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The author would be grateful for any comments and corrections to this Survey. Please send comments and corrections to pkg@iisg.nl.

**THIS PDF DOCUMENT CONTAINS THE FRONT MATTER (TITLE, TABLE OF CONTENTS,
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ABBREVIATIONS, TECHNICAL NOTE AND FOREWORD) AND CHAPTER**

2. FRANCE

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PKG

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

The following list contains abbreviations and acronyms used in the Survey. Location has been given only for institutions that still exist. Details concerning historical institutions and units are provided in the Survey text.

AA	Auswärtiges Amt (Foreign Office), Berlin
AG	Arbeitsgruppe (Working Group)
AGR	Archives Générale de Royaume (National Archives), Brussels
AHC	Ardelia Hall Collection
ALIU	Art Looting Investigatory Unit
AMG	Allied Military Government
AMN	Archives de Musées Nationaux (Archives of the National Museums), Paris
AN-Paris	Archives nationales de France, Site de Paris (National Archives of France, Paris Site)
APA	Aussenpolitisches Amt (Foreign Policy Office)
ARA	Algemeen Rijksarchief (National Archives), Brussels
BA	Bundesarchiv, former acronym; now BArch
BADV	Bundesamt für zentrale Dienste und offene Vermögensfragen (Federal Office for Central Services and Unresolved Property Issues), Berlin
BArch	Bundesarchiv (Federal Archives)
BArch-MA	Bundesarchiv, Militärarchiv (Federal Archives-Military Archives), Freiburg
BIA	Bureau d'investigation artistique (Office of Art Investigation)
BTG	Brüsseler Treuhandgesellschaft (Brussels Trust Company)
CADN	Centre des archives diplomatiques de Nantes (Center for Diplomatic Archives in Nantes)
CARAN	Centre d'accueil et de recherche des Archives nationales (National Archives Center for Reception and Research), Paris
CCP	Central Collecting Point
CDJC	Centre de documentation juive contemporaine (Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation), Paris

CEGES	Centre d'Études et de Documentation de Guerre et Sociétés contemporaines (Center for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society), Brussels
CGQJ	Commissariat général aux questions juives (General Commissariat for Jewish Questions)
CHAN	Centre historique des Archives nationales (Historical Center of the National Archives), Paris; now AN-Paris
CIR	Consolidated Intelligence Report
CRA	Commission de récupération artistique (Commission for the Recovery of Art), Paris
CVA	Centrinis Valstybinis archyvas (Central State Archive), Vilnius
DBFU	Beauftragter des Führers für die Überwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP (Commissioner of the Führer for the Supervision of the Entire Intellectual and Ideological Schooling and Training of the NSDAP)
DGER	Direction général de l'enseignement et de la recherche (General Directorate for Study and Research), Paris
DHM	Deutsches Historisches Museum (German Historical Museum), Berlin
DIR	Detailed Intelligence Report
DOS	Dienst voor de Oorlogsslachtoffer (Service for War Victims), Brussels
DSK	Devisenschutzkommando (Currency Protection Commando)
ERR	Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (Operational Staff Reichsleiter Rosenberg)
GA RF	Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Rossiiskoi Federatsii (State Archive of the Russian Federation), Moscow
Gestapo	Geheime Staatspolizei (Secret State Police)
GFP	Geheime Feldpolizei (Secret Field Police)
HAG	Hauptarbeitsgruppe (Main Working Group)
IEJ	Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage (Institute for Research on the Jewish Question), Frankfurt am Main, later Hungen
IfZ	Institut für Zeitgeschichte (Institute of Contemporary History), Munich
IISG / IISH	Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis (International Institute of Social History), Amsterdam
IMT	International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg

JHM	Joods Historisch Museum (Jewish Historical Museum), Amsterdam
LV ABM	Landesverwaltung der Archive, Bibliotheken und Museen (Provincial Authority for Archives, Libraries, and Museums)
MAEE	Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes, (Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs), Paris
M-Aktion	Möbel-Aktion (Furniture Operation)
MBF	Der Militärbefehlshaber in Frankreich (Military Commander in France)
MCCP	Munich Central Collecting Point
MEA	Ministère des Affaires économiques (Ministry of Economic Affairs), Brussels
MEZ	Ministerie van Economische Zaken (Ministry of Economic Affairs), Brussels
MFA&A	Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives
MNR	Musées Nationaux Récupération (National Museums of Recovered Artwork)
MVD	Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del (Ministry of Internal Affairs)
NACP	National Archives of the United States, College Park, MD
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NKVD	Narodnyi komissariat vnutrennikh del (People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs)
NSDAP	Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (National-Socialist German Workers Party)
OAD	Offenbach Archival Depot
OBIP	Office des biens et intérêts privés (Office of Private Property and Interests)
OUSCCPAC	Office of United States Chief Counsel for the Prosecution of Axis Criminality
OKH	Oberkommando des Heeres (High Command of the Army)
OKW	Oberkommando der Wehrmacht (High Command of the Armed Forces)
OMGUS	Office of Military Government, United States
OSS	Office of Strategic Services

PA AA	Politisches Archiv, Auswärtiges Amt (Political Archive of the Foreign Office), Berlin
PRO	Public Record Office; now TNA
PS	Paris-Storey
RA	Collection des fonds des services de la récupération artistiques (Collection of fonds from art recovery agencies), MAEE fond designation
RG	Record Group, NACP designation
RGVA	Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi voennyi arkhiv (Russian State Military Archive), Moscow
RIOD	Rijksinstituut voor Oorlogsdocumentatie (Royal Institute of War Documentation); now NIOD
RKO	Reichskommissariat / Reichskommissar für das Ostland (Reich Commissar / Commissariat for Ostland)
RKU	Reichskommissariat / Reichskommissar Ukraine (Reich Commissar / Commissariat for Ukraine)
RMbO	Reichsministerium für die besetzten Ostgebiete (Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories)
RSHA	Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Security Main Office)
RV	Rose Valland, former MAEE fond designation
SEA	Staff Evidence Analysis
SCL	Sous-commission des livres (Sub-Commission for Books)
SD	Sicherheitsdienst (Security Service)
SHAEF	Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force
Sipo / SiPo	Sicherheitspolizei (Security Police)
SOMA	Studie en Documentatiecentrum Oorlog en Hedendaagse Maatschappij (Center for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Society), Brussels
SROA	Service de remise en place des oeuvres d'art (Service for the Return of Works of Art)
SVG	Service des Victimes de la Guerre (Service for War Victims), Brussels
TMI	Tribunal militaire internationale (International Military Tribunal)
TNA	The National Archives, London-Kew; formerly PRO

TsDAVO	Tsentral'nyi derzhavnyi arkhiv vyshchych orhaniv derzhavnoi vlyady ta upravlinnia Ukraïny (Central State Archive of the Highest Agencies of State Power and Administration of Ukraine), Kyiv (Kiev)
TsDAZhR URSS	Tsentral'nyi derzhavnyi arkhiv Zhovtnevoï Revoliutsii Ukraïns'koï Radians'koï Sotsialistychnoï Respubliki (Central State Archive of the October Revolution, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic), now TsDAVO
TsGAOR SSSR	Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Oktiabr'skoi Revoliutsii Soiuzu Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik (Central State Archive of the October Revolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), now part of GA RF
TsGOA SSSR	Tsentral'nyi gosudarstvennyi osobyi arkhiv Soiuzu Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik (Central State Special Archive of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), now part of RGVA
TsKhIDK	Tsentr khraneniia istoriko-dokumental'nykh kolleksi (Center for the Preservation of Historico-Documentary Collections), now part of RGVA
TVK	Treuhandverwaltung für Kulturgut (Trust Administration for Cultural Assets)
URO	United Restitution Organization
USHMM	United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC
YIVO	YIVO Jewish Research Institute, before 1939 in Wilno, Poland; after 1939 in New York
ZBHS	Zentralbibliothek der Hohen Schule (Central Library of the Hohe Schule NSDAP)

TECHNICAL NOTE

Numerical Hierarchy: Given the scope and complexity of this compendium, the publisher has introduced a numerical hierarchical system often found in European archival literature. This system is intended to facilitate cross-referencing within the text and to provide a modicum of consistency for the description of archival materials within varying repositories in different countries. The repositories described differ widely in their own organization and usage, and at times, the numerical system imposed may appear at odds with the internal usage of a given repository. In general, the levels breakdown as follows:

Level 1 COUNTRY

Level 2 REPOSITORY

Level 3 RECORD GROUP (BESTAND, FOND, ETC.)

Level 4 SERIES

Level 5 SUB-SERIES

Levels 3-5 tend to denote the formal names of record groups, series, and sub-series within an archive, but this is not always the case. In some instances, unnumbered headings have been inserted to designate or highlight particular group of ERR-related documents not indicated as such by the archive itself.

Document-level descriptions are usually preceded by an en-dash.

Documentary Coverage: The descriptions of archival holdings here focus on two broad groups of documentation.

First and foremost are those documents created by the ERR, its working groups and special staffs, as well as the projected university-level Hohe Schule for the Nazi elite and its Central Library (ZBHS) and institutes, in particular the Institute for Research on the Jewish Question Research (IEJ). Also included are the records of the related Furniture Operation (Möbel-Aktion), which was initially run by the western affairs office (Amt Westen) of Rosenberg's Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories (RMbO). The documents discussed address not only the confiscation and processing of cultural assets, but also their shipment, distribution, and storage in repositories throughout the prewar Reich, Austria, and the Sudetenland.

The second general group consists of the documentation created by the western Allies and various governments in the process of locating, recovering, identifying, and returning the archives, books, art, and other cultural or religious objects seized by the ERR or during the the Möbel-Aktion.

Beyond these two groups are such related records as the materials prepared for the Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, where Rosenberg was among the defendants.

Level of Detail: Descriptions herein differ from repository to repository in depth and extent. In larger repositories where detailed finding aids are available to researchers, the tendency is to rely on those finding aids and to provide only summary descriptions. Two key exceptions are: 1) the Bundesarchiv Koblenz, because the descriptions of record group B 323 located here were prepared for this Survey long before the recently completed German finding aid went on-line, and 2) the Archives of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE) in

La Courneuve (near Paris), because the coverage of select files found in this Survey represents the first detailed descriptions of these records available to the general public. More detail is also given to record groups where the only available finding aids are brief folder lists, as is often the case at the National Archives of the United States in College Park, MD (NACP).

For smaller repositories and for repositories with limited ERR-related materials, such as YIVO in New York and the Central State Archive (CVA) in Vilnius, more detail is provided at the file and document levels.

Transliteration of Cyrillic: For transcription of Cyrillic references, the Library of Congress system of transliteration is used throughout, modified by the omission of ligatures. Exceptions may appear when an alternate is used in a documentary title or text.

Geographic Names: In general, place names are rendered in accepted English forms (Moscow, Cracow, etc.) or in a form derived from the present-day official language of a country. The major exception to this rule are the ERR evacuation sites and repositories in the Sudetenland. These are given in German first with Czech in parentheses, for example, Troppau (Cz. Opava). These sites appear so often in the German and the U.S. documentation that asserting the Czech and switching to German repository names would disrupt the text and create confusion.

Where names are almost phonetically identical in their English, German, and local forms, the local form alone is used, for example, Novgorod, Dnipropetrovsk, Tukums, Pärnu, etc. Where the German and local names fundamentally differ from one another, the local names come first with the German in parentheses: Tallinn (Ger. Reval), Pskov (Ger. Pleskau), Mohileu (Ger. Mogilew), etc. Here, too, when a well-known English form is nearly the same phonetically as either of the forms given, no additional variation is added.

Where cities changed hands in 1939 or in 1945, they are noted as follows: Niasvitzh (prewar Nieśwież, Poland), Ratibor (postwar Racibórz, Poland), etc. In the case of Vilnius, Vilna is added to accommodate the predominant English form from between the world wars, as well as the YIVO preference: Vilnius (also Vilna; prewar Wilno, Poland).

U.S. postwar documents refer to Altaussee as Alt Aussee. Within this Survey, Altaussee has been used.

Acronyms: Acronyms reflect the original language of the institution or other agency they represent. In the case of Belgium, both Flemish and French acronyms are presented. A list of the acronyms used in this text (along with names in their original language and English translation) is given. The full form of a repository or agency name is also provided upon first use in each country chapter and repository-level section.

Archival Terminology in the Post-Soviet Realm: In the Soviet Union, as well as archives today in Russia and Ukraine, the Russian and Ukrainian archival term *fond* can be more extensive than a “record group,” because it can include personal papers or what Western archivists would refer to as a “collection.” Hence the term has been anglicized and should not be translated as “collection.” That would create confusion about the type of archival materials involved.

For citations from Russian and Ukrainian archives, references are given as follows: archival acronym, fond number, inventory or series (*opis'* in Russian or *opys* in Ukrainian) and file unit (*edinitsa khraneniia* or *delo* in Russian or *sprava* in Ukrainian). In both Russian and Ukrainian, an *opis'* or *opys* is a series within a fond and a finding aid or inventory of file units. In citations of folios (pages) within a file, the letter “v” after a folio number indicates the overleaf (*verto*).

Names of Individuals and Art Collections: Particular attention has been given to identifying the correct names of owners whose cultural assets were confiscated by the ERR. Often, the only available documentation for these are ERR records, and in several cases, the ERR rendered names incorrectly or in a Germanized form. Of particular concern are the Jewish owners of art collections seized in France and processed by the ERR in the Jeu de Paume building in Paris.

The on-line database “Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR): Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume,” a project of the Conference on Jewish Materials Claims Against Germany located at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (see Section 9.2.3.), is based on the original ERR records and thus adheres largely to ERR spellings, some of which went on to circulate in postwar documents, including U.S. intelligence reports and, most recently, *The AAM Guide to Provenance Research*. Appendix 1 of this volume is based on the names of collection owners such as they are found in French claims dossiers or other sources. ERR versions of names are also provided.

