

MAJOR PLAYERS IN THE
LATIN AMERICAN
LOOTED ART MARKET

PREPARED BY
KAREN PIENKNAGURA

Argentina

* Part of the collection was stored @ SOURCHIES taken over by ENGEL (GRAS administrator for collection) ↑

- The Germans confiscated the collection @ CHATEAU DE to take to Germany despite protests from the KONSTSCHUTZ in Paris. Von Behr + DEBOY implicated in this act of confiscation
- They opened a gallery in NY

NACP, RA 239, entry 26, box 4, WILDENSTEIN et Cie.

→ Alfred Rosenberg's right hand man

VON BEHR - Occupation Chief of German Red Cross in France

In charge of EINSATZTAB ROSENBERG + staff of 60, DR. LOHSE was his advisor + personal rep for GOERING.

- Responsible for the theft of the WILDENSTEIN pictures. Stole especially from Jews.
- One of the worst looters in Paris.
- Said that his personal mission was to carry out Hitler's order to Eliminate Jews. One of Goering's best friends

NACP, RA 239, entry 31.

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
WILDENSTEIN & CO. (GEORGE & MARLINE)	NY- art gallery/dealers	Several correspondences prove that Wildenstein & Co. has offered on several occasions art form European origin to clients in Argentina. Correspondences among these people prove that Mr. Wildenstein was interested in acquiring information regarding looted art works and how to gain access to them ¹
ENRIQUE HENIOT	ARG-	
LUPO A. STEIN	ARG-	
MARGOT HESSBERG	ARG-	"Margot Hessberg, was the recipient of the "painting" or "drawing" sent by Jacob Frank through Herbert J. Bing; on Aug. 6, 44 she communicated with Frank in Havana referring to the "drawings" which he had delivered to her for Frank. Frank subsequently claimed that this referred to only one drawing of humorous intent which he had sent to the Hessbergs who were old friends of his" ²
JACOB FRANK	CUBA-Art dealer	
HERBERT J. BING	???	

¹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, ??? to Gruenebaum, 11/05/44

² NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Re: Margot Hessberg

WILDENSTEIN:

- International art firm, branches in London, Bond Street and NY
- GEORGES: Owner of firm, now (145?) in NY. Author of some works on French art of XVIII + XIX c. Publisher of weekly "Beaux Arts" + monthly review "Gazette des Beaux Arts" => published after 06/40 in NY => no indication he was connected w/ activities of this publication during occupation or w/ M. DEQUOY (MANAGER OF THE WILDENSTEIN COLLECTION)
- The Wildenstein premises were taken over by ENGEL, HOFMAN + DR KUETGENS for the Germans, the pictures were stored in SOURCHES repository seized. The collection was assessed @ a low price by an appraiser, Jacques Beltraud, and the sum deducted from French reparations to Germans. This negotiation called a sale to the Germans. DEQUOY reported to have instigated a commission of German officers to take the WILDENSTEIN pictures from the repository @ SOURCHES. Major von BEHR is charged with stealing the pictures including Z WATTEAUS, DÜRER + G FRACONARDS.
- He is believed to have bought, or at least control the David Weill collection.
- DR. PFITZNER told BUNSES on 5/14/41 that acting on orders from the FUHRER he had issued written order for the removal of the WILDENSTEIN collection from theouvre deposit. in the Chateau de SOURCHES to Germany.
- Under direction of DEQUOY + FABIANI, 52 modern paintings from various Jewish collections were delivered to PARIS.
- DEQUOY had a 4-year long feuding match w/ German art-collectors, ending in a complete victory for him. Nightly, during the Nazi occupation, Dequoy and his staff moved Rembrandts, Manets, Goyas, valuable 18th c. furnishings, rugs + tapestries into hiding places. Once Nazis discovered the collection was stored in vaults, they demanded a night the purchase from it. Knowing he would get only 1/10 of the real value of the collection, M. Dequoy managed to substitute inferior paintings before the arrival of the purchasers. His final one was the saving of the finest art library in Europe. The Germans sent experts to purchase the 10,000 vol. library for 600,000 f. when it was worth well over 10,000,000 f. Dequoy was successful in stalling until after the liberation.
- Docs. from EINSATZSTAB-ROSENBERG indicate that the ERR looted firm: Elisabeth, Georges + Suzanne WILDENSTEIN.

