

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By MSS MARA Date 8-1-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

c/B/E

CC/CZ 477

30th June, 1948.

The Governor,
 The Bank of England,
 Threadneedle Street,
London E.C.2

Sir,

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold has good reason to believe that some of the bags of gold coins now being delivered to the vaults of the Bank of England contain Czech Ducats which it should be possible to identify from the indications figuring on the labels attached to the bags.

The Czech Government has particularly requested that, in the event that the Commission should decide to make an allocation in its favour, these Czech Ducats should be included in the delivery which will be made following upon the allocation.

Provided the operation does not present too many difficulties, the Commission would therefore be grateful if you could kindly arrange for these particular coins to be segregated in such a way that they may be available for delivery to the Czech Government if the Commission so decides.

We would appreciate hearing from you on this subject in due course.

We have the honour to be,
 Sir,

R.E.L. WINGATE

Deputy Commissioner of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

RUSSELL H. DORR

Commissioner of the Government of the United States of America.

EDMUND LILLIARD

Deputy Commissioner of the Government of the French Republic.

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Authority NND 099 100
By MIS HARA Date 8-11-49

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. HIGDON-CLARK OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND

JUNE 17, 1948

At the Secretary General's request I spoke by telephone with Mr. Higdon-Clark in an effort to clear up one or two uncertainties concerning the manner in which the Bank of England would handle the gold coins from Frankfurt which it is now receiving. The following points were made:

1. The Bank of England was concerned at the possibility that the Commission might desire an enumeration of the coins. According to Mr. Higdon-Clark this would be a tremendous undertaking and one which would require a very considerable period of time. In view of his assurances given in paragraph 2 below I indicated that I did not think the Commission would consider an enumeration of coins as indispensable.
2. The Bank of England plans to make an examination of the contents of each bag to assure itself the coins are as specified on the tag and inventory, to weigh the coins and to determine the fine gold content. It is prepared to make a statement to the Military Governor and to the Commission of the fine gold content of each bag. It will credit the Commission's account with the total amount of fine gold it reports.
3. The Commission's coins will not be assimilated to the coin holdings of the Bank but will be maintained distinct. In giving orders to the Bank for delivery to any recipient the Commission may specify the composition of any share — e.g. so many fine ounces in eagles, so many fine ounces in florins, etc.
4. I explained to Mr. Higdon-Clark that under the terms of its agreement with the Military Governor the Commission was required to give the Military Governor a receipt based upon the findings of the Bank of England. It was therefore important to the Commission that it should without question have the same quantity of fine gold to distribute as it received for. In this connection, I asked whether under the procedures proposed the Bank of England would consider that the Commission had any responsibility in the event that a recipient country, after taking delivery of gold coins, claimed that certain of the coins were counterfeit. Mr. Higdon-Clark seemed to feel that any responsibility would lie with the Bank of England but did not wish to commit himself without the advice of the Bank's legal counsel. He undertook to investigate the matter and to write the Commission a letter.

ALEX B. DASPIK

ABD:hk

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By M/S HARA Date 8-1-99RG 59
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Box 7

C/BE

C/EE 444

9 June, 1948.

The Governor,
 The Bank of England,
 LONDON, E.C. 2.

For the attention of Mr. Hilton S. Clarke.

Sir,

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold in its letter C/EE 311, dated 18th March 1948, to you, referred to arrangements which were under way in order to effect the transfer to your vaults from Germany of gold coin with the approximate gold content of 53,000 kilograms.

The Commission requested the Bank of England to undertake, in the shortest possible time, upon receipt of this consignment, the sorting, valuation and enumeration of these coins, which, thereafter, should be held for the account of His Majesty's Treasury in the name of the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, operated by the Commissioners of the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold.

The Commission has good reason to believe that its negotiations with the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation in Germany for the despatch of this first consignment will shortly be completed.

Arrangements for the transport from Frankfurt to London by air have already been made with Pan American Airways Inc., and full insurance coverage in dollars has also been secured.

Pan American Airways have contracted with Messrs. Charles A. Wells, Ltd., 260, Cambridge Heath Road, London, E.2. /for the transport of the gold from London Airfield to your vaults and the charges for this transport will be refunded by the Commission to Pan American Airways.

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2.

It has been agreed between the Commission and the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation that the Commission's receipt for this first consignment of gold shall be given on the basis of the detailed inventory which the Bank of England has been requested to deliver after receipt, sorting, valuation and enumeration of the gold coins.

It would be appreciated, therefore, if the Bank of England would, when it sends the above mentioned detailed inventory to the Commission, forward a duplicate thereof marked "for the attention of Mr. Jo Fisher Freeman" direct to the Military Governor at the following address in order that he may know the exact amount of gold which the Commission will sign a receipt for in terms to be agreed between itself and the Military Governor:-

The Military Governor,
United States Zone of Occupation,
BERLIN, Germany.

In connection with the inventory referred to above, the Commission would mention that the Military Government has particularly requested that this should be drawn up bag by bag as the lots which are on the point of being despatched have been listed bag by bag. The Commission understands from a telephone conversation its Secretary General, Colonel J.A. Watson, had with Mr. H.S. Clarke this morning that your staff could probably proceed on these lines. It would be most grateful if this could be done.

The Commission proposes to notify the Bank of England by telephone or cable of the exact date of the first flight.

Under the terms of the Commission's contract with Pan American Airways Inc., delivery of the said gold is to be made to the Bank of England in exchange for a receipt to be signed by an authorised official of the Bank. The Commission assumes that there will be no difficulty on the part of the Bank of England in signing for each shipment a receipt form which lists a certain number of boxes, each said to contain a certain quantity of gold. The Commission would appreciate having from the Bank of England confirmation that this procedure is acceptable and notice of the name of the official authorised to receipt on behalf of the Bank in order that this information may be conveyed to Pan American Airways Inc.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,

Commissioner of the
Government of the
United States of America

Commissioner of the Government
of the United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland

Commissioner of the
Government of the
French Republic

JLB/SGL

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By M/S RAPA Date 8-1-49RG 59
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1/6E 6

BY AIR MAILPRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Any reply to be addressed to

"THE CHIEF CASHIER,
EXCHANGE CONTROL" (D. & A.)

and to bear the reference

FE/13.25/DA.4

BANK OF ENGLAND, LONDON, E.C. 2.

22nd April,

19 48.

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution
of Monetary Gold,
155, Rue de la Loi,
Brussels.

Gentlemen,

I have to refer to your letter (C/BE, G/RU 371) of the 14th April, and its enclosure, regarding 18,002.5947 kilos fine gold, handed over to you by the Government of Roumania, which is to be shipped from Banque Nationale Suisse, Berne, to the Bank of England to be set aside on an account which has been opened in the name of His Majesty's Treasury on account of the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France.

It is considered appropriate at this stage to draw your attention to the conditions upon which the Bank of England are prepared to hold bar gold. The Bank do not regard bar gold held by them as comprising specific bars, such gold consisting solely of the equivalent number of fine ounces. Consequently no weight lists are provided except in the case of the actual shipment or physical delivery of the gold but on each occasion on which an alteration takes place in the gold set aside on the above-mentioned account the Bank will state the balance of fine ounces so held.

It should be noted, however, that gold received at the Bank for the above-mentioned account will only be accepted on the understanding that the bars conform with the requirements of the London Bullion Market, a specification of which is enclosed. If, however, any "bad delivery" bars are included in a consignment they will be accepted only on condition that the costs of rendering them "good delivery" will be borne by the above-mentioned account. Should these circumstances arise the Bank of England will sell sufficient of the gold held for the above-mentioned account at a price of 173/8.367d. per fine ounce to reimburse themselves in respect of such costs. In this connection I would point out that the first consignment received from Berne was composed entirely of bars minted by the Prussian Mint which are not acceptable as "good delivery" on the London Market.

I should perhaps add that any gold coin held on behalf of the above-mentioned account would at all times be represented by the actual coin set aside in the first instance.

P.T.O.

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By M/S MAPA Date 8-11-90

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It has already been agreed that the Bank of England shall charge $\frac{1}{4}\%$ on receipt of any gold for the above-mentioned account and $\frac{1}{4}\%$ for each three months or part thereof thereafter during the time that the gold is set aside in the name of the above-mentioned account. It is proposed to base this charge on the number of fine ounces of gold received and set aside and to levy the charge by debiting the gold account with the appropriate number of ounces on receipt of the gold and at the commencement of each three monthly period.

A further communication will be addressed to you in due course when the fine ounce content of the gold referred to in your letter under reply has been established and set aside for the above-mentioned account.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.S. Clarke

for Chief Cashier.



SECRETARY GENERAL

ASST. SEC. GEN.

ADVISERS - U. S.

*J.W.**L.A.**25*

26/4/48

25/IV

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By MRS HARA Date 8-1-99

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C/DE

C O P Y (JD)

RW/4/54

INTER-ALLIED REPARATIONS
AGENCY,The Delegate of His Majesty's
Government of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland.225, Avenue Louise,
Brussels.

21st April, 1948.

Dear Secretary General,

I have heard by telephone this afternoon that the Rumanian gold is arriving at the Bank of England successfully, and will all be through by the middle of next week.

I further understand that the Bank of England will be sending a letter to the Gold Commission informing them that some of the bars are not good delivery, and that consequently the Bank of England will have to remelt and assay those bars. There will, of course, be a small charge for this.

It will be necessary for the Gold Commission on receipt of this letter to reply to the Bank of England formally approving of this.

Yours sincerely.

Signed : WINGATE.

The Secretary General,
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold,
Residence Palace,
Bruxelles

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By M/S HARA Date 8-11-99

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

C/GEN-1331.

Reference No.

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold has the honour to address the three Governments which have established the Commission (vide the "London Gazette" and the "Journal Officiel de la République Française" of 27th September, 1946, and the "Department of State Bulletin" of 29th September, 1946), in connection with certain matters, some of which would appear to affect the three Governments as well as the Commission, which have arisen during the final stages of the Commission's work.

These are :

- (a) the procedure hitherto adopted by the Commission in dealing with claims made before it;
- (b) the form in which the final adjudications of the Commission (vide paragraph 5 (d) of the Terms of Reference of the Commission), should be drafted;
- (c) the possibility of appeal to another authority or tribunal against decisions of the Commission in individual cases.

It is the view of the Commission that (b) and (c) are closely related to each other.

With regard to the first question, that of procedure, the basic texts governing the constitution of the Commission and its manner of work are :

- Part III of the Paris Agreement on Reparation from Germany, on the establishment of an Inter-Allied Reparation Agency and on the Restitution of Monetary Gold;
- the simultaneous announcements in the three Gazettes, already referred to, giving the Terms of Reference of the Commission;
- the letter of the Commission, dated 13th March, 1947, addressed to all Governments concerned and the texts referred to therein;
- the letter of the Commission, dated 16th October, 1947, announcing that a preliminary distribution would be made, and
- certain resolutions of the Intergovernmental Conference on looted monetary gold, held at Brussels in January, 1950.

The Terms of Reference of the Commission were not only published in the official Gazettes of the three Governments, and appointments of the Commissioners made individually by the three Governments, but these Terms of Reference were notified to all Governments concerned. It is the view of the Commission, therefore, that claimant Governments will regard the procedure of the Commission in the light of the wording of the Terms of Reference.

The relevant sections of the Terms of Reference are, 5 (b), 5 (d) and 6. 5 creates the Commission as an entity, 5 (b) requires the Commission to "determine the share", 5 (d) requires the Commission to "announce" the share, after all claims have been adjudicated upon, and 6 states that decisions of the Commission must be unanimous.

It is of interest to note that the Law recognising the Commission's status, now before the Belgian Parliament and which it is expected will be voted shortly, expressly states that the Commission enjoys on Belgian territory, rights as a legal entity. etc.....

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It is the view of the Commission that though it is an executive organ of the three Governments established by them for the purpose of fulfilling their duties under Part III of the Act of Paris, the wording of the publicised Terms of Reference give it as an established entity the power to make decisions as to the admissibility or otherwise of a claim and to announce the share of the gold pool consequentially accruing to a successful claimant. Further that the use of the term "adjudicated upon" implies that the Commission will be guided in its deliberations by some acceptable standard of procedure.

The Commission would wish to avoid referring to itself as a judicial body or semi-judicial body, but nevertheless it has its own law - Part III of the Act of Paris, the Commission's Terms of Reference and such basic texts as the Commission has issued or referred to as basic texts.

In general terms it might be possible to compare the functions of the Commission with those carried out by a Receiver in Bankruptcy. The latter administers the assets of the bankrupt person (in this case Germany, insofar as monetary gold is concerned), determines unilaterally the amount of assets available for distribution, receives claims from creditors of the bankrupt persons, adjudicates, again unilaterally, on these claims and finally announces the share of each creditor in the assets available. He has to render an account of his activities.

The procedure adopted by the Commission vis-à-vis Governments entitled to claim has been as follows :

- A. To address a circular letter and Questionnaire to all signatories of the Paris Agreement and to the Governments of Italy, Austria and Poland, subsequently admitted by Protocols (letter and Questionnaire of the Commission dated 13th March, 1947).
- B. To study the replies received.
- C. To address further communications for clarification to claimant Governments wherever these appear to be necessary.
- D. On the study of these replies, to arrive at a conclusion.
- E. If the conclusion should be unfavourable, to address a letter to the claimant Government concerned giving it an opportunity, should it so desire, to send Representatives before the Commission to develop its case.
- F. At this hearing, to ask the Representatives to elaborate their case, and to put to the Representatives such questions as the Commission might think necessary to ask, in order to clarify the issue.
- G. Then to come to a decision on the matter to be embodied in a formal adjudication.

The Commission does not enter into a discussion with the Representatives of Governments who appear before it pursuant to such an invitation as in E above, nor does it answer any questions. It merely notes the arguments of the Representatives and asks an occasional question for purposes of clarification.

The Commission feels, however, it is necessary to point out to the three Governments which have established it that the Polish Representatives, in their last hearing before the Commission, sought to show, by quoting the texts of certain Minutes initialled by the Representatives of the three Governments and the Representatives of Poland, prior to the signature of the Polish Protocol, that the procedure adopted by the Commission was not that which they considered had been guaranteed them at the time of their signature of the Protocol. The Commission informed the Polish Representatives at the hearing that it would proceed in its usual way.

