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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

COPY

PURCHASE ORDER
CONTINUATION SHEET

Contract or Purchase Order No.
ORD-11-070-49-4105A

Date	Sheet No.	No. of Sheets
1/13/49	2	2

Item No.	Supplies or services	Quantity	Amount
	Delivery Required Immediately		
	DY: 1/4x1 M50M Req. 39541 1500-W25 (AP)		Est Cost
1	Anodes, Gold, 24K, for use in electroplating work. To size 1/4" x1" x16"		
	- - - - - -	4500 troy oz	$162,450.00
	Total estimated cost		$162,450.00

The supplies and services called for in this requisition are properly chargeable to allotment No. 2195920.001 905-4018 P400-08 Station 11-070 shown hereon, the balance of which is sufficient to cover the cost, excluding transportation not to exceed $162,450.00 (plus 10% increase if required).

Charge transportation to allotment 2195920.001 905-4018 P400-03 S11-070.

SHIPMENT TO BE MARKED WITH AND ALL PAPERS TO BEAR REFERENCE TO REQ. ORD-11-070-49-4105A.

SRA 5-787
(Gun Mount T21)

205815

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Authority NN3 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/1/92

UNITED STATES DELEGATION
TO THE
INTER-ALLIED REPARATION AGENCY

ROOM 433
SHELL BUILDING
BRUSSELS

March 18, 1948.

Director of the Mint,
United States Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

We have been requested by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold to transmit to you through the official channels of the State Department the enclosed check for dollars 1175.02 payable to the Treasurer of the United States. This check represents the reimbursement of the travel and compensation of Mr. Theodore H. Schierke, an Officer of the United States Mint, who assisted the Gold Commission last fall. Enclosed for your ready reference is a copy of the letter of February 12, 1948 requesting reimbursement in the amount of $1175.02.

Very truly yours,

Hamlin Robinson
Economic Adviser

Enclosures:

1. Check in the amount of $1175.02.
2. Letter dated February 12, 1948.

205816

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By NARA Date 7/10

COPY

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, 25.

Office of
Director of the Mint

February 12, 1948

Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold
24-A Boulevard du Regent
Brussels, Belgium.

Gentlemen,

Reference is made to your letter of November 6, 1947, addressed to the Honourable John W. Synder, Secretary of the Treasury, regarding the matter of reimbursing the Treasury Department for the expenses incurred in the travel and compensation of Mr. Theodore H. Schierke, a United States Mint officer who assisted your commission in matters relating to the distribution of gold held in Frankfurt, Germany, in October and November 1947.

Accordingly, this office requests reimbursement in the total amount of $1,175.02, as shown below. Please make check payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

Salary October 12, 1947 to November 6, 1947	$358.22
Per diem travel allowance	164.90
Transportation, air	651.90
	$ 1,175.02

Very truly yours,

Signed: Director of the Mint.

205817

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Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

February 27 1948

Superintendent
U. S. Assay Office
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

Mr. William T. Golden of the Atomic Energy Commission called at my office yesterday to discuss a matter in which his chief, Mr. Lewis Strauss, is personally interested.

Mr. Strauss is endeavoring to assist the International Refugee Organization in the liquidation of certain values sent to this country. Among the materials sent is a conglomerate of melted jewelry, dental fillings and the like, which was turned over in Europe to the International Refugee Commission. The material is now in Customs' custody at the Port of New York.

A rough description of the material is as follows:

Box of platinum, 13.00kg.....	$14,080.
Smelted bar #1028, containing gold, silver and platinum.	22,500.
As per Salzburg Appraisal Form Metal filing dust Gross wt.: 25.50kg. Box " : 6.60 "	10.
Smelted bars, containing gold, silver and platinum.	27,500.
Miscellaneous salvaged objects. ...	1.
Smelted bars, containing gold, silver, platinum and palladium. . .	14,687.

Although the International Refugee Organization is not a Federal agency our government has been extremely sympathetic to their work. Accordingly, I have assured Mr. Golden that the Mint would be glad to assist the I. R. O. in any way possible.

Mr. Raymond G. Kramer is representing the I. R. O. in New York in connection with the matter. His telephone is Lakawanna 4-5230. Please call Mr. Kramer and arrange for one or more of our men (Mr. Matson, particularly) to accompany him to the Customs House for the purpose of making a visual examination of the Material.

205818

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By NARA Date 7/12

After such examination please advise Mr. Kramer as to the method of disposition which, in your judgement, would yield a maximum return for the values.

Very truly yours,

NELLIE TAYLOE ROSS
Director of the Mint

MF: bas - 3/1/48

205819

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RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-502
By NARA Date 7/10

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 26, 1948

Dear Governor Ross:

I am writing to set forth some of the basic data we discussed in our conversation this morning. The mixed lot of precious metals under consideration is owned by the International Refugee Organization, an instrumentality of the United Nations. The headquarters of the IRO is in Geneva and the Director is Mr. William Hallam Tuck, a United States citizen.

In addition to a substantial cash grant, the United States and other friendly nations have turned over to the IRO a considerable quantity of miscellaneous valuables and personalia captured in Germany and German dominated countries. This property is to be disposed of by the IRO and some months ago Mr. Tuck communicated with Mr. Lewis Strauss, asking whether he would supervise the liquidation in this country. Because of his duties as member of the Atomic Energy Commission, Mr. Strauss was unable to do this personally but he was able to persuade Mr. Raymond C. Kramer of New York to undertake it as a public service.

Included in the property which has been shipped to Mr. Kramer for liquidation are several lots of precious metals described as follows:

Box of platinum, 13.00 kg.....$14,080.
Smelted bar #1028, containing
gold, silver and platinum..... 22,500.
As per Salzburg Appraisal Form
Metal filing dust
Gross wt.: 25.50 kg.
Box " : 6.60 " ..... 10.
Smelted bars, containing gold,
silver and platinum ..... 27,500.
Miscellaneous salvaged objects..... 1.
Smelted bars, containing gold,
silver, platinum and palladium.... 14,687.

The descriptions are as received from abroad. They are obviously approximate and the valuations highly tentative. This material is understood to result from the melting down of jewelry, dental

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ENTRY 328
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Authority NN3 107-91-
602
By NARA Date 7/16/92

fillings and the like in Europe. The smelting was done crudely and the mixture of the various metals within the same bar is in unknown quantities. The metals must be assayed, refined, and disposed of to bring the highest possible return to the IRO.

It was with the thought that the United States Mint might be able and willing to assist in this endeavor that I communicated with Assistant Secretary Foley in the absence of Mr. Strauss, who is out of town.

I am very grateful to you for your thoughtful interest and for your suggestion that the first step would be to have one of the officials in your New York office get in touch with Mr. Kramer and arrange to inspect the property at the Port of New York where it is now stored. Mr. Kramer's address is 119 West 40th Street and his telephone number is Lackawanna 4-5320. I am writing to Mr. Kramer to tell him of our conversation and to inform him that he may expect a call from one of your officials. Should there be any way in which I can assist, I hope you will let me know.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Golden

William T. Golden

Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross
Director of the Mint
U.S. Treasury Department
Washington 25, D.C.

205821

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Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/12

CR

August 20, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Today I spoke to Dr. Motta of the Swiss National Bank concerning the proposal made by the International Refugee Organization with the Swiss National Bank to buy certain gold from it. Dr. Motta had previously mentioned that the Swiss National Bank would buy the gold for dollars but pointed out that the SNB could only buy gold at one rate, namely, 4869.80 and he did not know the conversion rate at which the Third Department would make dollars available. Today Dr. Motta said that he had taken the matter up with the Third Department and at his insistence that the Third Department would in view of the special circumstances of this case make dollars available to the IRO at the rate of 4.29. I told him that I would communicate this to Messrs. Schwartz and Rolbein of the International Refugee Organization.

/s/ James H. Mann

James H. Mann
U.S. Treasury Representative

Encl. #1 to Ltr. #461 from Mann

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BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

AIR MAIL
American Legation

CR

Bern, August 20, 1947.

No. 456

Dear Mr. Southard:

I have recently had some conversations with Messrs. Schwartz and Rolbein of the International Refugee Organization concerning the remelting, refining and sale of certain non-monetary gold which has been turned over to the International Refugee Organization for the use of non-repatriable victims of German action. I have attempted to assist the IRO in dealing with these problems.

It appears that the non-monetary gold turned over to the IRO in Germany by the occupation authorities amounts to approximately 1,300 kilos in its present form. That gold consists of everything from rings and watch cases to gold fillings. In its present state it cannot be sold except as gold scrap and if sold that way the greatest amounts will not be realized from it. Accordingly, Messrs. Schwartz and Rolbein made arrangements with a German gold refinery to refine the scrap and mold it in bar form. Subsequently, it was discovered that the German who was doing the refining was operating on something of a "One for you, one for me business" and was keeping approximately 10 percent of the gold for his own use. I am advised that when this matter was mentioned to the Army it thought that 5 per cent bulk loss was nothing to get excited about and, instead of attempting to help the IRO get this gold back from the German involved, the Army officials tried to figure out ways and means for permitting the German to keep the gold notwithstanding Military Government Law No. 53. After considerable difficulty Messrs. Schwartz and Rolbein managed to reclaim the gold which the German refiner had kept (that is, all except 1/10 of one per cent which would not appear to be an abnormal loss of fineness due to refining). However, they were so disguested by this episode that they were determined to seek elsewhere for a refiner. (Messrs. Schwartz and Rolbein have promised me complete report on the German attempt at melting, giving all the names, facts and figures. As soon as that report is submitted I shall, of course, transmit it to the Treasury.)

The IRO representatives came to Switzerland to ascertain whether the gold could be refined here and to make inquiry concerning the sale of the gold since they thought that they could perhaps realize more on it by selling it here than by paying transportation charges to the United States.

9-2-47

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By NARA Date 7/12

As their request I arranged a meeting with Dr. Motta who is Dr. Rossi's assistant and who handles many technical gold matters in the National Bank. Dr. Motta advised that the government mint was being used exclusively for making coins for the domestic gold market and accordingly it would be impossible to have the gold refined and put in bar form there. He did, however, recommend a firm, Metaux Precieux S. A., which is closely connected with the Swiss Bank Corporation. It developed in talks with Metaux Precieux S. A. that it does all of the refining work for the watch companies and has orders which will take up its entire capacity for the coming five months. We are, however, continuing negotiations with this firm hoping that we can persuade it by our argument based on the humanitarian purposes for which the gold will be used to give some kind of priority to this project.

The IRO representatives expressed to me a desire to sell the gold in Switzerland. I advised them before our talk with Dr. Motta that it would be impossible to get the Swiss National Bank to purchase that gold against francs but that we might talk Motta into purchasing it against dollars in view of his interest in the work of the humanitarian organizations. I mentioned this to Motta in our conversation and he took the matter under consideration. He has subsequently advised me that he and Rossi approve the purchase of the gold and feel that they can swing it in the National Bank provided the gold is refined and given a recognized international marking. As you know, the Swiss National Bank is authorized to buy gold only at the price of 4,869.80 francs per kilogram. Motta did not know at what rate the Third Department would be willing to make dollars available to the IRO if the gold were purchased. I have advised the IRO to proceed, if possible, to get the gold refined and put in bar form and then to press the bank concerning the exact price.

I expect to be working further with the IRO representatives in this matter and will, of course, report further to the Treasury.

Very truly yours,

/s/ James H. Mann
James H. Mann
U. S. Treasury Representative

Mr. Frank C. Southard, Director,
Office of International Finance,
U. S. Treasury Department,
Washington 25, D. C.

205824

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ENTRY 328 U
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Authority NND 3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

International Refugee Organization (Atomic Energy Com.)
Melted Jewelry

Atomic Energy Commission

International Refugee Organization

Tuck, Wm Hallam

Kramer, Raymond G.

Golden, Wm T.

Tripartite Com. for Restitution of Monetary Gold

Gold Imp data

Strauss Lewis 3/28/49

G/S - Folder -
Rock Island Arsenal

*R.E. Gold to be shipped to Rock Is. Arsenal from N.Y. Assay Off.
1/24/49 Fr Conf. A.E.C. 1/17/50

G/S Sil Bars Pur & manner of payment 1/17/50

G/S -
Atomic Energy Com.
Gold Target
Make Folder - 1-12-50

C/ Medals or Coins
Atonomic " "
Gold Target

Off. Int Finance

205825

205826

FOLDER:

ILVER ETC. - INVENTORY MADE BY OFFICIALS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT
NTORY) IN FRANKFURT, GERMANY (LOOTED GOLD & SILVER)

RETURN TO
MINT BUREAU
MAIN FILES
ROOM 5438
TREASURY BLDG.

5-1

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRB)

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By NARA Date 7/10

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ENTRY - 328
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Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Department of State

TELEGRAM

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

Mint 4

CONFIDENTIAL 943

Tripartite Commission (World War II gold redistribution) mf

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00925 041227Z

ACTION EUR 20

INFO L 03,H 02,SS 20,SP 02,NSC 10,E 15,TRSY 08,RSC 01,RSR 01,FCSC 01,
CIA 04,INR 07,NSAE 00,/094 W

P 041114Z NOV 67
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2723

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0925

SUBJECT: GOLD/CLAIMS

REF: STATE 63829

1. WOULD APPRECIATE FAIRLY FULL TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF MEETING WITH DUDA WHEN HELD.

2. POINTS ON WHICH WE CAN EXPECT HEAVIEST CZECH ATTACK ARE: A) ALLEGED REPUDIATION OF 1961 PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT; B) DENIAL OF CZECH SUBSTANTIVE RIGHT OF RETURN OF NAZI-LOOTED GOLD; C) US ILLEGALLY EXERCISING EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF CUSTODY AND DISPOSITION OF TRIPARTITE HELD GOLD; AND D) US CLAIMS DEMAND IS BEYOND CZECH CAPACITY TO PAY. CZECHS WILL ALSO RETURN TO POINT THAT QUESTION OF CLAIMS SETTLEMENT AND GOLD RETURN SHOULD BE SEPARATED AND WILL PROBABLY SAY THEY ARE INCLINED TO BE ACCOMODATING ON FORMER, ONCE GOLD ISSUE IS RESOLVED.

3. IT SEEMS TO US STRONGEST LINES OF ARGUMENT SUPPORTING AIDE-MEMOIRE

PAGE 2 RUFUPR 0925 C O N F I D E N T I A L
DEPT WILL PRESENT CZECHS THE FOLLOWING: A) PROVIDES EARLY

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Date JUL 10 1978

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5

205827

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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Date JUL 10 1978

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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 00925 041227Z

RESTITUTION OF GOLD; B) CZECHS RECEIVE FULL CREDIT ON STEEL MILL TRANSACTION; C) PAYMENT STRETCH-OUT TO SEVEN YEARS REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT EASEMENT; D) CZECHS WILL BENEFIT IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER FROM RESUMPTION SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS; E) CZECH EXPORTS TO US GRADUALLY INCREASING WHICH IS TREND US IN FACILITATING BY AUTHORIZING NEW YORK COMMERCIAL OFFICE AND BUSINESS VISITS; F) SETTLEMENT WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR CZECHS TO QUALIFY FOR MFN AND WE WOULD HOPE ENACTMENT OF E/W TRADE ACT WITHIN REPAYMENT PERIOD WOULD PRODUCE PROFITABLE INTERCHANGE; G) IN MATTERS OF RESTITUTION US CLAIMANTS HAVE LEGAL AND MORAL RIGHTS AT LEAST EQUAL TO THOSE OF CZECHS; H) AS POLITICAL FACT OF LIFE CZECH SETTLEMENT MUST APPROXIMATE THOSE MADE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

4. INSOFAR AS THE ABOVE POINTS ARE VALID, DEPT WILL DOUBTLESS WISH TO DEVELOP THEM AND OTHERS IN ITS OWN WAY BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS OUR NEED OF BEING KEPT THOROUGHLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY INFORMED.

GP-3
BEAM

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By

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By NARA Date 7/12

AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

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DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
12.5251/2-156
Looted Gold

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : Amembassy, Madrid

823
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

February 1, 1956
DATE

REF : A-216, January 25, 1956.

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	INFO	DEPT.
27	E-5		A/REP-2 RM/R-2 EUR-5 L-2 OLI-6
	REC'D 2-6		OTHER TR-3 CIA-5

SUBJECT: Russian Gold of Spanish Origin.

In compliance with the Department's instruction cited above, the Embassy's Note Verbale No. 745 of January 31, 1956, a copy of which is attached, was left with the Chief of the Directorate of the North American Political Affairs, Sr. Jaime JORRO y Beneyto, on the same date.

In orally conveying point (2) of the Department's instruction A-187 of December 27, 1955, the reporting officer endeavored to leave "the strong impression that the United States Government would like to consider this issue closed and would not wish to be asked for documentation giving the judgement in point (1) substantive support". He also made it quite clear that the United States Government does not consider that it has any liability "for purchasing any gold alleged to have been looted from Spain".

For the Ambassador:

Richard A. Johnson
Counselor of Embassy

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

Enc: Copy of Note Verbale No. 745

~~Mr Mack~~
mint

3

RAJohnson/kb
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From ____

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Page 1 of
Encl. No. 1
Desp. No. 823
From Amembassy, Madrid

No. 745

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honor to refer to the Ministry's Notes Verbale No. 12 of January 8, 1955 and No. 34 of October 6, 1955 concerning possible external payments by the U.S.S.R. of Spanish gold originally shipped to the Soviet Union in 1936, and to the Embassy's Note Verbale No. 401 of October 19, 1955.

The Embassy has now been informed that, having carefully considered the matters referred to in the notes, the United States Government has no reason to believe that any of the gold in question has been purchased by the United States.

American Embassy, Madrid,

January 31, 1956

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Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date
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WASHINGTON, DC.

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AIR ~~POUCH~~ CONFIDENTIAL
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DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
20.6241-Gold/1-1456

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

DESP. NO. 756

FROM : U.S. Commissioner, TGC
AmEmbassy, Brussels

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

DATE: January 11, 1956

REF :

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	E-4	A/REP-2 Rm/R-2 EUR-9 L-2
	REC'D 1-17	INFO OTHER TR-3 OAP-3

SUBJECT: Secretary General's Memorandum on Status and Procedures of Gold Commission

The Chairman of the Gold Commission, under date of December 7, 1955, presented a memorandum to the Secretary General relative to conclusion of the Commission's work. He stated that the winding up of the Commission would probably be discussed by the three Governments at the end of January 1956. On the basis of this presumption, he requested the Secretary General to submit to the Commissioners a memorandum report on the status of the Commission's work and action which remains to be taken.

Two copies of the Chairman's memorandum and the Secretary General's report, together with accompanying documents, are enclosed.

The Chairman recently sought the American Commissioner's agreement to instructing Secretary General Watson to be in London during the meeting of the three Governments to answer any technical questions which might arise relative to the Gold Commission. I expressed my agreement to such an official temporary detail provided the three Governments decided to discuss TGC matters at London and wanted Colonel Watson present.

Charles W. Adair, Jr.
United States Commissioner
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold

Enclosures:
2 copies each of:
1. Note for the Secretary General
2. Memorandum by the Secretary General
3. Annexes A through P

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

D 40261 - 3

CWAdair/ah REPORTER

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AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

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DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
Looted gold
2 0.6241-GOLD/1-1356

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : U.S. Commissioner, TGC
AmEmbassy, Brussels

748
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

January 13, 1956
DATE

REF :

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	INFO	DEPT.
	E-4		RM/R-2 A/REP-2 EUR-9 L-2
	REC'D 1-18		OTHER TR-3 OAB-3

SUBJECT: Gold Commission: French Request for Deposit of 20 Pieces of Gold to Commission's Account in Bank of France

The French Commissioner, in a letter of January 6, 1956 addressed to the Secretary General of the Gold Commission, has reopened the case of 20 pieces of gold found by French prisoners in Germany and later transferred to the Bank of France at Lille. This gold was brought to the attention of the British and American Governments by the French Government in 1951 and was the subject of an exchange of notes between the French Embassy in Washington and the Department of State. Reference is made in this instance to the French Embassy's memorandum No. 262 of May 12, 1951 and the Department's reply dated June 28, 1951.

The Department's note under reference stated that the Department saw no objection to leaving the small amount of gold in question deposited at the Lille branch of the Bank of France at the disposition of the French Government. It was further agreed that this should be debited against the French claim before the Tripartite Commission.

The French Commissioner now requests that these 20 pieces of gold be deposited in the Gold Commission's account at the Bank of France in Paris. According to the French Commissioner, the cost of transport from Lille to Paris would be effected without charge by the Bank of France provided the Bank were allowed to choose within a reasonable time the date of transfer. A copy of the French Commissioner's letter of January 6, 1956 to the Secretary General is enclosed.

Action Requested:

It would be appreciated if the Department would notify me whether or not it agrees to the deposit of this gold into the Commission's account at the Bank of France.