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
<p>SAEMY ROSENBERG (ROSENBERG & STIEBEL INC.)</p>	<p><u>PAUL ROSENBERG</u>: 16 E 57th ST <u>NY. -1</u> also EDMOND</p> <p>NY-</p>	<p>Communication evidences the resumption of business relations between resident of Argentina and resident of US for shipments of art treasures. Rosenberg states "The business is going to start on a small scale with objects that can be easily and readily sold"³ Alfons mentions the import firm to use is Cronos Importadores.</p>
<p>ALFONS HEILBRONER</p>	<p>ARG- Born in Germany 05/30/89, well-known antique dealer in Berlin. Spent some time in France and left for Argentina in 08 or 09 '41. Considered by some to be the leading art expert in Argentina. Despite the fact that he is Jewish, he was accepted in German circles. Some reports are conflictive with evidence of him dealing in art in BA. Has an uncle of the same last name who owned an antique store in Paris, which was confiscated after the occupation.</p>	<p>There is mention of access to Renoirs and the Schaffer Gallery in NY and Goldschmidt.</p> <p>Alfons is friends with Goetz, relative of Jack Goldschmidt, who wants to get back two pictures that have been in the Schaffer Galleries for some time. Alfons is asking for addresses so that he can discuss the case with Goldschmidt.⁴</p>
<p>LUIS GOETZ</p>	<p>ARG- Argentine citizen, collector</p>	

³ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Alfons to Rosenberg

⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Alfons to Rosenberg

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
JORGE RADO	ARG- Hungarian national, states occupation as organizer of expositions lived in Chile for a while.	Reports of him trying to sell paintings in NY, which he bought in Hungary and brought to Arg. Repots that he neglected to include some information about paintings he had when applying for a US. Visa ⁵ .
Müller, FRIEDERICK & CO Founded 1843 FEDERICO C. MULLER <i>also Galena Muller in BA</i>	One of the best known art dealers & auctioneers in Europe - Firm owned by MENSING ARG- Owner of Muller Galleries - Amster- dam <i>"Galena Muller in B.A. might also be a branch of this firm" 12</i>	In a letter, it is revealed that Fesenstein has shipped two valuable Renoirs to Philip Bros. They were shipped by air and dispatched under the name Federico C. Muller . ⁶ They seem to have a relationship at least since '43 because there is record of at least one communication on 07/28/43. In the '43 communication the same two pieces are discussed and Felsenstein
ESTEBAN FELSENSTEIN	ARG- Buenos Aires representative of Philips Bros. He is reputed to have been a director of Philips from '35 to '40 and to be conducting his own business while acting as a representative in BA. He eventually got involved in the shipment of beryl ore to Philips and also engaged in the purchase & resale of mercury ⁹ .	There are indications that Emden (Chile) had sold, at least one of the Renoirs to Muller Galleries in B.A. ⁷ Paul Cassier had sold the paintings to Emden. ⁸
PHILIP BROS. INC. (S. ULLMAN)	NY- Art dealers, appeared on the British Ministry of Enemy Warfare German List in '41.	
PAULA de KOENIGSBERG	MX- Claims to be art dealer for over thirty years. Address in intercepts in Mexico, but when related to a shipping or customs dealing appears under a NY address. ¹⁰ According to a dispatch, she and husband also operated from Argentina ¹¹	Paula appears to deal mainly with Henschel and Judson Sheldon Corp. in NY. Buying paintings, getting them shipped to Mexico and selling them in Mex., Arg. and Uruguay? ¹¹

⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Re: Jorge Rado

⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Felsenstein to Philip Bros., 06/01/45

⁷ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Examiner's Note on Felsenstein to Philip Bros., 06/01/45

⁸ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Felsenstein to Philip Bros., 08/12/43

⁹ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Re: Esteban Felsenstein

¹⁰ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Judson Sheldon Corp. to Paula Koenigsberg, 08/12/44

¹¹ (Office of Strategic Services, Official Dispatch, 04/30/45, from major Robert F. Rushin to Seymour Houghton

¹² NACP, RG239, entry 26, box 3, Ord File on Müller, Frederick & Co.