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The above deals with the question of procedure adopted by the Commission vis-à-vis claimant Governments in arriving at its final decisions.

The Commission would now wish to draw the attention of the three Governments to the two second questions which have been recently under their active consideration, namely the form which the final adjudications of the Commission should take and the possibility of appeal to another authority or tribunal against decisions of the Commission, whether of rejection or of validation, (in favour of one claimant Government and considered by another claimant Government as unjustly reducing its share in the pool).

The Terms of Reference of the Commission and Conclusion XII of the Tripartite Conference in Brussels, on looted monetary gold matters, of January 1950, indicate that :

- (i) when all final decision have been made, an announcement will be made in the Gazettes of the three Governments giving the share of each claimant Government in the Pool of Monetary Gold and that, simultaneously, letters will be addressed to all claimant Governments announcing to them their share;
- (ii) that in the case where claims have been rejected, in whole or in part, the letter referred to above will be accompanied by a brief reasoned opinion for the action of the Commission;
- (iii) that at the time of the announcement of the final distribution in the Gazettes, a brief statement of the reasons of the Commission's action on each claim should be available (it is understood, to the three Governments which have established the Commission);
- (iv) that at a later date the Commission should prepare a report giving an account of its activities, including a complete account of decisions taken by the Commission, for the information of the three Governments who have constituted it.

The Commission has, however, reason to think that certain Governments, on receipt of a formal letter of disallowance of a claim, in whole or in part (vide (ii) above), contemplate an appeal to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, or reference to an Arbitrator, under Resolution No.8 (now unanimous), appended to the Final Act of the Paris Conference on Reparation. The Commission would wish to emphasise that it is outside its purview to express any opinion as to whether such an appeal is proper or permissible, or whether the three Governments which have established the Commission would wish to accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. The Commission merely wishes to draw the attention of the three Governments which have established it to the possibility of such action being taken.

The Commission have also considered the question as to whether any documentation, which the claimant Governments signed on receipt of gold, such as the Waiver, would be any bar to such action. The Commission venture to express the opinion that, in their view, such documentation might not be a bar, for in the case of a claim which is totally rejected the signature of a Waiver will not take place and in the case of a claim which is only partially rejected the Waiver would not appear to be operative until receipt of the full and final share accruing to the claimant and it might, therefore, be possible for any dissatisfied claimant Government to assert that its final share has not been received.

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If an appeal is possible, the Commission feels that the Court or Arbitrator might call for the entire series of the Commission's formal adjudications, with supporting documents, as being relevant. In this connection the Commission has noted that in the Agreement between the three Governments regarding the reference to an Arbitrator of the Italo-Albanian claim to the gold of the National Bank of Albania, it is stated "The Arbitrator, after taking into account all the facts and all the legal considerations which it is proper for the three Governments to take into account under Part III and bearing in mind that his advice should be consistent with decisions already made in other cases by the Tripartite Gold Commission is requested to advise the three Governments whether"

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The Commission, therefore, considers that the documents which must be available in support of each of its adjudications are :

1. Part III of the Paris Agreement.
2. The Commission's Terms of Reference.
3. The Commission's letter of 13th March, 1947, sending out the Commission's Questionnaire (which includes the Commission's definition of Monetary Gold).
4. The claimant Government's reply thereto and the completed Questionnaire.
5. The documentary evidence attached thereto in the form of annexes.
6. The Commission's letters requesting further information.
7. The claimant Government's replies thereto.
8. Record of any hearings afforded by the Commission to claimants

The Commission is proceeding accordingly and would venture to invite such comments, if any, on the above observations, as the Governments which have established it consider appropriate on the above matters, some of which would appear, as has already been mentioned, to affect both the Governments and the Commission.

HOMER S. FOX

R. WINGATE

SPITZMULLER

The Commissioner of
the Government of
the United States of
America.

The Commissioner of the
Government of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

The Commissioner of
the Government of
the French Republic

The Secretary of State,
United States of America.

The Secretary of His Majesty's Treasury,
London.

Son Excellence le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères,
Paris.

24th May, 1951.

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Claims from Private Individuals - Resume of TGC file 6/11

M. Elias Finger 6, Allenby Road Tel Aviv Palestine	1948
Albert Otten c/o Millard L. Midonick Messrs Polier, Rembar & Midonick 80, Broad Street New York, 4	1948
Assurance Maritime Belge c/o M. Thelen Avocat a la Cour 54, rue des Minimes Brussels	1948
M. Roland Coulon 81 rue Henk Wasmuel, par Mons Belgium	1948
Louisa Corona c/o Messre Cohen and Cohen 112, Salisbury House Finsbury Circus London EC2	1948
M. Albert Vanackers chez M. Lecompte van de Woestijne 42 A, rue Yvonne Serruys Menin Belgium	1949
M. Isaac Pierre Thenon Dordogne France	1949
Dr Anrzej Woloszynski (c/o Messrs Hardman, Phillips & Mann Hastings House 10 Norfolk Street London WC2	1949
M. Raymond Blot 2, rue Portalis Paris, 8e	
Madame Vve Arthur Lehmann 36 avenue Hof ter Schrieck Anvers-Berchem	1949

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Willem Steppe Advokaat
Wungaardstraat, 1
Geraardsbergen
(On behalf of a client ?)

1950

Jean Bertaux (?)
84 avenue Pere Damien
Woluwe St Pierre

Medecin General Pernin
rue Galilee
Revin
Ardennes

1950

Mr Henry J. O'Brien
Twenty Beacon Street
Boston, 8
Massachusetts
USA

1950

Professor Jarra
(W F Borkowski, Dziennik Polski
Consultant in Polish and Int Law)
121 Dartmouth Road, London NW2)

1950

M. E. Audenaerde
12 rue Georges Martens
Petegem-lez-Deynze

1951

M. Haim A. Crispin
c/o Societe de Commission
8, Courte rue des Claires
Anvers

1951

Skyddsforeningen For Utlandska Vardepapper
Stockholm Box 2001
Postigiro 35.68.87
(Re looted Dutch gold sold to Sweden)

1952

M. R. Ansay
28 rue Centrale
Le Cannet
Alpes Maritimes

1950-1952

Mr Gunther Wagner
Pelikan Werke
Hannover
(?Law 53 gold?)

1953

M. A. Mousset
28 rue du Marais
Bouffioulx
Belgium

1953

Maison Lagasse SA of Paris
(presumably on behalf of an un-named client)

1955

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Mr Max Sperber
Vienna III
Am Modenapark 8-9/I/10
Austria

1957

Mr Herbert Herzog
Wien
II., Bocklinstrasse 27
Austria
(Claiming a reward for information re gold)

1950/1957

Monsieur Etienne Frere
3, rue Lefort
Mont Saint-Hignan
Seine Maritime
France

1959

Mrs Anna Maria Kuebler
L.A.M. De Syrgenstain D'Ehrenegg
78-11 35th Avenue, Apt 6-G
Jackson Heights
New York 11372
USA

1972

erb
28/11/97

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CC/PI-5382

Mrs. Anna Maria Knebler,
L.A.M. De Syrgenstain D'Ehrenegg,
78-11 35th Avenue, Apt. 6-G
Jackson Heights, N.Y. 11372

January 20, 1972.

Dear Madam,

In reply to your letter of January 4, 1972,
I regret to inform you that the questions which you raise
do not fall within the competence of the Tripartite
Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold.

Your faithfully,

(Signature)

J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

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By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

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Box 7

Anna Maria Kuebler

L. A. M. De Syrgenstain D'Ehrenegg
78-11 35th Avenue, Apt. 6-C
Jackson Heights, N. Y. 11372

January 4, 1972



Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold
9 Rue De La Science
1040 Brussels
Belgium

Re: Gold in the name of Matthias Syrge De Syrgenstain
zu D'Ehrenegg, domiciled in Gotteschee Austria, titled
by HIS MAJESTY FERDINAND THE III Okt. 15, 1647 with
Succession Rights to his heirs from generation to
generation under document No. VB. 12345 for achievements
earned at Admont.

Gentlemen:

Bank of England, London, E.C.2R SAH advised
me that your Office is enabled to help me locate the Czheckoslavia
gold and other gold owned by Mattnias and I refer you to 2 evidence
in the name of STAIN in the doctorate by Joannes Ludwig Schoenleben,
dated 1680, taken from certified data in various cathedrals.

1. "Magdalena Cordula Com. de Blagay, vxor Joan. Georgij Comitis
de Lamberg in STAIN supremi haereditaij Praefecti Equilis in
Carniolia & Vindorum Marcha;" (page 26)
2. "Wolfgangus Andreas Sacri Romaini Imperij Comes de Rosenberg,
Liber Baro in Lerche, nau & Gravenstein, Dominus in Sonegg,
STAIN Seuersperg, Hochenbergen, Keutschach, Greiffenburg,
Hageneck, Weltzenegg, supremus Haereditarius Aulae PraeseEtus
in Carnintunia, Sacrae Caefareae Majestatis;" page 33.

Mattnias has imperial rights by the royal decree
in property, in the domains of BOHEMIA, POLAND, CORATIA, Hungaria,
Dalmatia, Duchy of Austria, Duchy of Brabant (Belgium), and
the Holy Roman Empire.

Prebendarysnips were established (see Tabella
Generationis) Maria, filia; (Georgius Grunseich, marit. n. 23
v. 1832; n. 23.lv 1822 in Kotschen, (attached) being the sole
heiress my family descends from, which Prebendarysnips have never
been surrendered by the Trustees in Gotteschee and elsewhere,
and therefore, find it necessary for your assistance to locate
the valuable fortunes of progenitor, Sir Matthias Syrge De
Syrgenstain D'Ehrenegg. Thank you for your assistance to
restore his fortunes to his family.

Very truly yours,

Anna Maria Kuebler

Anna Maria Kuebler

202086

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NNS099100
By MRS RAPA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI -3589

9 janvier 1959.

Monsieur Etienne Frère,
3, rue Lefort,
92140 Saint-Denis,
Seine-Saint-Denis,
France.

Monsieur,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 30 décembre 1958.

Je remarque que dans le dernier paragraphe de cette lettre, vous dites que le ministère français des Affaires étrangères vous a fait observer que c'est aux organismes belges compétents que vous deviez adresser votre requête. Je pense donc, qu'en vous adressant à la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'Or monétaire, vous croyez entrer en relations avec un organisme belge compétent.

Mr, il n'en est rien. La Commission n'est pas un organisme belge mais une organisation internationale et elle n'a affaire qu'aux Gouvernements.

Je ne puis donc vous être daucune utilité dans cette affaire.

Je le regrette, croyez-le et je vous prie d'agrérer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

J.A.W.

J. A. WILSON,
Secrétaire Général.

7 bia

Le 9 janvier 1959, Mr. Cotton a signifié, par téléphone, son accord à l'envoi de la lettre à Monsieur Frère, dont le projet avait été circulé sous couvert de l'INT-3447, en date du 6 janvier 1959.

J.A.W.

202087

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 099 100
By MIS KABA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

185- 3447
CC/PI-✓

6 January 1959.

From : The Secretary General

To : The Commissioner of the Government of the
United States of America

The Commissioner of the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland

The Commissioner of the Government of the
French Republic

I enclose a copy of a letter, dated 30 December 1958, from a
monsieur Etienne Frère, together with the draft of a reply which I propose
to send, subject to the approval of the three Commissioners.

I have ascertained, through my colleague monsieur Licisheia,
who has been good enough to look up the applicant's file at the Banque de
Bruxelles, that the latter has received all that he is entitled to receive
under Belgian law. The "Hanse Bank" is in liquidation, at the "Office des
Séquestres" 5 rue du Gouvernement Provisoire, Brussels, and the final
dividend has been paid.

(sgd) J. A. WATSON.

J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

202088

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND999100
By MIS HARA Date 8-1-49

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

C O P I E (JD)

Paris, 119 Boulevard Saint-Germain, VIème.
le 30 décembre 1958.

Restitution d'or
monétaire

Requête à la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de
l'Or Monétaire,
50, Avenue des Arts,
BRUXELLES.

Messieurs,

Je soussigné Etienne Frère, 3 Rue Lefort, à Mont Saint-Hignan, Seine Maritime, France, de nationalité française, ai l'honneur de vous exposer :

En 1940, j'avais un coffre en location à la "Banque de Bruxelles" rue de la Régence, dans lequel j'avais déposé mille livres sterling en or monétaire.

Lors de l'occupation de Bruxelles, les autorités occupantes ouvrirent mon coffre, en mon absence mais en présence des représentants de la Banque. Elles firent main basse sur ces 1.000 £, en opérèrent le change en francs belges (billets) à la "Banque Nationale de Belgique" et en affectèrent le produit à un compte qu'elles firent ouvrir à mon nom dans une de leurs créations, la "Hansa Bank treuhandgesellschaft".

Après l'évacuation de Bruxelles par les occupants, cette Banque fut mise en liquidation et je reçus du liquidateur belge, M. Hopchet, successivement deux dividendes liquidatifs, 60 % + 10 % du montant de ma créance.

Compte tenu de ces dividendes servis en billets de banque belges, je vous prie de bien vouloir apprécier quel préjudice il est resté pour moi de la disparition de mon or monétaire britannique. Par la présente requête que je dépose aujourd'hui entre vos mains pour prendre date, je demande donc à participer à la répartition de l'or monétaire que vous aurez pu recouvrer en Belgique, restant à votre disposition pour la communication du dossier où vous pourrez puiser toutes les attestations et renseignements complémentaires dont vous jugeriez avoir besoin.

Quand j'ai appris la constitution à Bruxelles d'un pool international pour l'objet que vous poursuivez, je suis entré en relations avec le Ministère français des Affaires Etrangères mais celui-ci m'a fait observer que, la soustraction d'or ayant eu lieu en Belgique, c'était aux organismes belges compétents que ma requête devait être adressée, d'après les règlements du pool. C'est la raison de la présente lettre dont je vous serais très obligé de bien vouloir m'accuser réception. (Dès que le chômage de ces jours de fête me le permettra, je me propose de vous en adresser un double dactylographié, m'excusant d'être dans l'impossibilité de le faire dès aujourd'hui).

Je vous prie d'agréer, Messieurs, l'expression de mes sentiments très distingués.