Charles W. Adair, Jr.
United States Commissioner
Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold

Enclosure:
Copy of French Commissioner's letter of January 6, 1956 to Secretary General

CWAdair/ch
REPORTER

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Page 1 of
Encl. No. 1
Desp. No. 748
From Brussels

COPY

COMMISSION TRIPARTITE POUR LA RESTITUTION
DE L'OR MONETAIRE

10716

Paris, le 6 janvier 1956

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général
de la Commission Tripartite pour la
Restitution de l'or monétaire,
50, avenue des Arts,
Bruxelles.

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer qu'au moment de l'entrée des Forces Alliées en Allemagne, des officiers français prisonniers trouvèrent 20 pièces d'or dans la maison d'un village allemand où, à leur libération du camp dans lequel ils étaient internés, ils furent provisoirement cantonnés en attendant leur rapatriement. Cette maison avait précédemment été occupée par des militaires allemands d'une formation S.S.

Ayant emmené l'or avec eux, ils le remirent, à leur retour en France, aux Autorités compétentes qui le déposèrent à la Banque de France, à Lille.

Il s'agit de:

4	pièces	de	20 $
3	"	"	10 $
7	"	"	5 $
1	"	"	1 $
2	"	"	20 Marks
3	"	"	10 Marks,

representant au total 0,2427 Kg de fin.

En 1951, le Gouvernement français fit savoir aux Gouvernements américain et britannique que, s'agissant d'or monétaire trouvé en Allemagne, il estimait que ces pièces devaient être versées à la masse, créée en application du paragraphe A de la Partie III de l'Accord de Paris. Eu égard à la faible quantité en cause, il proposait pour éviter les frais d'expédition, de conserver l'or, le montant en étant imputé sur une livraison ultérieure qui lui serait faite à titre d'attribution.

La mise en oeuvre d'une telle procedure était assez compliquée, mais, à cette époque aucun compte de la masse n'était ouvert en France, elle était la plus simple. Les Gouvernements américain et britannique l'approuvèrent donc après avoir admis le principe du versement des 20 pièces à la masse.

Les autorités britanniques donnerent verbalement leur accord à l'Ambassade de France à Londres et vous voudrez bien trouver ci-joint copie de la correspondance échangée à ce sujet entre l'Ambassade de France à Washington et le Departement d'Etat des Etats-Unis.

Toutefois, en raison des difficultés pratiques qu'elle suscitait, l'opération n'a pas encore été realisée et l'or figure toujours à un compte d'attente à la Banque de France à Lille.

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By NARA Date 7/16

Il est fort souhaitable de régulariser définitivement la situation et la solution la plus pratique semble être maintenant d'inclure les 20 pièces en question dans le dépôt conservé par la Banque de France à Paris. Le transport de l'or de Lille à Paris pourrait être effectué sans frais par la Banque de France, sous réserve qu'elle soit laissée libre, dans des limites raisonnables, du choix de la date du transfert.

Les trois Gouvernements étant d'accord depuis 1951 pour verser cet or à la masse, je pense que mes Collègues ne verront pas d'objections à la modification, en tous points souhaitable, de la procédure primitivement envisagée. S'il en était bien ainsi, je vous serais très reconnaissant de bien vouloir établir dans la forme habituelle, pour signature, les lettres d'instructions requises.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire Général, les assurances de ma haute considération.

(s) J. Lanson

205834

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Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Miss Ward

PRIORITY

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(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
70.6241 GOLD/1-1056
Looted gold

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, BELGRADE DESP. NO. 338

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. DATE January 10, 1956

REF : Embdepps 780, June 29; 313, Dec. 20; Dept's A-11, July 20, 1954 and CA-5207, Feb. 9, 1955.

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT. INFO
18	E-4	A/REP-2, RM/R-2, EUR-5, OLI-7, L-2
	REC'D 1/18	OTHER CIA-5, TR-3

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Claim to Monetary Gold

In a note from the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs, No. 9334/9, dated December 29, 1955, the Yugoslav Government reiterates its request that an advance payment be made to Yugoslavia by the Tripartite Gold Commission pending the completion of the work of the Commission. A copy of the Secretariat's note is attached as Enclosure No. 1, and a copy of the Embassy's reply in which the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs has been advised that the Embassy is referring the question to the Department is attached as Enclosure No. 2. A copy of the last Embassy note on this subject, No. 763 of Feb. 24, 1955 is attached as Enclosure No. 3.

It is requested that the Embassy be advised concerning the prospective date of publication of the Commission's adjudications and subsequent delivery of gold, if possible, and that instructions be provided as regards a substantive reply to the Secretariat's note of December 29, 1955.

For the Ambassador:

Charles P. O'Donnell
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosures:
As stated above.

~~Mr. Mack~~
Mint

3

Mirk:nf
REPORTER

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By NARA Date 7/12

No. 9334/9

The Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and with reference to the Embassy's Note No. 763 of February 24, 1955, has the honour to reiterate its request that a decision concerning the Yugoslav monetary gold should be taken as soon as possible. More than ten months have passed since the last notification in the United States Embassy's Note, that the question would be settled, but no decision has yet been taken in this matter. The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia wishes therefore to draw again the United States Government's attention to this matter and to request that in case no final decision could be made now, an advance payment should be made to Yugoslavia in an amount corresponding to that made to other interested countries. This is being proposed in order to eliminate discrimination against Yugoslavia which unfortunately exists now.

The Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurance of its high consideration.

Beograd, December 29, 1955.

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Beograd

205836

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Authority NND 104-91-502
By NARA Date 7/12

No. 696

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to refer to the latter's Note No. 9334/9 of December 29, 1955, regarding an interim distribution of monetary gold by the Tripartite Gold Commission.

The Embassy regrets that it has no recent information concerning the progress of the Tripartite Gold Commission and is therefore forwarding the Secretariat's Note to the Department of State for consideration.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs the assurance of its high consideration.

American Embassy,

Belgrade, January 10, 1956

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Page 1 of
Desp. No. 338
From Belgrade

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

No. 763

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs and wishes to refer to the Secretariat's Note No. 92605 of December 14, 1954, regarding the restitution of Yugoslav monetary gold by the tripartite Gold Commission.

The United States Government regrets that, contrary to expectations, some Tripartite negotiations for the recovery of additional gold for the pool are still pending. Because of the legal complexities involved, the Tripartite Gold Commission's awards have not been completed and, therefore, distribution cannot yet be made. An interim distribution, at this late stage, is considered inadvisable and would further delay the final distribution.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the assurances of its high consideration.

American Embassy,

Belgrade, February 24, 1955.

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Authority NN3107-91-
By NARA Date 7/18

INCOMING TELEGRAM DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1139, April 29, 3 p.m.

Control: 9934

Rec'd: April 29, 1953
12:37 p.m.

MN FOR FLETCHER FROM FOX

Reference: A-DEPTEL 1354, April 14

Reference: B-EMBTEL 1131, April 28

I have made as careful and complete check as practicable of the information regarding individual bars transmitted in reference telegram A with the full cooperation of the Secretary General and his staff who have made available to me all relevent records.

The only information obtained as result this check which in any way corresponds to that given in reference telegram A is the following:

1. The bar numbers or markings 37016 to 37023 inclusive are within the range of numbers 37006 to 37090 of schedule I, line 25 of the Howard report but the weights do not (repeat not) at all correspond to those shown in the Commission's records nor do any of the other markings correspond.

Furthermore, the range of bars referred to in line 25, schedule I, Howard report refer to Bor Mines gold which was looted from the mines in 1944 whereas the deutsch bars were claimed to have been stolen in France in 1942.

2. Among the Swedish gold sent in 1950 to the Federal Reserve Bank, one number listed in reference telegram A (599, item number 7) appears in Federal Reserve Bank inventory of June 16, 1950, page 8, line 39 but the weight does not (repeat not) correspond in any way to that given in your reference telegram.

It is evident from above that no (repeat no) identification of any item has been possible. On the other hand, it cannot be stated with absolute definitiveness that identification might not (repeat not) be possible as result of more extended research by a technically qualified expert. If Department, therefore, wishes such further search to be made it is recommended that I be aut orized to make a formal request to the Commission that it employ for this purpose a qualified expert who would presumably be from the vault service of one of the depository banks.

COWEN.

RETURN TO:
MINT BUREAU
MAIN FILES
ROOM 5438
TREASURY BLDG.

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Date JUL 10 1978

205839

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

December 17, 1952.

Mr. Raymond W. Anderson,
American Express,
Rue Scribe,
Paris, France.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Upon my return to the office I find your letter of December 3rd, concerning the information you request about the Italian gold. I address this letter to you in France as I note you were leaving December 9th for Europe. I am sending a carbon copy to your New York address, hoping that one or the other reaches you in time to be of some value.

I am afraid that I will not be of any service to you inasmuch as my first contact with the Italian gold was when I went to Frankfurt, Germany in May of 1945 for the purpose of inventorying the gold which had been moved from the Merkers Mine to the Reichsbank in Frankfurt. There was a large amount of Italian gold in this hoard. I do not know how the Germans got ahold of it because I was not too interested in the history back of the gold. I did have possession of the Italian records, namely, books of accounts, and I was able to reconstruct the inventory and verify it with the records.

From information that I noticed while checking the records, the gold had been moved several times in Germany and finally ended up in the Merkers Salt Mine. It was my understanding that the American soldiers who found out about this hoard obtained the information accidentally. According to the story that I heard, two soldiers were patrolling in a jeep and came across two women, one pregnant, and the other a midwife. The soldiers questioned the women and in so doing found out that the pregnant woman was about to give birth to a child. The soldiers placed the women in a jeep and were taking them to the next village when they passed the Merkers Salt Mine whereupon the pregnant woman said her husband had worked there some time back, moving objects into the mine. The soldiers reported this and a team was sent to the mine where they found the gold hoard. The gold was in custody of the head of the Bullion Department of the Berlin Reichsbank, a man whose name was Thoms, and whom I talked to several times about the records.

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By NARA Date 7/12

I had with me only two other Mint employees, one a bullion expert and the other, a scale man. The gold was sorted according to the various account records in such a way that it could easily be checked with the records. Therefore, anyone wanting to trace the gold from the bullion records to the actual store of bullion could do so, and anyone wanting to check a specific bar or bag of coin back to the records could also make the check because we stored the gold in such a manner that each item was easily identified to the record.

G. I.'s did all the work on the gold, including the actual recording of the information concerning each and every bar and bag of coin. I set up a dual team of G. I.'s and checked one's work against the other and, of course, where there was a difference I personally checked to see which team was right. We did not have any American equipment other than a scale, and we borrowed calculators, adding machines and other equipment from various places in Frankfurt. I taught the G. I.'s how to use the calculators and adding machines and they did a very fine job. The Tripartite Gold Commission assumed the task of distributing the gold to various countries. This Commission worked out of Brussells. The bars were distributed on the basis of our records, without much questioning, and all were found to have been accounted for accurately. There was about three hundred million dollars in gold in the hoard, about half of which consisted of coins. The coins were in small bags which we dumped into a container in five-bag lots. The container that we used was an ordinary cooking pot. We constantly adjusted the weight by attaching small copper wires to the pot so that the tare was always the same. We put five small bags of coin into one large bag. When it came to distributing this coin our method of handling the coin was questioned because our bags weighed approximately ninety-two pounds and the foreign representatives said it was impossible to weigh this amount of metal accurately. (As you know, gold is weighed in Troy ounces to two decimal points.)* It was agreed to send a team of foreign experts to Frankfurt to recheck the gold coin. They checked about seventy million dollars of the coin and their weights came within less than three ounces of ours, or there was a difference of less than one hundred dollars. I might say that the foreign team consisted of twelve gold experts, aided by a large crew of G. I.'s. As far as I know, no attempt was made to count the remainder of the coin and our inventory was accepted.

You mentioned in your letter the royal coin collection. I do not recall having seen this collection. I know that we opened quite a few packages of rare coins. Particularly do I recall some from a museum in Holland. I refused to unwrap or examine any more of these coins on the basis that they were rare and of exceptional value and that it would

*and calculated to three decimals in fine gold content.

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By NARA Date 7/12

be of no importance for us to weigh them as their value would not be determined by their gold content. These rare coins, I believe, were turned over to a special team dealing with art treasures.

If you were to communicate with the Tripartite Gold Commission, which is located in Brussells, I believe you could secure more information about the distribution of the gold.

You ask about delicate and tactful situations. There were many and I do not feel free to comment upon them. As you know, there were observers from other countries watching us perform our task.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leland Howard

LELAND HOWARD,
Assistant Director of the Mint.

LH/eh

205842

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Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

CHI GAMMA DELTA CLUB
106 WEST FIFTY-SIXTH STREET • NEW YORK 19, N.Y.

December 3, 1952

Miss Ardelia L. Hall, Director, International Information Center, Department of State;

Dr. Leland Howard, Assistant Director, Bureau of the Mint, Treasury Department; Washington, D.C.

Dear Madame and Sir:

Major Vernon Pizer, Chief, Magazine and Book Branch, Public Information Division, U.S. Army refers me to you.

I am a writer and am interested in the return of the Italian gold reserve and the royal coin collection. My brother, Major Sherman L. Anderson, now buried in Anzio Cemetary, was in command of the team which returned the gold from Fortessa near the Brenner to Rome. I am leaving on December 9 for Europe and plan to retrace his route.

Due to censorship regulations during the war, my information is extremely limited. Major Pizer informs me that Military History has no documentation. I plan to write a magazine article and perhaps a boy's book, since Sherman left two young sons.

Before I leave, will it be possible to have a brief reply to the effect that you have documentation? The barest additional information, locations, dates, routes will be extremely welcome.

If not or for additional information which requires time to collect, would you kindly address me at American Express, rue Scribe, Paris, France.

While I realize I may have to do additional research, I am interested in the following: Mussolini and Hitelr plans to move the gold north; reconnaisance or intelligence reports which located the hiding place; U.S. policy formation which returned the gold to Italy; subsequent use to which the gold reserve was put; disposition of the royal coin collection and its present location.

Are you able to suggest persons in Europe who are informed on the early or present situation?

Would you brief me in a paragraph or two concerning any delicate or tactful situations of which I am not aware?

Sincerely yours,

R W Anderson

Raymond W. Anderson

205843

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By NARA Date 7/10

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFORMATION
COPY

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM

SECRET

Frankfort gill
Smlf

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Date
JUL 10 1978

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Origin:
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Info:
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CIA
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FC

AMEMBASSY
BRUSSELS
528

Control 2209

April 9, 1948
7 p.m.

2 copies
other copy
general restricted

FOR DORR

Following cable being sent by Army Dept to OMGUS (URTEL 546, Mar 12 and DEPTEL 465, Mar 31).

"Meeting with representatives State Treasury resulted following conclusions:

1. OMGUS has responsibility to deliver to Commission such gold as was received by OMGUS for safekeeping. For this purpose items listed so-called Howard inventory should form basis for receipt. OMGUS responsibility should include willingness to certify that specified items listed in Howard inventory are being delivered.

2. OMGUS has no responsibility for accuracy of weights listed in Howard inventory and in event Bank of England finds discrepancy OMGUS not responsible therefor and any loss shall be for account of Tripartite Commission. Incidentally, fact that Howard inventory performed by foremost US mint experts and that recheck of weights at time of assembly of first preliminary distribution revealed inventory weights to be amazingly accurate

inventory

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Date JUL 10 1978

#528 to Brussels, April 9, 1948

inventory weights to be amazingly accurate, indicates likelihood that little discrepancy will be found in total weights.

3. On basis foregoing, following text of receipt is suggested, subject to such minor modifications as you and Commission may agree upon:

'The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold herewith acknowledges receipt of ___ sealed boxes said to contain ___ bags of gold coin. The bags of gold coin herewith receipted for are listed and described in the Howard inventory as follows: (include here listing contained in Howard inventory) and according to said inventory are said to contain ___ ounces of fine gold. This receipt is delivered by the Tripartite Commission upon the basis of a certification by OMGUS that the sealed boxes contain the above-listed items received by it for safekeeping.

In consideration of the delivery of such sealed boxes containing such bags of gold coin, the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold herewith releases

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#528 to Brussels, April 9, 1948

releases OMGUS from any responsibility for such differences in the contents of the sealed bags from the description of the contents contained in the Howard inventory as may be found but will hold OMGUS, responsible for the failure to deliver any of the aforementioned items which it purports to be delivering.'

4. In a similar manner text receipt concerning boxes containing share assembled and set aside for Austria could be worded by referring to total number of specified sealed boxes containing Austrian share as assembled under specifically described circumstances."

You will wish contact anew OMGUS referring to above instructions.

LOVETT
(Acting)

FN:OFFletcher/je OE Le A-O Treasury
4/2/48

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By NARA Date 7/10

Germany - G/S
Inventory Mint

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

RESTRICTED

mlf

2573

ORIGIN
PER
EUR
COL
DIV
STA

Looted gold

AMEMBASSY,

BRUSSELS.

A-532, Dec. 24, 1949

The Treasury Department is sending Mr. Fred B. Smith to Brussels in the immediate future to attend the Tripartite Gold Commission meeting. It is likely that Mr. Smith will also visit other countries in the European area on matters of interest to the Treasury Department.

ACHESON

PER:FP:THClaffey:eb
12-22-49

RESTRICTED

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File

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT SPECIAL STAFF
CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Berlin, Germany
10 December 1947

MEMORANDUM 23 December 1947

Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director
Bureau of the Mint
Department of The Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

The Office of Military Government for Germany has furnished the inclosed memorandum, dated 10 December 1947, on the subject of "Differences in Coin Weighing - Gold Pot Delivery and Set Aside Operation" for our forwarding for your information and retention.

Sincerely yours,

Ray J Laws Lt Col, GSC
for G. L. EBERLE
Brigadier General, GSC
Deputy Chief, Civil Affairs Division

1 Incl.
Memo (12 Dec 47)
fr AG Berlin to
Chief, CAD

1 oz troy equals 31.10348 + grams
Our inventory, checked by the French weighings, was off less than 3 oz on the coins allocated

205848

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Berlin, Germany
10 December 1947

Cur to Ltr 3/23/47

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Differences in Coin Weighing - Gold Pot Delivery and Set Aside Operation

TO : Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

FROM : Mr. Theodore F. Schiercke
Treasury Department
U. S. Assay Office

		Gross Grams
1. Weight of gold coin to be delivered or set aside as recorded in the Howard Report		69.426,286.7
2. Five coins included in 1 found undelivered after the reweighing operation, weighing a total of	35.3	
3. Bag No. 1215 (20 fcs) was listed in the Howard Report as weighing 1034.53 ounces equivalent to 32,177.5 grams. The tag on this bag however listed the weight as 1028.47 ounces equivalent to 31,989.0 grams. The latter weight is probably correct inasmuch as the weight on reweighing was 31,986.3 grams. The net difference is	188.5	223.8
4. Adjusted total for the Howard Report		69.426,062.9
5. Amount of coin delivered or set aside as reweighed		69.425,978.6
6. Net difference on reweighing below the Howard Report		84.3

1 oz troy equals 31.10348 + grams
Our inventory, as checked by the French weighings, was off less than 3 oz. on the coins allocated.

Incl #

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File 7

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

December 19, 1947

Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Madam:

Bullion schedules and other data pertaining to the Inventory of Coin and Precious Metals stored in the Reichbank at Frankfurt, Germany, have been returned to the Bureau this date, in accordance with instructions received from Mr. Failor by telephone today.

Such schedules were forwarded by Registered Mail in three packages bearing Nos. 321635, 321636 and 321637.

Very truly yours,

Acting Superintendent

T:H

Mr Howard holding 12/30

205850

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Authority NND 3107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Germany - Gold

December 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Fred Smith.

FROM: Mr. Howard. (Signed) Leland Howard

I have initialed the cable to the Gold Commission. I read it to Mr. Schiercke and had him check our inventory. He reports to me that it is his understanding that most of the non-monetary gold has been turned over to I. R. O. This gold was contained in SS loot and in many cases represented delivery bars. I will not say "good delivery bars" because I do not remember their markings, and when I say "delivery bars" I mean a clean-cut bar weighing approximately 400 ounces and in some cases carrying with it an assay certificate. Our inventory shows that we listed some of these bars but did not estimate the net gold content nor did we include it in our inventory. We listed the gross weight at approximately 14,000 ounces. There were other types of gold in this loot in the form of scrap that we did not even attempt to list. As stated above, Schiercke believes that most of this material has been paid out and that which has not been paid out has been re-arranged. He believes the only gold available is that included in our inventory and in all cases we listed a fine gold content with a notation of how we arrived at the figure. There are a lot of small bars of odd shapes and sizes, some B. O. R. bars and some scrap material which appeared to be from jewelers, etc.

I hope they do not ship us a lot of material that does not contain gold. Schiercke believes that this will not be done because he told me that he asked the Army to let him see some of the loot material and the Army indicated that it had been re-arranged or given to the I. R. O. You may want to talk to Schiercke in the New York Assay Office. If you do, Miss Hayden will tell you how to reach him on the Federal Reserve wire. My letter to Schiercke relative to this material did not reach him until he had left Frankfurt. He tried to discuss the matter at a Commission meeting and was told that they were not interested.