7 name in box 81

NICHOLAS KOENIGSBERG	NY-(MX?)(Paula's husband) Art dealer from New York. ¹² Address 787 fifth Ave., apt. 42. Has shop in Buenos Aires at Ave. Presidente Figueros Alcorts 3191? ¹³	
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DE KOENIGSBERGS: NY, art dealers who have business connections in B.A., Mexico City, Chile & Uruguay. The associates involved: Ramon Maudano, Albert + Duhau, Enrique + Nettie Paatz, Mrs. Edgardo Nicholson, Miss Isabel Hill, Dr. Munio Williams + Maria Chaliapine.

The ~~DE~~ KOENIGSBERGS + the Maudanos who were alleged to have Nazi sympathies & connections. "The suspicion was based in part on the fact that their business was conducted on a secret basis, under cover of personal affairs".¹⁴

¹² NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Bava to Nicholas Acquavella, 02/13/45

¹³ (Office of Strategic Services, Official Dispatch, 04/30/45, from major Robert F. Rushin to Seymour Houghton

¹⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 26, box 2, Card File on the DE KOENIGSBERGS

Chile

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
<p>M. KNOEDLER & CO. INC. (CHARLES R. HENSCHEL) ↳ NOT AS HENSCHEL YES 9130</p>	<p>Main address: 22 Rue des Capucines Paris Branches: Chicago, NY & London</p> <p>NY- "Files of SHENKER Co. shows that subject sold works of art to German MUSEUM during the occupation" 6</p>	<p>In a letter Knoedler & Co., express interest in possibly buying paintings of the same kind as the Renoir flower paintings which Ms. Lili Wolf had mentioned to them when she gave them Emden's address¹.</p>
<p>JUAN ENRIQUE EMDEN</p>	<p>CHILE- Art dealer, most important in Chile</p> <p>On KNOEDLER Co it says see card on Emden, still</p>	<p>Original offer made in a letter from Emden to Knoedler Co. (Henschel) dated 12/13/44, where Emden states he had just been in B.A. and that the Renoir is at the Galeria Muller in BA². (One of the two Renoirs that were being offered in B.A., which several dealers in NY and S.A. wanted to get their hands on).</p>
<p>PAUL GRAUPE</p>	<p>PAUL GRAUPE NY- Art dealer</p>	<p>Emden also mentions the Renoir in a letter to Paul Graupe (NY) in which he and offered a price of \$12,000 in order to ship it to NY after a friend brings it to BA³.</p> <p>Several cables back and forth b/w Emden and Henschel regarding the Renoir painting (same as above?) where Henschel is bargaining for the price. No evidence that the deal was ever closed⁴.</p> <p>Graupe writes to Emden on 02/03/45, from letter evidence they have a long-standing personal relationship. He expresses his interest in obtaining the Renoir and having it shipped directly to him in NY⁵.</p>

¹ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Knoedler & Co. to Emden, 11/24/44

² NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Emden to Knoedler & Co., 12/13/44

³ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Examiner's Note on Knoedler & Co. to Emden, 11/24/44

⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, 4 cables dating from 01/02/45 to 02/07/45

⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Graupe to Emden, 02/03/45

⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, card file on KNOEDLER + CO.