The French or ERR versions may not be the only versions of the names encountered. Some of the owners were of foreign nationality and their names often took another form upon assuming French citizenship. Some later filed postwar claims from countries other than France. In addition, different members of the same family sometimes used different forms of their name (or even a pseudonym) in different countries in the course of their flight from Nazi persecution. Accordingly, names can appear in slightly variant forms in the descriptions of the records below. It has not been possible to correct inconsistencies or provide alternate spellings for all of the victims, but where possible, corrections have been added.

Repository Websites: The links inserted in Survey functioned as of the date of publication. This does not preclude the possibility that some will change over time or be discontinued.

On-line Research Resources: The number of digitized resources available to researchers, including specialists working in provenance research, has expanded significantly in the last five years, ranging from the offerings of commercial vendors such as Footnote to those of state archives such as the ARGUS system of the Bundesarchiv. Most of these resources are explained at length in the text (see in particular Chapter 3, pp. xxxx-xxxx, Section 3.1.1., Section 3.1.2, and Section 3.6, as well as Section 9.1., pp. xxxx-xxxx, and Section 9.2.3.). Two items, however, should be mentioned here, as they bear on specific features of this Survey.

First, the company Footnote has so far posted on the Internet four NARA microfilm publications relevant to this Survey. During the editing of this volume, it was discovered that the links to images were did not change each time they were accessed. Therefore, for three of the four microfilm publications, the editors inserted the links beneath the proper file descriptions. Thus readers may quickly view the documents described in:

- *NARA Microfilm Publication M1942: Records Concerning the Central Collecting Points (“Ardelia Hall Collection”): Offenbach Archival Depot, 1946-1951;*
- *NARA Microfilm Publication M1782: OSS Art Looting Investigation Unit Reports, 1945-1946); and*
- *NARA Microfilm Publications M1270: Interrogations Records Prepared for War Crimes Proceedings at Nuernberg, 1945-1947.*

Time did not permit doing the same for the files described in *NARA Microfilm Publication M1947: Records Concerning The Central Collecting Points (“Ardelia Hall Collection”): Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point, 1945-1952*, which is much larger than the others. At the time of insertion, access to these collections was free. Since the summer of 2010, this is no longer the case. Readers who wish to view the holdings at footnote.com will have to subscribe.

Second, less important to provenance research, but important to the overall history of Alfred Rosenberg's activities, including the ERR, are the documents processed for the Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal (IMT) in Nuremberg. The proceedings and most of the documents entered in evidence before the IMT were later published in *Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg*, known to specialists as the "Blue Series." Within the Blue Series, the Nuremberg editors placed an asterisk after documents appearing in the document volumes of the series. The editors of this Survey have also adopted this practice as a service to researchers. This is all the more convenient, since the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress has posted the English edition of the Blue Series on-line (see Section 9.1.7.).

Telephone Numbers: Depending on provider, mobile or land-line, private or public, making local or long distance calls within some of the countries discussed in this Survey is not as straightforward as in other countries. Researchers should consult the Internet for the most up-to-date information on dialing telephone numbers in the country they plan to visit.

Printing: The Survey and its appendices are for the most part formatted on U.S. Letter-size throughout, as this prints well on DINA4-size paper as well. The sole exception is Appendix 1, which is on DINA4 and can be printed to U.S. Legal.

Updates: At least one update is planned twelve months after this Survey goes on-line. Thereafter, additional updates should follow on an annual basis. The compiler and the publisher would be exceedingly grateful for comments and corrections. Please send comments and corrections to pkg@iisg.nl.

FOREWORD

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) is most pleased to sponsor the electronic publication of *Reconstructing the Record of Nazi Cultural Plunder: A Survey of the Dispersed Archives of the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR)* and to have assisted in some of its preparation. Compiled by Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, the preeminent expert on archives displaced as a result of the Second World War, this work promises to be of great use to historians, archivists, provenance researchers, museum curators, art dealers, and the heirs of families and communities that were plundered. Appropriately, it is being published by the International Institute for Social History, whose massive Amsterdam and Paris library and archival collections were plundered by the ERR beginning in 1940, and whose building on the Keizersgracht was used for the ERR headquarters in the Netherlands.

Dedicated since 1951 to providing a measure of justice for Jewish victims of Nazism, the Claims Conference has always been concerned with the restitution of plundered artworks, religious artifacts, archives, libraries, and other cultural property. But restitution efforts in this area have in the past yielded far fewer results than have efforts to reconstitute non-cultural assets such as immovable property and bank accounts, insurance policies, and other financial holdings. The reasons for this lack of progress include the ease of transporting artworks and books across international borders, the lack of public records documenting original ownership, the difficulty of tracing art transactions through the decades, and in some countries, the lack of government commitment to restitution, appropriate legislation, or a central authority to arbitrate claims.

At the Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets in 1998, attention turned to the importance of archival records in understanding the plunder of art and other cultural property by the Nazis and their allies. Subsequently, at a seminar presentation at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in February 2000, Patricia Grimsted made an appeal for a virtual compendium of the widely dispersed records of one of the most important Nazi cultural looting agencies, the ERR. This idea was discussed with interest by delegates from many countries later in October of that year at the Vilnius International Forum on Holocaust-Era Looted Cultural Assets. During the next few years, Dr Grimsted continued to uncover the locations of scattered ERR files and wrote an article on patterns of ERR library and archival plunder during the Second World War, as well as articles on the postwar fate of the ERR's loot and its documentation.

At the same time, the Claims Conference and the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) began a comprehensive program to assist the further restitution of Jewish-owned art and cultural property lost and plundered during the Holocaust. Although a number of countries have compiled lists of cultural losses, there has been no large-scale attempt to determine the full scope of cultural property seized by the specific agencies of the Nazis and their allies that has not been restituted. Instead, the focus has been on checking the provenance of museum collections and on claims made by individual survivors and heirs of owners. But more often than not, families and communities do not have full knowledge of what was taken from them. Art dealers, major collectors, and institutions may have kept lists of artworks or catalogs of libraries and archives prior to the war, but often such lists and catalogs – like their owners – did not survive the Holocaust, and in any event, the vast majority of the millions of persons who were robbed had no such lists or catalogs. We therefore decided to try to reconstruct the historical-archival record so as 1) to develop listings of what was plundered by the Nazis and their allies; 2) to assemble

listings of cultural property known to have been restituted; and thereby 3) to produce net listings of outstanding items of cultural property that have yet to be returned.¹

In consultation with Dr Grimsted, the Claims Conference therefore undertook to support three major activities in regard to the records of the ERR. The first is the online publication of the current survey and preliminary guide. The second is the ongoing imaging of the ERR files located in Kyiv (Kiev), Moscow, Vilnius, Berlin, Koblenz, Amsterdam, Paris, New York, and Washington with a view to making the ERR records generally available. And the third is the joint creation with the USHMM of a Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume that brings together in searchable form documentation, including photographs, of the over 20,000 major art objects that the ERR confiscated from Jews in Paris, in other parts of France and parts of Belgium and brought for processing to the Jeu de Paume in the Tuileries Gardens.²

These three activities should prove to be very helpful to the field of provenance research that has developed so greatly in the art world – but also in regard to libraries and Judaica - over the past decade or so. Indeed, in some respects these three activities taken as a whole may constitute a paradigm shift for the field. Instead of looking at collections in museums today, at lists of objects being sought by claimants, or at lists of objects found after the Second World War, the aim is to reconstruct the original record of what was seized and from whom by bringing together what remains of the detailed records that the Nazis – in this case specifically the ERR – kept of their looting.

This approach should prove helpful not only in the restitution of Jewish cultural property but also in the identification of the losses by non-Jewish institutions and families. In particular in its activities on the Eastern Front, the ERR necessarily had different priorities and different patterns of plunder than in Western Europe, since the only small private or Jewish-held collections were found in western areas annexed to the Soviet Union in 1939. As a result, unlike France, the ERR plundered cultural items primarily from Soviet state institutions. Countries such as Russia and Ukraine that are seeking the return of their cultural property often lack knowledge of what was taken from where by which Nazi agency and what was returned after the war.

In June 2009, 47 countries along with relevant non-governmental organizations participated in the Holocaust Era Assets Conference held in Prague and agreed to the Terezín Declaration, which calls for international cooperation in provenance research and the restitution of cultural property. This Survey directly relates to the goals of the Terezín Declaration and such international cooperation, and Dr Grimsted appropriately presented the project at the Prague Conference.

The importance of this Survey goes well beyond its relevance to provenance research and the restitution of cultural property, however. In its allocation grants to institutions in research and education, the Claims Conference has for many years been the principal supporter of Holocaust-related archival work. The importance of this Survey is equally in its relevance to the restitution of history.

Wesley A. Fisher, Director of Research
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

¹ Information regarding the Claims Conference / WJRO Looted Art and Cultural Property Initiative may be found at <http://www.claimscon.org> under “Artworks” and “Judaica”; for .

² See <http://www.errproject.org/jeudepaume/>.

2. FRANCE

Introductory Remarks

Of all the German-occupied countries and territories, France undoubtedly suffered the greatest losses in cultural property due to seizures, especially in terms of the value of art plundered from collections of private Jewish ownership. And the ERR was certainly the biggest culprit. At the end of July 1944, Robert Scholz, head of Special Staff Fine Arts (Sonderstab Bildende Kunst), submitted his infamous report with the figure of 21,903 identified works of art looted from France during the period October 1940 to July 1944.² French specialists today suggest that some 100,000 works of art were plundered from France, but the ERR itself was not responsible for all of these losses. The French commission now dealing with Holocaust-related looted art and other cultural assets quotes the figure of 65,000 items returned to France, 45,000 of which could be returned to their owners. But such statistics may not be complete, and these estimates do not include rare books or valuable manuscripts.

While the ERR processed most of its loot in the Louvre and then the Jeu de Paume, other seized paintings were sold or exchanged or simply never made it through the ERR inventory process. How many thousands of books, manuscripts, and archival materials were also confiscated remains to this day difficult to calculate with any semblance of accuracy, because even after the ERR had plundered its own choice of libraries, thousands of more books came into the possession of the ERR in the Furniture Operation (Möbel-Aktion, M-Aktion), while even more were seized by the Gestapo and the Security Service (Sicherheitsdienst, SD), the Nazi party's intelligence service. Simultaneously, the Möbel-Aktion, as reported by Kurt von Behr, emptied an estimated 38,000 homes of Jews who had fled France or had been deported to the east, but again, that figure is only a rough estimate. No fewer than 674 trains, totaling at least 26,984 freight cars, transported those household goods to the Reich or beyond.³

Today, the documentation of these war crimes is also scattered across Europe. For example, the most authoritative lists of notable private institutional and personal libraries plundered by the ERR in Paris are among the ERR files located in Kyiv (Kiev). Only recently have French researchers received copies of these lists. An earlier ERR list of almost 200 important confiscated private libraries is now missing from the records of the German Military Commander in France held in the Federal Archives-Military Archives (Bundesarchiv-Militärarchiv) in Freiburg, although a carbon copy from French library restitution records in the National Archives – Paris Site was declassified in the late 1990s.⁴ That may explain why much more has been known in the

² Robert Scholz, "Sonderstab Bildende Kunst: Arbeitsbericht über die Zeit vom Oktober 1940 bis Juli 1944" / "Rapport sur l'activité de l'état-major special pour l'art de la peinture durant la période d'octobre 1940 à juillet 1944" (14 July 1944), Nuremberg document PS-1015b* (US-385, RF-1323), published in International Military Tribunal, Blue Series (English and French editions), vol. 26, pp. 524-530; English translation in Office of the United States Chief of Counsel for Prosecution of Axis Criminality, Red Series, vol. III, pp. 666-670. That figure is discussed by Michel Rayssac, *L'Exode des musées: Histoire des oeuvres d'art sous l'occupation* (Paris: Payot, 2007), p. 649. He claims the figure should be reduced to 16,908, because the ERR lacked experts to complete the inventory. Scholz's figure was broken down to include 4,281 paintings, 684 miniatures, 583 sculptures, 2,477 pieces of furniture of historical value, 583 textiles (tapestries, etc.), and 5,825 objets d'art, 1,286 oriental objets d'art, and 239 objects of antiquity.

³ That is the figure for France suggested by Annette Wiewiorka et al., *Le pillage des appartements et son indemnisation* (Paris: Documentation française, 2000), passim. Kurt von Behr's report on Dienststelle Westen gives the figure of 69,619 emptied Jewish residences in France, Belgium, and the Netherlands: "Gesamtleistungsbericht bis zum 31. Juli 1944" (8 Aug. 1944), Nuremberg document L-188* (US-386), published in IMT, Blue Series (English and French editions), vol. 38, pp. 25-33; English translation in Red Series, vol. VII, pp. 1,022-1,026.

⁴ See details in the coverage of the Bundesarchiv-Militärarchiv (BArch-MA) in Freiburg and the reference to the copy of those reports on microfilms prepared by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) before those records were returned to West Germany in the 1960s.

West about the ERR plunder of French Jewish-owned collection of art than the millions of books and archives the ERR and the affiliated Möbel-Aktion also confiscated from Jews, Free Masons, and other “enemies of the Reich” in France.

The single largest collection of ERR documentation (originals and copies) in Paris is that of the Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation (Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine, CDJC) now part of the Mémorial de la Shoah. This collection was acquired from documents processed for the Nuremberg trials. The Nuremberg-Rosenberg collection in the CDJC has been expanded over the years by the addition of scattered documentation from German occupation authorities and postwar claims files. Now a part of the Shoah Memorial, CDJC holdings have long been publicly accessible with item-level descriptive catalogue data. Selected CDJC documentation is gradually being made even more accessible by means of an electronic database, with some of the descriptions and selected documents being placed on the Internet.