Signé : Etienne Frère.

Mont Saint-Hignan,
3, Rue Lefort,
Seine - Maritime.
France.

202089

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 099 100
By MRS. HAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Paris 115 boulevard Saint Germain, V5
Le 30 decembre 1958

Restitution
d'or monétaire

Pragné à la commission tripartite pour la
restitution de l'or monétaire
50 Avenue des arts, à Bruxelles.

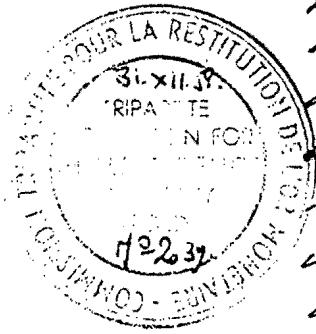
Messieurs
de soussigné, Etienne FRÈRE, 3 rue Defort,
à "Mast Saint Haignan", 5ème arrondissement, France
de nationalité Française
m'e l'honneur de vous espouser :

En 1936, j'avais un coffre en location à la
"Banque de Bruxelles", rue de la Régence, dans lequel
j'avais déposé mille livres sterling en or monétaire.

Dès de l'occupation de Bruxelles, les autorités
occupantes ouvrirent mon coffre, en mon absence, mais en
présence des représentants de la banque. Ils firent main basse
sur un 1000 £, en aprirent le change en francs Belges (billets)
à la "Banque nationale de Belgique", et en effectuèrent le produit
à un compte qui ils firent ouvrir à mon nom dans une de leurs
cavalières, la "Haus bank bruxellois gesellschaft".

Après l'occupation de Bruxelles par les occupants,
 cette banque fut mise en liquidation, et je reçus des liquidatrices
 Belges, du Hopital, successivement deux dividendes liquidatifs,
 60% + 10% du montant de ma créance.

Compte tenu de ces dividendes divisés en
 billets de banque Belges, je vous prie de bien vouloir apprécier
 quel préjudice il est resté pour moi de la liquidation de mon
 or monétaire Britannique. Par la présente signifie que je dépose
 mon combat entre nos deux pays grande Bretagne, je demande donc
 à participer à la répartition de l'or monétaire que nous ayons pu
 recouvrer en Belgique-Brisetant à votre disposition pour la
 communication des dossiers où vous pourrez joindre toutes les autres
 lettres et renseignements complémentaires dont vous jugerez avoir
 besoin.



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By MRS NARA Date 8-11-94

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

jeudi j'ai appris la constitution à Bruxelles d'un pool international pour l'objet que vous souhaitez, je suis entré en relations avec le ministre Firminus des affaires étrangères, mais celui-ci m'a fait observer que la constitution d'un agent au sein de Belgique, c'était une organisation Belge compétente que nous rejoignions devant cette adresse. d'après les règlements du pool. C'est la raison de la présente lettre dont je vous serais très obligé de bien vouloir m'accorder réception. [dis que l'achèvement de ce projet de faire me le permettre, je me propose d'envoyer un avertissement double chiffré, n'escroquant pas dans l'impossibilité de le faire dès aujourd'hui]

je vous prie d'agréer, chérie, l'expression de mes sentiments très distingués.

Etienne Frère

Mont Saint Aignan
3 rue L'EFOUR
76100 martainville
France

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MTS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI- 3220

Le 7 mai 1957.

Monsieur Max SPERBER,
Am Modenapark 3-9/I/10,
WIEN III, Autriche.

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 5 avril 1957,
j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que la Commission ne
correspond qu'avec les Gouvernements qui l'ont consti-
tuée ou, au sujet de leurs réclamations, seulement,
avec les Gouvernements qui sont demandeurs devant elle.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes
sentiments distingués.

(Signed) J. A. WATSON.

J.A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général.

Mr. Lanson, in a telephone conversation, informed the
Secretary General that he approves the suggested draft of a letter
addressed to Mr. Sperber and sent out under INT-3139.

6 May 1957.

202092

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Trans. letter: Chay Lee dated 7/5/57
cc 1P1-3220.

LNT- 3139
CC/PI-

17 April 1957.

From : The Secretary General

To : The Commissioner of the Government of the United States of America

The Commissioner of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The Commissioner of the Government of the French Republic.

I enclose a copy of a letter, in the German language, dated 5 April 1957, received from Mr. Max Sperber, of Vienna, Austria, and of a translation of this letter, in the French language.

Private persons, whose gold was looted by Germany in France and whose claims to restitution, addressed to the French Government, have been found valid, have already received, from the "Office des Biens et Intérêts Privés", an instalment of 50 % on the ex gratiae payment on account of their losses to which they are entitled under the announcement in the "Journal Officiel de la République Française" of 16 May 1955, referred to by Mr. Sperber. It was estimated, at that time, that France had received, from the gold pool, via Belgium, an amount of gold equivalent to about 50 % of what Germany had looted from her. The announcement in the "Journal Officiel" made it clear that the balance (described as a small one) of the ex gratiae payment to be made to these private persons would be determined in due time and would be calculated pro rata to the balance which France, herself, would receive in full and final settlement of her share in the pool.

Mr. Sperber is, obviously, endeavouring to ascertain when this balance will be delivered.

I enclose the draft of a suggested reply to Mr. Sperber's letter, for approval or observations, please.

If unanimous agreement is not reached between now and the date of the next meeting, I shall venture to bring this matter up on the Agenda of the meeting.

J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

JAS/JD

202093

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND999100

By MRS HAPA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

**COMMISSION TRIPARTITE
POUR LA RESTITUTION DE L'OR MONETAIRE**
**TRIPARTITE COMMISSION
FOR THE RESTITUTION OF MONETARY GOLD**

50, AVENUE DES ARTS
B R U X E L L E S
TELEPHONE : 12.35.29

Je me permets de m'adresser à vous pour l'affaire suivante:

La Commission a entrepris la répartition de l'or monétaire qui fut enlevé, pendant la guerre 1939/45, par les Allemands dans les pays intéressés.

Conformément à la publication du Journal Officiel du 16.5.53, la République Française m'a restitué 50% de l'or monétaire qui m'avait été dérobé.

Depuis cette communication et depuis cette restitution de 50% de l'or monétaire dérobé, aucune communication ni aucune restitution ne fut faite, depuis le 16.5.1953 jusqu'à ce jour, concernant le solde de 50% de l'or volé.

Auriez-vous l'obligeance de me faire connaître quand le solde de l'or monétaire dérobé aux pays intéressés sera livré pour répartition.

Avec

202094

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND999 DC

By M/S KARA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Max Sperber

Wien III.

Am Modenapark 8-9/I/10.

Wien, den 5. April 1957.

Titl.Commission Internationale de l'Or Monétaire,
Bruxelles.

Ich gestatte mir, mich in folgender Angelegenheit an Sie zu wenden:

Die Commission hat die Verteilung des Münzgoldes vorgenommen, das während des Krieges 1939/45 von den Deutschen in den beteiligten Ländern geraubt wurde.

Die Republik Frankreich hat mir, wie im Journal Officiel vom 16.5.1953 verlautbart, 50% des mir gestohlenen Münzgoldes zurückgestellt.

Seit dieser Verlautbarung bzw. Rückgabe der 50% des gestohlenen Münzgoldes wurde wegen der restlichen 50% des gestohlenen Münzgoldes seit dem 16.5.1953 bis heute nichts verlautbart und nichts zurückgegeben.

Wollen Sie mir bitte Mitteilung zukommen lassen, wann der Rest des gestohlenen Münzgoldes an die beteiligten Länder zur Verteilung übergeben wird.

Mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung
Max Sperber



202095

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 100
By M/S MAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI-

12 February 1957.

Mr. Herbert HERZOG,
27, Böcklinstrasse,
WIEN II, Austria.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of 29th December 1956, has been received by me.

I am replying to this letter personally, as I am afraid that you are under a misapprehension. I am only able to communicate with the Governments which have constituted the Commission or which are claimants before it.

Yours faithfully,

(J. A. W.) J. A. WATSON
J. A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

JAW/as.

202096

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND999100

By M/S KARA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

HERBERT HERZOG

Colonel J. A. Watson, C.B.E.,
 Secretary General,
 Tripartite Commission for the
 Restitution of Monetary Gold,
 50, Avenue des Arts,
 B R U X E L L E S .

Sir,

You are probably aware that a part of the Italian monetary gold taken to Germany during the war was discovered by me, and, on my instructions placed under official control. In consequence of my later investigations and of evidence provided by me, the said part of the Italian gold was pooled in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Paris Agreement on Reparation from Germany. As a result of this, the countries participating in the Pool enjoyed through my work considerable material advantage. It is now my endeavour to obtain reimbursement for my work, which entailed great expenditure both of money and of time; this is my lawful due, and it has been intimated to me that I am to receive it. However, as a preliminary, it is necessary for me to clarify certain technical questions. As the problems concerned are merely of a general nature, it should be possible for the Tripartite Commission to give me the necessary information without great difficulty, which would save me extended and laborious investigations.

With this end in view I called in person at the Brussels Office of the Commission but, unfortunately, only one of your staff was present. Nevertheless, I was told that you, Sir, might perhaps be prepared to provide me with the necessary information by correspondence, and I therefore take the liberty of addressing this letter to you and of respectfully requesting your answers to the following questions.

1.) Is it the case that the only gold pooled for distribution is gold the origin of which could not be determined, or is such gold also pooled for distribution as can be identified as being the property of a member state of the said agreement?

2.) Is it the case, as matters stand at the present, that France (Belgium), Holland, and Italy have, respectively, 38%, 28%, and 14% (?) participation in the Pool and thus in the distribution?

3.) Can it be forecast with any degree of accuracy by what date the distribution of the pooled monetary gold will be definitively concluded?

Contd.....

WIEN, 29 December 1956
 II., BÖCKLINSTRASSE 27
 TEL. R 49-5-71



202097

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Authority NND999 100
By MSS MARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

4.) Is it the case that the Dutch gold losses in respect of which claim was made to and allowed by the Commission concerned only the gold belonging to the NEEDERLANDSCHE BANK NV or were other amounts of Dutch monetary gold involved?

5.) Did Czechoslovakia adhere to Part III of the said agreement, and, further, is it known whether direct restitution was made of any portion of the Czechoslovakian monetary gold taken to Germany (as in the case of Hungary)?

6.) Can you let me know either the approximate full weight or the weight of fine gold contained, or even the value of that amount of gold discovered by the Allied Forces in Merkers/Röhn and handed over to the Commission for pooling?

I should be extremely grateful to you if you would do me the great favour of letting me have short answers to these questions. I should like to stress that an unofficial reply, not binding in any way, is all that is needed, especially as my enquiry is only for purely general information.

Apologising for having taken up so much of your time and assuring you of my gratitude for anything that you can do to help me,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

REGISTERED POST

202098

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MHS HABA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Brussels, December 13, 1956



Washington has studied the file on the "Salzburg Gold". It appears from the file and the Italian documents, that Mr. Herzog revealed the location of the gold on a voluntary basis. Although references are made by Mr. Herzog to some casual comments of a United States Army official with respect to a reward (seemingly after the gold was uncovered), it seems clear that no reward was, in fact, promised by the United States. It was also noted that Mr. Herzog claims that a contract was concluded between him and the Bank of Italy which was "countersigned" by the Bank of France and the Bank of the Netherlands. If Mr. Herzog is entitled to a reward under this contract, such payment is due from the Bank of Italy and/or the other banks involved. It would appear not to involve the responsibility of the United States, United Kingdom or France, as trustees for the gold pool.

Reference was made to the possibility that Austrian law provides for payment of rewards to informers. Washington's reaction to this is that such a law would not govern the recovery of looted gold by the United States in its capacity as an occupying country. However, the United States is not familiar with the text of this law. If you (Colonel Watson) have received any data relating to the applicability of this law in the present circumstances, it might be desirable to forward such data for study by the three governments. Also since the Bank of France seems to have been involved in some way, the French Commissioner may be able to throw further light on the situation.

Pending receipt of further information, Washington's reaction is that the claim of Mr. Herzog should be rejected.

CONFIDENTIAL

2020-99-

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 099 100
By MRS HARA Date 8-1-69RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7BBP- 267
CC/CD

2 October 1956.

From : The Secretary General

To : The Commissioner of the Government
of the United States of AmericaThe Commissioner of the Government
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern IrelandThe Commissioner of the Government
of the French Republic.

CONFIDENTIAL

I enclose a copy of a report from Monsieur Jacquot on conversations which he had with Mr. Herbert HERZOG on the 27th and 28th September, during my absence in Paris.

It will be recalled that Mr. Herzog is mentioned in documents, describing the circumstances in which the "Salzburg gold" was found, which were forwarded to me by the Italian Embassy, in Brussels, on 14th February 1952, and which I communicated to the three Commissioners, on 10th February 1952.

It would seem that Mr. Herzog has collected a considerable amount of information on the basic documentation governing the Commission's activities and that he has a comparatively accurate idea of the amounts claimed before the Commission by the various claimant countries. It would seem, also, that he is in possession of opinion's of various jurists on the legal aspect of his own claim to a reward for assistance given in connection with the discovery of the "Salzburg gold".

It would appear that since the "Salzburg gold", turned over to Austria, has now been treated as a delivery to that country on account of its share in the pool of monetary gold, the three Governments, custodians of the pool, alone, are competent to decide whether any reward is due to Mr. Herzog and that any such reward should be paid from the pool, if possible, before the announcement by the Commission of the share of each claimant country in the pool.

The three Commissioners may care to consider this question at the meeting on the 8th October, with a view to making some suitable report to their respective Governments.

(sgd) J. A. M. D.

J. A. MATHISON,
Secretary General.JAS/aa.
one.

202100

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By M/S HAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

Monsieur Herbert HERZOG de Vienne (Autriche) s'est présenté au bureau les jeudi 27 et vendredi 28 septembre 1956, les deux fois vers 16 h. J'ai feint que son nom m'était inconnu bien que je me sois souvenu que Monsieur Herzog est l'Autrichien "inventeur" de l'or dit de Salzbourg.

Il désirait parler au Secrétaire Général ou au Président de la Commission. Il ne connaissait pas le français et s'exprimait en un anglais très correct. Je l'ai reçu, espérant connaître les raisons de sa visite, mon incapacité à lui répondre en anglais m'évitait de lui communiquer le moindre renseignement.