LH/sh

205851

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Germany

December 4, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Foley.

FROM: Mr. Howard. (Signed) Leland Howard

I call to your attention a matter which I think should be handled on a high policy level and one which I feel to be important. I do not want to encroach upon anybody's domain but I happen to be familiar with this particular item and, therefore, call it to your attention for whatever action you deem necessary.

In the Reichsbank in Frankfurt, Germany there are the following precious metals that are strategic:

Platinum	35,301.24 ozs.
Iridium.....	553.10 "
Rhodium.....	387.85 "
Palladium.....	242.12 "

These metals are part of the values rounded up by the Army in Germany and are held, together with the monetary metals, at the Reichsbank. The inventory was made by the committee which I headed and is subject to verification after melting and assaying. The material is in the form of bars, scrap, powder and some fabricated gauze. The gauze is not included in the inventory.

I note from some of the material that I have received in connection with the Japanese inventory that there are approximately 4100 kilograms (approximately 131,000 ozs.) of platinum in Japan. I do not know whether this figure has been taken directly from Japanese records and is the fine metal content, or whether it represents the gross weight of material. Apparently, however, there is considerable platinum in Japan. There may be other platinum group metals but they are not mentioned in the material that I received.

We are stock-piling platinum and the platinum group metals as a strategic war material at a high price, considering the market price before and during the war. I think someone should make a move, at top level, to get this platinum into the United States. I assume

Conf -
F - Japan -
C. Platinum

205852

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

one way to get it is to purchase it and turn the money over to the operation of the country where it is located. It would mean that we would pay out less in another form, perhaps an outright gift. I do not feel that I, in my capacity in the Mint, should attempt to initiate action on this matter. I do feel that someone should do something about it and if authorized to do so I would be glad to see what can be done. Perhaps you would prefer to talk to Cliff Mack about the problem as he is in charge of stock-piling strategic materials.

LH/eh

205853

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

November 21, 1947

Chief, Passport Division
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Appended is a Special Passport issued to Theodore Henry Schiercke of the United States Mint Service.

Mr. Schiercke recently completed his special assignment with the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold, and has returned to the United States.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leland Howard

Acting Director of the Mint.

KMF:ef

205854

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFORMATION
COPY

X

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

Frankfort gold

14
US DEC NT

Control 1576

Origin: AMEMBASSY
OFD
Info: BRUSSELS
UE 1624
AS FOR DASMIT
EUR
LE
OOD
CIA
DCL
ITP
FC

November 10, 1947
6 p.m.

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

mlf 2 copies
other copy in
General Restitution File

(One) Final settlement Run 18 tons gold impending. Please inform DEPT Comm's decision place transfer desired.

(Two) DEPT and TREAS agree (URTEL 1746, Nov 8, Para 3) that values remaining after preliminary distribution should be transferred to some central bank (Belgian Central Bank or Bank of France) for remelting or assay and agree this movement be made while technicians and military government personnel still available. TREAS points out that in event gold resulting from remelting or assay is to be sent New York for sale to United States, it will again have to be remelted in accordance with US practice and be subject charge of one quarter of one percent and all mint charges. Solely on basis avoiding unnecessary expense DEPT and TREAS suggest Gold Commission consider shipping all remaining values direct New York for remelting into US Assay Office bars and earmarking for account of participating countries. DEPT and TREAS agree that decision as to movement of values should be made by Commission.

MARSHALL

FN:OFFletcher/ag
11/10/47

OE

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

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205855

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RG 104
ENTRY 3280
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/12

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS — TELEGRAPH BRANCH

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

SECRET

Fletcher (2)

5-11

Action: OMGUS
Info:
SS
UE
C
AS
EUR
LE
OCD
CIA
DCL
ITP
FC
DCR

Control 2394

Rec'd November 8, 1947
3:27 p.m.

2 copies

Looted gold

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1746, November 8, 2 p.m.

PM FROM DASPIT

One. Gold commission met November 6 hear report from Schiercke on progress assembling French share at Frankfurt. Schiercke indicated progress entirely satisfactory and organization moving rapidly and efficiently. French observers have expressed complete satisfaction and indications are they will be able to move their total share next week. Assembling Netherlands share now set commence November 13.

Two. Schiercke submitted report commission recommending that if commission unwilling ship remaining metal with conditional receipt, it should be removed Frankfurt and sent to processor for remelting, casting and assaying. Made strong oral statement to commission pointing out remainder of gold exclusive of coins includes 1800 ingots with no assay mark or certificate, nuggets, alloy, bars and scrap gold. All "good delivery" bars and major portion Prussian mint bars used in preliminary distribution. UK commissioner took occasion to announce that present view his government, it could not be party to further distribution utilizing this gold and again strongly recommended removal to Central Bank.

Three. Recall paragraph 5 DEPTEL 1325, September 19, that after preliminary distribution Department prepared approve movement doubtful values from Frankfurt for either

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Date JUL 10 1978

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Authority NND 107491
By NARA Date 7/18/02

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Authority-General Declassification Schedule
JUL 10 1978

for either remelting or assay. Point out that in opinion of other commissioners all values remaining Frankfurt doubtful values. Many of ingots must be remelted; all will have to be assayed. All coins must be weighed and considerable sorting required if small bags are to contain but one denomination. Remind Department that present weighing of coins possible at Frankfurt only with assistance thirteen technicians Bank of France, and that commission cannot expect French Government to show same interest in future allocations. If such transfer made at all, most convenient time will occur at conclusion assembling shares in preliminary distribution. Depository Frankfurt has assembled supplies, personnel for current operation and has perfected organization. At end operation organization will disintegrate and considerable further efforts will be required in order reassemble at later date. View these circumstances suggest that if Department disposed consider this problem, action be taken immediately. Possible affirmative decision should reach commission week of November 10, in order allow time for UK French commissioners consult governments prior notification to Frankfurt. As to where gold should be deposited, upon removal considerations unchanged since URTELS 1403, September 13 and 1417 September 16.

Four. Question of reply Polish letter discussed. French commissioner favored reply by commission rather than by governments and urged that Poles be promptly and firmly informed their claim for nonmonetary gold disallowed. UK commissioner agreed both points but suggested might be desirable postpone informing Poles until further allocation announced, or if this date too far in future, until commission had finally disallowed two or three additional claims. (Re London's 5817 to Department October 31, repeated Brussels 111).

Now appears that evidence available would permit commission approve Czech

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Date JUL 10 1978

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By NARA Date 7/12

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Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

SECRET

-3- #1746, November 8, 2 p.m., from Brussels

approve Czech claim for 6376 kg. coins transferred from CS to Berlin. If announcement this combined with announcement of set-aside to meet valid part of Danzig, claim either for Polish account or under some noncommittal formula, two elements would provide fairly effective counterweight to disallowance. Would presumably be politically desirable announce at same time disallowance Luxembourg claim for 93 kg. Peccatore Foundation gold. This only other claim now considered clearly invalid. View DEPTEL 1575 November 4, ask advice as to whether Department considers disallowance this small claim should not be announced in light above considerations. Believe other commissioners will favor announcement invalidation this case, but no likelihood of negative decision any other in near future.

Five. Consulted commissioners re use claims data in negotiations with neutrals (DEPTEL 1575 November 4) decided that countries in question should be sounded out informally as to their reaction such proposal. Have inquired of French Belgian Dutch delegates and will report soon as their replies received.

Six. Replying my question whether in view of signing Austrian protocol, commission should proceed arrange for delivery gold Austria, UK delegate stated he had been instructed not agree to delivery until his government had been satisfied with respect certain questions which he understood now being pursued Washington. Did not specifically state question but implied was how protect from Soviets. View of scheduling of deliveries at Frankfurt, assembling of Austrian share might be expected begin November 18 or 19. If delivery to Austria to be undertaken, decision must therefore be promptly taken. If decided that delivery cannot now be made ask Department's advice whether representative Austrian Government should be invited be present assembling of share for set-aside.

Seven. French Commissioner restated position his

government re Salzburg

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Date JUL 10 1978

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By NARA Date 7/12

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Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

SECRET

government re Salzburg said, already presented to Department by French Embassy, Washington. UK commissioner indicated his government considered this matter of primary concern to France and USA with UK willing accept any reasonable solution worked out between ourselves and French. Agreed final decision on this point must be postponed but that failure agree need not delay other allocations from pool.

Eight. UK French commissioners indicated they saw no objection deposit Swedish gold in Brussels (DEPTEL 1440 October 9, paragraph 5) although French commissioner indicated his government preferred deposit New York. Further information requested however (A) are specific bars in question or is it contemplated Swedes will simply turn over gold of an agreed value? (B) Will transfer be made by moving gold from Sweden or merely by earmarking funds in Central Bank? (C) Would it be possible effect transfer by earmark in Federal Reserve Bank New York?

Paragraph 4 this telegram repeated London.

MILLARD

EHL:ALH

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Date JUL 10 1978

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

COMMISSION TRIPARTITE POUR LA RESTITUTION DE L'OR MONÉTAIRE

TRIPARTITE COMMISSION FOR THE RESTITUTION OF MONETARY GOLD

BRUXELLES, November 6 1947
BRUSSELS,
24A BOULEVARD DU REGENT

The Honorable
John W. Snyder,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Director of the Mint.

Sir:

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold desires to express to the Secretary and other interested officers of the Treasury Department its appreciation for having made available to the Commission the valuable services of Mr. Theodore Schiercke. Mr. Schiercke has been of great assistance to the Commission in organizing and initiating the physical allocation of monetary gold held at the Foreign Exchange Depository, Frankfurt, Germany.

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold wishes to assure the United States Treasury Department that it stands prepared to reimburse that Department for the expenses incurred in the travel and compensation of Mr. Schiercke in this connection. It is assumed that the Treasury Department would consider as appropriate that Mr. Schiercke be paid at the salary rate commensurate with his civil service grade, plus the usual per diem living allowance. Upon receipt of a statement from the Treasury Department as to the expenses so involved, the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold will effect a transfer of dollars to any account which the Treasury Department may designate.

We remain,

Very truly yours,

Alex B. Daspit
Deputy
Commissioner for the Government of the United States of America.

Desmond Morton
Commissioner for the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[signature]
Commissioner for the Government of the French Republic.

ALEX B DASPIT Sir DESMOND MORTON

205860

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

Mint
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

5

PLAIN

Action: DCL
Info:
EUR
OCD
CIA
OFD
FC
DCR

Control 2253

Rec'd November 8, 1947
3:12 a.m.

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1751, Seventh

OE AND DIRECTOR OF THE MINT.

Unfortunately Department's 1593 November 6 received too late to advise Theodore Schiercke its contents. He left for New York November 6, Pan-American flight 119.

MILLARD

WMB:ALH

PLAIN

INFORMATION COPY

205861

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority 7023107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFORMATION
COPY

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

File

Treasury
Bureau of Mint

US URGENT

PLAIN

15
Origin: DCL
Info : AMEMBASSY
EUR
OCD
CIA
OFD
FC

Control 803

November 6, 1947

BRUSSELS

1593
FROM DIRECTOR OF MINT

Please advise Theodore Schiercke Tripartite Gold Commission that he will make Eighth Army survey with Howard starting January 1948. He can remain on present assignment longer if needed and should be certain that questions settled so that return trip will not interfere with other assignment. Possible Schiercke may be leaving for States November 6.

MARSHALL

DC/L:PSCooney:agh 11-6-47
(Based upon telephone call from Bur. Mint, Mr. Failer)

205862

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RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-802
By NARA Date 7/10

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF
DIRECTOR OF THE MINT
IN REPLYING QUOTE INITIALS

File F

November 6, 1947

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Patrick Cooney,
Department of State:

It will be appreciated if you will send the following unrestricted cable to -

Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke
c/o American Embassy
Brussels, Belgium

MINT BUREAU ADVISES YOU WILL MAKE EIGHTH ARMY SURVEY WITH HOWARD WHICH WILL START JANUARY 1948 YOU CAN REMAIN ON PRESENT ASSIGNMENT LONGER IF NEEDED BE CERTAIN ALL QUESTIONS SETTLED SO THAT RETURN TRIP WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH OTHER ASSIGNMENT

Howard, ~~Acting Director~~

Director of the Mint.

Message phoned over to State Dept at 11:55 AM. NN6- No Confirmation on our part necessary.

F

205863

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

November 4, 1947

The Tripartite Commission for the
Restitution of Monetary Gold
Brussels, Belgium

Sirs:

The Foreign Exchange Depository personnel under the supervision of Colonel William Brey and his deputy Mr. F. Gabell are experienced and well equipped to handle the task of assembling and packing the allocations of bars and coin. Mr. E. Keller, section chief, who has the direct supervision of the task is well acquainted with the inventory sheets and the actual metal. He has had experience in the handling of bullion shipments.

The above named officials have been in constant consultation with me and there has been evolved an organizational plan and a production line to expedite the handling, checking and recording of the allocations. They have segregated all work sheets into compartments, have segregated and filed all assay certificates, have double checked all calculations, and have made photostatic copies of the original inventory sheets. These copies will be used as a work sheet in assembling the shipments from compartments and in typing up the bar and coin lists.

There is ample equipment here such as: calculators, typewriters, boxes, sawdust, and banding material. They have sufficient personnel, and more can be secured if needed, such as: security officers, clerks, and laborers.

The personnel here has been instructed by me in the following:

How to tell assay stamps, type of bars, melt numbers, and bar numbers.
How to check bar numbers from sheet to bars.
How to follow location charts.
How to assemble and pack bars in boxes.
How to make up bar and shipping lists.
How to identify and assemble assay certificates.
How to follow the coin work sheets and then to make up coin shipping lists after the coin is reweighed.
How to double check weights in the reweighing operations so as to eliminate errors.
How a scale operates and how to check it.
How to read kilogram weights.
How and why upon reweighing of the coin into smaller units that the weights may not check the original weight of the large unit.
How to fold and properly seal the bags.

205864

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/12

The representative of the recipient nation will receive a bar list which will show the shipping box number, bar number, gross weight in ounces, fineness, and fine ounces. Also any assay certificates which apply to these bars. He will receive a coin list which will show type of coin, denomination, shipping box number, bag numbers, gross weight in grams, standard fineness and fine grams.

Six bars will be packed in each box. The exception will be if these are small bars or perhaps the last box. The small coin bags will be packed ten bags to the box. The exception perhaps will be the last box. Each bag will bear a tag showing bag number and net grams.

May I suggest that since the French personnel and equipment are here and installed, and it is the desire of the Commission to reweigh the coin prior to allocation, that the French team remain and reweigh all of the coin. The reweighing operation will be witnessed by the French weighers and by the Foreign Exchange Depository personnel. Therefore any country's representative can accept the weight on a bag count. This will save money. An alternative would be to ship the coin to a central bank having the facilities and there reweighed and allocated. Since the Commission has expressed the desire that the small bags should contain but one denomination this plan may be the better.

May I also suggest, if the Commission is still adverse to shipping the remaining metal on a conditional receipt, that the metal be shipped to a reputable processor for remelting, casting into good delivery bars and assayed. It can then be allocated.

I respectfully remind the Commission that they should retain custody of any metal placed with a processor until allocations have been consumated.

The following is a log on operations.

Actual operations on the assembling and packing of bars started October 30, 1947 at 1400 o'clock. Have packaged an average of 200 bars per hour.

The equipment from the Bank of France arrived at the Depository October 30, 1947 at 1600 o'clock.

The balances and equipment were ready for operation October 31, 1947 at 1500 o'clock.

205865

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

The second French observer arrived November 3, 1947 at 1000 o'clock. The afternoon was spent in trial weighings and readying the teams.

Actual weighing operations on the three scales started November 4, 1947 at 900 o'clock. There was weighed an average of 66 small bags per hour. This will increase as the personnel will become experienced.

The allocations of good delivery bars and of Prussian Mint bars for both Belgium and Luxembourg were completely assembled and packed at 1600 o'clock, November 4, 1947. A total of 584 boxes were used.

Arrangments have been made with Mr. Porte to have a French train in Frankfurt. The Foreign Exchange Depository will transport the metal to the train and load it, also will provide the security enroute to as far as Forbach on the border.

The first day there was weighed a total of 179 large bags or 585 small bags.

For your information the total coin allocation per recipient is as follows:

English	coin	10.9	percent
French	"	23.1	"
German	"	14.3	"
Austrian	"	8.7	"
United States	"	27.2	"
Netherlands	"	15.8	"
		100.0	"

Respectfully submitted.

THEODORE H. SCHIERCKE

205866

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

File

MEMORANDUM

The Commission does not have a copy of the work sheets. Therefor, could neither ascertain the quantities or types of bars available nor how the work sheets had been compiled.

This data was available at the Reichbank, Frankfurt. The Foreign Exchange Depository had done considerable work on the sheets, such as; types of bars, those that had assay certificates and other pertinent data.

The Commission did secure a smattering of this data via telephone.

The United States Deputy Commissioner was anxious to have me proceed to Frankfurt so as to arrive October 15, 1947.

The Commission is leaving all details as to calculating, handling, packing and shipping the allocations to Foreign Exchange Depository.

Requested Col. Brey to advise the Director of the Mint as to the results of the reweighing of the coin.

205867

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 103107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Observations Made During Meetings
of the Tripartite Commission, October 13-14

The Commission's Stand:

1. The Commission was insistent that the receipt be absolute, that there would be no recourse by a recipient country. Would entertain no thought of a temporary or conditional receipt.

2. The English Commissioner did not desire to acknowledge the work of the Bank of England experts.

3. The English Commissioner was insistent that no bar be considered good delivery which carried the stamp of the Prussian Mint or of any German concern.

4. The English and French Commissioners were adverse to using the H oward report for any partitioning. Did not consider it accurate because they stated that German scales and weights had been used with inexperienced help.

5. The Commission was in agreement to use only good delivery bars in the first partitioning. They defined good delivery bars as those acceptable on the London market prior to the war except all German bars.

6. The Commission was insistent that the coin be reweighed. Since the State Department objected to removing the metal from Frankfurt, the Commission accepted the offer of the French to reweigh the coin. The Bank of France will send trained personnel and equipment to the Depository. The personnel of thirteen men will use equipment consisting of three scales, ten thousand bags, seals and tags. Since the scales cannot weigh the large bags, they will be divided into five small bags. The French expert had no knowledge of any large scale capable of weighing a large bag of coin with sufficient accuracy.

205868

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107 91-002
By NARA Date 7/1/92

Observations Made During Meetings
of the Tripartite Commission, October 13-14

In Reply To:

1. Explained that since time was of the essence, that a temporary receipt would expedite the partitioning and delivery of the first allocation. That the inventory was accurate enough to permit this and very little adjustment, if any, would be necessary. The adjustment could be insured by retaining several per cent of the allocation which could be paid after word and proof had been received from the participating country as to the results of their verification. Also showed that the coin in the large bags could be handled the same way.

I pointed out that in partitioning the bars and coin that the Commission could not expect it to be exactly the same as their authorized allocation, but that it should be to the nearest bar or bag of coin below the stated amount, any difference being made up in dollar credits. Also this difference would more than cover any discrepancy.

In calculating the fine ounces the third figure was not raised if the fourth was over five as is standard practice. This would be an additional margin of safety.

2. Explained that the inventory was a joint undertaking in which the two Bank of England experts, namely Mr. Coulton and Mr. Cromwell, actively participated. They agreed on the procedure to be used and at times used their own scales. That work was not started until their arrival although the American team was there several days before them.

3. I told them that I considered the Prussian Mint and Degussa bars as good delivery. The Germans had no inkling that this metal would be captured and, since they intended to use much of it in trade with other countries, they would not falsify weight or fineness. The inventory work sheets show that the United States scales weights checked closely with the weights recorded in the Reichbank books; that any large discrepancy indicated resulted from abrasion and rough handling. If the Commission cared to visit Frankfurt and examine the bars I could show them the physical evidence (sheared spots, cuts etc.).

4. Reported that United States scales and standard weights were used and that the weigher was a scale expert. Reviewed procedure and amount of care used in compiling the inventory work sheets. The Commission then agreed to use the sheets for the bars, but to only use those where the actual weight closely checked the recorded weight. Stipulated that those bars having a difference of one ounce or more be thrown out.

205869

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/1/92

In Reply To: (Cont'd)

5. At the time of this decision the Commission had no idea as to the number of good delivery bars. I stated that I doubted there were sufficient to satisfy their first allocation of approximately five thousand bars. Upon my arrival in Frankfurt I checked this and found only 2449 bars that satisfied their requirements. At a later date the Commission notified me that bars made by an acceptable maker, although below fineness and regardless of weight, be considered good delivery.

6. Explained that if a temporary receipt be given, that the inventory weights of the coin could be used for the first allocation. If the coin were reweighed, considerable time would be lost. Equipment would first have to be shipped to Frankfurt and all the personnel cleared. It would take about twenty days to weigh the coin needed for the first allocation. Also that in reweighing and dividing one large bag into five small ones, that weight differences would occur and that considerable amounts of gold would dust off the coin.

