covering properties which are parts of ~~larger~~ estates, and \$201,000 for orders covering properties which are not readily classifiable as to type of assets.

2. It is believed that a substantial portion of the ~~200-300~~ <sup>1,000-1,500</sup> orders which were not specifically identified as Jewish in origin by the examining group pending detailed investigation will, in fact, prove to be Jewish. Assuming that only ~~200~~ <sup>300</sup> of these will ultimately be found to be of Jewish origin, <sup>and assuming</sup> assigning a value of only \$2,700 to each order, <sup>that title claims will be found in the same percentage as above, leaving</sup> yields an additional ~~\$100,000~~ <sup>\$1,080,000 is yielded.</sup> The \$2,700 average value, it should be noted, is the lower of the two averages found in detailed examination of the estate and non-classified groups.

3. Although the 375 patent case orders were not examined in detail, on the basis of past experience it is believed to be entirely reasonable that they will be found to have a minimum value of ~~\$300,000 to \$400,000~~ <sup>\$200,000</sup>. This would be based on an estimate that 40% or 150 cases are free of title claims and therefore be equivalent to an average value of ~~\$400 to about \$1,000 per order, consider~~ <sup>\$1,333 per order, consider</sup>

*[Handwritten scribble]*

*[Handwritten mark]*

*title cases*

*eligible and would*

*total of \$1,000,000 by you eligible to do and*

*eligible "heirless accounts pursuant to the criteria and experience above used and obtained in the survey and assigning a value of only \$2,700 to each order, an additional amount of \$810,000 is yielded.*

ably below the averages of \$3,000 for orders covering properties which are parts of estates, and \$2,700 for orders covering properties which are non-classifiable as to assets.

4. On this basis, the total value of heirless Jewish property held under vesting orders of the Office of Alien Property Custodian is ~~\$1,921,000 to \$2,021,000~~, as follows:

Value of Heirless Jewish Property Held Under Vesting Orders of Office of Alien Property Custodian

Orders covering properties for which individual claims have been submitted.	_____
Orders covering properties listed in names of agents and trustees	_____
Orders covering patent rights and royalties	<i>200,000</i>
Orders covering properties which are parts of larger estates.	<del>\$300,000-400,000</del>
Orders covering properties not immediately classifiable as to type of assets.	<i>495,000</i> <del>880,000</del>
Orders covering properties not immediately classifiable as of Jewish origin.	<i>201,000</i> <del>540,000</del>
	_____
	\$1,921,000-2,021,000

*Change*

THE AMERICAN JEWISH  
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.

270 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

From Eli Rock

*Eli Rock*

*(WR)*

To Moses A. Leavitt

New York, November 5, 1948

*Copy*

*Admin. Trading  
with the Enemy Act*

Subject Trip to Washington, Friday, October 29th, 1948

As you know, I travelled to Washington last week to discuss a number of questions with various people there. A summary of my discussions is as follows:

I. Heirless Property

a) Proposed amendment to Section 32 of the Trading with the Enemy Act, with specific reference to enemy property vested in the APC.

Dr. Robinson and I together held discussions with a number of representatives of the APC on this question, and in addition the writer spoke to several of the interested individuals at the State Department. Without exception, all of these officials felt that an excellent job had been done by the Jewish organizations towards submitting and pressing the legislation in the last session of Congress, and they were all both interested and pleased to learn that it is our present plan to resubmit this bill at the next session. It was quite clear that the interested divisions in both departments would keep in mind these plans for the next session, particularly with reference to any pertinent problems and developments which might take place in the interim.

b) Developments regarding the Snyder Plan transfer of blocked assets from Treasury to APC.

Dr. Robinson and I learned that the APC is still completely involved at this stage in the processing of individual applications for unblocking which have been submitted both before and under the Snyder Plan, and that until the problem of these individual applications has been disposed of, there will be no immediate developments regarding heirless and unclaimed blocked property. As a result of the Snyder Plan census, hitherto undisclosed names of foreign owners have now been turned over to the various Marshall Plan countries and presumably owners who have not previously come forward with applications for unblocking are now being forced to do so. It is clear, however, that these governments may not, either in their own names or through some guise such as a public custodian, submit applications on behalf of deceased, heirless owners; and while semi-fraudulent attempts by the governments to get at these assets is always a possibility and APC may not be effectively guarding against such attempts, it is my impression that the APC has been alerted as much as is possible on the question.

One problem which will shortly face us involves the fact that the APC has not yet decided upon a procedure for handling the heirless claims, if and when that phase of the problem does come up for action. Assuming the passage of our proposed amendment to Section 32, it would become essential from our point

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of view for APC to vest such heirless assets, since the amendment will only apply automatically to vested property. On the other hand, there seems to be a slightly growing disinclination to vest very much additional new property and if evidence a month or two hence reveals that these assets will not be vested, it may become necessary to re-examine and alter our amendment to provide somehow for the passage of the blocked property to a successor organization.

