

OFFENBACH ARCHIVAL DEPOT
 OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT
 GREATER HESSE
 ECONOMICS DIVISION

Liaison & Security Office
 LK & SK Offenbach, (Germany),
 APO 633, U.S. Army.
 31 July 1946.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report, July 1946.
 (Auth: MG Regulations, Title 18-612, Modified.)

TO : Colonel J.R. NEWMAN, Director
 Office of Military Government
 Greater Hesse.

A. Administration.

1. Location. I.G. Farben. 169 Mainstrasse, Offenbach-am-Main, SK Offenbach, (one building, 5 stories) Bunker Rathenaustrasse, Offenbach-am-Main, (one building).

2. Personnel.

a. United States.

- (1) I. Bencowitz, Captain, SR, O-527425.
 (Auth: P. 12, S.O. 88, Hq 2nd MG Bn (Sep) 15 Apr 46.)
- (2) Rouben Sami, Corporal, 30000387.
 (Auth: Hq 2nd MG Bn (Sep) MFA&A Section Economics Division.)

b. German.

- (1) Total, 140
- (2) List of employees by branch and sections, see Inclosure 1.

c. Liaison.

- (1) Major Dr, Dirk Petrus Marius Graswinckel, Head of the Netherlands National Archives.
- (2) Captain H. Jaffe, Dutch Restitution Officer.
- (3) Captain Johannes Georg Schönau, Dutch Restitution Officer.
- (4) Lt. Colonel Jean Prinnet, Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris.
- (5) Colonel Bonet Maury, French Restitution Officer.
- (6) Captain Hubert de Brye, GFCC, French Reparation Officer.
- (7) Lt. Colonel Moise Liber, French Restitution Officer.

OAG OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

- (8) Major L.G. Perry, B A O R, British Restitution Officer.
- (9) Lt. Colonel N.P. Novik, Russian Mission of Restitution.
- (10) Lt. N.S. Selutin, Russian Mission of Restitution.
- (11) 1st Lt. Raymond LeMaire, Belgian Restitution Officer.
- (12) Professor Koppel S. Pinson, Official Representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee to this Depot.
- (13) Mr. David H. Clift, Official Representative of the Library of Congress Mission to this Depot.
- (14) Mr. Reuben Peiss, Chief of Library of Congress Mission, Fechenheim-am-Main.

3. Building.

- a. Security. No change.
- b. State of Repair.
 - 1. No important change.
Current miscellaneous repairs.
- c. Maintenance. No change.
- d. Heating Supplies. No change.
- e. Mess.
 - Mess in good condition.
 - Broken pipelines in stove repaired.

4. Receipt of Documents.

- a. From Berlin, Eisenacherstrasse,
 - 25 June 46, two (2) freight cars
 - 2 July 46, one (1) freight car
 - 15 July 46, one (1) freight car
 - (Auth: Ltr, OMGUS, Colonel John A. Allen to Director OAG, dtd. 16 April 46).
- b. From Munich, material looted from Internationale Transportarbeiders Vereeniging, Amsterdam,
 - 27 June 46, thirty-three (33) cases
 - 1 July 46, twenty (20) cases
 - 5 July 46, thirty-one (31) cases
 - a total of eighty-four (84) cases

OAD OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

c. 9 July 46.

From Württemberg-Baden, books located in the Heilbronn salt mine in Kochendorf. Three (3) freight cars, five hundred and seventy-eight (578) cases of books and other miscellaneous library material of the Kunsthistorisches Institute, Florenz.

(Auth: VOCO arrangements between 1st Lt. D.V. Ford and Capt. I. Bencowitz based on Directive, AG 007 (ED) OMGUS, subject: Removal to Control Archival Depot of Archives Books and other Library material, dtd. 1 May 46).

d. 15 July 46.

From Landesbibliothek Darmstadt, ten(10) cases documents of the Israelitische Community Darmstadt and two (2) cases Russian library Index files.

(Auth: VOCO, Mr. J.I. Boell, MFA&A Section OMG for Land Greater Hesse).

e. Returned by the AJDC from books loaned by the Depot 2,594 items.

5. Important Visitors and Events.

a. Visitors.

- (1) Major J.A. Hillman, OMG Greater Hesse with Mrs. and Miss Hillman. 25 June 46.
- (2) Lt. T.A. Heinrich, MFA&A Officer, OMG GH, Wiesbaden. 28 June and 6 July 46.
- (3) Professor Gershom Scholen, American Joint Distribution Committee. 6 - 21 July 46.
- (4) 1 Lt. (Chaplain) Irwing Ganz, Hq USFET. 7 July 46.
- (5) Colonel Bonet Maury, Chief French Restitution Control, OMGUS. 11 and 16 July 46.
- (6) Lt. Beatrice Villemer, French Officer, OMGUS. 11 July 46.
- (7) 1st Lt. (Chaplain) Joseph Miller, Chaplain's Section Hq Command, USFET, 16 July 46.

b. Events.