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RG 104
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BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Telegram: Brussels to Berlin - - Despit to Ball
October 18 - Received October 20 - Received Frankfurt Oct. 21 10AM

Belgium	74,215.0219 fine K.	-	386.0216 fine ozs. (error)
Bars	38,591.8114 K.	-	Coin 35,623.2105 K
Luxemburg	1,579.6816 fine K.	-	56,787.9356 fine ozs. (error)
Bars	821.4344 K.	-	Coin 758.2472 K
Netherlands	29,383.6129 fine K.	-	944,704.9574 fine ozs.
Bars	15,279.4787 K.	-	Coin 14,104.1342 K
Total	105,178.3164 fine K.	-	3,381,560.9146 fine ozs.
Bars	54,696.7245 K.	-	Coin 50,485.5919 K

Good Delivery Bar 32.18% - Prussian Mint 67.82%

Set Aside

Austria - All good delivery - 21,439.5130 K
Bars 11,148.5468K. - Coin 10,290.9662 K.

Italy - All not good delivery 3,805.3182 K
Bars 1,978.7655 K. - Coin 1,826.5527 K

Coin Breakdown - Figured by F. E. D.

United States Dollars	-	27.2%
English Sovereigns	-	10.9%
French Francs	-	23.1%
Netherland Guilders	-	15.8%
German Reich Marks	-	14.3%
Austrian Kroner	-	8.7%
		100.0%

205871

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

ALLOCATIONS

Belgium	74,215.0219	Fine Kilos	-	2,386,068.0216	Fine	Ozs.
Bars	38,591.8114	" "	-	1,240,755.3716	"	"
Coin	35,623.2105	" "	-	1,145,312.6499	"	"
Good Delivery	32.18%		-	399,275.0785	"	"
Prussian Mint	67.82%		-	841,480.2931	"	"
Luxemburg	1,579.6816	Fine Kilos	-	50,787.9355	Fine	Ozs.
Bars	821.4344	" "	-	26,409.7254	"	"
Coin	758.2472	" "	-	24,378.2100	"	"
Good Delivery	32.18%		-	8,498.6496	"	"
Prussian Mint	67.82%		-	17,911.0758	"	"
Netherlands	29,383.6129	Fine Kilos	-	944,704.9573	Fine	Ozs.
Bars	15,279.4787	" "	-	491,246.5775	"	"
Coin	14,104.1342	" "	-	453,458.3797	"	"
Good Delivery	32.18%		-	158,083.1486	"	"
Prussian Mint	67.82%		-	333,163.4289	"	"

Set Aside

Austria	21,439.5130	Fine Kilos	-	689,296.2510	Fine	Ozs.
Bars	11,148.5468	" "	-	358,434.0518	"	"
Coin	10,290.9662	" "	-	330,086.1992	"	"
All Good Delivery			-	358,434.0518	"	"
Italy	3,805.3182	Fine Kilos	-	122,343.8036	Fine	Ozs.
Bars	1,978.7655	" "	-	63,618.7790	"	"
Coin	1,826.5527	" "	-	58,725.0246	"	"
No Good Delivery				63,618.7790	"	"

205872

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCH

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Bars Required for First Allocations

	Good delivery	Prussian Mint	Total
Belgium	1024	2416	3440
Luxemburg	21	45	66
Netherlands	419	836	1255
Austria	953	-	953
Italy	-	164	164
T otal	2417	3461	5878

Bags of Coin Required for First Allocations (Approx.)

Belgium	1079.7
Luxemburg	23.0
Netherlands	426.8
Austria	311.4
Italy	45.5
	1986.4

205873

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
602
By NARA Date 7/10

Errors Found by the Foreign Exchange Depository in Frankfurt

Compt. # 4 - Pile 71

RB# 37227 was 10 Kgm - should be 1 Kgm-actual weight was 32.15
RB# 37228 " " " " " " " " " " "

Both calculated at 32.15 but shown as 320.214 - Fine Ozs. should be 32.021
Therefor
Page Total should be 2041.817 instead of 2618.203
Error of 576.386 Fine Ozs.

Compt. # 6 - Pile 21

RB# 42938 was 390.632 should be 390.623

Compt. # 3 - Pile 29

RB# 12616 was 411.590 should be 411.679
Used 916.6 instead of 916.8 fineness

Compt. # 4 - Pile 55

RB# 48272 was 404.089 should be 404.008
Used 999.9 instead of 999.7 fineness

Compt. # 6 - Pile 15

Sheet total should be 12,089.295 instead of 12,087.295
Due to error on RB# 24200 - a correction not taken into account.

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Notes

Foreign Exchange Depository at Frankfurt

1. To watch the weighing carefully (pointer and weights). Should any great weight variation exist to reweigh and observe weighing and scale carefully.
To check scales and tare pans twice daily.

2. To save all dust and sweeps.

3. To double check all additions and calculations.

4. The French weighers are allowing .1 gram (.003 troy ozs.) for each small bag weight. This is for dirt and dust.

5. Coin is being weighed in kilograms.

6. Commission instructed Foreign Exchange Depository to make up with coin to the nearest single coin, any differences between the prescribed allocations and the actual make up (nearest whole bar or bag of small coin). Suggested to Foreign Exchange Depository that the bar differences be converted to kilograms, added to the kilograms differences in the coin allocations and this amount weighed out in coin to the nearest coin.

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By NARA Date 7/12

First Trial Weighing of Coin

1 large bag of Austrian Kroner
Work Sheet Weight 1088.79 ozs.

1st weighing	- Scale A	- 33,8663 Kilos	- 1088.83 ozs.
2nd "	- Scale B	- 33.8654 "	- 1088.80 "
3rd "	- Scale C	- 33.8651 "	- 1088.79 "

Examples of Weights

Bag No.	Howard	French		
2015	1088.85			
2016	1086.58			
	2175.43	67.661.5	2175.367	-.06
2010	1088.76			
2011	1088.86			
	2177.62	67.730.7	2177.592	-.03
1972	1086.64			
1973	1088.82			
	2175.46	67.664.6	2175.467	+.01
1966	1087.28			
1967	1087.97			
	2175.25	67.659.2	2175.293	+.04
1976	1088.82			
1977	1088.80			
	2177.62	67.728.2	2177.511	-.11

205876

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RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Notes

Tripartite Commission Meeting, November 5, 1947

1. I made an oral report to the Commission as to the procedures being used in assembling the allocations and as to the progress being made. Also submitted a written report to the Commission, copy of which is attached.

2. Brought to the Commission's attention that the balance of metal consists of the following: bars having no record of fineness, maker or assay stamp, alloy bars, small bars, miscellaneous scrap, assay chips, coin ingots, nuggets and rings; also Prussian Mint bars some of which had assay certificates, many none.

Suggested all of it be shipped to a processor and there melted and assayed. Recommended shipping to the United States where the value could be difinitely determined, converted to dollars and added to their account at the Federal Reserve Bank. This might tend to eliminate double handling and reduce costs. (Shipped first to France or England, then undoubtedly to the United States.)

Again reminded them that chip assays would be unsatisfactory. (Cited examples.)

3. Informed the Commission that considerable gold dust will result from the handling, weighing and resacking of the coin. The Depository is saving the dust and all floor sweepings. The Commission was rather amazed and tended to joke about it. Informed them that there are several firms in England who process sweeps.

4. The British Commissioner stated to the Commission that his government had informed him not to allow any further allocations to be made from the gold in Frankfurt until the remaining gold had its value definitely established; also that the Austrian allocation be held up pending further instructions. (Russian question.)

5. The Commission gave a rough estimate for the completion of the task in Frankfurt of just prior to Christmas unless difficult questions intervene.

205877

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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By NARA Date 7/16/02

Tripartite Commission Meeting Nov. 5, 1947 (Cont'd)

6. With the provision that there was no difficulty in the signing of papers and protocols and having observers there on time, my estimate to the Commission was as follows:

Bars for Netherlands	1½ Days	
" " Austria	1 "	
" " Italy	½ "	3 Days
Coin for Netherlands	5 Days	
" " Austria	3 "	
" " Italy	½ "	8½ Days

Residue if shipped to United States or elsewhere 2 to 3 weeks.

205878

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

CROM.

Military Governor,
United States Zone of Occupation,
Frankfurt, Germany.
Attention: Colonel Brey.

Sir,

The Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold desires to inform you that it has designated Mr. Theodore H. Schieroke, the bearer of this letter, an official of the United States Mint as a special representative of the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold.

Mr. Schieroke is authorised to assist the United States Military Authorities in Frankfurt in the assembling and distribution of the shares of the Recipient Countries whose claims have been allowed for the first distribution.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,

Deputy Commissioner of the Government of the United States of America	Commissioner for the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Commissioner of of the Government of the French Republic

205879

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCH

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 703 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

(l)

also in French

Checked Law Section Finance + some revision

RECEIPT

FOR DELIVERY OF MONETARY GOLD

Monsieur Joseph PORTE, Honorary Manager of the Banque de France, the duly accredited Representative of the Government of FRANCE, having full and sufficient powers for the purpose,

HEREBY acknowledges the receipt by him on behalf of the Government of FRANCE, of the monetary gold described below, from the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation, Germany, pursuant to the order issued by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, on October 28th, 1947.

This receipt shall serve as an acknowledgement on behalf of the Government of FRANCE, of the full and final discharge by the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation, Germany, of said Order issued by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, on October 28th, 1947.

1.

bars containing a total of

fine Troy ounces of gold,

Envoi du 19 Valeur

TRIPARTITE COMMISSION RESTITUTION
MONETARY GOLD

Poids brut

fine Troy ounces of gold,

or

fine Kilogrammes of gold.

.../...

205880

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 703 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

(l)

also in French

Checked Law Section Finance + some revision

RECEIPT

FOR DELIVERY OF MONETARY GOLD

Monsieur Joseph PORTE, Honorary Manager of the Banque de France, the duly accredited Representative of the Government of FRANCE, having full and sufficient powers for the purpose,

HEREBY acknowledges the receipt by him on behalf of the Government of FRANCE, of the monetary gold described below, from the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation, Germany, pursuant to the order issued by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, on October 28th, 1947.

This receipt shall serve as an acknowledgement on behalf of the Government of FRANCE, of the full and final discharge by the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation, Germany, of said Order issued by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, on October 28th, 1947.

1.

bars containing a total of

fine Troy ounces of gold,

or

fine Kilogrammes of gold.

2.

bars said to contain a total of

fine Troy ounces of gold,

or

fine Kilogrammes of gold.

.../...

205881

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 703 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

3.

gross kilogrammes of assorted coins containing, on the basis of the statutory fineness prescribed by their respective Governments of issue, a total of

fine Troy ounces of gold,

or

fine kilogrammes of gold.

This quantity of gold represents the combined allocations made to the Governments of BELGIUM and LUXEMBURG in the preliminary partial distribution of the monetary gold held at Frankfurt by the Military Governor of the United States Zone of Occupation, Germany, consisting of

Calculated value

a Two million three hundred and eightysix thousand and sixty eight. 022 fine Troy ounces (2,386,068.022), or — $83,512,381 (2)

Seventy four thousand two hundred and fifteen. 0219 fine kilogrammes (74,215.0219)

of monetary gold allocated to BELGIUM, and

b Fifty thousand seven hundred and eighty seven. 936 fine Troy ounces (50,787.936), or — $1,777,578

One thousand five hundred and seventy nine. 6816 fine kilogrammes (1,579.6816)

$85,289,959 (60)

of monetary gold allocated to LUXEMBURG and assigned to the Government of FRANCE by the Governments of BELGIUM and LUXEMBURG.

The attached Annex to this receipt shall be deemed to be part of this receipt and the report of gold bars and gold coins described therein is warranted to be a full and accurate account of the gold bars and gold coins received on behalf of the Government of FRANCE.

.../...

205882

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

DONE at Frankfurt this day of 1947 and signed by Monsieur Joseph PORTE, Honorary Manager of the Banque de France.

Representative of the Government of FRANCE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

have hereunder affixed their respective signatures:

205883

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-802
By NARA Date 7/10/92

Frankfort on Main
October 31, 1947

Mrs. Nellie T. Ross
Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

The actual operation of handling, assembling, and packing the bars was started Thursday, October 30, 1947 at two o'clock. As of tonight 1200 bars have been checked and packed. Have installed conveyors to move bars and boxes from station to station. It is working very smoothly and the bars should be completed in about five days.

The coin weighing operations will started Monday morning November 3, 1947. The scales are completely set-ups and all is in readiness. The scales they brought with them are of a very old design and believe it would be difficult to weigh with them, unless one was most familiar with them.

205884

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

I am leaving Frankfort Wednesday, November 5, 1947 at twelve oclock noon for Brussels. Leaving Brussels is not too certain but it will be either November 6, 1947 or November 10, 1947. The Army and the Commission have agreed with this.

You can be assured that all operations will be properly concluded and that I have attempted to answer all questions properly and have opposed those I thought wrong or unworkable. Have ever kept in mind the integrity of the Bureau of the Mint.

I shall communicate with you upon my arrival in New York.

Very truly yours,

T H Schuircke

Daspit

205885

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/16/92

Frankfurt am Main
October 28, 1947

RECEIVED
1947 NOV 7 PM 1 26
BUREAU OF THE MINT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mrs Nellie T. Ross
Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

I wish to report that no physical work has been as yet started. The Commission has again postponed the operations until this Thursday.

The Army and the Commission have consented to my leaving. I expect to leave Frankfort on the fifth of November and Brussels on the sixth or tenth of November. This is provided that I can secure plane reservations. Reservations are rather difficult to secure as quite a number of people are traveling.

The French team arrived to day but their freight car of equipment has been held up at the border for two days because the Commission failed to provide proper clearance.

The French will observe for the Belgian and Luxembourg allotments as it is all going to

205886

RG 104
ENTRY - 328
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

the Bank of France.

All is in readiness here and I feel confident that the personnel here will do a good job. I believe I have left nothing uncovered.

The weather although still clear has turned cold. It was thirty-one degrees yesterday afternoon and the forcast is for still colder weather with snow.

I trust you are enjoying the best of health.

My kindest regards to you and Dr Howard.

Very truly yours,

T H Schiwake

205887

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RG 104
Entry - 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10/02

October 27, 1947.

Mr. Theodore Schiercke,
Foreign Exchange Depository,
A. P. O. 757, c/o Postmaster,
New York, New York.

Dear Schiercke:

I attended a meeting Friday in the State Department and Mr. Doerr was present. We discussed the whole gold situation and I pointed out to him some of the problems that the Commission faces in reference to the more or less scrap material in the Reichsbank vaults. Doerr asked me to write to you and get you to thinking about this material and make suggestions as to its disposition.

I told Doerr that there were many bars in the Reichsbank which appeared to contain gold and which we did not inventory. I told him that I did not believe a chip assay would give a representative sample--that the only real way to get the gold content was to melt the material and make a dip sample. This immediately brings up the question of who would do the melting and what check the Commission will have on the gold. Furthermore, I told him that if my memory served me correctly there was some material in the Reichsbank in the form of sweeps. Am I right in this, and if so, is there very much of it? How would the Commission dispose of the sweeps? I told Doerr how we handled our sweeps and suggested that the same may be applied to those in the Reichsbank if the Belgians or some other country had equipment in their mints for preparing sweeps for sample.

I told Doerr that we thought each country represented on the Commission should furnish a man familiar with the treating of precious metals who could go to Frankfurt and look at the material and then come to a conclusion as to its treatment. After the initial distribution of gold, I think our attitude should be that the Commission can distribute the rest on whatever basis it desires. If they want to melt the Prussian mint bars, let them do it. I still think that we should try to educate them and have them take the bars on the basis of our inventory, but, I do not think we should be too adamant. In other words, we should put forth a persuasive argument but nothing more.

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority NND 107491
By NARA Date 7/10

Of course, in the latest meeting I brought up my old argument of shipping the gold to the United States and pointed out that if the Prussian mint bars are melted by France or any other country and then sent to the United States to be converted into dollars, we would remelt the bars and apply a melting charge. This impressed Doerr and he gave it much consideration. I had tried to put this in a wire to him at one time but it was deleted in the State Department as they thought it would appear that we were trying to dominate the Commission's policy. Doerr seemed to think this was a good idea and I feel that he will push it. Of course, it is the logical thing to do. There was one drawback and that was the countries that do not wish to turn their gold into dollars would object to it. I believe this could be worked out by an interchange of bars. For example, if the gold is sent directly from Frankfurt to the United States and if France, or some other country, wanted to convert into dollars, gold could be made available in Paris to a third country, say Yugoslavia. It appears to be a much better plan than having the gold go from Frankfurt to Belgium or France for melting and then over here. No doubt much of the gold, or a like amount, will be converted into dollars.

Hope that everything is working smoothly and that you are progressing with the least possible trouble.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leland Howard

Acting Director of the Mint.

LH/eh

205889

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Frankfort am Main
October 24, 1947

Mrs. Nellie T. Ross
Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

The following will bring you abreast of conditions here:

On October 21, 1947 we, at the Depository received our first word as to allocations. This is not the letter of complete instructions which has to be endorsed by General Clay. We hope this will be forthcoming the first of next week. During the interval have done little except to report back to Brussels on October 16, 1947 that the Depository was ready to proceed. Have shown the personnel here how readily they can use the work sheets for any data they might wish to assemble and how to use them for the actual assembling of the allocations and their check and make shipping lists. I had them photostat our original sheets and use these copies as work sheets for checking and packing.

The Commission is still insistant that the coin be reweighed. Since the State Department is adverse to removing the coin from Frankfort the Commission is having the

205890

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BOX 1 (FRC)

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By NARA Date 7/16

2

Bank of France personnel do the re-weighing. Nothing that I could say or show them, as to how to simplify and speed operations, would change their views.

The Commission called on October 22, 1947 desiring my opinion as to the possibility of counting the coin, 1000 pieces per bag, and then weighing. I told them that it was impossible here at the bank and should not be entertained unless the coin were shipped to a bank which had the trained personnel and the facilities. Also that once the coin was in the bank that advances could be drawn.

The Commission has relented in the use of Prussian Mint bars and I informed them that there was only 2451 good delivery bars. They have instructed me to have the Foreign Exchange Depository assemble the bars for each recipient as 32.18% good delivery and 67.82% Prussian Mint. They will give a conditional receipt clause with the absolute receipt. This is just an added complication.

This is apparently a three way operation, the Tripartite Commission in Brussels, the Finance Department under Mr. T. Ball and the Foreign Exchange Depository in Frankfort. It is indeed difficult to obtain harmony between all three. At times I wonder just for whom I am working. The Army is requesting my services as to the how and why of the metal and the handling of it yet I am the Commission's representative in Frankfort.

205891

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority NN3 107-91-502
By NARA Date 7/1/92

3

I have instructed the personnel of the Foreign Exchange Depository upon the following:

How to assemble, first the work sheets, then the segregation of the bars to arrive at the amount of the allocations and finally the physical assembling of the metal.

How to pack the bars in boxes with sawdust. The use of sawdust was a requirement of the Commission

How to identify the assay certificates.

How to identify bar numbers, melt numbers and where they can be found on the various types of bars.

How to read kilogram weights. This is for the coin reweighing. The French will use kilograms.

How to fold and properly seal bags.

How to make up shipping lists for the bars and the coin and to then tie them in with the work sheets.

How and why upon the reweighing of the coin into smaller units that the weights may not check the original weights.

Colonel Bay was informed today, October 24, 1947 by Brussels that there is no hurry for the shipment of the metal. This is quite a reversal of previous statements.

In view of the above and in that I believe that the Foreign Exchange Depository personnel is capable of handling the actual assembling and packing I feel that my services are no longer really required. Therefor I will request the

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Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

4 Commission to release me for my return. I will do this next week. If you concur in this view perhaps some word from you will expedite my return. It is my belief that the important questions could have been settled by cable or letter had they been sent to you.

I am well and comfortably taken care of to date although with so little to do time moves slowly. Life here is quite different and no ways as difficult as the last time we were here. The American Zone is becoming quite Americanized. One sees many American cars on the streets and traffic at times is congested. This week they are having a Safety Drive in an attempt to decrease traffic deaths and accidents which have been very high. I do not envy the civilian help and their dependents as they are limited as to comforts and things to do. They find life quite different from back in the states. I believe the only incentive for their coming here is the high salaries plus the overseas deferental of 25 percent.

I trust you are in the best health.

Very truly yours,

T H Schuncke

BUREAU OF THE MINT
WASHINGTON DC
1947 NOV 7 PM 1 26
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RG 104
Entry - 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

OCT 16 1947

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In accordance with your letter of October 10, 1947, Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke of the United States Mint Service has been temporarily assigned to the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold.

Mr. Schiercke departed from New York, by air transportation, on October 11, 1947, en route to Brussels, Belgium, where he will report to Mr. Russell Dorr, Chairman of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) JOHN W. SNYDER

Secretary of the Treasury.