Much more systematic information about French cultural property losses and the claims files for postwar restitution is held by the Archives of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Ministère des Affaires étrangères et Européennes, MAEE), which moved in 2009 from the Quai d’Orsay to a new facility outside of Paris in La Courneuve. Many important ERR documents (originals, copies, or abstracts) have been incorporated into the files of France’s official restitution agencies, but those sources have generally been closed to the public due to French privacy laws limiting access to documents pertaining to personal property. An extensive database created at the Quai d’Orsay is off limits to the public, but can be used by staff in replying to inquiries from owners or their heirs. However, a shortage of staff and a limited searching capacity have further curtailed public access to information.

The description below of a small part of MAEE archival holdings on plunder and restitution is the most extensive published to date, but the coverage here addresses only a fraction of the records and is focused mainly on those directly related to ERR operations and postwar investigations undertaken to recover ERR loot. The passage of the 2008 archival law reducing closure to 50 years and the promise of a new electronic reference system give hope that the processing of those collections can be expedited. With the transfer to La Courneuve, the reprocessing of several key series has gotten underway. At last, parts of this important body of sources are being made more accessible to the public.

Many of the files from the French Commission for the Recovery of Art (Commission de récupération artistique, CRA) stem from the records of plunder compiled during the war by legendary curator Rose Valland, copies of original ERR inventories received from U.S. sources, postwar investigations, and interrogations of ERR staff. Wartime sources have thus been greatly expanded by the research of the past six decades. Having witnessed how the ERR systematically registered and expedited looted art to Germany, Valland served as the executive secretary of the CRA. Other CRA records, including those from Paris, augment Valland’s files from her offices with the French military occupation authorities in Baden-Baden and Berlin, making a collection from different sources that now comprise over 1,000 boxes. Many of those files were initially held in the Louvre, but are now in La Courneuve. A few related files with wartime and postwar documentation remain in the Louvre within the Archives of the French National Museums (Archives des Musées nationaux, AMN), including some additional materials created or collected by Rose Valland herself (see Section 2.3.).

The National Archives – Paris Site (Archives Nationales, Site de Paris, AN-Paris) has other important records of German agencies during the war, such as a part of records of the Military Commander in France (Militärbefehlshaber in Frankreich, MBF), along with documentation on “Aryanization” and plunder carried out by other German agencies, much of the art from which was then turned over to the ERR. The AN-Paris also retain the records of the wartime French

General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (Commissariat général aux questions juives, CGQJ), which handled many of the French complaints about confiscation, and its postwar counterpart Restitution Service for Property of Victims (Service de restitution des biens des victimes des lois et mesures de spoliation), which handled many of the claims for sequestration by the Möbel-Aktion. Well described and open for consultation since 1998, those fonds provide considerable documentation of importance, but serve only as examples of the many sources available.

The coverage here is focused on ERR documentation and serves to supplement the fine *Guide des recherches dans les archives des spoliations et des restitutions* [Research guide for the archives of plunder and restitution] prepared by Caroline Piketty and her team and the recent specialized guide to M-Aktion sources by Annette Wiewiorka and her colleagues. These general research guides and the other important reference works that follow provide more details on the sources in France, dispersed as they are in several Parisian repositories. Unfortunately, as indicated in those guides, not all of them are as yet open for public consultation.

General Research Guides and Background Reference

Archives de Paris, 1939-1945. Guide des sources historiques conservées aux Archives de Paris. Comp. Brigitte Lainé, Philippe Grand, and Pascale Verdier under the direction of Jean-Marie Jenn. Paris: Édition des musées de la Ville de Paris, 1994.

An annotated guide to holdings in the municipal archives, none of which directly involve the ERR, although some materials are indirectly related to wartime plunder and more directly to the art market.

Dreyfus, Jean-Marc. *Pillages sur ordonnances: Aryanisation et restitution des banques en France, 1940-1953.* Preface by Antoine Prost. Paris: Fayard, 2003.

Provides a good illustration of the “Aryanization” process in France and gives background information on some of the major French banking families, such as David-Weill, Louis Dreyfus, and the Rothschilds, whose art collections were among those plundered by the ERR. Includes good coverage of available sources and bibliography, both on plunder and postwar restitution.

Dreyfus, Jean-Marc, and Sarah Gensburger. *Des Camps dans Paris. Austerlitz, Levitan, Bassane.* Paris: Fayard, 2003.

Although focused on the internment camps for Jews within Paris, this book has good introductory chapters on the function of the Möbel-Aktion and provides considerable coverage of available sources on ERR plunder and postwar restitution.

Feliciano, Hector. *The Lost Museum: The Nazi Conspiracy to Steal the World's Greatest Works of Art.* Translated by Tim Bent and Hector Feliciano. New York: Basic Books, 1997. Originally published in French as *Le musée disparu*. Paris: Editions Austral, 1995.

A revealing, well researched investigatory journalistic narrative about the plunder of art in France, the fate of the plundered art during the war, and the still unresolved problems of displaced art and restitution issues. Separate chapters are devoted to the seizure of well known collections, such as those of the Rothschilds, Bernheim-Jeune, David-Weill, Paul Rosenberg, and Schloss; these are followed by sketches of the wartime art market, the role of Switzerland as a haven for art traffic, and a few poignant examples of efforts to locate and retrieve still lost paintings. The final chapter calls attention to embarrassing issue of the 2,000 works of art returned to France and then turned over to the collection known as the National

Museums of Recovered Artwork (Musées nationaux recuperation, MNR), without their owners ever being identified.

Gensburger, Sarah. *Images d'un pillage. Album de la spoliation des Juifs à Paris, 1940-1944*. Paris: Éditions Textuel, 2010.

Traces the operations of the Möbel-Aktion in Paris and reproduces with considerable commentary an album of original M-Aktion photographs now located among the records of the Trust Administration for Cultural Assets (Treuhandverwaltung für Kulturgut, TVK) in the Bundesarchiv Koblenz (B 323/361; see Section 3.2.1.2.3.).

Guide Européen des sources d'archives sur le Shoah / European Guide of Archival Sources on the Shoah. Paris: CDJC, 1999.

A brief and highly selective survey of selected archives serves to locate Jewish museums, but gives only minimal coverage of holdings.

Guide des recherches dans les archives des spoliations et des restitutions. Ed. Caroline Piketty, with Christophe Dubois and Fabrice Launay. Paris: La documentation française, 2000. Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France.

On-line edition: <http://lesrapports.ladocumentationfrancaise.fr/BRP/014000425/0000.pdf>

A basic guide to research in French repositories, and a good starting point, with admirable explanations of the complicated interrelationship of various groups of records in terms of the function of the agencies represented. The first part provides a helpful orientation to major groups of records preserved in public archives, with capsule administrative histories of the agency, and descriptions of the relevant holdings related to plunder during the war and restitution thereafter. The second part covers sources for research on specific subjects. Most relevant to the ERR is the coverage of works of art and plunder of residences by the Möbel-Aktion. The introduction has a helpful section on rules of access to French archives that have materials from the Second World War and postwar restitution, with specific mention of limitations of access in the case of some of the records described, such as the collections held by MAEE. The latter situation has already changed since the passage of the 2008 archival law. Cross-references to this guide appear below in individual listings for groups of records.

Inventar von Quellen zur deutschen Geschichte in Pariser Archiven und Bibliotheken. Comp. Georg Schnath. Ed. Wolfgang Hans Stein. 2 vols. Koblenz, 1986-2002.

Vol. 1: Koblenz: Selbstverlag der Landesarchivverwaltung Rheinland-Pfalz; Landeshauptarchiv Koblenz, 1986; = *Veröffentlichungen der Landesarchivverwaltung Rheinland-Pfalz*, vol. 39.

Vol. 2: *Archive im Bereich des Verteidigungsministeriums, Archive des Aussen- und des Finanzministeriums, Stadtpariser Archive und Bibliotheken*. Stuttgart: Jan Thorbecke, 2002; = *Veröffentlichungen der Landesarchivverwaltung Rheinland-Pfalz*, vol. 97; *Instrumenta*, vol. 5.

An inventory of sources for pre-World War II German history, based on a version prepared during occupation by the Archives Group (Gruppe Archivwesen) of the Reichsarchiv's Archive Protection Office (Archivschutz) under Georg Schnath. None of the sources listed are directly related to the ERR, but the volume is important for a perspective on the organization of French archives in the 1940s and the helpful introductions by Wolfgang Hans Stein on German archival work in Paris during the war.

Lesné, Claude, and Anne Roquebert. *Catalogue des peintures MNR*. Paris: Réunion des musées nationaux, 2004.

On-line edition: <http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/pres.htm>

A well researched catalogue with black and white illustrations of 983 paintings registered as part of the MNR. These were returned to France after the war, but their owners or heirs were never identified. The catalogue is arranged alphabetically by artist within eight designated country schools and a final miscellaneous group. Provenance summaries include the wartime migration of the paintings with reference to available catalogue numbers, for example, for the Göring and Linz collections, as well as registration numbers from the Munich Central Collecting Point (MCCP) and Baden-Baden as available. The introduction elucidates many important sources and explains many of the research difficulties encountered in France and abroad. The Internet database version of the catalogue provides many colored illustrations.

À qui appartenait ces tableaux? La politique française de recherche de provenance, de garde et de restitution des oeuvres d'art pillées durant la Seconde Guerre mondiale/ Looking for Owners. French Policy for Provenance Research, Restitution and Custody of Art Stolen in France during World War Two. Edited with an introduction by Isabelle le Masne de Chermont and Laurence Sigal-Klagsbald. Paris: Réunion des musées nationaux, 2008.

A bilingual catalogue of an exhibition at the Museum of Isreal, Jerusalem (18 Feb.-3 June 2008), and the Musée d'art et d'histoire du Judaïsme, Paris (24 June-28 Sep. 2008). Presents 53 high-profile examples, most of them from the MNR collection of paintings returned to France, without their owners or heirs ever being identified. Quality, colored illustrations accompany professional descriptions and provenance notes. In a few cases, provenance and introductory notes have been updated since publication of the aforementioned 2004 catalogue of MNR paintings. The introduction presents a helpful account of the plunder and dispersal of art during the Second World War, with an emphasis on ERR activities in France.

Lorenz, Claude. *La France et les restitutions allemandes au lendemain de la seconde guerre mondiale (1943-1954)*. Paris: Direction des Archives et de la Documentation, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, 1998; = *Diplomatie et histoire*, vol. 3. Available earlier as a doctoral dissertation (Lille: A.N.R.T. Université de Lille III, 1995).

A detailed study of postwar German restitution (1943-1954) with considerable attention to cultural property.

Le Pillage de l'art en France pendant l'occupation et la situation des 2 000 oeuvres confiés aux musées nationaux. Ed. Isabelle le Masne de Chermont and Didier Schulmann. Paris: La Documentation française, 2000; *Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France*. Direction des Musées de France and Centre Georges-Pompidou.

An initial chapter provides a helpful background account of the plunder of art during the German occupation especially by the ERR and the western affairs office (Dienststelle Westen) of the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories. A subsequent chapter surveys postwar restitution under the auspices of the Commission for the Recovery of Art (CRA), 1944-1949, with an explanation of the mechanism for restitution from Germany and compensation under West Germany's Federal Restitution Law (Bundesrückerstattungsgesetz, BRÜG). Specific attention is devoted to the 2,000 unrestituted works of art that were confined by the Commission on Choice (Commission de choix), 1949-1953, to the MNR. Provides a succinct description of research resources, bibliography, and appended French documents on restitution and the fate of works of art not identified as to owners.

Pillages et restitutions: le destin des oeuvres d'art sorties de France pendant la seconde guerre mondiale. Actes du colloque organisé par la Direction des musées de France, le 17 novembre 1996. Ed. Robert Fohr and Guillaume de la Broise. Paris: Éditions Adam Biro, 1997; Direction des musées de France.

Presents summary reports about wartime plunder, sales, and the fate of French public and private art collections during the war and restitution operations thereafter. Also comments on the controversy surrounding the 2,000 plus unclaimed paintings turned over to the MNR.

Poullain, Martine. *Livres pillés, lectures surveillées: les bibliothèques françaises sous l'occupation.* Paris: Gallimard, 2008.

The first comprehensive study of libraries during the German occupation brings together extensive data from a wealth of sources, with good survey chapters on library developments and collaboration in France. Provides examples of prominent French individuals and institutions whose libraries were confiscated, particularly drawn from recently available extensive French postwar claims and restitution files. Weaker on ERR versus SD and Gestapo and other German reports on confiscations and shipments, only few of which remain in France, although one appendix renders the listings from the March and April 1941 ERR lists, copies of which are found in the Archives Nationales. The author's database of confiscated and restituted French libraries is at: http://www.cfaj.fr/publicat/livres_pilles.html.

Rayssac, Michel. *L'exode des musées: histoire des oeuvres d'art sous l'occupation.* Paris: Payot, 2007.

A detailed well researched compendium on the fate of French art collections during the war. Details and excerpts from contemporary documents presented in a chronological sequence that reads like a detective story. The thorough indexing is particular helpful for reference use.

La Seconde Guerre mondiale. Guide des sources conservées en France, 1939-1945. Comp. Brigitte Blanc, Henry Rousso, and Chantal de Tourtier-Bonazzi. Paris: Archives Nationales, 1994.

An important directory surveying archival sources with helpful details on major holdings.

Simon, Matila. *The Battle of the Louvre: The Struggle to Save French Art in World War II.* New York: Hawthorn Books, 1971.

A well informed, popularized account of the French art scene during the war. Well-researched chapters (with a minimum of footnotes) recount the role and activities of the ERR and the Jeu de Paume processing operation. Subsequent chapters depict Göring-directed purchases and sales operations, including exchanges, and provide convincing details about some of the major players. While the more serious researcher would have appreciated more direct citation of sources, the author nonetheless provides a distinct flavor of developments.