- 26 June 46 - Major Dr. D.P.M. Graswinckel arrived from Holland.
- 28 June 46 - Conference between Capt. I. Bencowitz and Lt. T.A. Heinrich, subject: ERR material.
- 2 July 46 - The third "missing" freight car of books from Berlin (the other two arrived 25 June 46) finally reached the Depot.

OAG OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

- 3 July 46 - A group of workers were sent to the Heilbronn salt mine to load the five hundred and seventy-eight (578) cases of books and other miscellaneous library material of the Kunsthistorisches Institute, Florenz.
- 4 July 46 - The Dutch barge, "Allemania", 738 tons, skipper, Rigter, arrived from Aschaffenburg.
- 5 July 46 - The barge was loaded with books (520 cases Dutch and 2 cases Belgium material) old pictures, and furniture brought over by Capt. Edith A. Standen from the Collecting Point, Wiesbaden, and from Frankfurt. The loading was completed, and the barge left at dawn of the following day.
- 6 July 46 - Conference between Professor K.S. Pinson and Scholem with Capt. I. Bencowitz, subject: proposed extension of AJDC loan of books for DP camps.
- 9 July 46 - The three freight cars of the Kunsthistorisches Institute, Florenz arrived at the Depot.
- 14 July 46 - The last freight car of books from Berlin arrived.
- 15 July 46 - Capt. I. Bencowitz left for Munich. Object: Conference with Capt. Edwin C. Rae regarding availability of books in Land Bavaria for the Offenbach Archival Depot.
- 16 July 46 - Colonel Bonet Maury, French restitution Officer signed receipt for hundred and forty-eight (148) cases of French library material. A freight car with these books was shipped to France on the 17th July 46.
- 17 July 46 - Capt. I. Bencowitz returned from Munich.

6. Transportation Available. No change, as yet.

But there is an imminent threat which may bring the activities of the Depot to a standstill. Already an order forbids Military Government the use of ~~civilian~~ motor pool (Fahrbereitschaft) vehicles. A more recent curtailment of motor vehicles allow the entire MFAA section of Land Greater Hesse no more vehicles that the Depot alone is using and finds them essential for its operations at present.

OAD OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

7. Miscellaneous.

- a. An enterprising sorter has recorded that books written in thirty-five different languages have gone through the sorting process.
- b. In the list of Polish libraries given in this report (see Incl. 2) are libraries of purely Polish nature, written in the Polish language and belonging to Polish institutions.
- c. The latest figures on unidentifiable books give the following relations (see B-4-a below):
 - (a) Books in the Hebrew language 51.1 %
 - (b) Jewish cultural and Historical books in the German language 18.1 %
 - (c) Miscellaneous subjects in the German language 15.0 %
 - (d) Books in various other languages 15.8 %

About half of the latter are on Jewish cultural and historical subject. It may be safely concluded, therefore, that about seventy-five per cent of the non-identifiable books are of purely Jewish significance.

- d. It should be pointed out that discrepancies in the count of books will occur as the count becomes more accurate. Until now we have been compelled to estimate the number of books in bulk. As the books are packed in boxes they are counted and more exact figures will be available as the packing proceeds.

8. Recommendations.

There are in the Depot at this time two thousand one hundred and eight (2,108) books which belong to eleven (11) existing German institutions (see Incl. 6) and one thousand two hundred and twenty-five books which belong to German Masonic lodges. It is recommended that these books be turned over to properly accredited representatives of those institutions.

OAG OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

B. Summary of Operations.

1. Material restituted and otherwise moved from the Archival Depot:
 (The estimate is based on the assumption that the average case contains 220 books. The estimate is too high, to a probable extent of 10 per cent, but the assumed average figure is retained in order to maintain the continuity with older reports).

a. List of items shipped out during month of July.

- | | | |
|---|-----------|--------------------|
| (1) Netherland, 3rd barge, | | |
| 6 July 46 - (520 cases), | estimated | 114,400 items |
| (2) Belgium, | | |
| 6 July 46 - (2 cases), | estimated | 440 items |
| (3) France, freight car
No. DR 83775, | | |
| 16 July 46- (148 cases), | estimated | 32,560 items |
| 1 briefcase documents | | |
| (4) American Joint
Distribution Committee, | | |
| 25 June 46 - | | 507 items |
| 10 July 46 - | | 1,193 items |
| 14 July 46 - | | 116 items |
| (5) Library of Congress
Mission, | | |
| 10 July 46 - (13 cases), | | 744 bro-
chures |

TOTAL shipped in July		149,960
		<u>items</u>

OAD OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

b. Books shipped from date of activation,
1 March to 25 July 46:

(1) Netherland.

9 March 46, 1st barge	81,620 items
(371 cases)	
11 April 46, 2nd barge	118,580 items
(539 cases)	
6 July 46, 3rd barge	114,400 items
(520 cases)	
<hr/>	
TOTAL	314,600 items

(2) France.

22 March 46 - 5 April 46,	
nine freight cars	258,720 items
(1176 cases)	
17 May 46,	
one freight car	28,600 items
(130 cases)	
16 July 46,	
one freight car	32,560 items
(148 cases)	
<hr/>	
TOTAL	319,880 items

(3) Belgium.