Honorable George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Bureau of the Mint
K. M. Failor 10/15/47

205894

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
By NARA Date 7/10

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFORMATION
COPY

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

9

SECRET

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 19

Origin: OFD
Info:
UK
EUR
LE
OCD
CIA
DCL
EC

AMEMBASSY
10 LISBON Portugal
756

Control 2515

October 10, 1947
5 pm

In order consider possibility sending gold adviser (reurgam URTEL 789 Oct 2 266 Sept 23)/please cable exact opening date negotiations and how soon thereafter you think technical stage will be reached and whether despatch Washington adviser necessary.

Dept at present unable add anything to documentary info already given to you. However Dept reviewing for additional info particularly re proof of looting questionaires submitted Tripartite Gold Commission by victimized countries which will reveal such info.

LOVETT
ACTING

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

SECRET

FN:OFFLETCHER:ba
10-8-47

cleared with WE Mr. Dunham

OE Baker

Treas. McNeil

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/16/92

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

October 10, 1947

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Chairman of the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold has requested this Department to make available immediately a United States Mint expert to assist the Commission in matters related to the distribution of the gold now held in Frankfurt, Germany.

As a result of informal discussion with representatives of your Department, I shall appreciate it if you will be good enough to request the Mint to make available to the Commission the services of Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke.

Mr. Schiercke would be expected to report directly to the Chairman of the Commission at Brussels and to proceed to Frankfurt, and while serving the Commission his duties might require travel to France, England and the Netherlands, as well as to other posts.

For the purpose of facilitating Mr. Schiercke's mission, this Department will promptly obtain and furnish the necessary travel documents, such as visas, military permit, and passport, as well as air transportation.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary

The Honorable John W. Snyder
The Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

205896

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG-104
ENTRY-328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

October 9, 1947

To: Passport Division, Department of State
Attention: Mr. McKibbon

From: Leland Howard, Acting Director of the Mint.
LH

This is to confirm today's telephone conversation concerning Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke.

Mr. Schiercke is being sent to Frankfurt, Germany, under the auspices of the Department of State to work with the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold.

Because of urgency, Mr. Schiercke will leave New York prior to obtaining a military permit to enter Germany. He will arrive in Brussels at 8:50 A.M., Sunday, October 12th.

You have agreed to send a cable to Frankfurt requesting that the Embassy in Brussels be apprised of the military clearance. Mr. Schiercke has been appropriately advised.

205897

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

DIRECTOR OF THE MINT
WASHINGTON

Copy

October 9, 1947

Orig mailed

My dear Mr. Dorr:

This will serve to introduce Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke of the United States Mint Service, whose services have been made available to your Commission at the request of the Secretary of State.

It is understood that the expenses incurred by Mr. Schiercke in accomplishing the mission will be reimbursed to the Treasury Department subsequent to the completion of his assignment.

By reason of his training, as well as previous experience in the handling of the Frankfurt gold, I am sure Mr. Schiercke's assistance will be of much value to the Commission.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director of the Mint.

Mr. Russell H. Dorr, Chairman
Tripartite Commission for Restitution
of Monetary Gold
c/o The American Embassy
Brussels, Belgium

205898

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHI

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

October 8, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Foley.

FROM: Mr. Howard.

The Gold Commission in charge of distributing the gold held in Frankfurt has reached a deadlock and request a Mint expert to go to Brussels and assist the Commission. I have agreed to send Theodore Schiercke from the New York Assay Office. Mr. Schiercke knows gold and I am sure that many of the problems which now face the Commission will be ironed out within a few days after his arrival. I submit this so that if someone in the State Department mentions it, you will be familiar with the matter.

LH/eh

205899

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARC

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Chairman of the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold has requested this Department to make available immediately a United States Mint expert to assist the Commission in matters related to the distribution of the gold now held in Frankfurt, Germany.

As a result of informal discussion had with representatives of your Department, I shall appreciate it if you will be good enough to request the Mint to make available to the Commission the services of Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke.

Mr. Schiercke would be expected to report directly to the Commission at Frankfurt, and while serving the Commission his duties might require travel to Belgium, France, England and the Netherlands, as well as to other posts.

For the purpose of facilitating Mr. Schiercke's mission, this Department will promptly obtain and furnish the necessary travel documents, such as visas, military permit, and passport, as well as air transportation. The cost of per diem and other authorized travel expense will be borne by this Department.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of State.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

205900

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

October 6, 1947.

Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke,
U. S. Assay Office,
32 Old Slip,
New York 5, New York.

Dear Sir:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany, via Brussels, Belgium, to assist the Tripartite Commission for Restitution of Monetary Gold in matters relating to the distribution of the gold now held in that city.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses and $7.00 per diem while in Germany and $9.00 per diem while in Belgium, in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Mints and Assay Offices, 1948." Reimbursement to be made to the appropriation by the above Commission.

This is Bureau of the Mint Travel Authorization No. 8-35.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leland Howard

LELAND HOWARD,
Acting Director of the Mint.

/eh

copy N. J. a/c 11/19/47/eh

205901

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Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10/92

LR/eh

Dr. 435 - Miss Hayden

STANDARD FORM No. 14 A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1926

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1947

CHARGE TREASURY DEPARTMENT, APPROPRIATION FOR
Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Director of the Mint, 1948
(The appropriation from which payable must be stated on above line)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 2—14117

Hon. Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director of the Mint,
c/o Superintendent
US Mint
San Francisco California

Request has come for person familiar with Frankfurt situation to distribute contents there. Schiercke can do the job and is familiar with all details. Request your permission to send him. This will be a big job as all material must be taken out and --cked for shipment to recipients. Wire reply as I should like to brief Schiercke on whole matter as soon as possible.

LELAND HOWARD, Acting

205902

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ENTRY 328 U
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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

TREASURY TELEGRAPH TRE

1947 SEP 30 PM 3 04

WU 44 GOVT PD

SANFRANCISCO CALIF 30 1100A

LELAND HOWARD ACTING DIRECTOR

MINT

CERTAINLY APPROVE SCHIERCKE/S GOING

NELLIE TAYLOE ROSS DIRECTOR OF MINT

TAYLOE

XX303P

Called to Miss Hayden 5 P.M.

205903

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ENTRY - 328 U
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Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Mint
Frankfurt

UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE CR

War Dept Wash DC WDSCA
Lt Col Ferriss 3830

16 August 1947

OMGUS Berlin Germany

INFORMATION:

HQ EUCOM Frankfurt Germany

Silver

NR: WCL 43883

From WDSCA ECON. Reurad Aug EIUS 1068. OMGUS pass to JEIA Minden Germany.

Price of fine silver is subj. Fol price of fine silver on NY market secured from US Bureau of the Mint: 61-3/4¢ per fine troy ounce or $19.85 per kilogram. This price that prevailing on 8 Aug 47 and is latest quotation avail in Treasury. Due to fact ocean transportation is computed on basis of 1% ad valorem of silver shipped, with $25.00 minimum, price per pound or kilogram CIF German port cannot be quoted.

END.

Note: EIUS 1068 is MC IN 54042 (10 Aug 47).

MC OUT 43883 (Aug 47)

205904

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Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

August 15 1947

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Mr. Schwartz
Division of International Finance

From: Mr. Howard
Bureau of the Mint

In connection with the telegram to the Gold Commission, many questions are to be answered which are outside my province, such as, how certain participants are to enter into the pool. I submit the following concerning the inventory which can be used as a basis for a cablegram.

1. The only way to get a true inventory is to melt the bars and take a dip sample and make an assay from this sample.

2. If the bars are melted, all identifying marks will be lost, and if it is necessary to examine the bars at a later date in order to determine ownership, this will be impossible.

3. The assaying of bars presents two problems, one is to get a representative sample through drilling or chipping, and secondly, the bars must be reweighed and rescheduled as weight is lost in the sampling process. This entails a tremendous amount of work if many bars are to be sampled.

4. The fact that the Germans recast looted gold and faked the dates on the bars does not, in my opinion, mean that the inventory is inaccurate. The Germans intended to sell these bars to neutral countries and they knew that a check would be made of the gold content. Most of the bars in the inventory as it now stands, are, in my opinion, sufficiently accurate to permit a partial distribution to the countries involved. A small percentage could be held back for adjustment after final determination is decided upon. If the Commission could trust the countries involved to melt the gold and make final determination, I believe a great deal of money could be saved by shipping the bars in their present form.

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By NARA Date 7/10

5. If the Commission does not want to follow the procedure outlined in No. 4, then the next best thing to do is to ship the gold bars to the French or British for final determination of the gold content. As the Prussian Mint bars must be melted before they will be good delivery bars in the world market, I am of the opinion that all this type gold should be melted and recast.

6. It is my understanding that the pool will bear all the expenses in connection with the distribution of the gold. I would leave the decision to the Gold Commission as to how the gold is to be treated if the pool is to bear the expense. I think we should merely make suggestions as to how it could be done and let the Commission work out the best plan with the countries that are to receive the gold. If we have to bear any expense, we should insist on the plan outlined in No. 4.

7. See memo to Schmidt dated July 29th.

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

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Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE - DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

RECEIVED
Treasury Department
AUG 11 1947
OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

Mint (Dr. Howard)

4
Action: ESP
Info :
U-E
A-H
EUR
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OFD
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CONFIDENTIAL

Control 2962

Rec'd August 9, 1947
9:55 p.m.

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date
JUL 10 1978

FROM: Brussels

TO : Secretary of State

NO : 1227, August 8, 7 p.m.

FOR GA LE/E ES FROM DORR

One. Gold Commission has agreed preliminary distribution as soon as number of outstanding technical and policy problems can be solved. Hoped these problems can be solved by end September distribution effected October.

Two. Amount of preliminary distribution to be determined approximately as follows:

(A) Quantity of gold unquestionably available for distribution will be determined

(B) Commission will divide claims into three categories

(1) clearly valid, (2) possibly valid, (3) clearly invalid,

(C) percentage which could be paid on claims in categories A and B will be calculated

(D) 85% of such percentage will be preliminarily distributed on clearly valid claims

(E) Position on uncertain claims reserved pending further study. After preliminary distribution commission would thus retain a contingency reserve equal to 15% of all claims plus sufficient gold to honor all additional possibly valid claims on same basis as those already paid. Does Dept feel percentages should be calculated on basis of all claims filed including those believed clearly in valid ? Commission includes in this category 134,000 kgs claimed by Poland which figure arrived at by assuming ground

figures

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By NARA Date 7/10

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Date JUL 10 1978

figures for concentration camp victims and amount of gold owned by each and 93.498 kgs lost by a Luxembourg charitable corporation. Assuming 350,000 kgs available for distribution dividend without invalid claims about 56% with invalid claims 46%.

Personally don't see object in holding reserve for clearly invalid claims unless it were decided now to hold reserve until it becomes clear that no resort to International Court or UN will be attempted by disappointed nations.

Three. Preliminary commission consideration indicates clearly valid claims equal 244,128 kgs. Entire Dutch Czech and Yugo claims still in doubtful class owing lack of proper proofs but hoped these can be partially clarified by September.

Four. Prior to proposed distribution certain steps necessary, some involving provision of further information by govts of US, UK and France, some requiring policy decisions at governmental level.

Five. Firm figure must be established for minimum total of gold certain to be available to commission for distribution. For this purpose following steps seem indicated:

(A) Assay of certain of doubtful bars in Frankfurt repository. Doubtful bars include following (1) approximately 99 bars bearing conflicting assay marks (2) approximately 6000 bars bearing false dates but possessing assay certificates of the Prussian mint, this amount comprising substantial portion of looted Belgium gold remelted by Prussian mint, (3) approximately 750 bars bearing no assay mark and as to which no assay certificate available but for which records exist in Reichsbank (4) approximately 270 bars having no assay mark, no certificate and no record. Considered by commission that following procedures should be followed each case itemized above:

(1) To adopt practice of pre-war London market accepting assay of either US or UK institutions if involved and in absence of either accepting lowest assay

(2) Dec to assay

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Date JUL 10 1978

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-3- #1227, August 8, 7 p.m., from Brussels

(2) to assay one bar of each melt of approximately 38 bars making total of approximately 170 bars from this category and compare results with Prussian mint certificates. Approximately half remelted Belgian gold sold by Germany to neutral countries including Switzerland in form falsely dated Prussian mint bars without any question arising as to fineness. Assay certificates apparently reliable and sampling technique should be adequate check. Certain to be some variations as between assays and would appreciate Dept's comments as to degree of correspondence necessary in order that check may be held to confirm accuracy of Prussian mint certificates.

(3) and (4) Assay all bars.

Total bars to be assayed thus number approximately 1170. Considered by commission that simplest most economical procedure in view fact German facilities appear in O'Flaherty's judgment inadequate is for Bank of England or Bank of France, depending on which could handle more expeditiously, to take assay samples from bars in question while leaving bars in Frankfurt. These samples would be taken in presence of representatives of assaying bank and of commission and transported under proper safeguards to assaying bank which would report its findings to commission.

(B) Receipt of information on amount of monetary gold recovered in Germany. No French report. British reported finding no monetary gold other than collections under Law 53. OMGUS finance division indicates it has Law 53 gold and perhaps some small additional amounts not listed Howard report.

(C) Decision required whether Law 53 gold should be included gold pot as "monetary gold found in Germany by the Allied forces" within meaning Paris agreement. If as commission judges agreement in fact covers this gold more precise determination of total amount available required. British CCG has reported 1274 kgs this category, OMGUS has informally indicated some uncertainty about total in US zone, no statement available from French. Dept may wish take up with British French representatives in

Washington

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JUL 10 1978

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205909

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Authority NND 963107 9/-802
By NARA Date 7/18/02

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Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

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-4- #1227, August 8, 7 p.m., from Brussels

Washington position this gold under Paris act.

(D) Decision as to whether the approximately four and one half tons of gold found in Austria by US armed forces and turned over to Austrian Government should be excluded from calculation of gold pot total and merely noted as deduction from total Austrian claims. Am I correct in thinking position this matter defined in London's 768, February 4 to Dept (repeated Brussels as 12, Paris as 75) in which it is indicated that British agree that if facts as stated by US, gold will not be charged against Austrian share, French reserving right to question Salzburg gold in connection with determination of amount of Austrian share and that text of letter sent Austrian representatives by British Foreign Office on behalf of three governments reported in paragraph three Moscow's 155, April 16 to London (repeated Dept as KOSMOS 35, Paris as 136 and Brussels as 16) merely designed to reserve right of French to raise matter in commission if they see fit. On basis of this understanding and in absence of contrary instructions from Dept intend treat issue as settled with gold in question excluded from pool and have so indicated in commission meeting. British, French representative's reserve position and consulting governments.

Establishment of minimum definite figure for gold available from neutrals. Have received notice from Secretary of State that 51604 kgs 38018 of fine gold paid by Switzerland into commission account in Federal Reserve Bank but no official information received respect to amount available from Rumania, Sweden and Bank of International Settlements. Assume that tripartite powers would wish to send commission a joint report on recoveries from these sources in accord with procedure set forth in Dept's 688, May 15.

Six. Decision desired as to procedure where two or more countries involved in same gold loss. These cases arise where gold acquired by Germans not from original owners but from third country which had assumed custody. Belgian gold looted by Germans from France, Yugoslav Albanian gold looted from Italy cases in question. Commission tentatively considers most effective way handling such situations is with concurrence of intermediate country to deliver to country definitely out of pocket of transaction which

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Authority General Declassification Schedule
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-5- #1227, August 8, 7 p.m., from Brussels

which would be required to make suitable acknowledgment not only to commission but to intermediate country as well. Presumably this would involve directions to commission by Italian and Belgian Govts to deliver to Yugoslavia, Albania and France for their account amounts allowed them. This procedure open to objection that it may place commission in position of guaranteeing weight and fineness of gold delivered and involve it in complicated three-way negotiations in event delivery claimed by recipient to be other than as represented. View of this consideration possibly preferable to deliver gold to country of ultimate destination and of instructions from country of ultimate destination this procedure satisfactory.

Seven. Dept's instructions and comments requested.

KIRK

EEC:ERA

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RG 104
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Authority NN3 107-91-802
By NARA Date 7/10/92

July 29, 1947

Mr. Schmidt

Mr. Heward

Referring to my memorandum of July 11th and yours of July 16th, I want to bring to your attention the confusion which now exists relative to the gold held in Frankfurt.

I wrote my memorandum of July 11th because I by chance saw the incoming communication concerning the testing of gold and wondered whether or not the Mint would be called upon to make such test. You gave my memorandum to Mr. Schwartz and he communicated with me and we worked out a cablegram to Brussels, a copy of which you sent me with your memorandum of July 16th. The essence of this cable was that we felt that the majority of the gold stored at Frankfurt had been inventoried in such a manner that it could be shipped elsewhere without test assaying or further inventorying. I pointed out to Mr. Schwartz that if a drill or chip sample was taken for an assay, all the bars would have to be reweighed and scheduled thus putting the United States Government to a lot of expense. This cable was prepared by Mr. Schwartz after consulting with me and appeared to me to be adequate in view of information that we had.

At the time I prepared my memorandum of July 11th, I requested the Mint file room to secure additional information, if possible, on the gold stored at Frankfurt, that is, other cables if they were available. As a result, I received several incoming and outgoing airgrams relating to the matter. Practically all of the outgoing airgrams had been prepared by Mr. C. F. Fletcher in the State Department. From the content of the airgrams, he apparently has been carrying on considerable discussion with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He mentions in many of the airgrams that the Treasury will be consulted. Whether or not he consulted anyone in your Division I do not know, but from the language in some of these airgrams it appears that he did not consult anyone in the Treasury. I might state that the Federal Reserve Bank of New York is not equipped to express an opinion on gold other than the storage of gold bars. It does not melt, assay, cast bars or refine gold and depends upon the Mint for advice relative to such matters. There have been times when I have been in a meeting and have had reported verbatum information which had been secured by officials of the Federal Reserve Bank from me. As a rule, when persons in your office, or in the State Department, call the Federal relative to gold matters, the Federal either gets the information from the New York Assay Office or this office.

205912

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Authority NND 3107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

2 - Mr. Schmidt - July 29, 1947

The cable that was prepared by Mr. Schwartz, after conferring with me, makes me look ridiculous in view of a document dated London, March 11, 1943 (marked SECRET) which I received on July 22nd. This document transmits a note concerning the technical problems relative to the restitution of monetary gold in which it is suggested that the gold be shipped to France and Great Britian for recasting into bars. In other words, the note suggests what I have contended and that is, only one melting should be made in connection with the inventorying of the bars. Under this procedure the gold would be taken out of Frankfurt on the basis of the present inventory and remelted and cast into good delivery bars. It is assumed from this document that the cost will be borne by the gold pool and not by the U. S. Government. I state again that I am of the opinion that the majority of the gold in the Reichbank at Frankfurt can be shipped on the present inventory and that the resulting bars will approximate the inventory as it now stands. The gold can be taken out in lots and a check kept on the present inventory when the actual weight is established by remelting and assaying.

I venture to guess from looking over the outgoing airgrams that the officials in Europe working on the gold problem are thoroughly confused and wonder what it is all about. I personally would feel much worse if I did not know that the head of the Bullion Department in the Bank of England, Mr. Coulton, knows that we know better.

You are familiar with the gold inventory. You know how it was taken and its limitations. You will recall that we went over the report together prior to my departure from Frankfurt. Also, you know that an exact inventory of gold cannot be made unless the gold is melted, a dip sample taken of the molten metal, and the gold cast into bars, weighed, scheduled and net gold content calculated on the basis of weight and assay. That is why the U. S. Mint Service melts the gold bars that come to it instead of basing the value on drill or chip samples. I state that the majority of the gold in Frankfurt is inventoried well enough to distribute it on the basis of such inventory. It is pointed out that the Germans faked the dates on the bars and that this cast doubt on the gold content. There is a chance that the Germans did fake assays. We know, however, that they recast the bars and put fake dates on them because they intended to ship them to Switzerland and convince the Swiss that they had been in Germany prior to the war. I don't think they would have tried to fool the Swiss on the gold content. Certainly, they would not have faked their books in order to fool us because they did not intend for the gold to be captured by us. I have held out on the United States spending any more money to get this gold in good deliverybars for the governments that will receive it. If we are going to do that, let's ship it to the New York Assay Office. With inexperienced help, I think the assaying of the bars from drill or chip samples would lead to errors. Once you have drilled or chipped a bar you must reweigh it and reschedule it. This is a job for experts and unless you send a trained crew to Germany to do the work, at great expense, many errors could creep in. Many bars would still have to be melted in order to have good delivery bars in the World market. The bars, if melted, would loose their present identity and may hinder tracing the origin of the gold.

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By NARA Date 7/12

My first proposal has been to ship the majority of the gold on the basis of its present inventory to those countries that are to receive the gold. If we can trust them, we can rely upon their findings of the fine gold content. Enough gold could be held back to make up differences which, no doubt, will occur but will be, in my opinion, small. The second alternative is the one proposed in the note attached to the dispatch of March 11th. That is, have all the gold recast into good delivery bars by the French or British, or both. If the expense of recasting these bars does not have to be met by the United States, then I would favor this as my first choice because everybody would be satisfied with the inventory resulting from this process. There is some gold in Frankfurt which must be melted in order to determine the gold content. You will recall that we did not inventory some of it because we would not venture an estimate on its value. Some of it must be refined and I assume the pool will pay for this or an adjustment will be made.