Still another problem was presented by the information that perhaps the largest part of the blocked assets will be found in the so-called "X" or numbered accounts from Switzerland and the Netherlands. Since it seems clear that the names of the owners of these accounts will not be revealed, and since information as to the owners would be essential under our proposed amendment for purposes of proving that the property is Jewish, there appears to be a serious threat that large amounts of property will not be recoverable unless the amendment is changed in some way to cover this type of situation. Although it is the opinion of Dr. Robinson and myself that it would be difficult in the extreme to change the language of the amendment in order to meet this problem, it appears that further discussions will be required on this score also, as the final developments in the APC's program begin to appear.

## II. Egon Cohn Account.

I checked again with the appropriate APC divisional director to ascertain the present status of the Egon Cohn unblocking application. (This, you will remember, is the one in which Mr. Swope is interested.) Although instructions were given at the time of our first phone call several months ago that this application should be processed as promptly as possible, it now develops that the staff member who had been charged with processing this case had somehow tabled it and had not followed through as instructed. The division head did assure me, however, that this application is now definitely in the mill, that all the processing steps have been instituted, and that an answer will be forthcoming with a minimum of further delay--it would appear however that this minimum may involve several months.

## III. State and Army Consideration of Application for Recognition by Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.

On this question I was informed by the State Department that there is no real objection to the request from General Clay that JCR be designated for purposes of the Offenbach and similar property. Rather, there seems to be only an inclination at the moment to hold up recognition for that type of Offenbach property which is identifiable either as to owners or as to national origin, and it may be that for the time being Washington will suggest limiting approval of JCR to the Offenbach property which is not thus identifiable--though known to be from outside Germany. Similarly, there seems to be no disposition to oppose granting permission for Starr to commence his inventory with respect to all the Offenbach property.

I was informed that consideration is now being given to a wire which is generally premised on the above principles and that such a wire should be going out within the near future. It was felt emphatically that a delegation to Washington from the interested Jewish organizations is not advisable on this question,

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in view of the absence of any real opposition to Clay's request. At the same time, it was felt that since the wire which ultimately goes out will probably not be completely specific, and will not cover all aspects of the problem, considerable importance attaches to effective and quick follow-up with Military government authorities by JRSO and JCR representatives in Germany. (Fisher please take note.)

#### IV. Vincze Matter

I spent approximately an hour with Larry Lesser regarding this matter, and Mr. Lesser emphasized that we should definitely not regard this matter as foreclosed yet. There can be further consideration and discussion with the State Department people and it was also Mr. Lesser's feeling that the election might possibly change the picture. (Unfortunately, however, this was said on the assumption that Mr. Dulles might be the new Secretary of State, since he might feel more inclined to recognize the property rights of individuals claiming assets which are now blocked.)

I also discussed with Mr. Lesser the suggestion from Mr. Peckerman that he intended to proceed directly on behalf of his client claiming that these assets have always belonged to his client alone and to no one else. Mr. Lesser acknowledged the possibility that Mr. Peckerman might in some way be able to succeed in such a claim, since there does not seem to be a great deal of evidence on the record supporting the claim of ownership by the Hungarian government. In any event, Mr. Lesser asked to be given some time to think about this possible approach and he promised to give me his ideas on the matter within a week.

ER:AU

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submitted to  
working with  
Congress

I Proposed  
delay in  
publication  
until start  
Austrian negoti-  
ations

Cleared  
with Abe  
5/25/53  
SK

THE HEIRLESS PROPERTY PARADOX

Abraham S. Hyman

As a general rule people are more circumspect about their behavior at home than about their conduct abroad. However, in dealing with the heirless property of victims of persecution, the Congress of the United States has made it appear that the reverse of this rule appeals to the United States.

At the outbreak of World War II the United States, resorting to the Trading With the Enemy Act of 1917, seized the assets of the countries with which it was at war, and the assets of their nationals, situated in the United States and in the areas over which it exercised sovereignty. The purpose of the measure was twofold: one, to deprive the enemy of the economic weapon represented by the assets and two, to provide a ready source of reparations for use to satisfy claims arising out of the war. At the end of the war it was glaringly evident that the Trading With the Enemy Act, a law of World War I vintage, had to be made responsive to the realities of World War II. It was, obviously, unfair to seize the assets of those who, though technically enemy nationals, were persons whom the enemy had villified, had dispossessed and had stripped of their civil and political rights. Recognizing that the law was draconian as it applied to these people, the Congress amended the Trading With the Enemy Act in August 1946 to provide for the restoration to them of their property. The amendment was, however, silent as to the property which was owned by persecutees who had perished and who had left no heirs.

With the Trading With the Enemy Act unchanged since the 1946 amendment as to the property of persecutees, the United States is today the ultimate beneficiary of the property in those cases where the enemy succeeded in destroying every vestige of the family to which the former owner of the property belonged. This is not only a queer result standing by itself but is even more quixotic when placed in just-

position to what the United States has advocated with respect to similar property situated abroad in every instance in which the United States could exert its influence. In those instances the United States has consistently taken the position that such property is impressed with a sacred trust and should be employed in the rehabilitation of the victims of persecution.