Cuba

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
OTTO SONNENFELD	TEL-AVIV-	Graupe and Sonnenfeld deal with possible sale of paintings in Tel-Aviv. Letter (10/9/44) reveals Graupe offered various paintings for sale to him valued at \$135,000.00 ¹
PAUL GRAUPE ****	NY- refugee art dealer. Also had an art gallery in Paris. (Also linked to Emden in Chile).	Graupe is referred to by Goldschmidt in letter to Sondheimer regarding a silver statue. Graupe and Goldschmidt are partners working on a system to sell art objects in New York, Cuba and Mexico. ²
ARTHUR GOLDSCHMIDT	CUBA - GRAUPE'S partner. German citizen. Shares profits of sales in Cuba with Graupe.	Goldschmidt receives letter from Graupe regarding the availability of a Rubens painting for sale. Suggests Mexico as a possible market because the painting was done for a Spaniard. Provenience of "The Annunciation" out of the possession of the Earl of Caledon by Dr. Ludwig Burchard. ³ Sold Rubens' "Madonna & Child" to Thomas Agnew, Ltd., fall 39 (London). This firm subsequently sent the picture to the Firm Katz in Holland on consignment and Katz buys the picture in 40. The picture was subsequently sold to an unknown German dealer who sold the painting to Adolf Hitler, who deposited the painting with Mr. Buchner a director of the Pinakothek Museum" ⁴
MANFRED M.T. SONDHEIMER	NY- letters with Graupe regarding silver statue of Atlas and Rubens paintings ⁵	Wendland dealt with Goldschmidt and Graupe.
HANS WENDLAND <i>* also stuff on him on Mex. Page</i>	- "Good expert, especially on Italian paintings, but thoroughly dishonest. Used to live in Berlin then settled in Geneva where he was suggested in buying LUCERNE. German citizen and is regarded by many refugee art dealers in this country as a German agent" ⁶ . Interested in Rubens' "Madonna & Child" apparently being sold by PAUL GRAUPE. Appeared on the "Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals" pictures. He had also lived in Paris before the war. Was partner of Reber until 13 yrs. ago. PRESENT ACTIVITIES: is said to have been buying pictures in Switzerland + on the Lake d'Azor for to have requisitioned them. Has sold boxed works of art in the Swiss market. He is certainly working for FISCHER GALLERY in Lucerne. *	* Sold pictures looked by the ERR through ANDREAS HOFER of Berlin. Bought from BIRSCHANSKY in Paris. →

¹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45
² NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45
³ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Graupe to Goldschmidt, 01/17/44
⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Foreign Funds Control Confidential Report on Hans Werdland, 01/18/44
⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45
⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Foreign Funds Control Confidential Report on Hans Werdland, 01/18/44

WENDLAND: {all from NACP, R9239, entry 26, box 4
- ex-officer of German army
German national, living alternately in Paris, Florence, Germany &
Switzerland. Traveled frequently b/w France, Italy & Germany from
'40-'43. In November of 1942 he received a whole ~~lot~~ railroad car
of artworks from Paris, which was cleared by Vichy agents,
in Jausoune.

In early November 1943, 2 van loads of artwork from Lucerne and one from
Basle are said to have arrived in Italy. Said that these treasures were
taken w/ Wendland when he moved to Geneva.

Has been working in close cooperation with German legation in
Berne.

- He always kept contact w/ art dealers and possessed knowledge of the contents
of private collections
- Claimed to have bought Degas' "Mme Camille au Piano" from Paris dealer; though
he knew KANN + ROSENBERG well and must have known it was
stolen (BIRSHANSKI - sold it to WENDLAND; it came from KANN collection, originally
ROSENBERG). (said to be in U.S. since '42)
- Also deals w/ P. GRAUPE (NY) and A. GORSCHEWITZ (COBA) - he seems to have fallen
out w/ Gordschewit by 11/41.
- Is said to have made a fortune selling to prominent German buyers
especially HABERSTOCK
- He is the richest dealer and Lucerne and has a reputation for buying any
important piece that turns up.
- Graupe is: suing him for recovery of painting by Altomonte which he
entrusted to subject for safekeeping when Graupe left France
- He was often financed by FISCHER.
- In contact w/ LEROY (Switzerland)
- Documents captured @ Berchtesgaden connect him w/ GERING'S art transactions in
1942-1941.
- Married to Charlotte Wendland (real name: Simone Hermsdorf)
- Reported to be connected to German Consul Pollack + von MOSCH
- Reported to have attempted to obtain Argentine pass through HIRSCHLAND.
- HOFER's chief contact in France + Switzerland
- Close connection w/ DEQUOY.
- Entered into exchange of art objects w/ WUESTER -> paid WENDLAND 700,000 francs for tapestry
and CUYP painting
- He acted for SALEPH FISCHER