One thing I want to point out to you is that in the report from London dated March 11th it is proposed that the gold coins in Frankfurt be distributed as such because of the premium value obtainable for gold coins. You will recall that a large number of these coins are U. S. We have melted our coins. Do we have any argument to have these melted? One argument that could be put forth now that the Fund has come out against premium prices on gold is that such coins should not pass at a premium. No one seems to question our inventory of the coins. Of course, we merely weighed them and calculated the net gold content by using the fineness of the particular type coin. If the coins are mixed, and we used only one fineness, our inventory could be off some. For example, if United States and British coins were mixed and we used either 900 or 916 2/3 fineness, it would make a difference. May be we should argue that they be melted to make certain that there is a correct inventory. This is a problem to which I think you should give some attention.

In summary, I suggest that a search be made in all the files here and in the State Department to find out what has been received and what has gone out on this gold problem. I think Mr. Fletcher in the State Department has been very busy on this matter. Once we have all the material before us for review, I believe you and I, or anyone that you designate, can go over this material and settle this whole problem in about 15 minutes. There is nothing difficult about it. We have a complete list of all the material in the Reichbank with the exception of some of the junk in the form of jewelry, etc., that we did not inventory. We can decide just how the values stored there shall be distributed once it has been decided who shall receive it. If the French and British want to melt the gold and cast it into good delivery bars I think it should be done if it doesn't cost us anything. If it is to cost the United States money to do this then I think we should insist that the

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By NARA Date 7/12

gold be distributed on the basis of the present inventory with the understanding that enough will be held back in a pool to make a final adjustment. I point out that a real inventory of coins held in Frankfurt would entail a review of each coin for classification and segregation. This would be a tedious task that only experts could do.

I attach the documents that I received in my round-up of material on this matter. I know that there is a lot more material that I have not seen and I do not believe your people have seen it either. One thing I refer to is a copy of the minutes of the first three meetings of the gold commission which was supposed to be an enclosure to a dispatch from the Tri-partite Commission for the restitution of monetary gold, dated Brussels, June 2, 1947.

LH:MA

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
NARA Date 7/1/92

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Leland Howard DATE: July 18, 1947

FROM : Mr. Schmidt

SUBJECT: Telegram 1064 of July 3, 1947, from Brussels.

Reference is made to your memorandum of July 11 to me and telegram 1064 from Brussels to State Department.

I am in agreement that the Army is not a good custodian for gold but that a removal of the gold from Frankfurt now would be an unnecessary burden. Efforts are being made to effect a distribution of this gold as soon as possible. It is recognised however, that final settlements of claims will still take some time. The State Department is also against any moving of the gold from Frankfurt for another depository.

Attached is a telegram prepared here for dispatch by State, requesting information on proposed test assay of resmelted bars.

Robert Schwartz of this office, Room 5325, extension 2029 has been doing work on the looted gold problems. He will be glad to discuss questions which arise from these telegrams or other sources. It will be helpful if you continue to call our attention to any situation that you feel warrants action.

Attachment.

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Authority NN3 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/12

Proposed cable to Brussels in reply to 1064 of July 3, 1947.

July 18, 1947

Reference to para (4) urtel 1064 dated July 3. Dept agrees undesirability transfer gold Frankfurt for other custody. Treasury requests further information on proposed test assay of remelted bars to confirm gold content. What extent do the French propose for test assay? Is plan to use U.S. Mint assayers for this purpose? If so, Treasury must be advised as much as possible in advance of date of test. Alternative proposal to request for U.S. assayers would be to distribute sample of gold to recipient countries for their testing assay under supervision. U.S. Mint feels that majority gold stored at Frankfurt will approximate inventory figures and therefore additional expense on our part should not be incurred to re-inventory metal other than where estimates are indicated.

RJS:mlw 7/18/47

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RG 104
ENTRY 3280
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-002
By NARA Date 7/10

July 11, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Orvis Schmidt.

FROM: Mr. Howard.

In reference to the attached telegram from Brussels concerning gold stored in Frankfurt, I wish to call attention to paragraph four, concerning a test assay of remelted bars. If Mint assayers are to be used for this purpose we should appreciate receiving the request well in advance of the date they are to report for work.

I agree that the Army is not a good custodian for gold, as I have stated previously, because of the constant change in personnel. Also, the vaults in the Reichbank at Frankfurt do not afford too much protection. However, as the Army has been in charge for over two years, this is a bad time to bring up the question of a change.

I am of the opinion that a lot of work can be wasted on the gold in the Reichsbank as a great deal of it is ready for shipment to any country that is equipped to melt it. If they can be trusted, I am certain that the gold resulting from melting will closely approximate the value given to it by our committee. Of course, there was some gold there the value of which was estimated. This must of necessity be treated prior to final determination.

When these cables are received in the Mint we do not know what action we are supposed to take. I assume someone in the Treasury is responsible for the gold in Frankfurt and we will be notified if and when our services are needed.

LH/eh

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ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
002
By NARA Date 7/10

July 11, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Orvis Schmidt.

FROM: Mr. Howard.

In reference to the attached telegram from Brussels concerning gold stored in Frankfurt, I wish to call attention to paragraph four, concerning a test assay of remelted bars. If Mint assayers are to be used for this purpose we should appreciate receiving the request well in advance of the date they are to report for work.

I agree that the Army is not a good custodian for gold, as I have stated previously, because of the constant change in personnel. Also, the vaults in the Reichbank at Frankfurt do not afford too much protection. However, as the Army has been in charge for over two years, this is a bad time to bring up the question of a change.

I am of the opinion that a lot of work can be wasted on the gold in the Reichsbank as a great deal of it is ready for shipment to any country that is equipped to melt it. If they can be trusted, I am certain that the gold resulting from melting will closely approximate the value given to it by our committee. Of course, there was some gold there the value of which was estimated. This must of necessity be treated prior to final determination.

When these cables are received in the Mint we do not know what action we are supposed to take. I assume someone in the Treasury is responsible for the gold in Frankfurt and we will be notified if and when our services are needed.

LH/eh

205918

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

June 23, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

Messrs. Leland Howard, Assistant Director of the Mint, (Grade CAF-15); John D. Jamieson, Mechanical Assistant to the Superintendent, United States Mint, Denver, Colorado, (Grade CAF-12); and Theodore H. Schiercke, Metallurgist, U. S. Assay Office, New York City, (Grade P-3), were assigned to the War Department from June 9, 1945 to August 25, 1945 for the purpose of inventorying precious metals captured by the United States Army and stored in the Reichsbank at Frankfurt, Germany. These three gentlemen traveled on Army authorization and their expenses were paid by the Army. Together with two men from the Bank of England they made a physical inventory of the metallic values held in the Reichsbank and such values were stored in such a manner as to permit identification by the Army.

LH/sh

205919

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

February 24, 1947.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Orvis Schmidt.

FROM. Mr. Howard. (Signed) Leland Howard

I have noticed in several telegrams from Budapest and Frankfurt that gold coins not belonging to the Hungarians were delivered when the Hungarian gold was taken from the Reichsbank in Frankfurt.

As you will remember, the inventorying of the gold had nothing to do with tracing the origin of the gold. We were there merely to make an inventory of the assets. We were told that a certain lot number represented one shipment to the Reichsbank. In connection with Lot No. 20-A, we were told that it was Hungarian gold. You will recall that we left a location sheet of each lot of gold and I do not see how anyone could have mixed one lot with another as we drew a diagram showing each stack of gold bars and the number of the bars in that stack. A child could have taken the chart and removed the bars belonging to any one lot.

I raise the question, therefore, how could a mistake have been made? Did the Army, in assigning a lot number to the Hungarian gold, include some gold coin from some other lot or did the Army, in removing the gold, take some coin from another lot other than 20-A?

Is there anything that you think we should do about it?

Apparently it was not in Frankfurt gold but was found later - that is coins were found later

LH/eh

205920

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

INFORMATION
COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1947 FEB 17 AM 8 59

4

SECRET

A

Control 4834

Rec'd February 15, 1947
9:29 a.m.

Action: OFD
Info:
U-E
A-H
EUR
OCD
DC/L
ESP
FC
CIG
DCR

FROM: Budapest

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 235, February 13, 7 p.m.

WARNING
This is a classified telegram, the protection of which is required by Section 1[illegible], Title [illegible] United States Code.

Telegram from USFET Nr SX 2173 February 10 to USREP ACC stated that foreign exchange depository considered as proper custodian of gold coins delivered in error to Hungarian National Bank and requested that coins be delivered to Frankfurt soonest possible. In view this request urgent instructions requested re last paragraph MYTEL 2376, December 31.

Repeated Berlin as 11.

SCHOENFELD

MRM:FAE

SECRET

205921

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

INFORMATION COPY

Mr Howard (Germany

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

RESTRICTED

Control 1778

Rec'd November 6, 1946
5:12 p.m.

3-X

Action: OFD
Info:
EUR
DC/L
ITP
ESP
UE
A-H
OCD
FC
DC R

C
O
P
Y

FROM: Berlin via War

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2569, November 6, 10 p.m.

REOURTEL: 2428 October 22 and Budapest's 1854, October 4.

Cache of gold uncovered in Austria was turned over to Hungary without examination by US authorities but with provision that after examination by Hungary, gold not Hungarian property would be returned. As Hungarian Bank has now stated that reference gold is not Hungarian property it should be returned to foreign exchange depository, Frankfurt to be handled in accordance with agreed procedure.

Sent Department as 2569, repeated Budapest as 70.

MURPHY

EKH:RJM

Hungarian State Dept. Dispatches

RESTRICTED

205922

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963104-91-502
By NARA Date 7/1/92

C
O
P
Y

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date

FROM: U. S. Political Adviser, Berlin (via War)

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATED: October 22, 1946

NUMBER: 2428

JUL 10 1978

CONFIDENTIAL

This message has been repeated (as No. 64) to Budapest.

Please refer to Department's cable No. 2111 dated October 15, which transmitted Budapest's cable No. 1854 dated October 4, to Department.

Reference gold coins were part of Hungarian gold cache discovered in Austria and were not included in Hungarian gold shipment inadvertently, according to records available here and in Frankfurt.

MURPHY

DC/L:GPW
10-23-46

205923

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 3107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

File
8A

October 22, 1946.

Subject: Release of Silver from Frankfurt Depository for German Silverware Industry.

1. Problem

Presented in this memorandum are

a. The facts arising from request of OMGUS for approval to release silver on loan from the Frankfurt depository to the German silverware industry, and

b. Reference to a previous loan of silver to that industry.

The purpose of these loans is to provide material for German silversmiths to make into products for export.

Although the question of these releases is one which should come within the purview of the Treasury, because of technical competence and specific interest, OMGUS request referred to in (a) has been approved without consultation with the Treasury; and with respect to the release mentioned in (b), Treasury learned of the action only after it had been taken.

Description of these cases and the reasons for Treasury concern over the manner in which they were handled, are set forth below.

2. The OMGUS Request

In a cable (CC 3100) dated September 5, 1946, OMGUS requested approval to borrow 18.5 metric tons of silver from the foreign exchange depository at Frankfurt which would be lent to the German silverware industry. The project contemplated the manufacture of silver for export, with the proceeds being made available to replenish the silver borrowed should the necessity arise. OMGUS pointed out in that message that the Inter-Allied Reparations Agreement does not define the silver stocks at the Frankfurt depository as Nazi property or as non-monetary gold. In a cable dated September 16th (2113), the United States Political Advisor directed attention of State Department to the OMGUS request, and stated it was his understanding that the silver in question is German industrial silver for which no restitution claim is expected.

3. Action Taken

a. On September 12 (WARX 80194) War Department informed OMGUS that the request was approved subject to proviso that the silver be replenished when and if necessary, pointing out that silver is in short supply, large procurement would require considerable time, and minimum amount that can be shipped is 100,000 ounces.

b. According to an OMGUS cabled report of September 8th, 21.5 metric

205924

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RG 104
Entry - 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/10

tons of silver bullion already had been turned over to the German silverware industry from the Frankfurt depository under the terms of MB Law No. 53 (foreign exchange control) and that the 18.5 tons, bringing the total loan to 40 tons ($1,163,640), would be an additional amount to be made available to German industry.

c. The Treasury was not consulted in either of these cases.

4. Reasons why Treasury Expresses Concern over Releases of the Silver

a. In general the silver stocks in the depository consist of (1) bars which have been inventoried precisely, and (2) fabricated silver, including plate, wire, shot, tubes, and other miscellaneous items, the value of which could only be estimated. Some of the latter stocks may even contain gold, but this was not determined when the inventory was made.

b. It is the understanding of the Treasury that the silver in bars might be subject to claims by Hungary, Holland, and perhaps other countries on the basis that this silver had been looted by the Germans. If the bars already have been released to German industry, restitution to claimant countries could of course be made by using the inventories, which would show weight, fineness, and other technical identifying data. However, if the odd lots of fabricated silver have been released under the program without correctly assaying the metal, the American authorities will not know exactly the weight and fineness of the metal made available to German manufacturers.

c. In view of these conditions, it would have been advisable to provide that any

(1) Any lots of silver in the miscellaneous category be assayed, to determine its exact value, before release of such stocks to German industry. This work should have been done under the supervision of an American bullion expert or, perhaps, under joint supervision of American, British and French experts.

(2) Investigation should have been initiated of claims of countries eligible for restitution. In this process, representatives of interested countries should have been permitted to inspect the bar stocks and inventory records in a manner similar to the previous inspections of the gold stocks that will be subject to restitution.

When the Hungarian gold was returned no reference was made to the silver in the depository to which Hungary might lay claim. It may be that the conditions under which the silver taken over by the United States forces were somewhat different from those obtaining for the gold, but the Treasury does not know.

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BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

[illegible]

5. If steps (1) and (2) had been, or still can be, taken, the United States authorities would be in position to defend unilateral action on removal of silver from the depository for German industrial purposes.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

JEW/amb

205926

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Mr Howard Germany

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH
Paraphrase before communicating except to Government agencies

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OUTGOING TELEGRAM

INFORMATION
COPY
Control 4364
October 15, 1946

RESTRICTED

1946 Oct 16 AM 948

6 p. m.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Origin-OED
Info:
EUR
DC/L
ESP
UE
A-H
ACD
FC

AMLEGATION

BUDAPEST

1078

Please make arrangements with USREP ACC to have US military representation take custody of reference gold coins (URTEL 1854 Oct 4) against descriptive receipts if requested by Hungarian Govt. When necessary arrangements with USREP ACC effected please request Hungarian Govt to transfer gold coins believed not to be Hungarian property directly to US element ACC. USREP ACC will be further instructed re disposition gold coins.

Sent to Budapest 1078; rptd Berlin 2112

ACHESON
ACTING

CODE ROOM: Please repeat to USPOLAD, BERLIN. 2112

FN:WJStibravy: erm ES GA SE
10/10/46

F Hungarian, State Dept. Dispatches

205927

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

C
O
P
Y

Budapest via War

Dated October 4, 1946

~~RESTRICTED~~

SECSTATE

1854, October 4, noon

National Bank advises that monetary gold returned to Hungary from Frankfort includes following gold coins which are not Hungarian property: 2,252.50 Turkish pounds, 504.95 Jap yen and 1207 colonial five pesos. Finance Minister is filing complete report through US representative, ACC

SCHOENFELD

RESTRICTED

Hungarian / State Dept. Dispatches

205928

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

September 13, 1946.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Glasser.

FROM: Mr. Howard.

Attached is a confidential paraphrase of a War Department telegram in which it is suggested that 18.5 metric tons of silver be borrowed from stocks held in the Depository at Frankfurt for use in the German silverware industry.

A large part of the silver held in the Reichsbank belongs to Hungary. Recently, I have noticed in the papers that the Hungarian gold was returned to them. Nothing was said about their silver and I do not know whether it is to be turned over to the Hungarians or not. I think the conditions under which it was taken were somewhat different from the gold and that may enter into whether or not it is to be returned. Most of the remaining silver is in poor shape and its value, in a great many instances, was estimated. If the Army lends this silver to the Germans someone with experience in handling silver (a bullion expert) should be present to determine the exact amount that is going to the Germans.

In storing the values in the Reichsbank, we stored them in such a way that they could be taken out without asking any questions. When the gold was given back to Hungary, we were not asked how to do it because we had written it up in such a way that it tied in with the Hungarian books. I attach an excerpt from my report on silver bars, as well as Table 10 from the report, which is a summary of silver in the Reichsbank. You can see that we had to estimate the value in a lot of this silver. Therefore, a person knowing bullion and able to assay and calculate it, should be there if it is to be moved. You may wish to discuss this matter with Mr. Curtis, who worked on the German records. For your information, 18.5 metric tons equals 40,785.47 avoirdupois pounds.

Not sent to files

Attachments - 2
LH/eh

205929

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

August 5, 1946

Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Madam:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 18, 1946, with which you enclosed a copy of Mr. Smith's letter of July 15, 1946 inquiring about scale tools belonging to the Denver Mint.

In accordance with the Bureau's letter dated December 3, 1945, the tools referred to were forwarded to the Bureau in care of Mr. Arthur C. Probey. The shipment went forward under Bill of Lading No. T-11510, dated December 10, 1945, and consisted of two cases; one containing an adding machine and the other a coin counting machine and the tools in question.

Very truly yours,

Sent to Mr Jameson 8/8/46 P

T:H

Acting Superintendent

205930

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIV

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

July 18, 1946

Superintendent
New York Assay Office
New York 5, New York

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a letter received from the Denver Mint relative to scales and tools to be returned from Germany. If the tools referred to are in your possession, will you please send them on to Denver.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director of the Mint.

Enclosure

KMF:sf

205931

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 3107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
DENVER 2, COLO.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES MINT

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

July 15, 1946

Director of the Mint
Washington, D. C.

My dear Madam Director:

The scales and scale tools used by Mr. Jamieson while in Germany were to have been shipped from Frankfort, Germany, to the New York Assay Office. Can you tell us whether they have now arrived?

Very truly yours,

Moses E. Smith

Moses E. Smith
Superintendent

205932

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 3 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

December 10, 1945

Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Madam:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of December 3rd, we are this day forwarding by Railway Express Agency two boxes containing one coin counting machine; one box of tools and one adding machine - Government Bill of Lading enclosed.

Very truly yours,

E R Lynch
Acting Superintendent

L/H

Enc.

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

205938

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

December 3, 1945

The Superintendent
United States Assay Office
32 Old Slip
New York 5, New York

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of November 14, 1945 regarding one Monroe adding machine; one coin counting machine; leather belt and rubber washers for the coin counting machine and one box of tools.

Please forward these items to the Bureau of the Mint in care of Mr. Arthur C. Probey.

Very truly yours,

NELLIE TAYLOE ROSS
Director of the Mint

P
jef

205934

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

File

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

November 14, 1945

Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Madam:

Reference is made to the scale weights and calculating machine that were loaned to the War Department and shipped to Frankfurt, Germany.

The articles have been returned to this office and, in addition, we have received one Monroe adding machine; one coin counting machine; a leather belt and rubber washers (evidently for the coin counting machine) and one box of tools.

If the Department will advise us as to the owners of the extra equipment, we will forward it to them with a government bill of lading attached.

Very truly yours,

E R Lynch

L/H

Acting Superintendent

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

205935

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL AR

RG #04
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 3107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

TO:

Mr. Gaston

Since writing the attached memo, I received a copy of the wire and see that the Army has listed the materials to be inventoried. I do not know what is meant by "2 experts for reclaiming semi-precious and precious metals." We had with us Mr. Schiercke, of the New York Assay Office, who is Assistant Superintendent of the world's largest gold refinery. We can tell them, and have told them, what should be done with the scrap gold and silver. It must be melted and assayed before any fair value can be placed upon it. No equipment is available in Germany for melting or assaying. Some of the material could be chipped or drill sampled for assay but, on the whole, the material must be melted before assaying.

The Army wants an "on-the-spot" check. The material should be shipped

MR. HOWARD

205936

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RG-104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

to the United States where there are facilities to inventory it. We discussed the whole problem with them and, very frankly, they really don't know what they want. Surely, they are not considering setting up equipment to reclaim precious metals from the material they have! If they are, I can tell them now that the cost would be about $100 for every dollar reclaimed.

(Signed) Leland Howard

September 14, 1945.
LH/eh

MR. HOWARD

205937

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

September 13, 1945.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Gaston.

FROM: Mr. Howard.

When representatives of the Mint were in Germany evaluating the precious metals there, the Army tried to get us to inventory the loot taken from the S. S. troops. I refused to attempt an inventory of the material because it was completely out of our line.