En résumé, le 1er jour Monsieur Herzog :

- 1.- m'a dit avoir un contrat avec la Banque d'Italie; il m'a montré une photocopie portant l'entête de ladite Banque mais ne me l'a pas laissé lire
- 2.- m'a suggéré que ce contrat était contresigné par la Banque de France et la Banque des Pays-Bas.
- 3.- il désirait savoir :
 - a) quel était le pourcentage auquel avait droit chacun de ces trois pays dans le total de la masse;
 - b) si nous pouvions lui dire quand les travaux de la Commission seraient terminés.

Lui ayant dit qu'il m'était impossible de répondre aux deux questions qu'il posait, il prit congé en disant qu'il se permettrait d'écrire au Secrétaire Général.

Il revint le lendemain, vendredi, sous le prétexte de savoir si le Secrétaire Général connaissait le français car les documents qu'il désirait lui communiquer étaient écrits dans cette langue. Désirant essayer probablement d'avoir tout de même un renseignement, il se mit à parler assez longuement. De cette conversation il ressort :

- 1.- qu'il est très documenté sur la Partie III dont il connaît le texte de mémoire, de même que sur les pertes subies par les pays demandeurs;
- 2.- qu'il espérait toucher 10% de la valeur de l'or qu'il avait fait découvrir à Salzbourg.
- 3.- que l'Autriche avait commis une erreur : (il m'a été impossible de savoir si c'est en ne lui donnant pas sa commission ou en acceptant l'or?)
- 4.- que la Banque d'Italie avec qui il avait un contrat se retranche derrière le fait qu'elle n'a pas récupéré l'or et que celui-ci a été versé à la masse; que cette question concerne maintenant le Gouvernement italien et non elle.
- 5.- que le fait que cet or a été versé à la masse modifie la position de l'Italie mais également la sienne. En effet l'Italie n'étant pas seule bénéficiaire de ce versement ne veut pas assumer seule la charge d'indemniser Monsieur Herzog. Tous les pays demandeurs étant bénéficiaires, Monsieur Herzog cherche à savoir à quel pourcentage de la masse chacun a droit. Les seuls pays l'intéressant vraiment sont les demandeurs importants et il sait que la France substituée à la Belgique a perdu 200 tonnes et que la Banque des Pays-Bas a perdu plus de 100 tonnes, etc..
- 6.- il semble qu'il a pris contact avec la Banque de France et la Banque des Pays-Bas qui toutes deux se retranchent derrière le même argument que la Banque d'Italie à savoir que cette question concerne les Gouvernements et non les banques et de plus dépend de la date de publication des décisions de la Commission.

Durant toute cette conversation je n'ai répondu que par monosyllabes et devant mon peu de loquacité Monsieur Herzog finit par se lasser et prit congé. D'ici 10 à 15 jours il se permettra d'adresser un petit exposé de sa situation au Secrétaire Général, malgré le peu d'encouragement que je lui ai donné sur les possibilités d'une réponse qui puisse le satisfaire.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND999 DC
By MRS HAPA Date 8-1-99RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7INT- 1914
OO/PI

19 July 1955

From : The Secretary General

To : The Commissioner of the Government
of the United States of AmericaThe Commissioner of the Government
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern IrelandThe Commissioner of the Government
of the French Republic.

Further to my INT-2063, dated 15 June 1955, circulating on enquiry received from a private claimant the "Maison Legaase" of Madeleine Building, 3, Place de la Madeleine, Paris VIII, and my reply thereto, I have to report that an "huissier" (process server) Mr. Mellaerts of 38, Rue Ernest Allard, Brussels, attempted this afternoon, to serve a writ upon the Commission on behalf of the "Maison Legaase".

I produced the Belgian Law protecting the Commission and my own blue "Carte d'identité pour les Etrangers jouissant d'immunités analogues à celles des Membres du Corps Diplomatique", pointed out that the Commission is immune from legal process and declined to accept service of the writ.

The "huissier" asked as to whom he could apply for advice as to his powers in this matter and I replied that it was not for me to answer this question but that I presumed that the authority competent to enlighten him upon this subject was the Belgian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

He then complied with a courteous request, on my part, that he should leave the premises.

An attempt might, conceivably, be made to serve the papers on the Commissioners and I venture to suggest that they should issue instructions to their secretariats not to accept any papers of this nature.

J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

JAW/as.

202102

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By NIDS MARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

CC,PI - 2737

15 juin 1955.

Maison LAGASSE, S.A.,
 Madeleine Building,
 3, Place de la Madeleine,
 PARIS VIII - France.

Messieurs,

En réponse à votre lettre du 13 juin 1955, j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission ne correspond qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

J.A.W.

J.A. WATSON,
 Secrétaire Général.

JA/W/JD

202103

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND999100
By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

MAISON LAGASSE S.A.

Courtage de Banque et Métaux Précieux
Capital versé Trente Millions de Frs.

TÉLÉGRAMMES TÉLÉPHONE
MAULAGASSE-PARIS ANJOU 12-90 & 12-94
CODE PETERSON 3^e ED. 5 LIGNES GROUPEES

R.C.S. SEINE 197.011

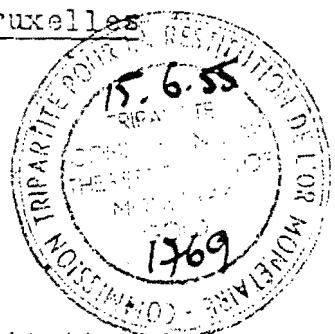
PARIS (VIII^e)
MADELEINE BUILDING
3, Place de la Madeleine

13 juin 1955

COMMISSION TRIPARTITE
RESTITUTION OR MONETAIRE

50, avenue des Arts

Bruxelles



Messieurs,

Etant intéressé dans la restitution de l'or qui m'a été confisqué en 1940, je vous serais très obligé de vouloir bien me dire quel jour je peux vous rendre visite à Bruxelles.

Ci-joint, un timbre international pour la réponse. Sous pli séparé, je vous adresse un Calendrier International des Jours Fériés.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, mes salutations distinguées.

H en Hollande

Maurice LAGASSE

Maurice Lagasse

202104

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MRS HARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

COMMISSION TRIPARTITE
POUR LA RESTITUTION DE L'OR MONETAIRE
TRIPARTITE COMMISSION
FOR THE RESTITUTION OF MONETARY GOLD

155, RUE DE LA LOI
BRUXELLES
TELEPHONE : 34.98.00

CC/PI- 3-30

24 juillet 1953

Monsieur A. MOUSSET,
28, rue du Marais,
BOUFFIOULX.

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 1er juillet 1953, qui a été transmise à la Commission par l'Ambassade des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à Bruxelles, j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission ne correspond qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

J.A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général.

JAW/as.

202105

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 DU
By MLS HABA Date 8-11-99

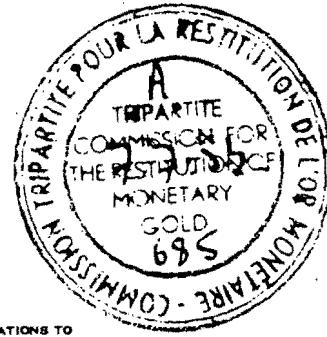
RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO

American Embassy,
Brussels, July 3, 1953.



Colonel J. A. Watson,
Secretary General,
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold,
Brussels.

Dear Colonel Watson:

Confirming my telephone conversation this morning, I take the liberty of transmitting herewith a letter and enclosures dated July 1, 1953 from Mr. Arthur Mousset of Bouffioulx, regarding a quantity of gold coins which he claims to have been requisitioned by the German authorities in Belgium on April 21, 1942. It will be appreciated if you will be so good as to make appropriate reply direct to Mr. Mousset.

Yours sincerely,

Homer S. Fox
Counselor of Embassy
for Economic Affairs

Enclosures:

Letter from Mr. Arthur Mousset
dated July 1, 1953 with
2 enclosures.

202106

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Authority NND 999 100

By M/S HARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

MOUSSET Arthur, Industriel à ROCQ-RECQUIGNIES
 Francs
 résidant, 28, Rue du Marais à BOUFFIOULX
 Belgique

Action for:

AMB	AGR/A
COIN	MARIT/A
ECON COUN	TREAS/A
MOAPS/A	CONS
MIL/A	VISA CONTRA
AIR/A	USIS
POL	ADMIN
MAAG	MSA
ECON	MSA-CHIEF
LAB/A	MSA-DEP CHIEF

Excellence Monsieur l' Ambassadeur des
 ETATS-UNIS D' AMERIQUE
BRUXELLES

Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance
 les faits suivants pour lesquels je me permets de demander votre
 bienveillante intervention.

A la date du 21 Avril 1942, j'ai été l'objet
 par l'autorité allemande commandant en Belgique, d'une réquisition
 portant sur les pièces d'or dont ci-joint photo-copie du bordereau
 équivalant à 5.300 dollars or.

Je suis intervenu auprès de la trésorerie de
 l'Etat Belge pour demander la restitution des pièces en question
 et il m'est répondu de m'adresser au Ministère de la Reconstruction
 pour être dédommagé du préjudice qui m'a été causé.

Je considère qu'il ne s'agit pas d'un dédom-
 magement, mais d'une restitution des objets qui m'ont été ravis
 par l'autorité occupante.

Je crois que c'est ainsi qu'il y a lieu de
 comprendre l'accord de Paris intervenu entre les grandes puissances
 sur les réparations de guerre.

La jurisprudence Belge (arrêt de Bruxelles du
 19 Mars 1952) admet que le déposant volontaire de pièces d'or
 à un dépositaire privé doit recevoir si la restitution du dépôt
 est impossible, la contre valeur en francs Belges des pièces d'or
 au cours du marché libre.

A fortiori doit-on admettre lorsqu'il ne
 s'agit pas d'un dépôt volontaire mais d'une réquisition (dépôt

00

Mousset Arthur

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Authority NND 999 100

By MRS HAPA Date 8-1-99

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Box 7

forcé) et que le dépositaire est une personne de droit public que la même solution doive être appliquée .

C'est pourquoi, je me permets très respectueusement de solliciter de votre haute bienveillance, Excellence, une intervention auprès de l'organisme chargé de récupérer en Allemagne les pièces d'or réquisitionnées afin qu'elles me soient restituées.

Dans cette attente, je vous prie de croire Excellence à mes sentiments les plus respectueux, et à ma considération la plus distinguée.

A. Moret

P.S. Suite à la réquisition, je fus condamné à trois mois de prison avec arrestation immédiate pour infraction aux ordres allemands.

202108

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Authority NND999100
By MRS MARA Date 8-1-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

INT-
CC/PI-
C/Bz2-

CONFIDENTIAL

From : The Secretary General.

To : The Commissioner of the Government of the United States of America

The Commissioner of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Commissioner of the Government of the French Republic.

May 1953.

I would refer to my INT-2557, dated 18 April 1953.

The wording of the Commission's routine letter to Mr. Gunther Wagner has produced a somewhat unexpected result.

The German Embassy phoned yesterday and the call was answered by Monsieur Jacquot in my absence.

The German Embassy explained, informally, that our letter to Mr. Gunther Wagner, to the effect that we only correspond with Governments, has been referred to them. The Embassy spokesman said that he fully realised that this was a somewhat delicate matter for him to discuss and that he presumed that what was meant was that we only correspond with "member Governments" (i.e. signatories to the Paris Agreement or adhering Governments). Monsieur Jacquot said that this was so. The Embassy spokesman made it clear that he quite understood that his Embassy cannot enter into official relations with the Commission on these questions and that he was only trying to clear the matter up in his own mind. He asked if Mr. Jacquot thought that there was any objection to the matter being taken up by the Swiss Government (it will be recalled that Mr. Gunther Wagner is agent for a Swiss firm). Mr. Jacquot said that he did not know but that he thought that if Switzerland did take this up it could only be on a governmental level.

(sgd) J. A. WATSON.

J. A. WATSON
Secretary General.

JAW/lhd.

202109

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MHS HARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

C O P Y (JD)

To : A.D. WALLEY
Tel. Kahrnerheide 336
Ref. PS/3/9 Vol V
PS/3/8

Office of the Economic Adviser
U.K. High Commission in Germany,
(22 a) Kahrnerheide, Rheinland.

27th April, 1953.

Dear Colonel Watson,

I wish to confirm, for the record, that the following gold coins of numismatic value, delivered in error to the Gold Pool, have been received by the Landeszentralbank in Kiel :

1 x 20 Franc piece	dated 1859
10 x 10 Reichsmark pieces	dated 1880 - 1940
20 x 20 Reichsmark pieces	dated 1880 - 1940.

I should also like to thank you for your note of 13 April 1953 (CGP1 - 2111.8/BRZ) dealing with a letter you have had from Messrs. Gunther Wagner about the bar of gold enumerated in Serial 1 on attachment "A" to Caldecourt's letter of 19 May 1952.

Yours ever,

Signed : A.D. WALLEY.

Colonel J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General,
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold,
155, Rue de la Loi, Brussels.

202110

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MRS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

INT- 2555
cc/PI
c/wz

15 April 1953.

From : The Secretary General
To : The Commissioner of the Government of
the United States of America
The Commissioner of the Government of
the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
The Commissioner of the Government of
the French Republic.

I enclose an English translation of a letter in German,
dated 7 April 1953, received from Mr. Gunther Wagner.

The gold referred to is that which figures as serial 1, on
Attachment A, to the British Economic Adviser's letter of 19 May 1952 which
was circulated under cover of the Secretariat's INT-2329, dated 27 May 1952.

I also enclose the draft of a suggested reply, for approval
or observations, please.

There appears to be some confusion in the mind of the British
Economic Adviser regarding the respective roles of the three Governments and
the Commission in relation to the gold pool. I propose, if my suggested reply
is approved and the Commissioners are in agreement, to send a copy of Mr.
Gunther Wagner's letter and of the Commission's reply thereto to the British
Economic Adviser, without comment, in order that he may be made aware of the
fact that no useful purpose can be served by referring private claimants to
the Commission.

J. A. KATZEN
Secretary General.

2 encls.

JAS/lhd.