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
RICHARD BELL	NY- Art dealer,	<p>In a letter, Bell tells Frank that he will buy a certain painting himself. They seem to be involved in the art dealing world and make comments about how much their 'profession' has changed, they agree that part of the purchase price is to be transferred to Ernest Asch in order to avoid foreign funds control regulations.</p> <p>Bernheim is mentioned in Bell/Frank letter; the context is that once Frank tells Bell how he wants to arrange the sale, Bell would contact Bernheim...⁷</p>
JACOB FRANK	CUBA- Art dealer,	
ROBERT BERNHEIM	Former owner of well known firm of Bernheim in Munich which deal in art objects.	
ERNEST ASCH	NY?	
FRANCIS TAMAS	CUBA- Commissioned by Manheim	<p>Tamas writes Rothschild asking him to immediately return the painting which is property of Mr. Manheim or pay \$750.00 for expenses. Tamas claims that he is commissioned by Mannheim for these purposes⁸.</p>
HEINMAN ROTHSCHILD	NY-	
STEVEN MANHEIM	CUBA- refugee form Czechoslovakia and is definitely involved in the art world, not clear whether he is just a collector or a dealer.	

⁷ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, "Ricardo" to Jacob Frank, 10/17/44

⁸ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, "Market Research Bureau" to Heinman Rothschild, 10/9/1944

Mexico

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OTTO SONNENFELD	TEL-AVIV-	Graupe and Sonnenfeld deal with possible sale of paintings in Tel-Aviv, Letter (10/9/44) reveals Graupe offered various paintings for sale to him valued at \$135,000.00 ¹
PAUL GRAUPE ****	NY- refugee art dealer. Also had an art gallery in Paris. (Also linked to Emden in Chile).	Graupe is referred to by Goldschmidt in letter to Sondheimer regarding a silver statue. Graupe and Goldschmidt are partners working on a system to sell art objects in New York, Cuba and Mexico. ²
ARTHUR GOLDSCHMIDT	CUBA - GRAUPE'S partner. German citizen. Shares profits of sales in Cuba with Graupe.	Goldschmidt receives a letter from Graupe regarding the availability of a Rubens painting for sale. He suggests Mexico as a possible market because the painting was done for a Spaniard. Provenience of "The Annunciation" out of the possession of the Earl of Caledon by Dr. Ludwig Burchard. ³
MANFRED M.T. SONDHEIMER	NY- letters regarding silver statue of Atlas and Rubens paintings ⁵	Sold Rubens' "Madonna & Child" to Thomas Agnew, Ltd., fall 39 (London). This firm subsequently sent the picture to the Firm Katz in Holland on consignment and Katz buys the picture in 40. The picture was subsequently sold to an unknown German dealer who sold the painting to Adolf Hitler, who deposited the painting with Mr. Buchner a director of the Pinakothek Museum" ⁴
HANS WENDLAND	LUCERN- "German citizen and is regarded by many refugee art dealers in this country as a German agent" ⁶ . Interested in Rubens' "Madonna & Child" apparently being sold by PAUL GRAUPE. Appeared on the "Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals"	Wendland dealt with Goldschmidt and Graupe.
PAULA de KOENIGSBERG	MX- Claims to be art dealer for over thirty years. Address in intercepts in Mexico, but when related to a shipping or customs dealing appears under a NY address. ⁷ According to a dispatch, she and husband also operated from Argentina ⁸	Paula appears to deal mainly with Henschel and Judson Sheldon Corp. in NY. Buying paintings, getting them shipped to Mexico and selling them in Mex., Arg. and Uruguay?