Valland, Rose. *Front de l'art: Défense des collections françaises, 1939-1945.* Paris: Plon, 1961; 2nd edn.: Réunion des Musées nationaux, 1997.

An extremely well informed first-hand account of the French art scene during the war with an emphasis on the ERR processing operation in the Jeu de Paume, where the author served as a representative of the Museums of France. See an additional compilation of Valland's wartime notes and observations in a postwar commemorative volume held by the AMN (see Section 2.3.1.) and additional materials (including photographs used in the book) held along with her postwar French restitution office files in the MAEE archives (see Section 2.1.1.2.).

Wieviorka, Annette, Floriane Azoulay, and Jean Matteoli. *Le pillage des appartements et son indemnisation*. Paris: Documentation française, 2000; Mission d'étude sur la spoliation des Juifs de France.

On-line edition: <http://lesrapports.ladocumentationfrancaise.fr/BRP/004001393/0000.pdf>

Recounts the background and operations of the Möbel-Aktion in France for the removal of all furnishings from the residences of Jews who had fled or been deported. The authors discuss removal operations, shipments, and complicated issues of restitution or compensation of affected families after the war. Also includes a section on the removal and return of pianos and other musical instruments, which involved the ERR Special Staff Music (Sonderstab Musik). Many remaining archival sources for individual claims and restitution transfers are now located in Israel and Berlin (personal claims files), while some related organizational materials are found in the records of the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ) in the AN-Paris. See also the United Restitution Organization collection of Möbel-Aktion documents cited under Belgium (see Section 1, "General Background," and Section 1.2.) and the Netherlands (see Section 5, "General Directory of Sources").

Additional literature will be found in the bibliography at end of this volume.

2.1. MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET EUROPÉENNES (MAEE), DIRECTION DES ARCHIVES

[Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Directorate of Archives]

3, rue Suzanne Masson; 93126 La Courneuve

Tel.: +33 (0)1 / 43 17 70 48 and 43 17 42 42

Fax: +33 (0)1 / 43 17 48 44

Website: http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/ministere_817/archives-patrimoine_3512/index.html

The Archives of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE) hold the most important and most extensive documentation on the wartime plunder and postwar retrieval of French cultural property. Especially important for this Survey is the large Collection of Fonds from Art Recovery Agencies (Collection des fonds des services de la récupération artistiques, RA), including the Commission for the Recovery of Art (CRA). These documents, long unavailable to the public, were kept at the Quai d'Orsay until late 2008, when they were then closed for relocation to La Courneuve. They are now being reprocessed for public access.

Open since the autumn of 2009, the MAEE facility in La Courneuve now also holds the records of the French occupation authorities in Germany and Austria, previously housed at Colmar. These records are also being reprocessed. Recently transferred to La Courneuve is a large group of records from the Office of Private Property and Interests (Office des biens et intérêts privés, OBIP), located until 2010 in the MAEE Center for Diplomatic Archives in Nantes (Centre des archives diplomatique de Nantes, CADN). Pending pending their reprocessing, these records are still listed below under the Nantes facility (see Section 2.2.1.).

2.1.1. COLLECTION DES FONDS DES SERVICES DE LA RÉCUPÉRATION ARTISTIQUES (RA), Y COMPRIS LA COMMISSION DE RÉCUPÉRATION ARTISTIQUE (CRA)

[Collection of Fonds from Art Recovery Agencies, including the Commission for the Recovery of Art]

This huge collection – over 1,000 archival boxes – combines the surviving records, or parts thereof, from several different French agencies involved in the investigation of wartime plunder and the retrieval, identification, and restitution of looted cultural property. In many cases, there are some series of ERR or ERR-related files and documents incorporated into these records.⁵

⁵ Because no complete, up-to-date description of this important collection is publicly available, coverage here is more detailed than for other institutions regarding files examined. However, because the collection is still being processed, many of the descriptions, folder designations, and archival code numbers given below remain provisional. The still incomplete coverage here results from my brief examination of a limited number of boxes within different sections of the collection known to be related to the ERR before the MAEE moved to La Courneuve. This was facilitated by MAEE archivist Marie Gallup, who at the time was in charge of the MAEE Library and Collections of Personal Papers at the Quai d'Orsay and Anne Georgeon-Liskenne of the Department of Historical Archives, who is now in charge of the collection after the retirement of Marie Hamon in December 2008. Since the move to La Courneuve, several of the series have been processed. Anne Liskenne has kindly made the new finding aids available to me. A more definitive description of this collection must await the completion of processing.

Of key importance are the records of the Commission for the Recovery of Art (CRA), founded in November 1944 under the Ministry of National Education.⁶ The CRA was initially based in the Museum of the Jeu de Paume and presided over by Albert S. Henraux (président, Société des amis du Louvre). During the war, the Jeu de Paume had been used by the ERR as a major collection and registration center for plundered works of art. Rose Valland, who had represented the Museums of France in the Jeu de Paume during the war and would later become a senior curator in the Louvre, served as CRA secretary. A captain in the French First Army, she simultaneously assisted with French restitution efforts in Germany.⁷

Following the formal disbandment of the CRA in 1949, many of its functions were continued by the Office of Private Property and Interests (Office des biens et intérêts privés, OBIP) and other agencies.⁸ These records have suffered from several transfers since their creation. When the CRA closed down, these files remained in Valland's office in the Louvre. In 1982, they were turned over to the Musée du château de Bois-Préau (Rueil-Malmaison), before undergoing another transfer to the Quai d'Orsay in 1992.

The CRA processed claims for art objects submitted by French institutions, individuals, and families whose cultural property was seized during the German occupation. These records are of particular importance for tracing the fate of looted cultural property. In some cases, claims were forwarded to the CRA by OBIP, another French government claims office under the auspices of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This was especially the case for claims for works of art, libraries, and other valuable cultural property found abroad. Hence, many CRA claims files have been augmented by data from OBIP claims and sometimes include wartime documentation supporting claims. Related photographs, however, were earlier removed and arranged in separate cartons as noted below. The CRA claims files for institutions and individuals were recently processed, and many of them are now open for public research (RA 1-69; see Section 2.1.1.6.1.).⁹

The RA collection also includes a part of the records of the CRA Sub-Commission for Books (Sous-commission des livres, SCL), which was presided over by Jenny Delseaux of the Bibliothèque nationale.¹⁰ These files, previously located elsewhere, were added to the RA

⁶ For the legal basis of the CRA and its administrative functions in relation to other French government agencies in the early stage of its work, see the brief report by Michel Florisoone, "La Commission française de récupération artistique," *Mousetion* 55-56 (1946), pp. 67-73.

⁷ See the published account in the memoir by Rose Valland, *Front de l'art: Défense des collections françaises, 1939-1945* (Paris: Plon, 1961; 2nd edn: Réunion des Musées nationaux, 1997). See also Valland's wartime reports at the AMN (see Section 2.2.). Those, together with her short typescript memoir "Atmosphère du Jeu de Paume" (carton RA 107 [A27]) and her notes on ERR staff members at the Jeu de Paume (carton RA 876), deserve publication and further analysis. For more on Rose Valland, see the on-line exhibit:

http://www.chrd.lyon.fr/static/chrd/contenu/pdf/presse/e_DP_Rose_Valland.pdf.

⁸ Decree no. 49-1344 of 30 Sep. 1949 regarding the termination of the CRA specified OBIP as a successor organization and gave provisions for the disposal of cultural property not yet restituted. That decree also specified that the records of the CRA would be held by the Commission for the History of the Occupation and Liberation of France (Commission d'histoire de l'occupation et la libération de la France), and that any secret files would be closed for 50 years (*Journal officiel*, 2 Oct. 1949). The French text is available at:

<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/dec3049.htm>.

⁹ Copies of many French claims are also available at the National Archives in College Park (NACP), because copies were forwarded to U.S. restitution authorities, as conveniently listed in the *AAM Guide to Provenance Research*, pp. 80-86. The French claim numbers indicated are still valid, but the collection is now available only on microfilm, *NARA Microfilm Publications M 1947* (see Section 9.1.5.3.2.).

¹⁰ See Jenny Delseaux, "La Sous-commission des livres à la récupération artistique, 1944-1950," unpublished typescript (Paris, 1976). The MAEE now holds a reference copy reproduced from a copy held by the Library of International Contemporary Documentation (Bibliothèque de documentation internationale contemporaine), University of Paris IX in Nanterre.

collection in 2004. However, another large and important group of SCL records are held as part of Series F 17 (Ministry of Education) in the Archives Nationales (AN) in Paris (see Section 2.4.6.). Both groups of SCL records document library and manuscript losses and include files with lists of individual and institutional losses and notes on the restitution and distribution of looted books identified in France or repatriated, including inventories or shipping lists for convoys received from abroad.¹¹

After the closing of the CRA in 1949, claims processing continued under the auspices of OBIP. Hence, the MAEE RA collection includes a separate series of files of OBIP provenance, with extensive groups of personal claims files for art (RA 591-680) and library losses (RA 686-737). As of 2010, those series of OBIP files have been processed for research in La Courneuve (see Section 2.1.1.6.2.). The large remaining basic OBIP records (not in the RA collection), including additional claims files, held in the MAEE Center for Diplomatic Archives in Nantes (CADN) have recently also been transferred to La Courneuve, where they await reprocessing (because this transfer occurred after the French chapter was edited, they are here still listed under CADN, see Section 2.2.1.). Many extracts from the postwar French claims or attestations of loss, including both cultural and non-cultural items, are listed briefly in the printed series *Répertoire des biens spoliés en France durant la guerre 1939-1945* (8 vols. and Supplements; [Berlin], 1947-1962; see Section 2.1.1.6.3.). Numerous individual looted works of art are listed in vol. 2, *Tableaux, tapisseries et sculptures*, which conveniently provides the owners' names and OBIP claim numbers, as well as the names of the artists and short titles of the artworks.¹²

Also to be found here are many files from the French Service for Reparations and Restitution (Service des réparations et restitutions) at the Headquarters of the French Military Occupation Authority in Baden-Baden and its Service for the Return of Works of Art (Service de remise en place des oeuvres d'art, SROA), as well as records from the corresponding office of the agency handling cultural restitution under the French Group (Groupe français) of the Allied Control Commission (Commission allié de Contrôle) in Berlin. As head of both the Berlin and the Baden-Baden restitution offices, Valland personally oversaw and conducted French art recovery efforts. Both offices were served by French military intelligence through its Office of Art Investigation (Bureau d'investigation artistique, BIA), incoming files from which are intermixed with several sections of the records.

Among the other government agencies represented here, this collection includes an important group of records from the Secretariat of the Commissions on Choice (Secretariat des Commissions de Choix), which was established in Paris in April 1949 to approve the actual restitution of works of art to their legal owners or heirs or to sign off on their alternate disposition in cases where works of art were not identified or claimed. Eight commission meetings were held between 1949 and 1953, but a published report has not been located.¹³

The MAEE art recovery collection (RA) has often been loosely designated "Fonds Valland" and erroneously assigned archival signatures starting with RV, but that is a misnomer and not used by the Quai d'Orsay, because these are not the personal papers of Rose Valland. However, due to her involvement in restitution affairs, correspondence and case files from her Baden-

¹¹ See Martine Poulain's database compilation based on books returned to individuals and institutions, based on these sources at: http://www.cfaj.fr/publicat/livres_pilles.html.

¹² Copies of vol. 2 with hand-written annotations by Rose Valland and others regarding restitution or closure of claims, are held in the AMN (see Section 2.3.2.). Some original unannotated volumes are available on the Ministry of Culture website (see Section 2.1.1.6.3.).

¹³ Isabelle le Masne de Chermont and Didier Schulmann, *Le pillage de l'art en France*, pp. 39-41, provide the dates the Commissions on Choice met: 27 Oct., 17 Nov., 19 and 21 Dec. 1949; 25 Oct. 1950; 29 May 1951; 28 Mar. 1952; and 17 June 1953. Reference is to files retained by MAEE and AMN.

Baden and Berlin offices, as well as some ERR documentation (in the original or copy), are intermixed within this large collection of records. Only a small part of the present collection consists of Valland's office files.¹⁴ Note that some related wartime files with documentation of Valland remain in the Archives of the National Museums (AMN, see Section 2.3.1.).

Access: This collection has yet to receive the detailed analysis, arrangement, and file-level description needed for public research purposes. Furthermore, prior to transfer to La Courneuve, a large part of these records had yet to be opened to the public due to French privacy laws. Many of the files contain personal information about the claims filed by private individuals, their families, and heirs. The 2008 French archival law lowers the period of closure for such documentation from 60 to 50 years from the date of creation, but the move to La Courneuve has increased the amount of time needed before they can be processed for public research.

Inquiries in sufficient detail may be addressed in writing to the archive, but usually permission is required from the next of kin or legal heirs. Replies may be possible in some cases due to the database (with over 90,000 records) compiled under the direction of Chief Archivist Marie Hamon (retired December 2008) and recently completed finding aids for key series.¹⁵

ERR-Related Component

In connection with their delegated function to retrieve and to restitute plundered works of art (including books and archives) to their rightful owners, the aforementioned postwar agencies fell heir to many remaining ERR files. Some of these documents were acquired as originals or as carbon copies, including some found in Paris after the war. Others were discovered by Valland and her colleagues in Germany. Still others were collected in the form of copies from U.S. authorities in preparation for the International Military Tribunal (IMT) or for French war crimes trials. Some of these, as indicated below, remain as integral files in the present arrangement of the collection. However, not all of those that Valland labeled "Archives Rosenberg" are, strictly speaking, of ERR provenance, because they were frequently intermixed with other wartime or postwar documentation, and in most cases, later annotations were added to the ERR originals at the American collecting points or to the copies provided to French authorities. This is particularly evident in the case of ERR inventories of plundered French art collections.