202111

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NNI 999.100
By Mrs. HARA Date 8-1-49RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7CC/PI- 2110
G/HZ.

18 avril 1953.

Monsieur Gunther Wagner,
Pelikan,
Hannover.

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 7 avril 1953, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que la Commission ne correspond qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments distingués.

J.A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général.

JAW/as.

202112

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Authority NND999.100
By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

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Entry 5382
Box 7

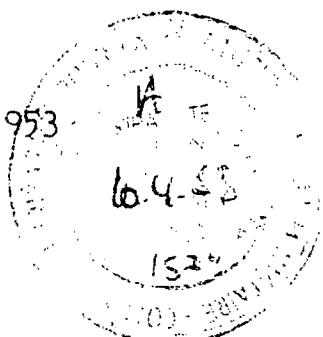
4/D.CL.- 10/4/53.-

English translation of one letter written in German.

Günther Wagner - HANNOVER --- RELIKAN ---

To the Tripartite Commission
for the Restitution of
Monetary Gold
I55 , Rue de la Loi
BRUSSELS

HANNOVER , April 7th 1953
Ekf .A-Lü/L



Re/Fine gold of Swiss origin

As per one letter which I received from the Office of the Economic Adviser in Wahnerheide (Rhld), of the 26th of March last, presaid Office kept in touch with you concerning the restitution of 500 grams of fine gold, belonging to the Firm Günther Wagner A.G. in Zurich. This gold was placed at my disposal, with another quantity of 999,80 grams of fine gold, during the war winter 1944/45, in many lots from Zurich, for the manufacture of golden pens for fountain pens. A delivery could not be effected any more, as, owing to the war end during the spring time of 1945, the whole quantity of gold available with German Firms, was seized.

It was not taken then into consideration, whether the seized gold were the property of the German Firms or foreign Firms, and in the last case, were provisionally in the custody of German Firms. One first partial quantity, amounting to 999,80 grams of fine gold was restituted in December 1951. Almost 7 years were elapsed until Switzerland could take possession again of the gold belonging to her. The restitution of the remnant 500 grams could not be obtained till now.

During the last years I was thus obliged to carry on an extensive correspondence, in the course of which I was directed from one Office to another one. It appeared then, that the gold, deposited at first with the Landeszentralbank, Niedersachsen, must have been handed in the meanwhile to the Bank of France.

I beg to apply to you in this matter, as your name was given to me from Wahnerheide, as being the actual competent Office for the restitution of the above mentioned 500 grams of fine gold, and I beg to direct my request to you for providing for a prompt restitution of the gold belonging to Switzerland.

Looking forward to your reply with great interest, I beg to remain
Yours very truly,

=====

202113

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Authority NND 999 100
By NIS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Günther Wagner Hannover



Pelikan

FERNRUF FÜR ALLE GESPRÄCHE: SAMMEL-NR. 66501 · DRAHTWORT: PELIKAN HANNOVER · FERN SCHREIBER: 023/862 · POSTSHECKKONTO: HANNOVER 456
NORDDEUTSCHE BANK AG. IN HANNOVER NR. 74009 · LANDESZENTRALBANK HANNOVER NR. 27/82 · SPARKASSE DER HAUPTSTADT HANNOVER NR. 326

An die
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold,
185 Rue de la Loi,
Brüssel / Belgien.

Hannover, den 7. April 1953
Kf.A-LU/L.



Betr.: Feingold schweizerischer Herkunft.

Nach einem mir vorliegenden Brief von der Office of the Economic Adviser in Wahnheide (Rhld.) vom 26. März d.Js. steht die genannte Dienststelle mit Ihnen in Verbindung wegen der Rückgabe von 500 Gramm Feingold, die der Firma Günther Wagner A.G. Zürich gehören. Dieses Gold wurde mir zusammen mit einer weiteren Menge von 999,80 Gramm Feingold im Kriegswinter 1944/45 in mehreren Partien von Zürich für die Herstellung von Goldfedern für Füllhalter zur Verfügung gestellt. Eine Auslieferung konnte nicht mehr erfolgen, da durch das Kriegsende im Frühjahr 1945 alles bei deutschen Firmen vorhandene Gold beschlagnahmt wurde. Dabei wurde keine Rücksicht darauf genommen, ob das beschlagnahmte Gold Eigentum der deutschen Firma oder Eigentum ausländischer Firmen war und sich im letzteren Falle nur vorübergehend in Gewahrsam deutscher Firmen befand. Eine erste Teilmenge in Höhe von 999,80 Gramm Feingold wurde im Dezember 1951 zurückgestattet. Es hatte also beinahe 7 Jahre gedauert, bis die Schweiz wieder in den Besitz des ihr gehörenden Goldes gelangen konnte. Die Rückgabe der restlichen 500 Gramm konnte bis jetzt immer noch nicht erreicht werden. Ich habe in den vergangenen Jahren einen umfangreichen Wechsel führen müssen, in dessen Verlauf ich von einer Dienststelle zur anderen gewiesen wurde. Dabei stellte sich heraus, dass das Gold, das ursprünglich bei der Landeszentralbank Niedersachsen deponiert worden war, in der Zwischenzeit der Bank von Frankreich ausgehändigt sein soll. Ich wende mich heute in dieser Angelegenheit an Sie, nachdem Sie mir von Wahnheide aus als die jetzt zuständige Dienststelle für die Freigabe der restlichen 500 Gramm Feingold haft gemacht worden sind, und richte die Bitte an Sie, für baldige Rückgabe des der Schweiz gehörenden Goldes zu sorgen.

Ihrer Rückäußerung sehe ich mit grossem Interesse entgegen und begrüsse Sie

hochachtungsvoll

GÜNTHER WAGNER PELIKAN-HANNOVER

M. Günther Wagner

202114

Pelikan

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By MHS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

CC/PI 1792

28 juin 1952.

Monsieur R. Ansay,
 28, rue Centrale,
 Le Cannet,
Alpes Maritimes.

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 27 juin 1952,
 j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission ne
 correspond qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de
 mes sentiments distingués.

J.A. WATSON,
 Secrétaire Général.

JAW/as.

202115

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 DU
By MHS MARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

LE CANNET A.M.

28, RUE CENTRALE

le 27 Juin 1952

Tripartite Commission for restitution of
monetary gold
c/o YARA
Residence Palace
Bruxelles

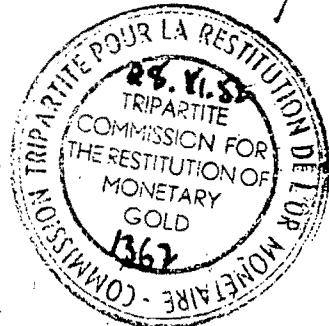
Messieurs,

Je crois savoir que tout l'or volé
en Belgique pendant l'occupation allemande a
été, par vos soins, restitué en totalité au
Gouvernement Belge.

Victime de la spoliation allemande, et me
proposant d'entamer des démarches auprès du
Gouvernement Belge en vue d'une compensation,
je vous serais très reconnaissant si vous
voulez bien me préciser si la restitution
faite au Gouvernement Belge comporte non seu-
lement l'or enlevé à la Banque Nationale, mais
aussi l'or pris aux particuliers. Et également
si la restitution a été opérée en nature, ou
bien en argent.

Je vous en remercie d'avance et vous prie
d'agréer, Messieurs, mes empreseées salutations.

R. ANSAY



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MHS MARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI.

INT- 2117
CC/PI.

12 December, 1951.

CONFIDENTIAL

From : The Secretary General

To : The Commissioner of the Government
of the United States of America

The Commissioner of the Government
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

The Commissioner of the Government
of the French Republic.

I enclose a copy of a letter, dated 10 December, 1951,
from Mr. Hain A. Crispin, and of my reply thereto (which is the
usual routine reply which was approved by the Commission at its
85th Meeting).

I would mention that I am sending copies of letters
received and of the Commission's replies thereto (when Belgium
is involved) to the Belgian Delegate "with the compliments of
the Secretary General", as was directed by the Commission on
previous occasions.

The enclosed letter is of particular interest on account
of the "constat d'huisquier" which was enclosed with it. The
"constat" is long and is in Flemish and I have only had those
portions of it which are of interest translated.

I would mention, since, to the best of my knowledge,
there is no equivalent to an "Huisquier" in the United Kingdom or
in the United States, that "Huisquiers" are appointed by the State
and have a monopoly for the execution of certain legal acts. They
serve writs and other documents, for instance, and they are also
frequently employed by private persons to draw up a 'constat', i.e.
to "note" certain facts or actions - for example the position of
two motor cars in an accident, or the fact that the neighbours'
bath is leaking through a ceiling or the fact that a flat one is
taking over in such and such a condition, etc.... The value
of the "constat" is that it prevails in law, that is to say in
court, over anything that an ordinary person can say or write. A
"constat's" contents cannot be contested except on the grounds of
falsification.

2/.....

202117

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999.100

By MIS HARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

2.

The interesting point, in the present case, is that the Banque de Commerce requested the services of an "huissier", no doubt to cover its own responsibility, to "note" certain events which were about to take place, pursuant to German orders. The "broustet", dated 13 March, 1941, whose contents cannot be contested, describes what was probably a common occurrence about that time.

The "huissier", accompanied by two witnesses whom he brought with him, "noted" that two representatives of the "DevisenschutzaKommando", in the presence of a representative of the Bank and assisted by two technicians of the Maison Fichet (Safe Manufacturers) opened K. Haim A. Crispin's safe. The names of all the persons concerned are, of course, given in the "broustet". The "huissier" further noted that a certain number of gold coins (a list of which is given) which were in the safe were confiscated by two representatives of the "DevisenschutzaKommando" but that the latter handed a gold medal, certain books and documents and certain securities, that is to say the rest of the contents of the safe, back to the bank.

It is not unreasonable to conclude, in view of the number of witnesses, that these proceedings were entirely official, from the German point of view, and that the gold must have found its way, through official channels, to the Reichsbank. According to the French Commissioner's note No. 3589, dated 15 May, 1950, (which the Commission has decided cannot be used for the purposes of drafting the Commission's adjudications) circulated under INT-1593, dated 16 May, 1950, these official channels were, inter alia, the Banque d'Emission and two other banks, the method employed in many cases being seizure by the Germans in private safes and homes and transfer of the gold to the Reichsbank via the Banque d'Emission.

It will be recalled, on the other hand, that the Belgian Representative, when he was heard by the Commission, contended that the Germans, to put it briefly, "coaxed" the Belgian population into delivering their gold to the Banque d'Emission.

It is not unlikely that other claims from private persons in Belgium will be received, since a certain amount of publicity is being given in Belgian newspapers to the fact that a law is being voted to protect the Commission whose name thus appears in print for about the first time in Belgium.

(sgd) J. A. WATSON

J. A. WATSON,
Secretary General.2 encls.

JAW/ea.

202118

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 DC
By MIS MARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

cc/PI

CC/PI- 1514

Le 12 Decembre 1951.

Monsieur HAIM A. CRISPIN,
c/o Société de Commission,
8, Courte Rue des Claires,
ANVERS

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 10 décembre, 1951, j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'Or Monétaire n'est autorisée à communiquer sur ces questions de restitution qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

(sgd) J. A. WATSON

J.A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général.

JAW/fac.

202119

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By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

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Les fées d'he ont été remises au délégué suppléant
du 'Verteidigungskommando' (Comité de défense pour le
Contrôle des denrées)

* * * Toutes les pièces susmentionnées ont été effectuées dans
un lieu Marqué B.D.C. 146

* * * Les valeurs contenues dans le See susmentionné
ont été remises aux officiers de la Belga au nom
de l'utoper des coffres-forts

Toutes les valeurs autres que le See ou dans le coffre
ont été enlevées au moyen de serrure en cire et fracturée
du cadet fortin de l'utoper militaire et du cadet
de la demandelette ainsi que du cadet du 'Verteidigungs-
kommando'.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND999 DC
By MRS HARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

SOCIELE

DE COMMISSION

ANTWERPEN

VAN DEURWAARDER JULES VAN DE WAL VRYHEIDSTRAAT 27 ANTWERPEN

Ten jare 1900 een en veertig, den dertienden der maand Maart;

Ten verzoeken van de N.V.BANQUE DE COMMERCE (Handelsbank) waarvan de maatschappelijk zetel gevestigd is te Antwerpen, Lange Gasthuisstraat, n°9, ingeschreven in het Handelsregister van Antwerpen onder nummer 36.922, vertegenwoordigd door haren beheerraad samengesteld uit de Heeren Alfred Martougin, Voorzitter te Antwerpen; E.M. Brandlin te Amsterdam; Ferdinand Deleval te Ryssel; Robert Engles te Antwerpen; Max. Th. Herman te Antwerpen; Adolf Heckmann te Antwerpen; Baron van de Put te Antwerpen; allen leden en Louis Jacobs-Van Merlen, afgevaardigde beheerder te Antwerpen;

Heb ik, ondergetekende, Jules Van de Wal, deurwaarder by de Rechtbank van eerste aanleg zitting houdende te Antwerpen, er wonende, gehuisvest, Vryheidstraat, n°27, vergezeld en bygestaan door de Heeren Stanislas Caals en Théophile Jacobs, beiden bedienden te Antwerpen, meerderjaarige Belgische getuigen ten einde dezer aanzocht;

My begeven in den zetel van verzoekster te Antwerpen, Lange Gasthuisstraat, nr 9 in de zaal der brandkasten, alwaar, in aanwezigheid van myzelf, deurwaarder, van myne getuigen, der Heeren Z.S. Leidenfrost en Casaer, afgevaardigden van het "Devisenschutz-kommando" en van den heer Gérard Byers, aangestelde van verzoekster, de heeren Emile Poupel wonende te Brussel; Laurent Doms woonende te Dieghem, technicus, gehecht aan de firma Fichet, op vordering van de Duitsche Overheid, is overgegaan tot het opbreken van de brandkast N°A.31 in huur gehouden door Mynheer HAIM CRISPIN A. wonende te Antwerpen, korte kalrenstraat nr 8;

Deze brandkast opengebroken zynde, werd er vastgesteld dat zy bevatte:

zestien(16)goude muntstukken van Frs. 20,00 Fransch
twee(2)goude muntstukken van Fr. 10,00 Fransch
een(1)goude muntstuk van 20 oostenryksche Kronen
twee(2)goude muntstukken van Fr. 20,00 Belgische
zes en twintig(26)goude muntstukken van 20 Dollars
elf(11)goude muntstukken van £ 1
een(1)goude muntstuk van Fr. 10,00 Fransch
zes(6)goude goudstukken
zes(6)kleine goude Egyptische muntstukken
~~xxx~~ twee(2) goude muntstukken van £ 2 Egyptisch
hogen(?) goude munstukken van £ 1 Egyptisch
elf(11)kleine goude munstukken ~~xxx~~ Egyptische piasters
twee(2) goude munstukken van 20 Leva Bulgaarsch
een(1)goude munstuk van 10 Leva Bulgaarsch
honderd(100)goude muntstukken van 20 Lire, Italie;

Deze goude muntstukken werden aangegeven aan de afgevaardigden hoodvernoemd van het "Devisenschutzkommando".