It is difficult to describe the content of the loot. The Army says that much of it was taken by the S. S. from prisoners at Buchenwald and Dachau. If you were to stand on the corner of 14th and F Streets and were to search every person passing by, and took from each person all the articles in his possession, and then walked down F Street and smashed all of the windows of the jewelry shops and took from them the articles displayed there, you would, perhaps, have a collection similar to the collection the Army has in its possession. There are bags of beads on strings; there are other bags of beads which are loose, evidently having been taken from the strings; there are boxes of stones of all types; there is a terrific amount of jewelry that looks like costume jewelry. I even saw perfume bottles purported to have a silver screw top; thimbles supposed to be silver; watches of all sorts, including alarm clocks; paper money of all types; spectacle frames, etc. Much of the loot appears to have very little value. A lot of the stones did not appear to me to be precious stones. However, as I stated before, I know very little about jewelry.

The Army took the attitude that we should attempt to place a value on this material and when we refused, they said that someone would have to place a value on it in order to make an inventory for the Reparations Committee. They wanted to know if anyone in the Treasury was capable of inventorying the material. I told them that the only agency in the Treasury that ever dealt with this type material would be Customs--that I assumed Customs appraised jewelry and other items imported into the country. I told them that I did not know whether Customs hired people for this specific purpose or whether they used outside persons on a retainer basis or just what procedure they did follow.

205938

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

After having sold the Army on the idea that we were not capable of inventorying the material, I dismissed it from my mind. However, yesterday Mr. Leonard, of Monetary Research, called and said that a wire had come from the Army requesting someone from the Bureau of Customs to make the inventory. I had discussed the inventory with Mr. Leonard and others upon my return and he requested me to take up the matter with Customs, in view of the fact that I knew the nature of the material. Before discussing it with anyone in Customs I send you this memorandum to see whether or not you desire to send anyone to Germany to make the inventory.

(Signed) Leland Howard

LH/eh

205939

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-94
By NARA Date 7/18/02

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

TOP SECRET

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
JUL 10 1978

APPENDIX "A"
GOLD AND SILVER

205940

Gold bars estimated on basis $35.00 U.S. per fine ounce.
Germany utilized basis Rmks. 2784. per kilo or Rmks. 86.592138 per ounce fine.
German mark thereby valued at .4041937 (cents U.S.)
According to German report gold at Merkers mine valued at Rmks. 500,000,000. to 550,000,000.
Thereby making 6,315,601.589 ounce fine gold equivalent to U.S. 222,306,055.61
Former value $1.00 U.S. - gold dollar now equivalent to $1.69462 (basis $35.00 per ounce)

Gold bars 3398 (list A) + 1800 (list E) + 3095 (list B) = 8293 Bars of 400 Oz. = @ 995 fine = Oz. 3301.614. - @ $35.00	=	$115,556,490
Gold bars 14 (list A - odd bars) of 400 Oz. 995 fine Oz. 5572 @ $35.00	=	195,020
Gold coins U. S. 738 bags - Presumably containing $18,548,495 former value - present equivalent	=	31,093,725
Gold coins British 408 bags - Presumably containing 2036878 Sovereigns - present equivalent	=	16,662,863
Gold coins French 746 bags - Presumably containing $14,840,000 - former value - present equivalent	=	25,148,160
Gold coins German 400 bags - " " 7,971,212 - " " " "	=	13,508,175
Gold coins Swiss 64 bags - " " 1,272,000 - " " " "	=	2,155,556
Gold coins Holland 558 bags - " " 11,160,000 - " " " "	=	18,911,958
Gold coins Duk 62 bags - " " 1,302,000 - " " " "	=	2,206,395
Gold coins Austrian 285 bags - " " 5,700,000 - " " " "	=	9,659,333
Gold coins Russian 7 bags - " " 160,000 - " " " "	=	261,138
Gold coins Italian 1 bag - " " 20,000 - " " " "	=	33,892
Gold coins Rumanian 1 bag - " " 20,000 - " " " "	=	33,892
Gold coins - Miscellaneous 15 bags - *Presumably containing $300,000 - former value - present equivalent	=	508,386
Silver and gold coins - miscellaneous 33 bags **Presumably containing $330,000 - former value - present equivalent	=	559,224
(Gold coins - Norwegian 40 bags - " " 800,000 - " " " "	=	1,355,696
(Gold coins - Okr (Presumably old coins) 1 bag - " " 20,000 - " " " "	=	33,892
Silver bars - 63 bags - rough estimate - " " 20,000 -	=	20,000
Platinum bars - 1 bag - " " - " " 100,000 -	=	100,000
Gold Rings - 8 bags - " " " " 10,000 -	=	10,000
Maria Theresa Thalers - 5 bags - rough estimate - " " 5,000 -	=	5,000
Gold bullion and coins - 55 boxes - No other details available other than weight of about 54 kilos per box - Basis of calculation 2,750 kilos gold - 88,414.5 Oz. at $35.00 per ounce.	=	3,094,507
		$241,113,302.00

* These miscellaneous bags include nine (9) bags of gold coins said to be a collection of rare coins.

**These are merely estimates made without opening or weighing the bags and without any value appearing on the bags.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
Entry - 3280
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/10

C
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Y

Declassified Authority General Declassification Schedule Date

SECRET

JUL 10 1978

Paraphrase of USFET (MAIN) cable to War Department dated 6 September 1945.

Theater Number S 21742

1. Materials captured by US Army and in custody CG USFET are items such as:

a. 300 pounds precious and semi-precious stones.

b. 300 pounds novelty jewelry.

c. 700 pounds rings (gold and other metal).

d. 650 pounds gold and silver to th fillings obtained from Buchenwald.

e. 3500 pounds watches.

f. 1800 pounds tableware (forks, knives, etc.) and other metals such as watch cases, eye glass frames containing precious materials.

g. 45000 pounds scrap metal (much believed to be silver).

2. Following technically trained personnel needed this Headquarters to appraise value of these materials.

a. 2 experts for appraising second-hand jewelry, unset precious and semi-precious stones.

b. 2 experts for reclaiming semi-precious and precious metals.

3. It is requested that you ascertain from Treasury Department whether Bureau of Customs or other branch of Treasury can make personnel qualified to make on-the-spot appraisal of these materials available. If so, arrange for departure personnel in question soonest and notify this Headquarters of ETA.

205941

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

DEPARTMENT OF

Treasury Department
Division of Monetary Research

Date 8/8 1945

To: Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross

From: Mr. Coe.

There are attached confirming copies of your cable to Mr. Howard in Frankfurt.

205942

REPRODUCED AT THE NATION

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

File
ENW

P.T. August 6, 1945
This telegram must be
[illegible] before being 11 a.m.
communicated to anyone
other than a [illegible]ment
Agency. (SECRET-[illegible])

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedu
Date JUL 10 1978

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 7 - 1945
DC/L
LIAISON OFFICE

AMEMBASSY

PARIS
3690
FOR BALL FROM TREASURY

Please transmit following to Kamarck, from Ross, for information of Leland Howard, Frankfurt. QUOTE Secretary today wrote Stimson asking your immediate release from present assignment and high travel priority for return to Washington after visiting Paris and London Mints. You can we assume arrange return trip with Army authorities over there. Permission given for Jamieson to continue present task until September first, Schiercke until September fifteenth and both to visit Paris and London Mints before returning. Please acknowledge if possible collect to Mint. UNQUOTE

GREW
(Acting)
( )

FN:VMLongstreet:vw
8/3/45

205943

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
Entry 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/10

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER
G-5 DIVISION, FINANCIAL BRANCH
Currency Section

(MAIN) APO 757
16 August 1945

SUBJECT: Report of United States and British Civilian Bullion and Coin Experts.

TO : Colonel B Bernstein, Chief, Financial Branch, G-5, USFET Main, APO 757, U S Army.

1. I hand you herewith original and five copies of a report of 15 Aug 45 given me by the representatives of the U S Treasury and the Bank of England who have completed the job of inventorying and evaluating the stock of precious metals included in our depository at Frankfurt. I have retained for our files one copy of the report.

2. The civilian experts advise me that only seven copies of the report were prepared and that pursuant to your instructions no copies were taken away with them.

3. This report was reviewed by the committee with representatives of this office and with Maj Gans and Mr Schmidt. A complete discussion took place within the group and all questions raised were answered by the committee. Several suggestions were made to the committee with respect to the addition of items of a minor nature, but the committee did not accept them. Pencil notations of these items have been added to the copy of the report which I have retained.

4. Several items were not evaluated by the committee. We asked them to evaluate all of the silver coins, but, due to the lack of equipment and personnel having the necessary qualifications, only those silver coins in Shipment No 1 from the Merkers Mine were evaluated. As you know, we have a big stock of other silver coins and we will have to work out some plan later on to evaluate this stock.

5. Platinum group metals were inventoried but not evaluated. We will probably cable the Treasury Department in Washington for prices to be used in evaluating these metals.

6. There is a great deal of shot silver and silver scrap and miscellaneous items like wire and pipe said to be silver. Some of this was weighed but none of it was evaluated.

7. It will also be noted from the report that coin collections and a museum collection of coins was not evaluated. This will have to be done later on a special basis by some one qualified to do the job.

8. The committee made some estimates for us on the bars in the SS loot

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By NARA Date 7/12

but they did not include the figures in their totals. They made the statement that, in their opinion, they could not place any fair estimate on the loot as a whole considering its contents.

H D CRAGON
Lt Col FD
Chief, Currency Section

1 Incl
Report (6)
HDC/bja

205945

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ENTITY 328 U
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Authority NN3 107-91
By NARA Date 4/12

REVISED.

U.S. FORM OF RECEIPT

The Government of _____ hereby declares that upon receipt of _____ kgs (or _____ troy ounces) of fine gold as a preliminary share in the distribution of the pool of monetary gold, established by the Paris Agreement on Reparation and administered by the Governments of the United States, United Kingdom and France, it will agree upon receipt of its full final share of the pool of monetary gold accruing to it as may ultimately be determined by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold, under its terms of reference published on September 27, 1946 in the Bulletin of the State Department of the U.S.A., and in the Whitehall Gazette, and in the Journal Officiel de la République Française to:

1. waive any and all claims for the restitution of monetary gold looted or wrongfully removed to Germany, or for compensation therefor, in the form of damages or otherwise:
   a) against Germany; and
   b) against any third countries which may have acquired such monetary gold from Germany, but only to the extent that the United States, the United Kingdom and France, or the Tripartite Gold Commission, acting on behalf of the Allied Government Signatory to the Paris Agreement or on behalf of other countries shall have finally waived such claims;
2. waive any and all claims for the restitution of monetary gold or for compensation in the form of damages or otherwise against the United States, the United Kingdom and France, or the Tripartite Gold Commission, arising out of their execution of the mandate set forth in part three of the Paris Agreement on Reparation and resolution two annexed to such Agreement or otherwise:
   a) with respect to agreements made with third countries concerning

.../...

205946

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

concerning the restitution of looted gold acquired by such countries from Germany,

b) for any and all acts in connection with the determination of the validity of the claims of the participating countries or the custody, distribution, or administration, of the pool of monetary gold.

The governments .....

205947

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Weight Work Sheet

No. _____ Recipient _____

Scale _____ U.S. Recorder _____

Foreign Recorder _____

Country	Denomination	Old Bag No.	New small Bag No.	New Box No.	Gross weight grams	Fineness	Fine weight grams
Aust	Kr	2400	A 1	1	6		
			2				
			3				
			4				
			5				
		2401	6				
			7				
			8				
			9				
			10				
Sub-Total:					70.	900	
		2406	A 11	2			
			12				
			13				
			14				
			15				
		2407	16				
			17				
			18				
			19				
			20				
Sub-Total:							
Total:							

205948

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX A (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Weight Work Sheet

No. _____ Recipient _____

Scale _____ U.S. Recorder _____

Foreign Recorder _____

Country	Denomination	Old Bag No.	New small Bag No.	New Box No.	Gross weight gram	Fineness		Fine weight grams
Aust	[illegible]	2400	A-1	1				
			2					
			3					
			4					
			5					
		2401	6					
			7					
			8					
			9					
			10					
Sub-Total					70	900		
		2400	A-11	2				
			12					
			13					
			14					
			15					
		2401	16					
			17					
			18					
			19					
			20					
Sub-Total								
Total								

205949

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

File
EKD

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
U. S. SECRET SERVICE

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

REFER TO FILE NO.

August 9, 1945

MEMORANDUM

To: Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross
Director of the Mint

From: Mr. James J. Maloney
Assistant Chief, U. S. Secret Service

Reference is made to your letter addressed to Mr. Leland Howard, which was forwarded to me at Potsdam, Germany, through channels, for delivery to Mr. Howard.

On August first I was able to determine that Mr. Howard was at Frankfurt, Germany, and I made arrangements for immediate delivery of the letter to him. The letter was turned over to one Sergeant James McNally and I was assured that it would be delivered to Mr. Howard by about 4:30 p.m. on August first.

JJM

205950

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

File
2 KW

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

AUG 7 1945

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter, dated 2 August 1945, requesting the release of Messrs. Leland Howard, John Jamieson and Theodore Schiercke from their present assignment in connection with the sorting, weighing and invoicing of Nazi loot. Your request is being conveyed by cable to the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater. Upon receipt of his reply you will be advised further immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

205951

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RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Form for Cable

Aug 2 1945

To: Mr. Collado

From: Mrs. Ross

Will you kindly send the following cable from Treasury to the American Embassy, Paris, for Ball:

"Please transmit following to Kamarck, ~~Frankfurt~~ for information of Leland Howard, Frankfurt.
(Message)

Charge appropriation:

Note to typist: Mrs. Ross should initial original beside her name.
Plain Treasury letterhead.
Five whites and a green - or six whites.
~~Two whites~~ Initials to be left off of two whites.
Initials on carbons as follows: N.T.Ross:mh 8/2/45

(From Mrs Hall Monetary Research)

205952

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHI

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

August 2, 1945

To: Mr. Collado

From: Mrs. Ross

Will you kindly send the following cable from Treasury to the American Embassy, Paris, for Ball:

"Please transmit following to Kamarck, from Ross, for information of Leland Howard, Frankfurt.

Message

Secretary today wrote Stimson asking your immediate release from present assignment and high travel priority for return to Washington after visiting Paris and London Mints. Stop You can we assume arrange return trip with Army authorities over there Stop Permission given for Jamieson to continue present task until September first Schierske until September fifteenth and both to visit Paris and London Mints before returning. Please acknowledge if possible collect.to Mint."

Charge appropriation: Office Director of the Mint, Salaries and Expenses 1946

N. T. Ross: mh 8/2/45
EKW

205953

RG 104
ENTRY - 328
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

AUG 2 1945

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I bring to your attention that when, early in June, Leland Howard, John Jamieson and Theodore Schierecke, from the Bureau of the Mint, were made available to the Army for a mission to Germany connected with the sorting, weighing and invoicing of Nazi loot, it was understood that their services would be required for a month or six weeks.

The duties which were outlined for them pertained to one cache found in a salt mine in Germany. Since they assumed their task, it has been heavily augmented, it appears, by many additional discoveries of loot, which have been committed to them for handling. They have now been absent from their posts for almost two months, and there is no indication that their task is terminating.

I regret that I must ask for the immediate release of Mr. Howard from this assignment, and request for him such high plane priority as will assure his prompt return to Washington. He, being Assistant Director of the Mint, is charged with many important responsibilities, including that of preparation of the Mint budget, the requirements for which is imminent.

If you feel that continuance of the services of John Jamieson to September 1st, and those of Theodore Schierecke to September 15th, are important to the project in which they are engaged, it will be agreeable to this Department for their stay to be extended to those dates.

We feel it is important that these three Mint officials, at the conclusion of their services for the Army, be permitted to visit the French Mint in Paris and the British Mint in London. In view of the above request regarding Mr. Howard, his visits will necessarily be brief, but I assume that an arrangement can be made by him and by each of the others in turn, with Army authorities in Germany for transportation back to the States when these visits to the Mints have been made.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Fred M. Vinson
Secretary of the Treasury

Honorable Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

NTR:W 8/1/45
N.T.R.

205954

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ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

MR. McDONALD'S OFFICE TO

Pls send a copy of the attached letter to Mrs. Day Rm 3421 Main Treas Bldg.

205955

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-
602
By NARA Date 7/12

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I bring to your attention that when, early in June, Leland Howard, John Jamieson and Theodore Schiercke, from the Bureau of the Mint, were made available to the Army for a mission to Germany connected with the sorting, weighing and invoicing of Nazi loot, it was understood that their services would be required for a month or six weeks.

The duties which were outlined for them pertained to one cache found in a salt mine in Germany. Since they assumed their task, it has been heavily augmented, it appears, by many additional discoveries of loot, which have been committed to them for handling. They have now been absent from their posts for almost two months, and there is no indication that their task is terminating.

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We feel it is important that these three Mint officials, at the conclusion of their services for the Army, be permitted to visit the French Mint in Paris and the British Mint in London. In view of the above request regarding Mr. Howard, his visits will necessarily be brief, but I assume that an arrangement can be made by him and by each of the others in turn, with Army authorities in Germany for transportation back to the States when these visits to the Mints have been made.

Yours very truly,

Secretary of the Treasury

Honorable Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

205956

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

File
SKW

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

July 23, 1945

Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross
Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

I have your letter of July 18th regarding Mr. Schiercke. I saw a clipping in a newspaper, which was handed to me by one of our employees. Then, and then only, did I know his whereabouts.

I am sure that he must be thrilled with the assignment. His selection as one of the three men by you was a masterful stroke. I feel certain that his work overseas will be a credit to our office.

Very truly yours,

Superintendent

SS/H

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

205957

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

A copy of this letter was sent to Mr. Bell with the following note:

Mr. Bell: (D.W.)

This letter refers to the bags Mr. Howard took to Germany. Please state whether they are a charge against our appropriation or that of the Army.

N.T.R.

7/26/45

205958

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RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES MINT

PHILADELPHIA 30, PA. July 25, 1945

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Madam:

We refer to a shipment of coin bags, etc., and hauling at a total cost of $2,942.26, on June 6, 1945.

We respectfully request authority to bill these items. While we have not been advised whom to bill, we wish to call to your attention the fact that if this is another government agency, no doubt its 1945 appropriation is involved and the items should be set up so that we may obtain payment therefor.

Very truly yours,

Henry C. Moore

Acting Superintendent

HCM:mkm

205959

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

File
SKW

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
THE SUPERINTENDENT
U. S. ASSAY OFFICE
32 OLD SLIP

July 23, 1945

Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross
Director of the Mint
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

I have your letter of July 18th regarding Mr. Schiercke. I saw a clipping in a newspaper, which was handed to me by one of our employees. Then, and then only, did I know his whereabouts.

I am sure that he must be thrilled with the assignment. His selection as one of the three men by you was a masterful stroke. I feel certain that his work overseas will be a credit to our office.

Very truly yours,

Superintendent

SS/H

FOR VICTORY
BUY
UNITED STATES
WAR
BONDS
AND
STAMPS

205960

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

, 25

July 18, 1945.

Mr. Neal H. Callaghan,
Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco 2, California.

Dear Mr. Callaghan:

As a matter of interest to you and those about you, I enclose a copy of the news story coming out from Germany, which discloses the mission upon which Mr. Howard, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Schiercke were sent several weeks ago.

At the time I selected these men the Army, which asked for them, emphasized that the matter was to be kept a top secret; that not even my own office staff could know where they were going; not even the men, themselves, until they were on the way. Hence my silence as to their whereabouts. Just why it should have been so great a secret I can not say. Anyhow, the news is now out!

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.
NTR/eh

F German Golf

205961

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

, 25

July 18, 1945.

Mr. Edwin H. Dressel,
Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Philadelphia 30, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Dressel:

As a matter of interest to you and those about you, I enclose a copy of the news story coming out from Germany which discloses the mission upon which Mr. Howard, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Schiercke were sent several weeks ago.

At the time I selected these men, the Army, which asked for them, emphasized that the matter was to be kept a top secret; that not even my own office staff could know where they were going; not even the men, themselves, until they were on the way. Hence my silence as to their whereabouts. Just why it should have been so great a secret I can not say. Anyhow, the news is now out!

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.
NTR/eh

205962

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

July 18, 1945.

Mr. Moses E. Smith,
Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Denver 2, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Smith:

At last I am at liberty to discuss Mr. Jamieson's whereabouts, an AP story having come out from Germany concerning the mission on which he, Mr. Howard and Mr. Schiercke of New York have gone!

When I was asked to name three men for the function described, the Army emphasized that the matter was to be kept a top secret; that even the men, themselves, couldn't know where they were going until they started. (They had to know because they had to determine what equipment to take.)

You have doubtless seen the news story revealing that they are in Frankfurt, Germany, representing this Government in connection with the determination of values and the identity of Nazi loot, including bullion and coin.

The reason I chose Mr. Jamieson was that he not only qualified as the weigher needed but had the skill to keep scales in order. It was essential that three of our most high-class men should go, including one qualified to adjust scales.