Alternatively, many of the files, including those from Valland's offices, contain incorporated documents created by the ERR, some of which may remain in their original form, but many of which have been taken out of the context of their creation for use in restitution and hence bear later annotations or addenda. For example, a copy of an ERR seizure report or an inventory of a

¹⁴ Marie Hamon made this point in her unpublished country report on France at the 1994 Bremen conference "Cultural Treasures Moved because of the War: A Cultural Legacy of the Second World War." Alas her report is not among the papers published in Dieter Opper and Jost Hansen, eds., *Cultural Treasures Moved because of the War: A Cultural Legacy of the Second World War. Documentation and Research of Losses. Documentation of the International Meeting in Bremen (30.11.-2.12.1994)* (Bremen: Koordinierungsstelle der Länder für die Rückführung von Kulturgütern, 1995).

¹⁵ See the statement on access restrictions as explained by Marie Hamon in the conclusion to her report, "Property Looted during the Second World War – The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs Database," in *Spoils of War: International Newsletter, Special Edition: International Conference "Database assisted documentation of lost cultural assets: Requirements, tendencies and forms of co-operation"* (Magdeburg, Nov. 28-30, 2001), pp. 33-37, available on-line: http://www.lostart.de/Webs/EN/Start/Index.html?_nnn=true (see "Publications").

specific plundered French collection may be found in the postwar investigatory file about the fate of that collection and its restitution, or may have been used in a war crimes trial or in the investigation into the fate of a specific work of art.

Nonetheless, these documents retain key importance for this Survey, not only in terms of surviving ERR documentation. They have even more value today in terms of identifying and tracking the fate of the cultural property plundered and dispersed by the ERR. Not all of the ERR-related documents now found in postwar investigation and restitution files were in fact created by the ERR. Nonetheless, these documents do shed direct light on ERR and M-Aktion operations and aims, as well as specific collections seized or specific paintings sold, exchanged, or destroyed. More evidence is available in the reports or transcripts of postwar interrogations of ERR staff members, accomplices, and art dealers. Some of these interrogation reports are French translations of U.S. documents and have long been known from U.S. or German sources, but in numerous cases, additional evidence or clarification is to be found in the related French documents kept with them or in the further interrogations conducted by French authorities.

Finding Aids

Work on reprocessing and preparing finding aids for various series within this collection has begun since the move to La Courneuve, but most of the boxes have not been described definitively. The creation of a new and expanded MAEE archival database and preparation of on-line finding aids are also underway.

Database (for staff only)

A database of some 90,000 records has been compiled from CRA files under the direction of recently retired Chief Archivist Marie Hamon. According to Hamon's 1994 report, the database describes the contents of individual cartons in the RA collection. For works of art, entries provide the name of the artist, title, and description of work, with the full name of the owners, the place and date of confiscation/plunder, and precise reference to the original documentary source (such as OBIP numbered files and the appropriate RA cartons). According to published notes, the database includes ERR exchanges (particularly those carried out by art dealer Gustav Rochlitz), items listed in the ERR inventories for collections of M-Aktion Paintings (M-A Bilder), and paintings of unknown provenance (Unbekannt, UNB), as well as some ERR shipments and paintings listed in inventories for the Göring Collection.¹⁶ As an example of the information available, Hamon prepared a detailed list of paintings still missing from the Adolf Schloss Collection.¹⁷ MAEE plans now call for updating the data in a new database.

Survey and Administrative Histories (published)

Piketty, *Guide des recherches*, pp. 57-59.

Provides a brief agency history and survey of the collection and an explanation of access restrictions as of 2000. Regrettably, the author was not permitted to survey the MAEE

¹⁶ This was also mentioned in Hamon's unpublished report on France at the 1994 Bremen conference (see fn. 11).

¹⁷ See the published version by Marie Hamon-Jugnet, *Collection Schloss, oeuvres spoliées pendant la deuxième guerre mondiale non restituées (1943-1998)* (Paris: Ministère des Affaires étrangères, 1998). An on-line version is available at: <https://pastel.diplomatie.gouv.fr/editorial/archives/dossiers/schloss/index.html>.

collection first hand. The second part of *Guide des recherches* has a very helpful chapter on researching works of art (“Recherches sur les oeuvres de l’art”), with a succinct background explanation of the German mechanisms of plunder and the French restitution process (pp. 215-233). More specifics about the CRA archives are given on pp. 226-227.

Lorenz, *La France et les restitutions allemandes*.

Florissoone, Michel, “La Commission française de récupération artistique,” *Mouseion*, vol. 55-56 (1946), pp. 67-73.

A brief account of the formation of the CRA and its function in relation to other French government agencies.

N.B. It should be pointed out that many of the archival signatures below (some last verified in April 2008) are not final. Some have been updated as of autumn 2010. In other cases, earlier archival signatures have been provided below so as to help archivists in locating particular files, since such signatures are kept on record as former codes. Over the years, several sets of numbers have been assigned to many of the files within these boxes, as well as to the boxes themselves. Therefore, previous numbers are sometimes indicated in parentheses. Many of the boxes once had RV designations that are now being changed to RA. Current numeration could not be verified in all cases after the move La Courneuve, and many of the series are still being reprocessed.

All of the photographs that were earlier interfiled within folders in this collection have been removed, placed in photo albums with separate glassine sleeves, and assigned different carton numbers within the collection. Usually a control slip indicates the number of the cartons from which they were relocated, but in many cases, it would now be extremely difficult to reunite them with their source documents, because adequate cross-references or pull slips are not always available.

2.1.1.1. ERR INVENTORIES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS (ORIGINALS AND COPIES)

The most important ERR documents in the MAEE collection involve selected ERR inventories and shipping lists. Most of them are photocopies of originals now in Germany, but their key importance for tracing ERR loot comes, first, from the notes of the Munich Central Collecting Point (MCCP) and, second, from French annotations and markings about repatriation made for individual items during French restitution proceedings.

2.1.1.1.1. ARCHIVES ROSENBERG (PHOTOCOPIES OF ERR INVENTORIES FROM THE MCCP)¹⁸

The files within the ERR series now assigned to carton numbers RA 90-101 contain poor-quality photostat copies of many (but not all) original EER working object-level

¹⁸ The recently assigned carton numbers within this series involve some changes from earlier carton numbers (previous file numbers are indicated below in parentheses).

inventories for works of art. These copies were received by French authorities from the MCCP in 1950.¹⁹

The ERR originals from which they were prepared continued to be used and updated by the Trust Administration for Cultural Assets (Treuhandverwaltung für Kulturgut, TVK) in Munich until 1962. Hence the French copies may differ today from the ERR typescript originals or carbon copies in the TVK records in the Bundesarchiv in Koblenz (see Section 3.2.1. and Appendix 1).²⁰ Most of the inventories, which Valland referred to as part of the “Archives Rosenberg,” were initially prepared by the ERR in the Jeu de Paume (1941-1944) on printed ERR inventory sheets and signed by the compiler, whose name(s) is indicated in the heading along with the date of preparation. All bear original ERR code numbers for each item. Most of those on the printed ERR sheets have added typed data (with date) about the agency from which they were received (Currency Protection Commando [Devisenschutzkommando, DSK], Dienststelle Westen [i.e., Möbel-Aktion], or another source), the names of the ERR personnel responsible for the seizure, and the depot where the collection was registered in the Jeu de Paume (continuing pages repeat essential data at the top). Some folders contain more than one inventory, prepared at different times or covering different parts of the same collection. Some contain shipping crate lists and additional documents relating to the collections.

Some of the inventories were prepared, augmented, or had parts retyped in the ERR office in Füssen or the ERR destination repository (in that case Neuschwanstein Castle, codenamed Hans or Lager Hans [Depot Hans]). Some of the Füssen entries (and those from other repositories) note the date and crate number in which specific items were received, and some have additional text with explanatory notes, for example, about shipping problems. Some of the original folder covers have the stamp of the ERR office in Füssen (ERR Dienststelle Füssen-Hohenschwangau, Haus Bethanien). Some indicate that additional photographs of the items were prepared in Füssen.²¹ Many items have adjacent stamps with ERR codes for the receiving repository (e.g., Lager Peter [Altaussee], or LAGER BU[xheim], or simply BU), while those transferred to Adolf Hitler are stamped “AH” and those to Hermann Göring are stamped “HG.”

Many Impressionist pieces and other works of modern art considered degenerate by the Nazis were crossed out on the inventories, with notes added in ink indicating transfers to the M-Aktion for sale (*zum Verkauf*) or for exchange (*Tausch* or *Tauschbild*), while others were marked as destroyed (*vernichtet*). Some items bear annotations regarding their disposition. These handwritten notes were presumably all made by the ERR in Paris. Spot checks already reveal that not all of indicated actions were actually carried out, i.e., some marked “destroyed” have been preserved.

Most of the (German-language) descriptions for the items sent to Germany are repeated in the data found on the ca. 20,000 Jeu de Paume registration cards held by

¹⁹ The receipt of this collection of ERR inventories (with MCCP annotations) is acknowledged in documents held by the MAEE, now filed as RA 101 (A-17), folder 1. This includes both the receipt from OBIP and a list of the inventories received (see below).

²⁰ The description that follows repeats, to the extent appropriate, a large part of the description given for the originals at the Bundesarchiv in Koblenz (BArch-Koblenz), B323/266-292 (see Section 3.2.1.).

²¹ For example, the inventory for Mme Wasserman is in part dated “Füssen, 15.5.44,” while the folder for Veil-Picard [Weil-Picard in ERR records] has no Jeu de Paume inventory. The Weinberger inventory, as another example, indicates that photographs were prepared in Füssen (Jan. 1943).

the U.S. National Archives, College Park (see Section 9.1.5.4.), but further comparative checking will be required. Digitized images of these cards are now available on-line at “Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR): Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume,” a project of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) with technical assistance from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM; see Section 9.2.3.).

After these ERR inventories were found in the ERR repositories at the end of the war (mostly in Füssen), they were used by the M CCP and later the TVK. In many cases, Munich numbers (Mü) were added in pen or pencil for those items that reached the M CCP. Indication of “exit” dates were also noted for items restituted to France from Munich, as well as for those items sent to Paris in the restitution shipments directly from Neuschwanstein (autumn 1945) or Buxheim (February-March 1946).

The inventories and related documents for each collection remain in separate violet-colored German NSDAP folders. The folders have the collection name stamped on the cover and are arranged alphabetically by collection.²² An initial M CCP German-language summary sheet for each collection (prepared by the TVK) notes how many items had been found and returned to date. Many of those initial sheets bear additional French notations, most signed by the individual verifying the data (most dated 1950 or 1951, e.g., “Wagner, juin 1950”), with notes regarding the preparation of French file cards for individual items. Most French copies of the inventories bear further annotations by French restitution authorities regarding the repatriation status of individual items. For example, an added mark (usually an R in red, usually on the verso of the preceding page opposite the entry) indicates the return of an object to France.²³

These French copies, made around 1950, differ accordingly from the originals now in Koblenz, because in most cases more recent TVK annotations have been added to the Koblenz originals (see Section 3.2.1.) Earlier designations (including the previous internal French office file numbers A1-A28) are given in parentheses.

N.B. Names of the collection owners on some of the French folders have been corrected from the rendition used by the ERR, but this has not been done consistently. This may account for some variants in the names given below (see Appendix 1).

RA 90/3 (A1): Inventories for Collections A-B

Arnhold (ARN), Arnstein (ARNS), Aronson (château de Brissac), Ashberg (Cercle des nations), Aschberger (ASCH), Auxente (Pregel) (AUX), [Bacri Frères],²⁴ Alexandre Ball (BAL), Bauer (BAU), Bemberg (BEM), Benard de Pontois (BPO), Bernhardt (BDT), Bernheim (Jeune), Marcel Bernheim (Bordeaux), George Bernheim (BERN, GBERN), Bialo, Robert Bing, Mme Robert Braun, Bredel, Brunner (BUN) and Brunswig/Brunsvick (Bru).

²² Some of the original files in BArch-Koblenz, B 323, retain the same type of lavender covers, which may have been reused by the M CCP or the TVK.

²³ See the correlation table in Appendix 1 listing the original inventories (BArch-Koblenz, B 323) from which these photocopies were made.

²⁴ For Bacri Frères, see carton RA 104 (folder A32) below.

RA 90/4 (A2): Inventories for Collections C-E

Cahen, Cercle des Nations, van Cleef, Coblentz, Cohn, Princesse Colloredo, Dennery, Deutsch, Dreyfus (Tours), Dreyfus (Paris), Droin, Edelfinger, Epstein, Erlanger, Esmond.

RA 91/5 (A3): Inventories for Collections F-G

Falins [Fabius], Flavian, Frenkel-Reder, Frey, Friburg, Friedländer, Fürstenberg, Geismar, Georges-Michel, Gimpel (Nice), Gimpel (Paris), Goldschmidt, Graupe (GRP), Güntzburg.

RA 91/6 (A4): Inventories for Collections H

Hahn, Halphen, Hamburger, Hamburger (Paris), Heilbronn, Helft, Henry, Hesse, Louis Hirsch, Léo Hirsch, Horovitz.

RA 92/7 (A5): Inventories for Collections J-La

Jacobsen, Jeunesse, Josef, Juralides, Kagonowitsch, Kalmann, Kalmann-Levy [Calman-Lévy], Kapferer (Paris), Kapferer (château de Brissac), Klotz (Maison Pinaud), Moritz Klotz, Klotz (Paris Ier), Klotz (Paris XXe), Kohnreich, Galerie Krämer [Kraemer] (KRÄ), Krämer [Kraemer, Carl] (KRÄM), Robert Lambert, Lambert (Paris), Langenbach, Langweil, Lantz.