Verders werd erin gevonden:

eene(1)goude medaille
vyftien en half(15 1/2)zilvere Bulgaarsche Leva stukken
een(1)kasboek
een(1)kasboek
een(1)akte verleden voor Notaris Van Zeebroeck ter standplaats Antwerpen, in dato van 13 November 1933 en meldende eene solidaire medeschulderkentenis door de Maatschappy in gezamenlyken naam "Graverlitho" .W. Hegedorn-Bantjes S.A. Grfat Merxem; in voordeel

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By MJS HARA Date 8-11-90

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

~~SECRET~~ ~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED~~ ~~HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~
**ETÉ DE COMMISSION
ANVERS**

van den Heer Edm. François Heymans te Bouchout, van hypothecaire schuldbordering ten beloope van frs. 50.000.- een akt(1) Obligation de frs. 75.000.- au profit de Monsieur H.A. Crispin, négociant à Anvers à charge de la Société en nom collectif "Graverlitho" W. Hagedorn-Bantjes en A?Graft à Merxem, avec affectation hypothécaire (première groc n°702 en date du 27 août 1934;

eene(1)quittance subrogative d'une somme de frs. 50.000.- payé par Mr. H.A. Crispin, négociant à Anvers à Mr. E. Fr. Heymans, administrateur de Société à Bouchout à décharge de la Société en nom collectif "Graverlitho" W. Hagedorn-Bantjes, industriel à Anvers en Mr. A. Graft, architecte à Brecht , n°701 en date du 27 août 1934;

een(1)grosse verleden door Meester E. Van Oyen, in dato 6 Augustus 1936 en meldende: contrat de mariage entre M. Mordocahi, négociant à Sophia(Bulgarie) et Melle Corinne Haim Crispin, sans profession à Anvers;

tien(10)aangenomen wissels getrokken voor H.A. Crispin op Willy Hagedoorn Bantjes (Graverlitho) en vervallende op:

31 Maart 1940	voor een bedrag van	frs. 15.690.-
einde April 1940	idem	15.360.-
30 Mei 1940	idem	15.778.-
30 Juni 1940	idem	13.500.-
30 Juli 1940	idem	39.600.-
31 Oogst 1940	idem	16.065.-
einde Oogst 1940	idem	5.000.-
30 September 1940	idem	16.160.-
einde Oktober 1940	idem	13.700.-
einde December 1940	idem	25.000.-

Verders:

negen en half(9 1/2) Marken in our Duitsch zilver;

elf(11)oude Oostenryksche Kronen

zes en half(6 1/2) oude Roumeeische zilvere Lei;

een(1)six pence our zilver stuk;

een(1)Frank 2.- our Fransch zilver;

zeven en twintig(27) zilver Egyptische Piasters;

eene(1)bruine portefeuille inhoudende Bulgaarsch paspoort en papieren;

een(1)omslag met bilans

nog een paspoort

een(1)ceinture voor diamantaire;

een(1)omslag handelpapieren;

twee(2°) boeken comptabiliteit;

alle deze bovenvermelde stukken werden in een zak gesloten en gemerkt B.D.C 146;

Ten slotte werd ernog in gemeld koffer gevonden:

zes(6) aandeelen 1/10e kapitaalaandeel zonder aanduiding van waarde aan drager, geheen gestort der Gevaert Photo Produkten N.V en dragende de nummers:
152795-122943-122944-122941-122941-122942-087983.

Coupon nr 19 en volgende aangehecht.

X X Deze aandeelen werden in een afzonderlyken omslag geborgen en werd afgegeven aan den aangestelde van verzoekster om by haar te worden bewaard;

De waarden in den zak bovenvermeld omschreven werd afgegeven aan de winketten van de Bank op naam van den huurder van de brandkast;

Alle de in de zak of omslag geplaatste waardens werden gesloten by middel van zegels uit was vervaardigt en voorzien van den persoonlyken stempel van ondergetekenden deurwaarder en van den stempel van verzoekster, alsook van den stempel van het "Devisenschutzkommando";

Van dit alles heb ik het huidig proces verbaal opgesteld, dat myn voornoem getuigen geteekend hebben met my deurwaarder en met de aangestelden van myn verzoekster .

Waarvan akte datum als boven;

202122

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Authority NND999 DC
By MSS HAPA Date 8/11/99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

HAIM A. CRISPIN
c/o

SOCIÉTÉ DE COMMISSION

R. C. ANVERS N° 1033

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME

TÉL.: 32.39.25 (3 LIGNES)

ANVERS

TÉLÉGR.: YULZARI

8, COURTE RUE DES CLAIRES

le 10 décembre 1951.

Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution
de l'Or Monétaire,
155, rue de la Loi,
Bruxelles.

Messieurs,

Ayant quitté la Belgique au mois d'avril 1940, il m'a été impossible de rentrer pendant les années de guerre. Je possédais à la Banque de Commerce, longue rue de l'Hôpital à Anvers, un coffre-fort dans lequel j'avais déposé de l'or en pièces. Ce coffre a été ouvert sur l'ordre des autorités allemandes et l'or a été confisqué.

La Banque de Commerce a fait établir un constat d'huissier, dont je me permets de vous remettre sous pli copie. Vous constaterez, suivant cette pièce officielle, la spécification des pièces d'or qui ont été confisquées.

Je vous serais infiniment obligé de bien vouloir me faire savoir si votre Commission s'occupe éventuellement de la restitution de l'or appartenant à des étrangers, et, dans ce cas, de me faire savoir quelles sont les démarches qui je dois entreprendre et les pièces qu'il faut que je produise. Pour votre gouverne, je suis porteur d'un passeport israélien.

Dans la négative, je vous prie de me dire où il faudrait que je m'adresse pour tâcher d'obtenir satisfaction.

Pour votre gouverne, je suis domicilié en ce moment à Haifa, mais suis de passage à Anvers, et vous prie de bien vouloir adresser votre réponse à la Société de Commission S.A., 8 courte rue des Claires, Anvers.

Je reste dans l'attente de vos nouvelles et vous présente, Messieurs, mes salutations distinguées.

Y. Crispin

202123

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Authority NND 099 100

By M/S HARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

SOCIETE DE COMMISSION

ANVERS

ETUDE DE L'HUISSIER JULES VAN DE WAL RUE DE LA LIBERTE 27 ANVERS

L'an 1900 quarante et un, le treize mars,

A la requête de la S.A. BANQUE DE COMMERCE dont le siège social est fixé à Anvers, Longue rue de l'Hôpital, n° 9, inscrite au registre de commerce d'Anvers sous le numéro 36.922, représentée par son Conseil d'administration composé de Messieurs Alfred Martougin, Président, d'Anvers ; E.M. Brändlin d'Amsterdam ; Ferdinand Deleval de Lille ; Robert Engles d'Anvers ; Max.Th. Herman d'Anvers ; Adolf Heckmann d'Anvers ; Baron van de Put d'Anvers ; tous membres et Louis Jacobs-Van Merlen, administrateur-délégué, d'Anvers ;

Je soussigné, Jules Van de Wal, huissier près du Tribunal de première instance d'Anvers, domicilié à Anvers, rue de la Liberté n° 27, accompagné et assisté de Messieurs Stanislas Caals et Théophile Jacobs, tous deux employés à Anvers, témoins belges et majeurs requis en cette affaire ;

Je suis rendu au siège de la demanderesse à Anvers, Longue rue de l'Hôpital, n° 9, dans la salle des coffres-forts, où, en présence de moi-même, huissier, de mes témoins, Messieurs Z.S. Leidenfrost et Casaer, délégués du "Devisenschutz-kommando" (Service du Contrôle des devises, n. du T.) et de Monsieur Gérard Byers, représentant de la demanderesse, de Messieurs Emile Poupelaerd habitant Bruxelles; Laurent Doms habitant à Dieghem, techniciens attachés à la firme Fichet, sur ordre de l'Autorité allemande, il a été procédé à l'ouverture du coffre-fort N° A.31 loué à Monsieur HAIM CRISPIN A., habitant à Anvers, Courte rue des Veaux, N° 8 ;

Ce coffre-fort ayant été ouvert, il a été constaté qu'il contenait :

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 DD
By MHS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI- 1527

10 décembre 1951.

Monsieur Ernest Audenaerde,
12, Rue Georges Martens,
Petegem-les-Deynse.

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 7 décembre 1951, j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'Or Monétaire n'est autorisée à communiquer sur ces questions de restitution qu'avec les Gouvernements.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

J. A. Watson,
Secrétaire Général.

JAW/JD

202125

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 100
By MRS HAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Messieurs les Président et Membres de la Commission répartie pour la restitution de l'ensemble résidence Palace (94 Daga) 155 rue de la Loi Bruxelles.

Messieurs,

je soussigné AUDENAERDE Ernest demeurant à Bellegem lez Deyze, rue Georges Marais 12 prend la respectueuse liberté de porter à Votre connaissance, que le 24 septembre 1943 les Allemands se sont présentés à mon domicile, m'ont forcé d'ouvrir mon coffre-fort et m'ont volé, outre un nombre d'actions, l'or nécessaire dont la désignation suit :

20 Livres anglaises ;
110 Florins hollandais ;
32 pièces de 20 francs ;
34 pièces de 10 francs ;

J'ai eu l'usage une preuve de ce qu'ils emportaient. Ils me l'ont donnée et je la tiens à Votre disposition. J'ai été condamné en outre à une amende de 2000 R. E. L. pour ces actions de vol or.

je suis né à Deyze le 3-4-1867. Le vol dont j'esi été victime (actions et or) est la contreactions d'une bonne partie des économies de toute ma vie.

Ne pourrais j'pas obtenir par votre intercession la restitution de ces monnaies ? ou de leur équivalent or.

Toutefois agréer, Messieurs, l'expression de ma considération très distinguée

Ernest Audenaerde

Bellegem lez Deyze le 7 décembre 1981



DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By MRS MARA Date 8-1-69

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

27th November, 1950.

CC/PI - 1244.

W. F. Borkowski Esq.,
Consultant in Polish and
International Law,
121, Dartmouth Road,
LONDON N.W.2.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 22nd November,
addressed to the Commission concerning losses, of gold
inter alia, alleged to have been suffered in Warsaw by
a Polish citizen now resident in the United Kingdom, I
regret to inform you that the Commission only communicates
with Governments.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd) J. A. WATSON.

J. A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

202127

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 999 100

By MIS MAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7~~207551~~Parti pour Verteboekken
Part pour Verteboekken

W.F. BORKOWSKI
CONSULTANT IN POLISH AND
INTERNATIONAL LAW

Telephone: GLADSTONE 4714

121, DARTMOUTH ROAD
LONDON, N.W.2

22nd November 1950

La Commission Interalliée
pour la restitution de l'Or,
Ministère des Finances,
Bruxelles,
BELGIUM

Dear Sirs,

Friend of mine Professor Dr Eugeniusz JARRA, who was before the war a Professor and held the position of President of the Faculty of Law at Warsaw University, had, amongst other property, some valuables which were lodged in a Safe Deposit in the "Bank Handlowy" (Commercial Bank) in Warsaw. The password of the Safe Deposit was "Sapienti Sat".

The contents were as follows:

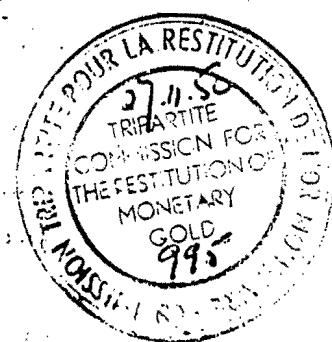
13,000 U.S.A. dollars (in hundred dollars notes),

7,770 U.S.A. dollars (in golden coins),

800 Tharist Russia Roubles (in 5 & 10 roubles golden coins called imperials and half-imperials).

Besides the above mentioned valuables there was a bundle of shares of the "Tow. Akc. Leszczyński" (a well known Polish Limited Company in Warsaw which belonged to the family of Professor Jarra's wife).

In 1939, after the outbreak of war, Professor Jarra and his wife and son left Poland hurriedly, under difficult conditions and he was unable to go to the bank and retrieve his property.



202128

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Authority NND999100
By MRS KAPA Date 8-11-99

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Box 7

In January, 1940, in the presence of Professor Jarra's sister and some witnesses from the bank, the representatives of the German Authorities opened the safe and confiscated the entire contents except for the bundle of "Tow.Akc.Leszczynski" shares.

In June, 1940, together with other Polish refugees Professor Jarra and his family came to Great Britain where they have remained as British Residents for the past ten years.

During the war Professor Jarra settled in Oxford as a Professor of the Polish Faculty of Law.

After the war because of the political changes in Poland Professor Jarra did not return to Warsaw but remained in Great Britain. He has no intention of returning to Poland.

Up to September, 1950, he was convinced that his property was irrecoverable. Recently from the London edition of the "Polish Daily" (22nd September, 1950) he realises that your Commission is in possession of the Polish gold confiscated by the Germans. From this press notice he realised that your Commission is in possession not only of the gold which belonged to the Polish State before the war but of some privately owned gold and valuables which had been confiscated. He believes that the Commission may be in possession of his own property.

Professor Jarra understands that the question of delivery of the Polish gold and other valuables to the present Polish Authorities is under consideration by the Commission. He does not consider that there are any reasons for delivering his property (gold and bank notes) to the present Polish Authorities when he is residing in Great Britain under British protection.