¹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45

² NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45

³ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Graupe to Goldschmidt, 01/17/44

⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Foreign Funds Control Confidential Report on Hans Werdland, 01/18/44

⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Goldschmidt to Sondheimer, 01/23/45

⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Foreign Funds Control Confidential Report on Hans Werdland, 01/18/44

⁷ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Judson Sheldon Corp. to Paula Koenigsberg, 08/12/44

⁸ (Office of Strategic Services, Official Dispatch, 04/30/45, from major Robert F. Rushin to Seymour Houghton

WENDLAND: "German national; art dealer. Resident alternatively in France, Switzerland, Italy + Germany since WWI. Probably the most important individual engaged in quasi-official woted art transactions in France, Germany + Switzerland during WWII. Acted as intermediary between Hoyer and Fischer, and as Fischer's chief purchasing agent. He was frequently in Paris, France during the occupation; close contact of LOHSE, ROCHLITZ, LOEBL, PETRIDES, MANDL, WUESTER, etc. He never sold works directly to private purchasers, always working as dealers' expert & agent. Was on the Proclaimed list." (FROM BRASHER, P. 160)

THYSSEN, FRITZ: "German industrialist + coal steel magnate who helped finance the Nazi party. Once Hitler took power, Thyssen was chosen to direct an institute of studies devoted to research on the corporate state. By 1935 he began having doubts about the Nazi party's rearmament program + anti-Semitic policies, + in 1938 he resigned from the Prussian Council of State to protest against the prosecution of Jews and the next year, he left Germany. He was later turned over to the Nazis, who had already confiscated his property, by the Vichy government & spent the remainder of the War in a concentration camp. (FROM BRASHER, P. 170)

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
ISABEL HILL	NY- Works in Judson Sheldon Corp. in New York. <i>- Secretary for Koenigsberg @ same add.</i>	Works in coop. With Paula Koenigsberg in shipping art and buying it. She's Paula's representative in New York ⁹ .
CHARLES R. HENSCHEL	NY- Head of M. Knoedler & Co. Inc., actively involved in art purchases with Emden in Chile.	Seems to be providing Paula Koenigsberg with the artwork ¹⁰ .
NICHOLAS M. ACQUAVELLA	NY-art dealer/collector, dishonest and sold false paintings. ¹¹	Acquavella appears in a letter directed to him in which the writer, Bava, tells him about problems with previous exhibits and to be careful. He mentions Koenigsberg having been invited by Carlos Pellicer to exhibit antiques and then being charged with false paintings a Greco and a Goya. In addition, the letter recalls Acquavella's trip to Mexico where he exhibited false paintings and authentic but of no real representative value of the period, he claimed they were examples of. ¹²
NICHOLAS KOENIGSBERG	NY-(MX?)(Paula's husband) Art dealer from New York. ¹³ Address 787 fifth Ave., apt. 42. Has shop in Buenos Aires at Ave. Presidente Figueros Alcorts 3191?? ¹⁴	
Dr. KURT STAIVENHAGEN	18 San Bernardino, Colonia del Valle. MX-.	For several months they have been discussing in note on us regarding a presumably valuable painting which they claim is PISANELLO'S 'PENITENCE d'ESTE' Censorship intercept where Stavenhagen refers to 'the flower girl', saying he does not want to lose her. Appears to be a painting. Four additional notes referring to correspondence b/w the same two individuals. In the communications, one more person involved in the shipment of art piece -Zimmer- is mentioned. Not clear. (No RG or box# available)
ZINZER RICHARD ZINZER <i>appears as ZINSER</i>	FOREST HILLS, LONG ISLAND, NY. NY- * →	* also described as the 'flower girl' + the 'pink lady'. The original painting which was in <i>oeuvre</i> was estimated @ \$250,000. M. Rene Huyghe, chief curator of paintings at the Louvre Museum, has admitted placed in repositories during the war - have been restored to the Museum that none are missing. Therefore cut off in this country believe that the picture Zinzer must be a good copy not generally known to dealers!!

⁹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Cable Intercepts NYC 377424-C; 352990-C; 337221-C; 346558-C that all paintings placed in repositories during the war - have been restored to the Museum that none are missing. Therefore cut off in this country believe that the picture Zinzer must be a good copy not generally known to dealers!!

¹⁰ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Cable Intercept NYC 334831-C

¹¹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Bava to Nicholas Acquavella, 02/13/45

¹² NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Bava to Nicholas Acquavella, 02/13/45

¹³ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Bava to Nicholas Acquavella, 02/13/45

¹⁴ (Office of Strategic Services, Official Dispatch, 04/30/45, from major Robert F. Rushin to Seymour Houghton held by Preliminary Report # 11945 Looted art in Occupied Territories, Neutral countries, and Latin America, p39

*
ZIMMER, N.D. Av. Newton 43, Mexico DF.