RA 92/8 (A6): Inventories for Collections Le-Lo

Lehmann (Leh), Maurice Leven (M LE), Levy (Villa Scheffer) (L.VS), Levy (rue de Chézy) (LEV), Levy (rue de Guy de Maupassant) (L.Mp.), Simon-Lévy, Levy (bd Barrès), Levy (bd du Château) (Lvy), Arthur Levy (rue de la Pompe) (A Le, ALE), Levy (bd des Malesherbes) (L.Mh.), Lévy-Brühl, Lévy-Finger, Lévy-Hermannos, Lévy de Léon (LdL), Libermann, Lindenbaum [Lindon], Loewell, Loewensohn, Löwenstein.

RA 93/9 (A7): Inventories for Collections M

Magitot, Manuel, Marcus, Marino, Marx [Roger-Marx], Mayer, Mayr, Mayr-Fuld, Mela, Merzbach, Mesquich, Meyer, Michel-Lévy, Michelsohn, Millaud, Mühlstein, Muir, Moro-Giafferi.

RA 93/10 (A8): Inventories for Collections N-R

Nesler, Pierre Netter, Neumann, Oppenheimer (rue Dumon d'Urville), Oppenheimer (rue Pergolèse), Perls, Pierrott, Pompe-Schifeld, Propper, Raoul-Meyer, Redlich, Reichenbach, Reikiss [Raykis], Reinach (Saint-Germain), Reinach (château de Chambord), Rheims, Rosengart-Famel, Rosenstein, Rosenthal (bd Barrès), Rosenthal (rue Menier), Rosstein.

RA 94/11 (A9): Inventories for Collections S

Sauerbach, Schick, Schumann, Simon, Soma-Koti, Spira, Spiro, Stall, Stassel, Jacques Stern (Paris), Caroline Stern, Jacques Stern (Bordeaux), Stora, Emil Strauss, Swob [Schwob] d'Héricourt.

RA 94/12 (A12): Inventories for Collections T-We

Talma/Thalmann (TAL), Unger (U), Vand (VAN), Dario Viterbo (VIT), Voronoff (VOR), Max Wassermann (MV), M. Watson, Weil-Picard [Veil-Picard] (WP), Weiss.

RA 95/13 (A19): Inventories for Collections We-Z

Weinberger, Wertheimer, Elisabeth Wildenstein, Lazare Wildenstein, Georg Wildenstein, Wolff, Wormser, Wormser-Bloch, Zach; Complément aux inventaires (Supplement to the inventories).²⁵

²⁵ A final file within the folder ERR 11 – entitled “Complément aux inventaires” (supplement to the inventories) – contains an original letter from Ardelia Hall to Rose Valland (12 Dec. 1962) with a list of her answers to French inquiries

RA 95/14 (A10/A13): Collection Kann

RA 96/15 (A14): Collection David-Weill I (DW1-DW1001)

RA 96/16 (A15): Collection David-Weill II (DW1011-DW2001)

RA 97/17 (A16): Collection David-Weill III (DW2002-DW3687)

RA 97/18 (A20): Collection Baron Cassel – Bertaliste / Schätzungsliste der Sammlung Berta²⁶

RA 98/19 (A21): Collection Seligmann

RA 98/20 (A11): Collection Botschaft (BOR) (1943)

Mostly Rothschild collections from the German Embassy, Paris (1940).

RA 100/25 (A22): Collection Unbekannt (Provenances inconnues) (1943)

Modern works of art; furniture of unknown provenance.

RA 100/25 (A18): Möbel-Aktion inventories I (1943)

Paintings (*Bilder*) MA-B nos. 1-1147.

RA 99/22 (A18bis): M-Aktion inventories II (1943)

Paintings (*Bilder*) MA-B nos. 1148-1402; Oriental art; Egyptian; Greek and Roman antiquity; books; exotic items; faience tableware (*Fayencen*); glassware.

RA 99/23 (A13): M-Aktion inventories III

Leatherware; modern works of art; metalware; miniatures; furniture; coins; East Asian (*ostasiatisch*); sculpture; porcelain; tapestries; textiles; folk art; weapons.

RA 101/26 (A13) (from carton RA 105): M-Aktion inventories IV (1943-1944)

Asian and exotic art objects, books, faience, glass, metalwork, furniture, sculpture, porcelain, carpets, textiles, weapons.

RA 101/26: ERR inventories, lists A-Z (1942-1944)

Supplementary or replacement pages (missing or duplicates) for the aforementioned ERR inventories, including Van Cleef (CLE), Juralides (JUR), Kalmann-Lévy [Calman-Lévy], Kapferer, Lambert, Bialo, Lévy (rue Maurice Barrès), Lévy (bd du Château), Mayr.

2.1.1.1.2. ERR SHIPPING INVENTORIES OF FRENCH COLLECTIONS (PHOTOCOPIES FROM WASHINGTON, DC)

The material listed here involves photocopies ERR shipping inventories and control lists of contents (with ERR collection codes) of nine shipments from Paris in 1943 and 1944, as well as complete German copies of crate lists (with ERR crate codes, sometimes differing from collection codes), including M-Aktion collections.

and clarifications and additions based on her personal analysis of U.S. files and the ERR Jeu de Paume card file held by the NARA, as well as notes on 34 collections for which the French had not received inventories. The letter also discusses ERR “destruction” of paintings indicated on some inventories. The collections for which inventories were missing in the lists above are apparent in Appendix 1.

²⁶ The collection of Baron Cassel (a Belgian citizen) was taken from Cannes by the SD, not the ERR, although several ERR staff members were involved with the appraisal and packing of the collection in Paris. The collection was not processed in the Jeu de Paume. Hence, the inventory was apparently not prepared by the ERR, although Rose Valland and French authorities attributed it to the ERR after the war.

The photocopies below (rolled-up positives in bad need of conservation as of 2008) are presumably photoprints from the microfilms referenced in a letter from Ardelia Hall to Rose Valland (18 Nov. 1958).²⁷

RA 102/29 (from carton **RA 106**): ERR inventories and crate lists for shipments to the ERR repository in the Moravian town of Nikolsburg (Cz. Mikulov) (15 Nov. and 21 Dec. 1943);

RA 103/30 (A31): ERR inventories and crate lists for 10 collections and some UNB shipped to Seisenegg (Amstetten) (18 and 23 Nov. 1943), along with 6 different M-Aktion collections;

RA 103/31: ERR inventories and crate lists (with ERR code numbers of contents) in shipments to Nikolsburg (16 June and 1 Aug. 1944²⁸);

RA 98/21 (A11): ERR inventories and crate lists “K-Kisten Liste – K-1 – K-133” without inventories (marked “not photographed”) for shipment from MAX (Herrenchiemsee) to PETER (Altaussee); the last five pages cover K-134 – K-201 under heading indicating that they had been inventoried and photographed; the last few pages list mostly large pieces of furniture (sofas, commodes, etc) with R[othschild] numbers.

2.1.1.1.3. RELATED DOCUMENTATION FROM U.S. SOURCES REGARDING THE ABOVE ERR INVENTORIES

Carton 101/27

One folder (A17) – marked “Rapport final du CCP Munich” – contains the official receipt for copies of ERR inventories (see Section 2.1.1.1.1.) from the MCCP via OBIP (Paris, 3 May 1950); a list of the names and addresses of proprietors whose ERR dossiers were received; a report by Wiltrud Mersemann of the U.S. Office of Military Government in Germany (OMGUS) addressed to S.P. Munsing summarizing French restitution problems (20 July 1949) and a French translation thereof; summary list with statistics for the restitution status of named French collections, including those slated for sale or destruction; and a supplementary list of French individuals whose plundered art was returned, but for which ERR inventories are lacking.

A second folder – entitled “Liste des tapisseries confisquées par l’ERR” – lists tapestries with ERR codes (presumably a French translation of the one in Bundesarchiv B 323/315), with French restitution notes.

²⁷ The following copies of ERR shipping inventories presumably match up with the German originals at the U.S. National Archives in College Park under RG 260, Ardelia Hall Collection (A1, Entry 519), Records of the MCCP, M1946, roll 124. Others (originals or copies) are now found under BArch-Koblenz, B 323/301-305. Given the present condition of these files, it has not been possible to describe them in greater detail. They appear to be printout copies made from the microfilmed records of the U.S. Office of Military Government in Germany (OMGUS), while they were still in Alexandria, VA, and sent to Germany by the U.S. State Department, as mentioned by Hall in her letter to Valland of 18 Nov. 1958, in MAEE, Carton RA 105bis (see Section 2.1.1.1.3.).

²⁸ See also the copy of the crate list in carton 876, folder 3, below. The shipment that left for Nikolsburg on 1 Aug. 1944 was diverted by the French resistance and never left France.

Carton RA 105/35

Folder with letter from Ardelia Hall to Rose Valland (18 Nov. 1958), as well as a copy of a list of ERR shipments and a note of enclosure of microfilm copies of ERR shipping lists (see Section 2.1.1.1.2.) made from originals among captured records in Washington, DC (see Section 9.1.5.), along with copies of selected German correspondence regarding ERR plundering of French art collections. See also the aforementioned file within the folder RA 95/13 (A19) entitled “Complément aux inventaires” with a 1962 letter from Hall to Valland.

2.1.1.1.4. OTHER ORIGINAL ERR DOCUMENTS OR COPIES COLLECTED BY ROSE VALLAND**Carton RA 106/36 (A26): Einsatzstab Rosenberg 1940, Recherche de la Police Secrète allemande sur des loges maçonniques et les archives israélites de la France**

An original volume of police reports prepared for the ERR (Akte Nr 1342a) by the Secret Field Police (Geheime Feldpolizei, GFP) and Field Gendarmerie (Feldgendarmerie), under the Military Commander in France (Militärbefehlshaber in Frankreich, MBF), Administrative Staff, Administration Department (Verwaltungsstab, Abteilung Verwaltung; 31 July-6 Sep.1940 [10 Jan. 1941]). Badly worn original and photocopy. Individual documents describe holdings of books and archives found (and presumably seized) in cities and towns outside of Paris, predominantly private Jewish home libraries, as well as some Masonic lodges, some in considerable detail. Summary lists of cities covered and libraries found (20 Sep.1940; 28 Oct.1940), “Erfassung von Freimaurerlogen sowie von Bibliotheken und Archiven in jüdischem Besitz” [Registration of Free Mason Lodges as well as of Libraries and Archives in Jewish Possession]. The photocopy here has slips with French-language notes, suggesting its use in claims processing.

Carton RA 108 (A27)

- (a) “Cahiers d’Emballage,” from the German Embassy (Paris), [1941-1943] (l’Ambassade d’Allemagne / Schenker [German shipping firm]), original 5 vols. of lists and crate inventories for items leaving the Jeu de Paume, with later typescript transcriptions. An endorsement note signed by Valland in the first volume explains that the five notebooks, found after the Germans left Paris, represent all of the goods sent from the Jeu de Paume (with some received from the German Embassy). A sixth typescript also remains, but the original notebook has not been found;
- (b) Rose Valland memoir, “Atmosphère du Jeu de Paume” and “Les services” (typescript cc. 10 p.);
- (c) Photocopies of title pages and inventories of contents of the 39 bound ERR albums presented to Hitler (IMT, PS-2522 [US-388]). The albums contain photographs (with captions giving ERR code nos. of 2,013 works of art from France). Includes copies of 36 individual volume inventories, and 38 cover pages (some missing). Bears the date 22 June 1953.

Carton RA 108 (A33)

“Inventaires d’emballage,” sheets typed after the war from handwritten lists prepared by Rose Valland (as per note on cover). Shipments include those for Rosenberg, Kurt von Behr, and other named ERR staff, some shipped from the German Embassy in Paris. Some sheets cover ERR office materials, such as photographs, equipment, and ERR documentation (2 crates with ERR codes for inventories included, a few dated May-June 1942). Other lists reference only ERR French collection code numbers for UNB collections. Others include art objects not inventoried, e.g., Collection Schloss (crates 1-15); Göring, crates 39-102 (11 Mar. 1942; packed 54, av d’Iéna) and 50 crates (26 Nov. 1942). A few names of French collections given are not on the ERR list. Others appear to differ in number of items from those listed in surviving ERR inventories, for example, L. Reinach (9 crates; the ERR inventory lists only 4 items). A second folder in this carton (A32) contains unrelated shipping inventories for postwar French restitution convoys from Baden-Baden to Paris (not ERR).

2.1.1.2. SELECTED CASE RESEARCH FILES (FROM FRENCH RESTITUTION OFFICES)

Most of these boxes, labeled by Rose Valland as pertaining to the ERR, contain correspondence and research case files from Valland’s offices in Baden-Baden and Berlin, some working papers with ERR-related documents (most in copy), and documentation related to ERR seizures and the fate of plundered items. The descriptions below provide details for only selected labeled files (dossiers) of special ERR relevance within the numbered folders.²⁹

The arrangement of these files is still in flux and dependent on further processing, so the carton and folder numbers and order presented below will undoubtedly be revised in the final MAEE descriptive processing. Only selected folders are covered from this sub-series.

Carton RA 104/32**Folder A23/485: Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg I**

This folder contains various dossiers, including:

- letters of Walter Borchers (ERR, 1 May 1946);
- list (dated 1951) of major German wartime purchases of art by dealers, some with lists of paintings;
- Ambassador Otto Abetz, with lists of plunder by the German Embassy in Paris and reference to relevant documents, lists of art collections seized, catalogues, examples of transfers to Gustav Rochlitz for sale in Switzerland, etc;
- Collection Bacri Frères (photos withdrawn), photostat of ERR confiscation inventory (12 Oct. 1942; ERR code “BC”; most stamped “Lager BU[xheim]”), with lists of paintings removed (1 July 1940), additional French inventories, reports, and investigative correspondence;
- Bayeux Tapestry (Apr.-Nov. 1943), Herman Bunjes (not ERR);
- Maurice Rothschild, correspondence, inventory of art not returned, etc.;

²⁹ Because no carton content list is yet available, the cartons listed here are necessarily selective and dependent on those presented for examination.