Professor Jarra believes that the evidence of the confiscation (German documents, records and minutes) is held by the Commission or other Allied Authorities in Germany. He would be most grateful if you could help him to obtain this evidence and to recover his property.

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Authority NND999100
By MRS HAPA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

As an old student of Professor Jarra and honoured by his confidence, I am taking the liberty of addressing you and would ask your assistance in settling this matter.

I should appreciate your reply as well in English as in French.

Yours faithfully,

Walter Wurthli

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202130

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND999 IDU
By MIS MARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI- 981

Le 10 décembre 1949.

Monsieur Raymond BLOT,
2, Rue Portalis,
Paris (8e).

Monsieur,

En réponse à votre lettre du 28 novembre 1949, qui m'a été transmise par l'Agence Interalliée des Réparations et par laquelle vous demandez des renseignements relatifs à des restitutions d'or, j'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'Or Monétaire n'est autorisée à communiquer sur ces questions de restitution qu'avec les Gouvernements demandeurs.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

Signé : J.A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général -

202131

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Authority NND 099100
By MRS HARA Date 8-1-49RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

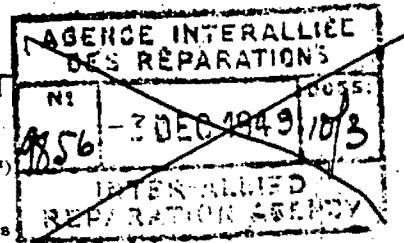
RAYMOND BLOT

LICENCIÉ EN DROIT

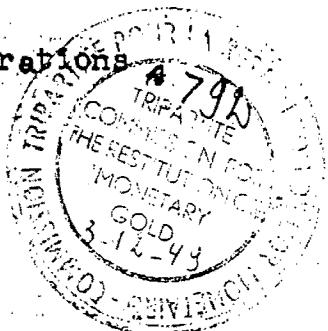
2. RUE PORTALIS (6^e)

MERCREDI OU SUR RENDEZ-VOUS

C. C. POSTAUX PARIS N° 88-26



SPOILITION

PARIS, LE 28 novembre 1949.
(LABORDE 05-78)Monsieur le Président de la
Commission Interalliée de Réparations
Bruxelles (Belgique)

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir qu'avant la déclaration de guerre, j'avais déposé à la Banque de France de Blois (Loir-et-Cher), dans mon coffre:

- 80 pièces d'or d'une livre sterling;
- 1 pièce de 100 frs en or
- 1 pièce de 50 frs en or;
- 1 pièce de 40 frs en or;
- 10 pièces de 20 frs en or;
- 12 pièces de 10 frs en or.

Ayant été fait prisonnier avec l'armée d'Alsace comme officier de réserve, les autorités allemandes, pendant mon absence, ont fait ouvrir mon coffre et mis sous séquestre les pièces d'or ci-dessus énumérées.

A la Libération, avant de quitter la ville de Blois, l'officier allemand, Max PROBST, du Devisenschutz Kommando de Paris, a emporté tout l'or séquestré à la Banque de France de cette ville.

Après enquête, il m'a été affirmé que l'officier allemand, Max Probst aurait restitué tous les séquestres emportés de la Banque de France de Blois à la Commission interalliée des réparations de Bruxelles, contenant notamment 25.000 Fr de billets suisses qui avaient été placés dans une enveloppe au nom du propriétaire de ces billets qui est rentré en leur possession.

Depuis, la Commission interalliée de réparations à Bruxelles a restitué à l'Etat français 98 tonnes d'or sur les 202 tonnes réclamées comme appartenant à des particuliers français au nombre desquels je suis.

J'aurais le plus grand intérêt à savoir si dans les 98 tonnes d'or que votre Commission interalliée a restitué à la France se trouvait tout l'or saisi par l'officier allemand, Max Probst, à Blois, et notamment les pièces d'or ci-dessus énumérées, dont le détail aurait été fourni par cet officier à votre Contrôle; ou bien, si votre Commission a restitué en bloc à la France 98 tonnes d'or sans aucune indication d'origine des fonds saisis par les autorités allemandes.

DECLASSIFIED

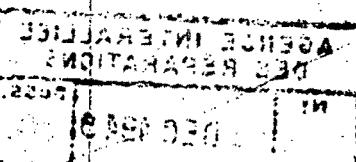
Authority NND 999 100

By MIS HABA Date 8-11-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7



Il ne vous échappera pas combien il serait regrettable et surtout peu équitable pour les particuliers français que votre Commission, connaissant l'origine des fonds saisis par les autorités allemandes, ait pu remettre au Trésor français 98 tonnes d'or sans aucune indication de provenance, alors qu'elle avait la possibilité de lui fournir ces indications pour lui permettre de restituer l'or spolié à ses propriétaires.

Je vous serais également reconnaissant de me faire savoir si la Commission interalliée des réparations prendra bientôt toute mesure pour restituer à la France le solde de l'or saisi par les Allemands pendant l'occupation et dont la presque totalité appartient à des particuliers.

Avec tous mes remerciements, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués.

[Handwritten signature of Georges Bidault over typed text]

Joint:
1 coupon réponse International

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND099100
By MRS HAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

7156

Distribution: >Colonel J.A. Watson,
Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold,

J.P.B. Ross,
E. Esling.



25 October 1949.

Sirs:

re: Dr. Andrzej Woloszynski

I am directed by the Secretary General to thank you for your letter of 23 September 1949, your reference Z/H, regarding the gold holdings of the above-named gentleman.

We had hoped that the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold would have been able to help you in this matter but we understand that they are not concerned with the question you raised and have informed you accordingly. The Inter-Allied Reparation Agency is only concerned with the allocation among Member Governments of reparations from Germany and has no jurisdiction over the tracing and restitution of looted property.

We very much regret our inability to be of assistance to you in this matter, but you may consider continuing your enquiries through Banking channels.

SECRETARY GENERAL	JMW 26/10/49
ASS'T SEC. GEN.	
ADVISERS - U. S.	
FR.	

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(s) M FAGEN

Melvin M. Fagen,
Chief,
External Assets Division.

Messrs. Hardman, Phillips & Mann,
Hastings House,
10, Norfolk Street,
London. W.C.2.

202134

DECLASSIFIEDAuthority NN10999100By MHS HAPA Date 8-11-99**RG**59**Entry** 5382**Box** 7NOTE FOR THE FILES.18th October, 1949.

The Commission, at the 85th Meeting on 15th October, 1949, decided that the routine replies sent in answer to letters from Solicitors representing private persons should, in future, end with the words "only corresponds with claimant Governments", and that the rest of the phrase "and that the only claims considered etc.," should no longer be used.

J. AW

J. A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

202135

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND099100
By MRS KARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

H. HAWORTH HARDMAN
D. H. PHILLIPS
F. A. MANN, LL.D. (LOND)
MARTIN ZANDER.

HARDMAN, PHILLIPS & MANN

Successors to Swann, Hardman & Co.

Solicitors

HASTINGS HOUSE
10 NORFOLK STREET
LONDON W.C.2

TELEPHONES:
TEMPLE BAR 4653-3829.
TELEGRAMS:
JUDICIAILY, ESTRAN, LONDON.

Yr.ref.CC/PI.920.JAW/fac.
Z/H

23rd September, 1949.

Secretary General,
Tripartite Commission for
the Restitution of Monetary Gold,
155, Rue De la LOI,
Bruxelles.



Dear Sir,

re: Andrzej Woloszynski.

We duly received and thank you for your letter of August 31st, the contents of which we note. We ask you, however, to refer to our letter of August 26th from which you will observe that we have not put forward a claim to restitution, but merely made an enquiry as to the whereabouts of the gold bars and gold coins owned by our client. There must surely be some authority which has kept a record of holdings of gold bars and gold coins which were, during the war, removed by the German authorities, and found at the end of hostilities.

We shall, therefore, be glad if you will look into the matter further and let us hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY GENERAL	JAN 27/9/49
ASST. SEC. GEN.	
ADVISERS - U. S.	
FR.	

42/Jan 27/9/49

Bring up under Mr. J. A.
in connection w/ the action

JAN 26/9/49

202136

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 999 IDU
By MSS KARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI. g 20

31 August, 1949.

Messrs Hardman, Phillips & Mann,
Solicitors,
Hasting House,
10, Norfolk Street, LONDON W.C.2.

Gentlemen,

In reply to your letter Z/H, of the 26th August, 1949, addressed to the Inter-Allied Reparation Agency which has been referred to me by that organisation, I have to inform you that, on questions of restitution, the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold only corresponds with claimant Governments and that the only claims considered and adjudicated upon by the Commission are those relating to gold which, at the time of its spoliation by the Germans, formed part of the monetary reserve of a Government or of its Central Bank.

Yours faithfully.

(Colonel) J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

JAW/fac.

202137

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 100
By MHS MARA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

30 August 1949.

Sirs:

I am directed by the Secretary General to acknowledge your letter of 26 August 1949 written on behalf of Dr. Andrzej Woloszynski, who had on deposit in the Netherlands certain gold bars and gold coins, which were during the war removed, presumably by the German authorities.

Since the Inter-Allied Reparation Agency does not deal with the question you raise, I have taken the liberty of referring your letter to the Tripartite Commission on Monetary Gold in Brussels.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

MELVIN M. FAGEN.
Chief,
External Assets Division.

Messrs. Hardman, Phillips & Mann,
Solicitors,
Hastings House,
10, Norfolk Street,
London. W.C.2.

202138

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NNI 999 100By MIS MARA Date 8-1-49RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7**HARDMAN, PHILLIPS & MANN***Successors to Swann, Hardman & Co.*

H. HAWORTH HARDMAN
 D. H. PHILLIPS
 F. A. MANN, LL.D. (LOND.)
 MARTIN ZANDER.

Solicitors

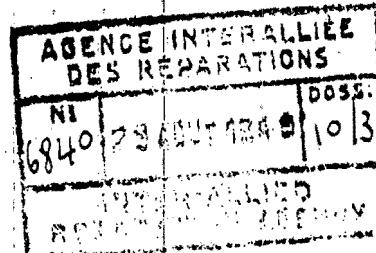
HASTINGS HOUSE
 10 NORFOLK STREET
 LONDON W.C.2

TELEPHONES:
 TEMPLE BAR 4653-3829.
 TELEGRAMS:
 JUDICIAILY, ESTRAND, LONDON.

Z/H

26th August, 1949.

The Secretary,
 Allied Reparation Agency,
 Brussels,
 Belgium.



Dear Sir,

We write on behalf of Dr. Audrzej Woloszynski a Polish subject who until 1940 was resident at Krakow Poland, who was then deported by the Germans, who was set free in May, 1945, and who at present resides at Munich.

Prior to the outbreak of war our client deposited with the Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging N.V. the following gold bars and gold coins:-

10 bars of 1 kg each marked "Schöne No. O.Q.43/52"

10 bars of 1 kg each marked "Johnson Matthey/
 No. N.6171/80"

20,000 U.S.A. dollars in gold coins.

20,000 French Francs in gold coins.

3,000 Austrian Ducats.

On 8th April, 1942, the safe in which the gold was deposited was opened by the German Authorities, and the contents were subsequently removed.

We shall be glad if you will kindly let us know whether you have any record of our client's holding, and also what further enquiries (if any) should be made to lead to the recovery of our client's property.

We shall be glad to hear from you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Haworth

202139

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By MSS KAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI- 744

24 janvier 1949.

Monsieur Albert Vanackere,
chez M. Lecompte van de Woestijne,
42 A, Rue Yvonne Serruya,
MENIN.

Monsieur,

J'ai l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre, datée du 27 février 1948, mais délivrée par vous au Secrétariat le 20 janvier 1949 seulement, par laquelle vous demandez à la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'Or Monétaire de vous aider à rentrer en possession de certaines pièces d'or qui auraient été transférées, en 1942, à la "Deutsche Revisions und Treuhand A.G." de Berlin.

J'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission n'est autorisée à communiquer sur ces questions de restitution qu'avec les Gouvernements demandeurs et que les réclamations de ces derniers ne peuvent porter, au surplus, que sur l'or faisant partie, au moment de sa spoliation par l'Allemagne, de leur réserve monétaire ou de celles de leurs Banques Centrales.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments distingués.

J. A. WATSON,
Secrétaire Général.

JAW/JD

202140

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Authority NND 0999 IDU
By MLS MAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

le 27 février 1948

SECRETARY GENERAL

MN 20/1/48

ASST. SECY. GEN.

ADVISERS - U. S.

PR

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous exposer les faits suivants:

Quelques années avant la guerre j'avais placé dans un coffre à mon nom chez la Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging, Agence Oostburg, 13.230 florins or, soit 1.323 pièces d'or de fl. 10.-

Le 25 mai 1942, aux termes de l'ordonnance allemande du 26 juin 1940, visant les biens étrangers en Hollande et qui m'a été appliquée comme étant de nationalité française, la Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging transférait cet or au crédit d'un compte collectif au nom de la "Deutsche Revisions und Treuhand A.G." de Berlin.

En octobre dernier, j'ai introduit une demande de restitution auprès des séquestrés de la "Treuhand Bank" à Amsterdam.

N'ayant reçu depuis aucune réponse favorable à ma requête, j'ai l'honneur de m'adresser à vous pour insister auprès des pouvoirs publics néerlandais pour que la spoliation dont j'ai été victime me soit indemnisée en nature, c'est-à-dire en or monétaire de la même teneur que les pièces qui m'ont été volées.

Dans l'attente d'une réponse de votre part, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

Albert Vanackere

P.S. Mon adresse est la suivante:

M. Albert VANACKERS
chez M. Lecompte van de Woestijne
N° 42A Rue Yvonne Berruys
MENIN (Belgique)



Monsieur le Président
la Commission de l'Or Monétaire
Résidence Palace
Rue de la Loi
Bruxelles

202141

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Authority NND 0999 100
By DMS HARA Date 8-11-09

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

CC/PI 905

15 December, 1948.

Messrs. Cohen & Cohen,
Salisbury,
112, Salisbury Street,
Piccadilly Circus,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

Gentlemen,

Re. Louis Correra - Deceased - Your ref. CC/PI

In reply to your letter BEG/JV, dated 8th December, 1948, I have to inform you that, on questions of restitution, the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold only corresponds with claimant Governments and that the only claims considered and adjudicated upon by the Commission are those relating to gold which, at the time of its spoliation by the Germans, formed part of the monetary reserve of a Government or of its central bank.