11 April 46,	1,980 items
(9 cases)	
6 July 46,	440 items
(2 cases)	
<hr/>	
TOTAL	2,420 items

(4) Great Britain.

4 June 46,	3,740 items
(17 cases)	

(5) Preussische Staats-
bibliothek.

23 April 46,	
twenty-three freight cars	700,000 items

OAD OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

(6) Library of Congress
Mission.

21 March to 25 July
46, 19,000 items

Boxes and cartons
of brochures, 129 cases.

(7) American Joint
Distribution Committee.

3 March to 25 July 46, 19,212 items

Grand TOTAL shipped
out March - July 46, 1,378,852
(Estimated figures
with exception of (7)
in which cases the books were
were counted). items

2. Books and other archival material ready for
immediate restitution.

- a. Austria 14 cases
Freie Press, Wien 760 volumes
- b. Belgium 1 case
- c. Czecho-Slovakia 10 cases
Prager Tageblatt 23 volumes
- d. Great Britain 1 case
- e. Greece 74 cases
- f. Holland 23 cases
- g. Italy 635 cases
- h. Poland, Newspapers 38 cases
Poland, Books 39 cases
- i. Russia 1029 cases
- k. Yugo-Slavia 14 cases
Documents of the
Minister of the in-
terior, and Chetnik
papers.

l. U. S. A. 2 cases

□ Receipt for twenty-two (22) cases was signed by
Dutch Restitution Officer, Major Dr. D.P.M.
Graswinckel, 29 June 46.

§ Receipt for seven hundred and sixty (760) cases
was signed by Russian Restitution Officer, Lt.
Colonel N.P. Novik, 10 June 46.
(see June Report 5,b).

TOTAL, estimated on basis of
220 items per case 413, 600 items

OAG OMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

Photographs crated and ready for restitution.

- (1) Wide World Photos.
The New York Times. 4 cases
- (2) Keystone View Company 1 case
- (3) Associated Press half a case
3. Books in the last stage of sorting and classification: 105 cbm (Estimated on basis of 1750 items per cbm) 183,750 items.
-
4. Books and other archival material awaiting policy for restitution, estimated on basis of 1750 items per cbm and 220 items per case unless indicated that items were counted.

a. Unidentifiable books.

- (1) Hebrew language,
42,2 cbm appr. . . . 73,850 items
117 cases brochures
equivalent to 25,740 items
466 cases, books
counted, 38,219 items
-

TOTAL 137,809 items

- (2) German language,
- (a) Jewish religious and historical subjects, 28 cbm, estimated 49,000 items
- (b) General classical literature and scientific books, 24 cbm, estimated 42,000 items
- (3) French language, 16,9 cbm, estimated 29,375 items
- (4) English language, 5,6 cbm, estimated 9,800 items
- (5) Various other languages, estimated 1,500 items
-

TOTAL of a. 269,684 items

OAD CMG GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

b. Private owners, outside those of Netherlands and France.

(a) Identifiable by Ex-Libris, counted (see Incl. 3) 3,916

(b) Identifiable by name, counted (see Incl. 4) 7,500

TOTAL 11,416

x) c. Jewish Libraries, within Germany. (practically all in the Hebrew language) 34,500 items

d. Jewish Libraries in Austria, 1,5 cbm 2,625 items

e. Identifiable Jewish Libraries of various Eastern countries, 1,7 cbm and 279 cases (practically all in Hebrew). 64,355 items

f. Identifiable Baltic Libraries, 12 cbm 21,000 items

g. Identifiable German Libraries, counted (see Incl. 6) 2,108 items

h. Identifiable German Free Mason lodges, counted 1,225 items

TOTAL books and archival material still in the Depot awaiting policy of restitution.

(a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h) 406,913 items

5. Total of books still in Archival Depot.

(2 + 3 + 4)

(2) 413,600 items

(3) 183,750 items

(4) 406,913 items

1,004,263 items

c) NOTE-see Incl.7:
"Internal Loot"
Material.

OAD OMC GH, ECONOMICS DIVISION 31 July 46 Monthly Report

6. Total books handled in the Depot.

(1 + 5)

(1) 1,378,852 items

(5) 1,004,263 items2,383,115 items


ISAAC BENCOWITZ
 Capt. SR
 Director OAD
 Economics Division

6 Incls.

Incl. 1 - List of Personnel as of 25 June 46.

Incl. 2 - Additional Libraries noted in the Depot during the month of July - to be added to the list of Libraries previously reported (see Incl. 2, OAD report for June 46),

Incl. 3 - List of Ex-Libris and corresponding number of books marked by each classified and stored in the OAD.

Incl. 4 - List of names and corresponding number of books marked by each classified and stored in the OAD.

Incl. 5 - List of German Residents whose correspondence was found with other archival material in the Offenbach Archival Depot.

Incl. 6 - Purely German Libraries.

Incl. 7 - "Internal Loot"

List of Jewish Libraries in Germany and the corresponding number of books of each at present in the OAD.