Martin Bormann Collection, with list of paintings seized in Biarritz (8 Mar. 1951; photos removed);

Alliance israélite universelle, with documents regarding Maurice Leven, 1947 letters regarding his papers and early rare books in the cellar of the Alliance israélite universelle and their confiscation by the ERR, with specific references to ERR library unit staff members Walther Grothe (director of the Central Library of the Hohe Schule of the NSDAP [Zentralbibliothek der Hohen Schule der NSDAP, ZBHS])³⁰ and Wörmke (director of the Hamburg Library).

Carton RA 104/33

Folder A24/484: Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg II

A folder containing various dossiers, including:

Karl Haberstock (art dealer for Hitler's museum in Linz): documents regarding Roger Dequoy and the Wildenstein Collection;
 Andreas Hofer (art dealer for Göring);
 Arthur Krunenberg (Hitler's head butler);
 Bruno Lohse (deputy head of ERR in Paris), interrogation, mostly regarding the Schloss Collection;
 IMT (Fr. Tribunal Militaire Internationale, TMI) summaries of PS documents related to art, the ERR, and other French IMT documents, newspaper clippings relating to French investigations and trials of ERR personnel in Paris, French government research bulletins, and extracts of documents;
 modern art sold in Paris, report based on ERR archives and French interrogations, with compiled charts listing paintings with ERR collection codes (covering respectively 115, 65, and 75 paintings);
 modern paintings exchanged by the ERR, based on ERR archives, a typed original list of ERR exchanges, with ERR codes, and a section for those restituted or not restituted (as of 1952), including some identified from the ERR UNB collection.

Carton RA 105/34

Folder A25/483: Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg III

This folder contains dossiers on:

Collection Adolphe Schloss ([1943], 1948-1952), details regarding seizure with Linz agent Erhard Göpel as the principal negotiator for the seizure, with involvement of Robert Scholz, head of Special Staff Fine Arts (Sonderstab Bildende Kunst), and Bruno Lohse of the ERR (part of the collection was at least briefly in the Jeu de Paume);
 Affaire Robert Scholz (1948-1951), Valland correspondence (many original with French translations) with him regarding specific items and hiding places; original letters by Scholz regarding his involvement in organizing the removal of explosives from mine shafts in Altaussee and parallel efforts (night of 2-3 May 1945);
 files on dealers Erwin Sieger, Hans Wendland, and Adolf Wüstler, with considerable correspondence and reports about sales and restitution research.

³⁰ The Hohe Schule was a university-level training center envisioned by Rosenberg for the Nazi elite.

Carton RA 89/1 and RA 89/2 (A 28 and A 29)

Outgoing correspondence of Herman Bunjes (original carbon copies), starting Sep.-Oct. 1941; Bunjes's official journal with MBF ordinances; copies of reports from Currency Protection Commando (DSK) to MBF (carbon copies), seven lists of art confiscated, with details on family collections transferred to ERR. Inventories of seizures from Wassermann, Hermann, and Sara Rosenstein; reports (some with paintings listed) regarding other seizures, for example, from Rothschilds, David-Weill (130 crates from Château de Sourches, April 1941), Raoul-Meyer (DSK), Mme P. Heilbronn (DSK), Wanda Landowska (St. Leu-la-Fôret), and Louis Hirsch (DSK), some with inventories; (A28) a separate folder with reports of Bunjes, including some regarding ERR activities, copies from the Bunjes papers, some duplicates (small-size photocopies).

Carton RA 218

Documentation from the Permanent Military Tribunal of Paris (Tribunal militaire permanent de Paris, 1949-1950), with notes on Gerhard Utikal, Bruno Lohse, and dealers Albert Pfeifer (inventory list) and Hans Wendland. Contains some files with documents relating to ERR confiscations and sales in France.

Folder B6: Correspondence with the French Ministry of the Interior, Permanent Military Tribunal of Paris, and Sûreté Nationale, seeking information on the ERR; "Rapport concernant l'organisation de la Mission Rosenberg en France" (15 p.), *Bulletin d'information*, with documents on the ERR and a list of seized collections; translations of inventories of art and furnishings seized by the Secret Field Police (GFP) from cellars of Jacques and André Seligmann and M.M. Bernheim (Jeune), as well as from Paul Rosenberg, Roger Devalcourt [de Valcourt], and others, and taken to the German Embassy (6-7 July 1940); report on Karl Epting (German Embassy) locating the original Treaty of Versailles and Saint Germaine near Tours, with translation of a secret telegram of Künsberg and Abetz regarding transfer to Berlin; file on Abetz; ERR shipment of ca. 180 paintings and engravings from Sigmaringen to Château Walenstein, but others were left in the German Embassy; report on acquisitions during the war in Switzerland (from the Douglas Cooper 10 Dec. 1945 report) "Oeuvres d'art spoliée se trouvant en Suisse"; French translation of a report by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) on looted art in Germany (from the Schenker papers);³¹ interrogation of Adolf Wüster (chargé at the German Embassy and agent for Joachim von Ribbentrop);

Folder B7: Extensive list of ERR personnel with full names and details of their whereabouts (1 Aug. 1945); Bruno Lohse (deputy chief of ERR in Paris), interrogation (15 Aug. 1945) and details about his relations with others; ERR registers of letters and other papers seized (12, rue Dumont d'Urville; 20 Oct. 1940-9 Mar. 1941);

³¹ The German shipping firm Schenker was one of the most important transfer agents used by the Nazis for transporting cultural loot. Many of the records and detailed reports of their shipments found after the war were used by the western Allies in investigations into art looting and the fate of the objects taken to the Reich.

reports on Gerhard Utikal, Karl Epting, Otto Abetz, Walter Bornheim, and shipping firm Schenker among others;
 detailed data on acquisitions made during the war by German museums, galleries, and dealers: “Acquisitions faites par les musées et galleries allemands...” (from the Schenker papers), such as Hans Wendland (dealer for Göring), among others involved in Göring Collection and related looting and sales;
 investigations into the activities of Robert Scholz, Hermann Voss, Gisella Limberger (one of Göring’s secretaries), Günther Schiedlausky, mostly French translations of U.S. interrogation reports;
 interrogation of Rosenberg adjutant Werner Koeppen (Baden-Baden, Mar. 1948), and Karl Kress (ERR photographer, Altaussee, 20-21 July 1945), supplementing OSS Consolidated Intelligence Report (CIR) No. 1, “Activity of the ERR in France,” and Detailed Interrogation Report (DIR) No. 10 on Kress;
 copies of *Bulletin d’information*, with coverage of art looting and sales.

Carton RA 219

Folder B8: Continuation of Valland’s investigations, with research reports and interrogations of principal art dealers and ERR members and reports on wartime art market, some having lists of specific paintings removed from Jeu de Paume for sale or exchange;
 notes on Bruno Lohse with dates and paintings removed from Jeu de Paume;
 documentation and newspaper clippings regarding the trial of former ERR staff members Gerhard Utikal, Bruno Lohse, Georg Ebert, and Arthur Pfanstrel before the Permanent Military Tribunal of Paris (1949-1950);
 copies of summary lists of paintings looted by the ERR not returned (1952), including those “lost” and exchanged;
 Schloss Collection;
 lists of Jewish collections seized;
 charts of exchanges and “purchases” for the Göring Collection;
Folder B9: Steigenberger brothers, inventory of paintings (1953) from Frankfurt book dealer turned art dealer and the Ettl case.

Carton RA 224/112

Folder B18: Files from the Office of Art Investigation (Bureau d’investigation artistique, BIA), with cross-references from OBIP claim files for plundered art, predominantly incoming reports and correspondence reflecting research on dealers, institutions, and ERR staff, or the fate of seized objects belonging to individuals;
Folder B19: French copy of report on plundered art in Switzerland – “Oeuvres d’art spoliées se trouvant en Suisse,” translated or based on British report by Douglas Cooper;
 French translation of U.S. interrogation report on Hans Wendland and U.S. English-language original (18 Sep. 1946), with clippings and additional documentation.

Carton RA 249/B67: Bureau of Art Investigation (1947-1951)

BIA reports and correspondence;
 folder on retrieval of library from ERR loot, mainly in Germany.

Carton RA 297

- (2) Correspondence of French restitution officer in the MCCP, claims and reports on restitution progress and convoys to France;
- (3) Copies of the French government report series *Bulletin de renseignements*, many with data and documents on the ERR, including originals of French translation of CIR No. 1, “Activity of the ERR in France” and a report on art objects in Germany (from the Schenker papers).

Carton RA 375: Zone Russe

Documents from or regarding the Russian Zone of Occupation in Germany; inventories of the Göring Collection for items shipped from Carinhall to Veldenstein; documentation about the intentional destruction of Dietrichstein Castle in Nikolsburg (Cz. Mikulov) in April 1945, and copies of the crate lists for shipments from the Jeu de Paume to Nikolsburg in 1944; folder on Belgium provides some details about the restitution of items of Belgian provenance, including books, through France.

Carton RA 444

Folders with shipping data, crate lists, and some inventories for restitution transports from Austria and Czechoslovakia; folders for three French transports from Tanzenberg, Austria, with books plundered by the ERR in France and Belgium for the ZBHS; folders for transports from Linz and the Convent of St. Florian; a folder on the Convoi de Prague (17 Nov. 1947), includes French penciled crate lists and rough inventory with ERR codes describing the contents of each crate of remaining items found among the debris of the destroyed ERR repository at Dietrichstein castle in Nikolsburg and returned; a copy of the ERR inventory by Dr Jülther (typescript and carbon copy) of items that that had been held in Nikolsburg; a list of Belgian collections (with ERR codes), at least parts of which had been sent to Nikolsburg from the Jeu de Paume; details and list of paintings in the Collection Eric Lyndhurst (LYN) sent from Brussels to Nikolsburg together with a library of 350 books on art; French inventory of items found at the monastery in the Bohemian town of Hohenfurth (Cz. Vyšší Brod), used for parts of the Linz collection (not ERR), includes parts of the Mannheimer Collection from the Netherlands (some items from Paris), with inventory numbers.³²

Carton RA 876**Folder 1: Journal de la garde de l'ERR (2 Nov. 1940-8 May 1941):**

Original ERR register with daily entries and stamps, recording entries of a security guard unit at a Paris building occupied by the ERR (12, rue Dumont d'Urville), attached notation explains that the volume had been presented to the Commission for the Recovery of Art (CRA) by Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces

³² Most of the art objects from Hohenfurth (not an ERR facility) were transferred to the MCCP, but the French were reporting on some that the Americans had not yet removed or possibly left behind.

(SHAEF), along with some security-guard registers from the Jeu de Paume (the present location of the latter have not been found);

Folder 2: Répertoire des achats effectués en France pendant la Guerre par la Reichsstelle Glas, Keramik [und Holzverarbeitung], compiled after the war from archives found in Berlin;

Folder 3: CRA and OBIP attributions for works of art retrieved in Germany, but only a few with ERR nos., such as R26-86;

Folder 4: Copy of OSS, DIR no. 4 on Gustav Rochlitz (15 Aug. 1945), and supplemental French materials;

Munich file with notes on returns 1945-1946; list of ERR members and Valland's notes on ERR personnel in Jeu de Paume;

copy of the ERR crate list for last shipment to Nikolsburg (1 Aug. 1944) – the shipment rescued by the French resistance.

2.1.1.3. SOUS-COMMISSION DES LIVRES (SCL)

[Sub-Commission for Books]

This series of records was added to the RA collection in 2004. It is made up predominantly of individual name files for individual and institutional claims and restitution of books. It includes some reports with details of contents for some of the transports from ERR depots, such as Tanzenberg (RA 1129), and those that passed through the MCCP and Offenbach Archival Depot (OAD).

Finding Aids

A preliminary typed box list has been prepared by MAEE archivists for the SCL series of the RA collection covering RA 1100-RA 1145.

See also the unpublished finding aid listed with the other part of SCL records held in at Archives Nationales – Site de Paris, series F17 (see Section 2.3.6.).

Delseaux, Jenny. “La Sous-commission des livres à la récupération artistique, 1944-1950.” Typescript. Paris, 1976.

Copy in the MAEE reference collection from a copy in the Bibliothèque de documentation internationale contemporaine.

Cartons RA 1100-RA 1145

Consists of SCL records added in 2004, for example:

Carton RA 1137, files 173-180, contains individual dossiers regarding books returned being sorted for restitution to owners, including some from Poland; dossiers on convoys received from Germany, Austria (Tanzenberg), and Czechoslovakia (Prague), where many of the libraries seized by the ERR had been sent.

Cartons RA 1138-1140: Card files regarding library restitution.

See also additional library restitution files listed in other series.

Cartons RA 686-705, 726-737: OBIP claims processing dossiers for libraries (see Section 2.1.1.6.2.).

Cartons RA 868-870: card files on book restitution (see Section 2.1.1.4).

2.1.1.4. RA CARD FILES³³

Not all of these cards (*fichiers*) have been identified as to creator. The descriptions provided here are selective.

Cartons RA 738-810

Cards printed in French (with data typed) compiled on the basis of claims of owners with place and date of seizure of items, descriptions and inventory numbers (presumably OBIP or published claim numbers), some with ERR numbers. Includes two sub-files arranged by: (1) Objects: separate sub-files by types of objects: paintings (including graphic arts) grouped in alphabetical order by artist; sculpture; furniture; movable property; and diverse (silverware, objets d'art, glass, sculpture, movables, musical instruments, ceramics, porcelain, jewels, chairs, tapestries, rugs); (2) Owners: one by owners (A-Z) and separate groups cover the collections of David-Weill, Bacri, Édouard (box 809) and Maurice (box 810) de Rothschild.