Yours faithfully,

J.A. WATSON,
Secretary General.

JAW/JRA.

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By MRS HARA Date 8-11-49

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Cohen & Cohen.

SOLICITORS.

BARRY B. COHEN.

TELEPHONE No.: MANSION HOUSE 0918/9.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: ALMANACK, AVE, LONDON.

CABLEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: CHLOE, LONDON

VIA EASTERN.

BBC/JP

The Secretary,
 Tripartite Commission,
 155, Rue de la Loire,
 Brussels.

Dear Sir,

re. Louis Corona Deceased Our ref. CC/39.

We act for the Executor in England of the Testator and we have been recommended by the Chief Cashier of the Bank of England to communicate with you on the subject of the Bar of Gold belonging to the Deceased.

In or about 1938, the late Louis Corona purchased a Bar of Gold for £400. We understand that that Bar of Gold to-day would be worth about £6,000 or £7,000.

The Deceased lodged this Bar of Gold in a Safe Deposit at his Bank in Paris, the Comptoir d'Es-Compte de Paris, Rue Bergere, Paris.

During the German Occupation there was a visit of the German Officers.

When eventually in October 1946 our Mr. Barry B. Cohen as Executor was summoned to Paris for the opening of the Safe in the presence of the Officials there was no Bar of Gold, any longer.

We wrote to the Bank of England recently, because we saw that there were a number of Bars of Gold stated to have been sent to them, but the Chief Cashier appears to think we should claim through you. It would be a small amount to be extracted from the Germans and they are very rich and could easily pay.

Awaiting to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,



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C.T.R.O.M.

TRIPARTITE COMMISSION
FOR THE
RESTITUTION OF MONETARY GOLD

MEMORANDUM

June 22, 1948

To: United Kingdom Commissioner
French Commissioner
Secretary General ✓

From: Russell H. Dorr RHD

I have received word that the Department of State is replying to the letter from Mr. Millard L. Midonick, attorney for Albert Otten, addressed both to the Department and to the Commission under date of May 10, 1948. This reply will make the following points:

- (1) The Commission deals only with claims of Governments and the United States has not filed any claim for looted gold.
- (2) On the basis of his own presentation, Otten apparently sold bars to the German Reichsbank early in 1933 in consequence of German foreign exchange regulations of 1932 and on the same basis as other individuals subject to these regulations.
- (3) It appears therefore that Otten received the official market price for the gold in Reichsmarks — an equivalent such as was received by everyone else similarly affected.

With a view to quieting Otten once and for all the Department of State will include a paragraph in its letter stating that the bars listed by him are not in the possession of the Commission.

The general procedure outlined above will be followed by the Department of State in the event that similar cases should arise in the future.



SECRETARY GENERAL	MNN 25
ASST. SEC. GEN.	ENR
ADVISERS - S.	

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 0999 (DC)
By MRS. HAPA Date 8-1-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

COMMISSION TRIPARTITE
POUR LA RESTITUTION DE L'OR MONÉTAIRE
TRIPARTITE COMMISSION
FOR THE RESTITUTION OF MONETARY GOLD

165, RUE DE LA LOI
BRUXELLES
TÉLÉPHONE 34.98.00



Colonel J. A. Watson,
Secretary General,
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold,
Brussels, Belgium.

Dear Colonel Watson:

I enclose for your information and that of my colleagues of France and the United Kingdom a suggested redraft of a letter to be written by you to the new attorneys for Albert Otten.

Since the Commission does not now have custody of any of the Frankfurt gold and its present holdings consist solely of United States Mint bars from Switzerland and remelted Prussian mint bars from Rumania, I believe we can say as a matter of fact that the Commission does not hold any of the bars inquired about. It has occurred to me that while we would be perfectly justified in merely stating, as you suggest, that the matter is beyond our competence, Otten's attorneys might seek to use such a letter as an implied admission that the Commission does hold the gold in question. They might then apply to some U.S. court for permission to interrogate Federal Reserve Bank officials or myself and generally make themselves troublesome. On the other hand a flat statement by the Commission that it does not hold such gold would be likely to discourage further prosecution of a matter which is apparently being peddled from one attorney to another. At the very least it would make it impossible for attorneys to file affidavits asserting they had reason to believe that the gold was held by the Commission. Such a letter could also usefully be referred to by our Governments in rejecting any approaches made to them on this matter. Therefore, while I feel that from the Commission's point of view alone there are advantages in the letter as you drafted it, it might be well to consider whether we could not take some action which would assist our Governments to avoid further annoyance.

You will note that my draft puts all the burden upon you so that if further inquiries are addressed to us a letter could still be written by the Commission saying that this matter is none of its affair.

The last paragraph of the draft is based on information given to me by Mr. Fagen of the Secretariat. You might well wish to satisfy yourself as to the facts regarding the procedures referred to by telephoning him.

Faithfully yours,

Russell H. Dorr

Russell H. Dorr
Chairman, Tripartite Commission
for the Restitution of Monetary Gold

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND999 DD

By MRS. HAPA Date 8-11-99

RG 59

Entry 5382

Box 7

D R A F T

May 26, 1948

Messrs. Polier, Rembar & Midonick,
 Attorneys at Law,
 80, Broad Street,
 New York, 4, N.Y.

Re: ALBERT OTTEN - Claim to a portion of the
 gold/held by the Tripartite Gold Commission.
 said to be

Gentlemen:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 10th May, 1948,
 on the above subject which is similar in tenor to communication
 addressed to the Commission on March 29, 1948 by Paul Weiden, 61
 Broadway, New York City, also representing himself to be attorney
 for Albert Otten.

While, as pointed out to Mr. Weiden, questions such as you raise
 do not fall within the province of the Tripartite Commission for
 the Restitution of Monetary Gold, I have as a matter of grace, and
 in order to save your client useless expense, looked into the
 matter and wish to inform you that the Commission does not hold
 any of the gold/referred to in your letter.
 bars

I understand that procedures are under consideration by the
 three Western Zone Commanders of Germany for the compensation by
 Germany of victims of Nazi looting to whom restitution cannot be
 made in kind. You may wish to inquire of these Zone Commanders
 concerning such procedures.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. WATSON,
 Secretary General.

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Authority NND 000 100
By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

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Entry 5382
Box 7

POLIER, REMBAR & MIDONICK

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

80 BROAD STREET

NEW YORK 4, N.Y.

SHAD POLIER
CHARLES REMBAR
MILLARD L. MIDONICK

TELEPHONE
HANOVER 2-7770

May 10, 1948.

Tripartite Gold Commission
Brussels
Belgium;

Department of State
United States of America
Washington, D. C.
Attention: Mr. Fletcher.

Re: ALBERT OTTEN - Claim to a Portion of the
Gold Held by Tripartite Gold Commission.

Dear Sirs:

As attorneys for Albert Otten, an American citizen now residing at Scarsdale Manor South, Scarsdale, New York, United States of America, we wish to make certain inquiries of both addressees and to make request for restitution of certain property of said Albert Otten, and we wish further to protest the action by which it is proposed to distribute, without authorization of the private owner, certain property still belonging to said Albert Otten.

In 1933, as the State Department of the United States of America has previously been advised, Mr. Otten was deprived by duress of fine gold valued at approximately \$500,000. while he was in Cologne, Germany. We are attempting to obtain full particulars to identify the gold thus unlawfully wrested from Mr. Otten and acquired by the German Government. Mr. Otten had for years lawfully owned this gold in the name of a wholly-owned Dutch holding company: "N. V. Amsterdamsche Groot-Handel," Amsterdam. The portion of the gold for which we have received the most identifying particulars up to the present time comprises eight (8) gold bars valued at approximately \$100,000., which were owned by the said Dutch corporation on deposit at Societe de Banque Suisse, Le Locle in 1933, when Mr. Otten was forced by duress to cause that specific gold to be transferred to the Reichsbank. Societe de Banque Suisse cabled us and confirmed in writing on October 24, 1945 that on April 25, 1933 that bank

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By MHS HARA Date 8-11-99

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Box 7

POLIER, REMBAR & MIDONICK

May 10, 1948.

-2-

turned over the said eight (8) gold bars for the account of N. V. Amsterdamsche Groot-Handel, Amsterdam, to Reichsbank, Cologne, and that those eight (8) bars were numbered 56186 to 56193 inclusive, weighing 97493 grammes, or 3134 ounces.

It is our belief that these specific, identifiable numbered gold bars were captured from the German Government in Germany by the American Army during the recent war and that these very bars are now a part of the huge quantity of gold which the United States so captured and later transferred into the custody of the Tripartite Gold Commission.

We wish to inquire of you whether as a matter of fact you can confirm that these identified gold bars are now in the possession of the Tripartite Gold Commission in Brussels or elsewhere, or whether these identified gold bars have ever been in the possession of the Tripartite Gold Commission, or whether these identified gold bars have ever been in the possession of the American Army, the State Department, or any other agency of the Government of the United States of America. We further inquire whether any other gold transferred to the Reichsbank by N. V. Amsterdamsche Groot-Handel, Amsterdam, in 1933 is or has ever been in the possession of the above named organizations or agencies.

If it is determined that the numbers assigned to Mr. Otten's gold by the Reichsbank differ in any way from the numbers used by Societe de Banque Suisse, then we would also desire to know the corresponding Reichsbank numbers for Mr. Otten's gold. We request the same information respecting gold transferred by N. V. Amsterdamsche Groot-Handel, Amsterdam, to the Reichsbank from banks in various other countries besides Switzerland.

We wish to protest, moreover, against the current plans to distribute any portion of the gold of Mr. Otten to other persons or governments. It is our claim that the legal title to gold taken by duress from a private person — gold which is identifiable and specific — remains the property of the legal owner who was deprived of this property by force. We request instead that each and every portion of such identifiable gold, title to which has remained in

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Authority NND 999 100

By MRS. MARA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
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Box 7

POLIER, REMBAR & MIDONICK

May 10, 1948.

-3-

N. V. Amsterdamsche Groot-Handel (a holding company wholly owned by Mr. Otten) since the forceful and unlawful taking of the gold in 1933, be returned to the owner.

Very truly yours,

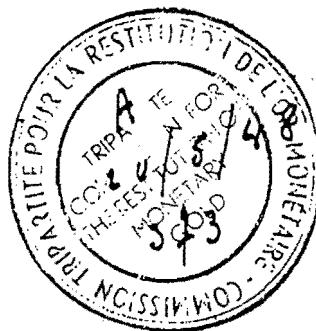
POLIER, REMBAR & MIDONICK

By

Holland L. Midonick

MLM:MS

Duplicate originals sent to:

Tripartite Gold Commission, Brussels, Belgium,
and Department of State, Washington, D. C.

SECRETARY GENERAL	MM/20/5/48
ASST. SEC. GEN.	
ADVISERS - U. S.	
FR.	

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Authority NND999 DC
By MRS. HARA Date 8-1-99

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

A/PPP.

le 14 février 8

A

S/Mise 24

Monsieur Elias FINGER

6 Allary Road
Tel-Aviv
PALESTINE.

Monsieur

J'ai bien reçu votre lettre du 9 janvier 1948 par laquelle vous demandez à la Commission Tripartite pour la Restitution de l'or monétaire de vous aider à rentrer en possession des pièces d'or saisies par les Allemands dans vos coffres-forts chez diverses banques hollandaises.

J'ai le regret de devoir vous informer que la Commission n'est autorisée à communiquer sur ces questions de restitution d'avec les Gouvernements demandeurs et que les réclamations des derniers ne peuvent porter au surplus que sur l'or faisant partie, au moment de la spoliation par l'Allemagne, de leur réserve monétaire ou de celles de leurs banques centrales.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

M. HIRIGOYEN
Secrétaire de la Commission.

also un Suisse

MH/fac.

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Authority NND 999 100

By MLS HAPA Date 8-11-69

RG 59
Entry 5382
Box 7

Elias Finger
6 Allenby Road
Tel-Aviv (PALESTINE)

Tel-Aviv, le 9. janvier 1948

2904

Commission Tripartite
Pour La Restitution De l'or Monétaire
BRUXELLES

Messieurs,

Par la présente je vous prie de m'aider dans l'affaire dont je me permets de vous la soumettre.

Avant la guerre, j'étais propriétaire de trois coffres-forts en Hollande dans lesquelles j'avais déposé les sommes suivantes en or:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|
| 1.- Chez la Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging, Amsterdam, Rokin | 1 000 pièces d'or hollandaises à 10 florins | 10 000 fl. |
| 2.- Chez la Inkasso Bak, Amsterdam Nieuwe Markt | 1556 pièces d'or hollandaises à 10 florins allemandes à 10 Mark | 15 360 fl 780 Gmk |
| 3.- Chez la Inkasso Bak La Haye, Waagenstraat | 700 pièces d'or hollandaises à 10 florins | 7 000 fl |

Quand les Allemands ont occupé la Hollande, ils ont volé les pièces d'or qui se trouvaient dans mes coffres-forts. La Nederlandsche Bank N. V. refuse de restituer mes pièces d'or quoique je l'aie demandé de le faire plusieurs fois.

Comme j'ai appris, la Conférence de Paris des Réparations oblige tous les pays qui ont signé cet acte de restituer "en natura" l'or qui a été par les Allemands, dès qu'ils entrent en possession de l'or volé. Depuis quelques semaines l'or volé en Hollande fut restitué à ce pays.

Je vous prie instamment de m'aider afin que je rentre à mon tour en possession de mes pièces d'or. Les sommes en or que j'ai déposées dans les coffres-forts en Hollande étaient toute ma fortune et il faut bien noter qu'il s'agit de fortune avant la guerre pas des profits de guerre. Je suis une victime de la guerre parce que les nazis ont volé tout mon bien et en outre ils m'ont blessé que je suis invalide. Je vis ici très sombrement quoique je sois un homme fort riche.

Je vous prie encore une fois de m'aider afin qu'on restitue aussi à moi mes pièces d'or que je suis dédommagé "en natura" après si longues années d'attente. Je vous en remercie beaucoup d'avance.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, l'expression de ma parfaite considération

Elias Finger

202151

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