Letter to ZINSER, revealed Zinser shipped him (on the advice of Stavenhagen) a painting by Pisanello, which Zimmer reported was "suspicious" to the point that the American Government has "investigated". Zimmer stated that he would not be involved in dealings of this kind and that he would deliver the painting to Stavenhagen on Zinser's personal order.

- Connected w/ PRIMERA INDUSTRIA MEXICANA DE DIAMANTES, S.A.

ZINSER, Richard : 7022 House St, Forest Hills, NY.

- Formerly an officer of the German army
Corresponding w/ Kurt Stavenhagen regarding a DORER print "Adam + Eve" which Stavenhagen wanted delivered to Ms. Isabel Hill. Zinser writes that the print was sold @ Parke Bernet "last week" for 1100.

- Offers Renoir Nude to Stavenhagen for \$4000

- Communicates w/ Simone Benin, Mex → reports results of auction

- Letter from STAVENHAGEN reports an offer of \$5000 for the Renoir Nude

- Sources consider him shrewd, w/ instinct for good things w/ no great knowledge of them. Was formerly a jeweler in Stuttgart, married to a Belgian. Bought some things in US, but origin of some of things brought from Germany is unknown. Considered unreliable, but reputation may be due to jealousy of his successful operations by other dealers.

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
<p>NICHOLAS FRANCISCO STERNHEIM DE LEON</p>	<p>MX- Grave financial difficulties, relies on art sale of Gauguin painting. Mentions a man named Henrich Mann in letter as the one he encloses a letter to thank him in relation to the "Paul Gauguin" matter.¹⁵</p>	<p>Letter from Sternheim to Martinez Velez regarding bad situation, asking for loan and revealing plans to sell the Gauguin¹⁶.</p>
<p>JOSE MARIA MARTINEZ VELEZ</p>	<p>CA-</p>	

¹⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Sternheim de Leon to Martinez Velez, 02/07/45

¹⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Sternheim de Leon to Martinez Velez, 02/07/45

Venezuela

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
SELMA B. PINSKER	NY- She is Neugebauer's "right hand" in NY, she keeps the key to the storage room where the paintings are kept ¹ .	Karger had been interested in buying some of Neugebauer's paintings in NY. Pinsker maintains Neugebauer informed of the art dealings going on in NY and of potential clients or paintings available. Neugebauer seems to be selling paintings to the Silberman Gallery ² .
R. NEUGEBAUER	VEN- owns a respectable collection, he keeps it in NY. Admits that several of his paintings were purchased in Switzerland ³ .	
SILBERMAN GALLERIES (ELKAN SILBERMAN)	NY-	
G. ACQUAVELLA	VEN- one of three individuals with last name, only one with address in S. America.	In a letter, it is clear that G. Acquavella is actively involved in the business of selling paintings shipped from the U.S. and other places in Venezuela. Acquavella seems to try to compete with Karger in one occasion by anticipating him on an exhibition ⁴ .
MARIO ACQUAVELLA	CAL- Assists G. Acquavella by shipping him paintings and is his connection in the U.S.	

JOSE ACQUAVELLA / Caracas -

¹ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Pinsker to Neugebauer, 10/09/44
² NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Examiners Note on Pinsker to Neugebauer, 10/09/44
³ NACP, RG239, entry 6, box 7, Pinsker to Neugebauer, 10/09/44
⁴ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, G. Acquavella to Mario Acquavella, 03/10/44

NICHOLAS ACQUAVELLA / NY -

SANTAELLA - Nicolas client.