It was at the Paris Reparation Conference, held in November - December 1945, where the question of heirless property was first raised. The Conference was primarily concerned with the allocation of German reparations among the western powers. Among the assets which came under the scrutiny of the conference participants, eighteen in all, were German assets and assets of heirless victims of Nazi persecution, situated in the neutral countries. As to the German assets, the United States and the other powers agreed that the neutral countries would be urged to turn over the property for distribution as reparations among the western powers. As to the heirless property, the neutral countries were requested to relinquish such property for use in the rehabilitation of the victims of Nazi persecution. This, then, is a distinction which the United States helped to forge in dealing with heirless property situated in neutral countries.

The opportunity to direct the disposition of heirless property situated in enemy territory came when the treaties of peace with the satellite countries were concluded. This was in 1947. The unanimous decision of the signatory powers, including the United States, as reflected in the treaties of peace with Hungary and Rumania, was that heirless property and property unclaimed for six months after the effective date of the treaties, and located in these countries, should be turned over to organizations in these countries, representatives of the surviving members of the class to which the persecutee belonged.

Any doubt as to whether these multi-lateral agreements actually reflected

American policy is dispelled by the action taken by the United States in the enactment of the restitution law (Military Government Law 59) for the United States Zone of Germany, <sup>the law which provided for the restitution of property to the persecuted</sup> In this instance, in which the United States finally acted unilaterally, the disposition of heirless property situated in Germany was one of the principal issues in dispute. Not only were the German authorities unwilling to enact a law which would turn over such property to a successor organization, but negotiations among the four occupying powers, looking to the enactment of a quadripartite restitution law, collapsed in part because of basic disagreements over the heirless property question. High praise is due General Clay who, as the architect of American policy in the United States Zone of Germany during his administration as military governor, refused to compromise on this issue. When he finally concluded, after long and arduous negotiations, that the three other occupying powers and the German authorities would not submit to his formula, he exercised his prerogative as Military Governor and promulgated a law which provided that heirless property shall be turned over to successor organizations for the rehabilitation of the class of persons to which the persecutee owners belonged. The law itself ultimately triumphed as the model law for similar laws enacted in the French Zone, the British Zone and in the western sectors of Berlin. This is an example of real moral leadership on the part of the United States which the other powers were at first reluctant to accept but to which they finally yielded.

The disparity between what we have preached to others and what we have practiced within our own sanctuary has not gone unnoticed. There have been repeated attempts to close the gap between our domestic and foreign policy on this issue. In the 80th Congress (H. R. 6187 and S. 2764), the 81st Congress (S. 603), and in the 82nd Congress (S. 1748), measures were introduced which recognized the paramount right of successor organizations to the property in question. The bills received

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the support of the Department of State, the Treasury Department, of the Department of Justice, and of the United States War Claims Commission. Among the individual members of Congress who have actively supported the bills are Senators Taft, O'Connor and McCarran. Yet, despite this formidable support, the bills have had an unhappy fate. They passed the Senate in the 80th and 81st Congress but expired when they were not put to a vote in the House. In the 82nd Congress the bill was called up on the consent calendar in the Senate but was consigned to oblivion when it failed to secure the requisite unanimous vote.

The argument has been presented that the claims of prisoners of war, payable out of the proceeds of German and Japanese assets seized under the Trading With the Enemy Act, have priority on all enemy assets including the heirless property. This argument accompanied the objection to S. 1748 when this bill was called up on the consent calendar in the 82nd Congress.

The argument does not flatter the prisoners of war. It is morally certain that they do not as a group support the proposition that an enemy should be permitted to discharge its reparations debt, and thereby its debts to them, with assets of families murdered by the enemy.

It is also morally certain that what the United States did regarding heirless property at the Paris Reparation Conference, during the negotiations on the Hungarian and Rumanian treaties and when Military Government Law 59 was enacted represents the real conscience of the American people. It is for the Congress to translate this impulse into law.

*Especially, when there are more equitable alternatives,*  
The principle of escheat, under which a state succeeds to heirless and unclaimed property, has no place in the disposition of heirless property of victims whose right to life the United States and the other allied powers fought during World War II to vindicate.

336626

LAW OFFICES  
LANDIS, COHEN, RUBIN, SCHWARTZ AND GEWIRTZ  
1832 JEFFERSON PLACE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.  
STERLING 8-5905

JAMES M. LANDIS  
WALLACE M. COHEN  
SEYMOUR J. RUBIN  
ABBA F. SCHWARTZ  
STANLEY GEWIRTZ  
JAMES R. ZUCKERMAN

May 19, 1953

Mr. Saul Kagan  
Conference on Jewish Material Claims  
Against Germany, Inc.  
Suite 800  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.

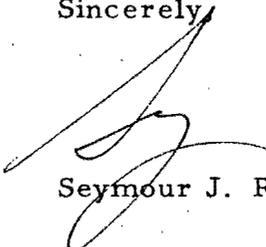
Re: Heirless Property - U. S.

Dear Saul:

I expect to be in New York in the next week or so, and perhaps we can talk about the best way of utilizing Abe Hyman's talents at that time.

Senator Johnson has been briefed on the bill, but we will not have his decision for a few days.

Sincerely,

  
Seymour J. Rubin

*Dictated prior to our talk re  
the bill*

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