I realize how great a hardship the absence of Mr. Jamieson imposes upon you just as that of Mr. Howard does upon me. How long they will be gone I can not say. The caches found since they left here appear to have multiplied many times. I judge it will be several weeks yet before they return. I enclose, as a matter of interest to you and all those about you at the Mint, a copy of the news story relating to this mission.

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.
NTR/eh

205963

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
By NARA Date 7/12

July 18, 1945.

Mr. Sigmund Solomon,
Superintendent,
U. S. Assay Office,
32 Old Slip,
New York 5, New York.

Dear Mr. Solomon:

You have seen the news story, I am sure, about the mission upon which your Mr. Schiercke was sent. We planned, you recall, to send him out on settlement before I got this call from the Army. I was told when I named the three men, that not even they, themselves, were to know where they were going until they were on the way and that I might not disclose even to my own office staff the mission upon which they were sent. I do not know why the matter was so secret. Anyhow, it is now out, I am glad to say!

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

NTR/eh

205964

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/18/2

July 18, 1945.

Mr. G. L. Swarva,
Assayer in Charge,
U. S. Assay Office,
Seattle 4, Washington.

Dear Mr. Swarva:

As a matter of interest to you and those about you, I enclose a copy of the news story coming out from Germany, which discloses the mission upon which Mr. Howard, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Schiercke were sent several weeks ago.

At the time I selected these men the Army, which asked for them, emphasized that the matter was to be kept a top secret; that not even my own office staff could know where they were going; not even the men, themselves, until they were on the way. Hence my silence as to their whereabouts. Just why it should have been so great a secret I can not say. Anyhow, the news is now out!

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.
NTR/eh

205965

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/10

July 18, 1945.

Mr. R. J. Van Horne,
Chief Clerk in Charge,
U. S. Bullion Depository,
Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Van Horne:

As a matter of interest to you and those about you, I enclose a copy of the news story coming out from Germany, which discloses the mission upon which Mr. Howard, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Schieroke were sent several weeks ago.

At the time I selected these men the Army, which asked for them, emphasized that the matter was to be kept a top secret; that not even my own office staff could know where they were going; not even the men, themselves, until they were on the way. Hence my silence as to their whereabouts. Just why it should have been so great a secret I can not say. Anyhow, the news is now out!

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.
NTR/eh

205966

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
60 R
By NARA Date 7/12

The Evening Star
JUL 14 1945

Stolen Nazi Wealth Piled Ceiling High In Frankfurt Bank

By the Associated Press.

FRANKFURT, Germany, July 14. —The pillaged wealth of Nazi occupied Europe, taken from the teeth of murdered Jews and the coffers of seized governments alike, was piled ceiling high today in the Reichsmark Bank of Frankfurt.

In addition to gold and silver there were hogsheads of pearls, rubies and sapphires. Wooden cases held gold and silver fillings from the teeth of concentration camp victims.

Currency experts from the United States Treasury and the Bank of England were identifying and making an inventory of the Nazi loot.

Accurate Estimate Impossible.

"An accurate estimate of the total value can never be made," said Col. Bernard Bernstein, director of the finance division of the United States Group control council.

He said the collection included 53 separate deposits hidden by the Nazis and unearthed by American troops during the final days of the war. These included the gold bullion discovered by the United States 3d Army in the Merkers salt mines and special hidden hoards of Heinrich Himmler's SS organization which were buried under chicken coops on a German farm.

In one cache thousands of wedding rings stripped from the fingers of woman victims of the Nazis in Germany, Greece, Poland and other occupied countries were strung on ropes like country sausages.

Found Barrels of Watches.

"We have found barrels of silver and gold wrist watches, cigarette cases, wedding rings, bracelets and jewelry of every description," Col. Bernstein added. "This was taken from Nazi concentration camp victims.

The bullion was stacked like cordwood, and one large room held nothing but securities from almost every country in the world. The loot includes millions of Russian rubles and $34,000,000 in United States gold coins.

Leland Howard, assistant director of the Bureau of the Mint in Washington, estimated that it would take eight weeks to identify the bullion. Working with him were John D. Jamieson of the Denver Mint, Theodore Schiercke, assistant superintendent of melting in the New York Assay Office, and their British counterparts from the Bank of England.

205967

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

but I am confident that the lack of them impairs their prestige among the people about them to a degree that not only embarrasses them, but hampers the progress of their work.

If, therefore, the purchase of uniforms by these three men and the bestowal upon them of the status given other officials serving in Germany on important missions under Army sponsorship can be authorized, I shall warmly appreciate it.

Yours very truly,

NELLIE TAYLOE ROSS
Director of the Mint.

R:W

3 A 948 Pentagon

205968

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
802
By NARA Date 7/10

July 4, 1945.

Dear Colonel Carewe:

In accordance with our understanding over the telephone, I forward to you excerpts from personal letters of Dr. Leland Howard to me, stressing the disadvantage at which he and his two companions representing the Mint, are placed because of lack of uniforms and simulated rank.

I would emphasize that Dr. Howard never intended that these very frank statements in very matter-of-fact language should be quoted in an official paper, but inasmuch as you state that you think it would be helpful in securing for him and his two companions, representing the Mint, the status which he feels they need to smooth their way, I send them for your information.

In a letter of June 15th he says, referring to Government officials sent on special missions, "We are the first and only ones not in uniform. The Germans cuss us for being well dressed, thinking we are Germans, and the G Is want to shoot us." In a letter of June 21st he states, "We are the only ones over here not in uniform and without rank. Rank means everything, especially in housing. I believe you could still get us simulated rank. You do not have to be in uniform for that. It means the difference between being up in front or in the back." In another letter he says, "All the G Is think we are Germans, and all the Germans think we are, too. The Germans give us hell for being dressed up, and the G Is stop us a lot.....We are the only ones to come over here without uniforms. The thing that really counts is rank."

Since Dr. Howard and the two technical Mint men with him went to Germany, the one cache of gold and silver reported and listed which they were to handle, has been augmented by 27 others, greatly expanding the task before them. I feel confident that Army authorities will desire that they shall have every advantage that will facilitate their progress on this responsible mission.

I have no reason to think that Dr. Howard and his companions are suffering any actual hardship for lack of these distinguishing marks.

205969

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY - 3280
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963104-91-002
By NARA Date 7/16/02

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER

DCG/at
(Main) APO 757
7 August 1945

AG 300.4 (7 Aug 45) 8-766

Subject: Orders.

To: Civilians Concerned.

1. The civilians named below, Hq US Gp CC, will proceed by first available air transportation on or about 13 Aug 1945 from their present station to Washington, D.C., via Paris, France, and London, England, reporting upon arrival to The Adjutant General, WD, for further instructions.

Mr LELAND HOWARD, Civilian
Mr JOHN D. JAMIESON, Civilian
Mr THEODORE SCHIERKE, Civilian

2. Travel by military or naval aircraft, Army or Naval transport, commercial steamship, belligerent vessel or aircraft and rail is directed. A baggage allowance of 65 lbs is authorized while traveling by air.

3. Information concerning War Department, Army or personal activities of a military nature within this theater will not be discussed in private or public and will not be disclosed by means of newspapers, magazines, books, lectures or radio, or any other method, without prior clearance through the War Department Bureau of Public Relations or the appropriate Public Relations Officer of Army Installations.

4. TCNT. TDN. 60-115, 114, 136, 500 P 431-02, 03, 04, 07, 08 A 212/60425.

5. Attention is invited to letter, Hq US Forces, European Theater (Rear), file AG 311.4 MPM-GB, 20 July 1945, relative to clearance through customs on leaving and entering the United States.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL EISENHOWER:

Donald C Gallup

DONALD C. GALLUP,
Major, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:
2 - TAG
1 - US Gp CC
1 - Executive AGO
1 - Air Priorities O, ATC
20 - Each individual
3 - Civilian Personnel
1 - Pers Misc Br, AGO

RESTRICTED

205970

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

25

16 June 1945

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date
JUL 10 1978

Mr. Moses E. Smith,
Superintendent,
United States Mint,
Denver 2, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I regret that it is impossible for me to explain to you the mission upon which Mr. Jamieson has been sent for another government agency. Be assured, however, that I will explain as soon as I am at liberty to do so. However, so far as the plans for the new extension are concerned, Mr. Jamieson gave me absolute assurance that there were no further details needing his attention.

I shall be most chagrined if any contract is held up waiting for more discussion with Mr. Jamieson. If we do not get this contract consummated and the building started before mid-winter, it means another long delay in accomplishing our objective.

Very truly yours,

Nellie Taylee Ross

Director of the Mint.

NTR/eh

205971

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 104-91-502
By NARA Date 7/10

June 5, 1945

Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke
U. S. Assay Office
32 Old Slip,
New York 5, New York.

Dear Mr. Schiercke:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany on a special mission, via the Office of the Director of the Mint, Washington, D.C., and to return in like manner. Upon completion of this mission you are instructed to visit the British Mint at London and the French Mint at Paris.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses, and $7.00 per diem while traveling beyond the limits of the Continental United States and $6.00 per diem within the limits of the Continental United States in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Mints and Assay Offices".

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leland Howard

Acting Director of the Mint

Approved:

(Sgd.) Paul McDonald

Acting Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary

P
Jdw
Copy by Jdw

205972

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
Entry 3280
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
By NARA Date 7/10/92

Standard Form No. 1012a—Revised
FORM APPROVED BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL, U. S.
July 19, 1937 (Amended Aug. 27, 1941)
General Regulations No. 88

VOUCHER FOR PER DIEM AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCIDENT TO OFFICIAL TRAVEL

D. O. Vou. No. P
Bureau No. P-235

(Statement of account must be completely filled in by payee prior to signature, and there must not be any erasure or alteration unless initialed or signed by him)

General Accounting Office
PREAUDIT
Certified for payment in the sum of $.....
COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
By .....

U. S. Treasury Department - Bureau of the Mint
(Department, bureau, or establishment)

THE UNITED STATES To Theodore H. Schlercke
62 Old Slip, N. Y. C.
(Payee)

New York
(Address)

Official Headquarters .....

Domicile ..... Residence .....
(For use of Postal Service only)

PAID BY
(For use of Paying Office)

FOR PER DIEM in lieu of subsistence, mileage for privately owned motor vehicle, and/or REIMBURSEMENT of traveling and other expenses paid by me in the discharge of official duty from August 29th 45 D/L June 6th 45, to ....., 19....., as per itemized statement within, under authority No. ....., dated .....,
19....., copy of which is attached,* or has been previously furnished with voucher No. ....., paid .....,
19....., by .....
(Name of disbursing officer)

	AMOUNT	
	DOLLARS	CENTS
	10	50
$		

(Payee will NOT use this space)

Differences		
		50
Account verified correct for	$	10

Asst. Supt. of M. & R. Dept.
(Signature or initials) Jow

10 50

MEMORANDUM

SEP 10 1945

Jeanne D. Wood
Authorized Certifying Officer

ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION (For completion by administrative office)

APPROPRIATION, LIMITATION OR PROJECT SYMBOL	APPROPRIATION TITLE	LIMITATION OR PROJECT AMOUNT	APPROPRIATION AMOUNT
	Salaries and Expenses, Mints and Assay Offices, 1946 - 2061600.001	$	$

ALLOTMENT SYMBOL	AMOUNT	ENCUMBRANCE LIQUIDATED	COST ACCOUNT Symbol	COST ACCOUNT Amount	OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE Symbol	OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE Amount
	$			$		$

Paid by { Check No. ....., dated .....; 19....., for $..... } on Treasurer of the United States in favor of payee named above.
Cash, $....., on ....., 19.....

SIGN ORIGINAL ONLY

.....
(Signature of payee)

*If there was no prior authority state circumstances which rendered securing prior authority impracticable.

16—23954-1

205973

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/12

ITEMIZED SCHEDULE OF TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES

1. Date and hour of departure from official headquarters ..... (Day) June 9, 1945 (Hour) 11:10 A.M.
2. Give duty status on first day of voucher period:
   Arrived at Frankfurt M, Germany on June 11, 19 45
   for temporary duty for approximate period 3 months
   Approximate date of return to official headquarters September 1, 19 45

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The provisions of the travel regulations must be strictly observed in order to avoid suspensions and disallowances of amounts claimed.
2. When subvouchers required by regulations were not obtained, state fully the circumstances showing reasons for omission.
3. If more than one rate of allowance is authorized, full statement of application of each rate must be given in some convenient place on this voucher.
4. Expenditures should be shown by the day and fully explained.
5. Time of departure and arrival from each point of travel should be stated in chronological order in the body of the account.

DATE 19..45	CHARACTER OF EXPENDITURE	SUB-VOU. No.	AMOUNT Subsistence	AMOUNT Other	NOTATIONS (Payee must not use this column)
June					
9	Leave Washington D.C. 11:10 A.M.		4 50		
	Arrive Newfoundland 5:05 P.M.				
	Leave Newfoundland 6:40 P.M.				
10	Enroute to Frankfurt M, Germany		7 00		
11	Arrive at Frankfurt M, Germany 11:02 A.M.		5 60		
	Duty Status				
11-30	@ $7.00 per diem (19 days)		106 40	5 60	

In travel status at Frankfurt, Germany

205974

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-602
By NARA Date 7/10

ITEMIZED SCHEDULE OF TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES

1. Date and hour of departure from official headquarters ..... (Date) ..... (Hour)
2. Give duty status on first day of voucher period: June 9, 1945 11:10 A.M.
   Arrived at Frankfurt M, Germany on June 11, 1945
   for temporary duty for approximate period 3 months
   Approximate date of return to official headquarters September 1, 1945

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The provisions of the travel regulations must be strictly observed in order to avoid suspensions and disallowances of amounts claimed.
2. When subvouchers required by regulations were not obtained, state fully the circumstances showing reasons for omission.
3. If more than one rate of allowance is authorized, full statement of application of each rate must be given in some convenient place on this voucher.
4. Expenditures should be shown by the day and fully explained.
5. Time of departure and arrival from each point of travel should be stated in chronological order in the body of the account.

DATE 1945	CHARACTER OF EXPENDITURE	SUB-VOU. No.	AMOUNT Subsistence	AMOUNT Other	NOTATIONS (Payee must not use this column)
June					
9	Leave Washington D.C. 11:10 A.M.		4 50		
	Arrive Newfoundland 5:05 P.M.				
	Leave Newfoundland 6:40 P.M.				
10	Enroute to Frankfurt M, Germany		7 00		
11	Arrive at Frankfurt M, Germany 11:02 A.M.		5: 60		
	Duty Status				
11-30	@ $7.00 per diem (19 days)		106 40	5 60	

In travel status at Frankfurt, Germany

MEMORANDUM

205975

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
Entry - 328
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-
By NARA Date 7/10

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, 25

OFFICE OF
DIRECTOR OF THE MINT
IN REPLYING QUOTE INITIALS

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

June 5, 1945

Subject: Invitational Travel Orders

Mr. Leland Howard,
Assistant Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Howard:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany on a special mission explained to you. Upon completion of it you are instructed to visit the British Mint at London and to visit also, if you find it practicable, the Mint of France.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses, and $7.00 per diem while traveling beyond the limits of the Continental United States and $6.00 per diem within the limits of the Continental United States in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Mints and Assay Offices".

Very truly yours,

Nellie Taylor Ross

Director of the Mint

Approved:

Paul McDonald

Acting Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary

205976

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

, 25

June 5, 1945.

Mr. Leland Howard,
Assistant Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Howard:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany on a special mission explained to you. Upon completion of it you are instructed to visit the British Mint at London and to visit also, if you find it practicable, the Mint of France.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses, and $7.00 per diem in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Director of the Mint."

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Approved:

(Sgd) Chas. S. Bell

Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary.

/eh

205977

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 7023 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

, 25

June 5, 1945.

Mr. John D. Jamieson,
United States Mint,
Denver 2, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Jamieson:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany, on a special mission explained to you. Upon completion of it you are instructed to visit the British Mint at London and to visit also, if you find it practicable, the Mint of France.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses, and $7.00 per diem in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Director of the Mint."

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Approved:

(Sgd) Chas. S. Bell

Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary.

/eh

205978

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

RG 104
ENTRY 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

, 25

June 5, 1945.

Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke,
U. S. Assay Office,
32 Old Slip,
New York 5, New York.

Dear Mr. Schiercke:

You are hereby authorized and requested to proceed to Frankfurt, Germany, on a special mission explained to you. Upon completion of it you are instructed to visit the British Mint at London and to visit also, if you find it practicable, the Mint of France.

While engaged in this service your actual and necessary traveling expenses, and $7.00 per diem in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, will be paid from the appropriation "Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Director of the Mint."

Very truly yours,

Nellie Tayloe Ross

Director of the Mint.

Approved:

(Sgd) Chas. S. Bell

Administrative Assistant
to the Secretary.

/eh

205979

RG 104
Entry - 328 U
Box 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/10

Miscellaneous - 6 small boxes, all less than 4 cubic feet and weighing from 10 to 35 pounds — Weight 175 pounds

Major General Kilbourne:

Mr. Howard is available to discuss with your representative the matter of moving the above-mentioned equipment to some central place where it can be picked up by plane.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) D. W. BELL

Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Leland Howard, Assistant Director of the Mint, will head the mission. Mr. Theodore H. Sellarole, Assistant Superintendent of Melting and Refining, U. S. Assay Office, and Mr. John P. Jamieson, Mechanical Assistant to the Superintendent of the Mint, Denver, will complete the Treasury group. Mr. Howard is in Washington, Mr. Jamieson will arrive [illegible] Mr. Sellarole will come from New York Tuesday morning. They will be available from then on.

The equipment which they will take has been crated and is ready to be picked up. The following are the present locations of the [illegible] displacement thereof.

Major General John H. Hilldring
Director, Civil Affairs Division
Room 2E928, Pentagon Building
Washington, D. C.

Scale - Height 20-1/2 inches
Width 25-1/2 "
Length 61-1/2 "
Weight 475 pounds

Weights - Height 12 "
Width 13 "
Length 18 "
Weight 205 pounds

At Philadelphia Mint, 16th and Spring Garden Street

12 boxes of bags - Height 37 inches
Width 37 "
Length 39 "
Weight 155 pounds

1 boxes of seals - Height 13 "
Width 14-3/4 in.
Length 25-1/2 "
Weight 130 pounds

1 box of seals - Height 7-1/2 "
Width 11 "
Length 17 "
Weight 40 pounds

DWB:ew

205980

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 107-91-002
By NARA Date 7/12

Declassified
Authority General Declassification Schedule
Date JUL 10 1978

SECRET - 4 June 1945

Dear General Hilldring:

Receipt is acknowledged of paraphrased copy of SCAF 427, dated June 1, 1945, referring to the three Treasury experts who are to go to Frankfurt, Germany.

Mr. Leland Howard, Assistant Director of the Mint, will head the mission. Mr. Theodore H. Schiercke, Assistant Superintendent of Melting and Refining, U. S. Assay Office, New York, and Mr. John D. Jamieson, Mechanical Assistant to the Superintendent of the Mint, Denver, will complete the Treasury group. Mr. Howard is in Washington, Mr. Jamieson will arrive from Denver some time Tuesday, and Mr. Schiercke will come from New York Tuesday morning. They will be available from then on.

The equipment which they will take has been crated and is ready to be picked up. The following are the present locations of the equipment and the weight and cubic displacement thereof.

At New York Assay Office, 32 Old Slip Street

Scale -	Height	20-1/2 inches	Weight 475 pounds
	Width	25-1/2 "	
	Length	61-1/2 "	
Weights -	Height	12 "	Weight 205 pounds
	Width	13 "	
	Length	18 "	

At Philadelphia Mint, 16th and Spring Garden Street

12 boxes of bags -	Height	17 inches	Weight 155 pounds
	Width	17 "	
	Length	39 "	
3 boxes of seals-	Height	13 "	Weight 138 pounds
	Width	14-3/4 in.	
	Length	25-1/4 "	
1 box of seals -	Height	7-1/2 "	Weight 40 pounds
	Width	11 "	
	Length	17 "	

DWB:ew

205981

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

RG 104
ENTRY - 328 U
BOX 1 (FRC)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963107-9-602
By NARA Date 7/12

SECRET

Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date

SCAF 427

JUL 10 1978

PARAPHRASE INCOMING CABLE, dated 1 June 1945, FROM SHAEF TO CCS

SUBJECT: Appraisal of Merkers' Treasure by US-UK Experts

Reference FACS 225.

1. Two Bank of England experts and three U.S. Treasury experts are welcomed.

2. The experts undoubtedly will arrange to bring with them any special scales or other technical apparatus which they may need since we have no knowledge of the availability here of such apparatus. We believe the experts should be so advised.

3. It is requested we be informed of the estimated date of arrival of experts at Frankfurt, of names of experts and of anticipated date of arrival of tags, scales and bags.

Reference GOV 349.

4. Until the appraisal and inventory by the U.S. and British experts is finished and until a policy of disposal is decided upon by you, we consider in view of the foregoing that no inspection by other nations of the Merkers' treasure should be allowed.

Declassified
Authority-General Declassification Schedule
Date

JUL 10 1978

SECRET

205982