NAMES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED TO
NICHOLAS A. KARGER	<p>NY (Venezuela)- Born 1900, U.S. citizen and resident, spent 10 years in France, PHD Art from Paris U. Appears to represent Newhouse Galleries in NY.</p> <p><i>"We found no proof that looted art was involved, but another study made of an art dealer NICHOLAS KARGER, seemed to indicate</i></p>	<p>Karger is associated with Greco Galleries. Has business dealings with Luis A. Lopez Mendez & Pedro Vallenilla who are associated with these galleries. Also is mentioned in communications b/w Pinsker and Neugebauer. Seems to supply the 'Greco Galleries' with the paintings to be sold, also seems to hold 'exhibits' in Venezuela.. ** On occasion, Karger would be known to bring pictures back to NY, the records don't specify whether these are pictures of the exhibit that were not sold or pictures he had acquired in Argentina. ^{5**}</p>
BYK	<p><i>Had the S. American art mkt is being flooded w/pieces of doubtful NY- authenticity..."⁹</i></p>	<p>Communicates with Karger about paintings and other artistic objects. In a letter to Karger, he asks him to send back some pictures from Venezuela to him b/c he has found a more profitable market. In Mexico for Spanish pictures⁶.</p>
GUSTAVO WALLIS	VEN-	Interested in buying paintings from Karger ⁷
SCHONEMAN GALLERIES, INC.	NY- Gallery seems to have dealings with clients in S. America	In a letter, Dr. Schoneman offers Mr. Pietri a painting by Rembrandt "St. Peter repentant". Apparently Pietri had visited Schoneman in NY, where the latter promised he will let Pietri know when his Dutch collector friend, Dr. Mannheimer would be "forced" to sell another painting.
DR. ALEJANDRO PIETRI	VEN-	In the letter, Schoneman says "you know the reasons for the sale" ⁸ .

↳ In ACC/ACD intercept:

⁵ NACP, RG239, entry 10, box 25, Summary of Postal intercepts relating to Dr. Nicholas A. Karger

⁶ NACP, RG239, entry 10, box 25, Summary of Postal intercepts relating to Dr. Nicholas A. Karger

⁷ NACP, RG239, entry 10, box 25, Summary of Postal intercepts relating to Dr. Nicholas A. Karger

⁸ NACP, RG239, entry 73, box 82, Schoneman Galleries to Alejandro Pietri, 09/06/44

⁹ NACP, RG239, entry 26, box 2, Cord File on Nicholas Karger

BACKGROUND INFO ON:

- EINSATZSTAB ROSENBERG
- MANNHEIMER COLLECTION
- ROTHSCHILD COLLECTION
- ROSENBERG COLLECTION

90 Find

RQ 226 ENTRY 109 → OSS RECORDS

- XX-7675 - word from Orion, London, French source
- XX-6798 - SHENKER REPORT (ORION FILES)
- XX-9037-7-a p.9 FRENCH DEALER LIST.
- M. DEQUOY - FRANCISCO CAMBO - art collector in Argentina
- FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION Preliminary Report, May 5 1945, "looked out in Occupied Territories, Neutral Countries and Latin America" p. 39

- ** - XX 9234-21-a - WILDENSTEIN REPORT, p.4 - see folder
- XX 9037-g - AUCTION FIRMS (Vauder) 7-16-45

- HOFER
- HABERSTOCK (buyer)
- REBER
- LEROY (SWISS)

- XY 7372 - filed in ERR folder
- XX 9234-21-a WILDENSTEIN folder
- SA 215230, 01/23/45; SA 215296, 01/25/45
- SA 214977, 01/02/45
- SA 215288, 01/25/45; SA 215579, 02/11/45

- BX-405, 9/26/45
- XX 7376 (15 JUNE 1945) → Safehaven Report
- XL 15175 18-9-45 p. 17-18

- XL 9718 Safehaven Ref. No 30 3/5/45
- XX 9037-4 9-17-45; WENDLAND TO FISCHER re: 3mill FRANCES of BOHMER for purchase of ...
- XL 9928 Safehaven Ref No 40, 10/5/45, London

- XX 9037-7-c → German Dealer list (Vauder) 7-16-45 p. 16
- XY 7255 2/6/45

- LEX-002-627 - info. of 6/29/45 - Interq folders
- XY 7673 (word from Orion, London - Fr. source)
- XY 7675 (word from Orion)
- SAFEHAVEN REPORT # 205 07/07/45