Cartons RA 811-812

Card file of postwar claimants with location of persons and institutions plundered, with CRA or OBIP claim numbers. R 811 covers A-R and R 812, R-Z with a second file.

Cartons RA 825-829 and 856

Postwar French card file (*fichier*) of ERR confiscations (boxes labeled "Spoliations Rosenberg"), with partial data from ERR inventories for works of art, typewritten on French small cards (date of preparation not indicated, presumably early 1950s), with names of owners (some with addresses), with literal French translation of the German description. Grouped alphabetically by type of object. For paintings arranged by artists with name of painter, title, and size, with ERR collection codes (including M-Aktion):

RA 825 (A-D);

RA 826 (E-L);

RA 827 (M-S);

RA 828 (T-Z); and

RA 829 (divided by school, including Oriental).

The ERR depository destination is sometimes included, e.g., Hans, the codename for Neuschwanstein Castle. Additional handwritten notes have been added in red pen (R), giving details and dates of restitution from Germany to France, most with indication of

³³ Earlier reports have suggested that the MAEE hold a French-language copy of the ERR Jeu de Paume card file – the original, with about 20,000 cards, is now at the NACP – but so far such a copy has yet to be located. To clarify the MAEE card-file holdings, descriptions are provided here of all card files (*fichiers*) examined *de visu* in April 2008.

French owners. Cards also include notes as to whether the work was destroyed or exchanged by the Germans.

Cartons RA 830-839

A file of paper slips (most in English) for art objects repatriated from MCCC, with shipment numbers from repository – Munich, Neuschwanstein, Baden-Baden, etc. – with names of artist, title, and claim numbers.

RA 830: paintings (A-L);

RA 831: paintings (M-Z);

RA 837: books, manuscripts, and music scores; ceramics, silverware (for individual items, others for whole crates);

RA 838: other objects; and

RA 839: sculpture and others.

Cartons RA 840-848

Several sets of card files covering objects that were returned to France, which apparently passed through the MCCC, as well as those that came directly to Paris from Neuschwanstein and Buxheim.

RA 840-844: Fiches américaines, 1-5

Copies of U.S. Munich Property Cards Art (some carbon copies) for items returned to France. Data mostly in English, in numerical order by repository (or Munich) numbers. Many cards bear names of proprietors with ERR code numbers, repository names and numbers, with indication that some were still in ERR crates (unopened). Numbers within boxes are arranged by repository number (with gaps).

RA 840: Neuschwanstein nos. 644-1221; Buxheim nos. 1-591; and Munich nos. 2-344 (Aussee 2/1-270/113).

RA 841: Munich no. 345 (Aussee 271/1) to Munich no. 1369 (Aussee 1163/45); almost all bear ERR codes and indications if photos are available.

RA 842: From Munich no. 13,741 (Aussee 1175/1) to Munich no. 10,847 (Aussee 6061).

RA 843: The first section contains Munich no. 10,848 (Aussee 6062) to Munich nos. 30,479 (with gaps), includes items from Altaussee, Herrenchiemsee, Kogl, and scattered items from other sites. This carton also contains an additional large section with French cards (same size as Munich ones) covering furniture “*mobilier (par type) – fichier RA,*” but these cards have no ERR or Munich numbers.

RA 844: continues U.S. Property Cards Art (*fiches américaines*) for items returned from MCCC – starting with Munich no. 10,028 (Aussee 3244), listing books and manuscripts interspersed with sculpture and paintings, with some divisions by type of object, in order by Munich number within types. For some manuscripts, each folio is on a separate card (e.g., Mü362/Aussee 286/1-51), but other cards cover a box of 50 books, or a parcel of 9 books. Includes objects from Altaussee, Neuschwanstein, and a few from Kogl.

Cartons RA 845-846: Fiches non-identifiés

Paper slips in French covering objects that were returned to France, most of them with the second transport directly from Füssen (2^e convoi Füssen, Nov. 1945), the ERR railway depot for Neuschwanstein, i.e., not through the MCCC, although Munich numbers were

assigned in many cases (starting with Mü no. 649). A notice inside the box indicates that the photographs were removed (with a cross reference to carton 1041, album I). Many of the slips have French titles and ERR code numbers. But another unexplained note says “Dorotheum peintures A-F,” presumably associated with paintings from the Dorotheum in Vienna, which would not have been in the ERR depot of Neuschwanstein.

Carton RA 847: Fiches non-identifiées

The first section (one-third of box) contains more U.S. Property Cards Art, with a French label “peintures (paintings),” but the cards cover miscellaneous items, all from Neuschwanstein and with Neuschwanstein numbers; most also have ERR code numbers. The other section (two-thirds of box) appear to be mostly French slips for the third transport from Neuschwanstein (the first slip is marked “Füssen 3è convoi”), with two sets of numbers, the second set of which are ERR code numbers. Some of the separate packets have additional French explanatory notes.

Carton RA 848

U.S. Property Cards Art for shipment to Paris from Buxheim, covering different types of artworks intermixed, with Munich (Mü) and Buxheim numbers not in order. Most have owners indicated and ERR code numbers. Some U.S. cards have data entered in French.

Cartons RA 849-850

French printed inventory cards from Baden-Baden CCP (similar in format to U.S. Property Cards Art) with printed heading “CCP de Baden-Baden – Fiche d’inventaire.”

RA 849: Inventory nos. 1-888. A separate small final section for CCP Krupp has similar French cards. These printed cards have blanks filled in for owners, depot of origin, date, and destination, but they do not bear ERR numbers.

RA 850: Continues previous nos. 1103-1351 with additional group nos. 1041-1208 (not sequential and with gaps).

Carton RA 851

Cards apparently with entries from ERR 39 albums (see Section 9.1.7.), typed on French cards, most grouped by ERR codes.

Cartons RA 852-867

Diverse CRA card files

RA 859-860: large format French cards covering art objects presumably retrieved, with entries for the organization / individual responsible for seizure (*spoliateur*) and the individual from whom seized (*spolié*), apparently organized by type of object (most decorative arts and miscellaneous). Descriptions of objects include OBIP numbers, and dates of restitution to the French government (marked “exit”), but it is not clear if all were returned to owners.

Cartons RA 868-870

Card files listing plundered books, some of them correlated to *Répertoire des biens spoliés*, vol. 7; the first two boxes with ca. 3 x 5-inch cards, most groups handwritten on the back of printed cards from the Bibliothèque nationale from 1938 and 1939.

RA 868: (1) grouped alphabetically by title or subject, owners identified in the lower right corner; some cards cover sets up to 50 volumes;

(2) cards separated into groups, such as “bindings (*réliures*)”; “collections”; journals (*journaux et revues*); and albums, etc.;

(3) address file with library, institutional, and individual phone numbers, presumably used in book processing for restitution

RA 869: box marked “Fiches exclus du catalogue de Berlin,” as if all contents were excluded from *Répertoire des biens spoliés*, vol. 7, some packets specifically marked as not included in that catalogue. However, some groups of cards have claim case numbers typed in, presumably from that catalogue of claims (with OBIP claim numbers). Specific groups are identified from listed libraries, such as the collection of Jean (Hans) Fürstenberg (including incunabula), books from the Turgenev Library (Bibliothèque russe Turgeneff), and many other individuals whose names appear on ERR lists of confiscated libraries.

RA 870: larger format cards, with names of libraries plundered, both institutions and individuals, including listings by the SCL.

2.1.1.5. PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographs here were earlier removed from the textual records within the RA collection and are now arranged separately in albums in cartons within the photograph series. Many are marked with cross-references to the number of the cartons from which they were pulled.

RA 991 (Collection Rose Valland)

Photographs from the Jeu de Paume in two albums, containing general interior views, packing operations, visits of Göring and Rosenberg to the Jeu de Paume, Valland with celebrities, and so forth (most lack captions).

RA 992 (RA 803)

Photographs from the Jeu de Paume include group shots and portraits of ERR staff in the Jeu de Paume (many with captions), both high-level figures such as Kurt von Behr (with his wife), Robert Scholz, Bruno Lohse, Otto Klein, Günther Schiedlausky, Karl Brethauer, Hermann von Ingram, Walther Rebock, and many more, including secretaries and assistants. Includes copies of many of the illustrations used in Valland’s *Front de l’Art* (see also others below). A separate smaller-sized album from the war contains interesting shots of Neuschwanstein and Swiss contacts, such as Hans Wendland and Galerie Fischer in Lucerne.

RA 1025

Album of photos, first two-thirds – RV – l’Aquilée (RA 722) – includes a German poster for the “protection” of French sites holding art treasures. The last third contains portraits of Valland, including one in uniform in front of a locomotive, others with celebrities, and in a packing room of the Jeu de Paume.

RA 1044 (RV Baden-Baden)

1) “Photographes des dépôts en Allemagne”: Dépôt de Bade, e.g., “Schloss favorite” (with some sample art objects); Buxheim (with English captions, from United States); Saarebruck; Neustadt; Neuwied; Altaussee – Seehotel; Bad Wildungen (3 missing paintings)

acquired in France); Klessheim (United States Forces Austria) – inventory with photos; MCCP – with RA nos. – art, photos of CCP (with English captions); Neuschwanstein – postcards and photos of evacuation (fall 1945); Bains l’Alleud, Château de Montal, Sourches, Chambord, Valençay, Brissac; Louvre – packing for evacuation; loading Edouard Rothschild collections at Château Ferrière; Jeu de Paume – lion shot down and barbed wire; ex libris of Hermann Göring (most used in RV book);

2) pictures of paintings, most with numbers from Baden-Baden CCP or from Wiesbaden CCP, “inventaire BIA” (Office of Art Investigation). Some with sale records from Lepke, Lange, and Böhler (Munich), and a group of display photos from various repositories (*depôts*) (marked with cross-reference to cartons RA 849-850).

Series of albums of photographs and drawings for individual collections of art plundered during the war, supplementing *Répertoire des biens spoliés*

All of the photographs in the albums are enclosed within glassine sleeves with captions and related documentation. The box number from which they were pulled is often indicated, but reconstruction of their source or location and context in their previous files would now be exceedingly difficult, because captions or source are not always available.

The photographs are now organized by name of collection owners and comprise photographs furnished by individual families, as well as those taken from the general records. But cross-references to the ERR photographic files are still needed with the ERR codes for the French collections processed by the ERR in the Jeu de Paume, corresponding to the inventories and registration cards noted above.

Examples of Photographic Albums

RA 1005

Maurice Rothschild Collection, supplementing *Répertoire des biens spoliés*, pictures of paintings registered as plundered, along with other objets d’art, with collection numbers and other notes. A-D; E-L.

RA 1026-RA 1027

Collection of Armand Veil-Picard [Weil-Picard in ERR records], with photos arranged alphabetically – first paintings by artist, and then furniture, sculpture, objets d’art, and views of salons. Includes some quality reproductions from U.S.-held ERR bound photographic albums, but many other photos lack ERR code numbers.

RA 1040

- 1) covers collections from Waddington to Wenzel;
- 2) collections from Wertheimer (Wth) to Zuylen de Nyevelt de Haar (née Rothschild).

RA 1042

- 1) Dorotheum – N-Z, many with Colmar (Austria) numbers and other sets of registration numbers;
- 2) Wiesbaden: with copies of U.S. Property Cards Art with Wiesbaden nos. (Wie).

2.1.1.6. FRENCH POSTWAR CLAIMS FILES FOR PLUNDERED CULTURAL PROPERTY

ERR Component

Individual claim files remain for many of the French Jews whose art collections were processed by the ERR in the Jeu de Paume building in Paris. Where such files have been identified, they are indicated in Column 10 of Appendix 1. Given the discrepancies between the names and addresses of owners plundered and those of the owners or heirs named in the CRA or OBIP claims and restitution processing files, accurate coordination has not always been possible.

These files also represent many of the same or additional institutions or individuals whose library or music collections were seized by other ERR units. Many may be represented by art collections that went into the ERR collection Unknown (Unbekannt, UNB), or that came to the ERR through the Möbel-Aktion and were consequently assigned ERR codes in the M-Aktion collections in the Jeu de Paume. Many of these names will be found on other ERR seizure lists for books or music that were processed elsewhere by the ERR or the M-Aktion. Accordingly, many of the files contain copies of ERR seizure documents, working inventories, receipts, or contemporary attestations of seizure.

Noticeably, many other institutions or families filed claims for plundered belongings that were not seized by the ERR, including many that were confiscated by the Gestapo, the SD (Security Service), or some other German agency, or for objects otherwise looted during the war.

Photographs

In most cases, photographs originally included in individual files were separated out and placed in albums within the photographic series described above (Cartons 962-1044). Sometimes, cross-references are provided. Many such photographs of artworks processed in the Jeu de Paume may supplement or confirm those that appear on-line at “Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR): Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume,” a project of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) with technical assistance from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM; see Section 9.2.3.).

Access: Given French privacy laws, most of these files have long been accessible only to archivists at the MAEE, owners or heirs, or researchers with written permission from owners or heirs. After the 2008 French archival law lowered the period of cloture for this type of records to 50 years from the date of creation, many of these files may now be opened to outside researchers and now have finding aids.

2.1.1.6.1. CRA CLAIMS FILES (DOSSIERS DES PROPRIÉTAIRES SPOLIÉS), CARTONS RA 1- 69

After its establishment in November 1944, the CRA kept working files for owners or institutional proprietors whose cultural property (art, furniture, jewels, books, and archives, among other items) had been plundered or otherwise confiscated by the

Germans during the occupation. Separate files include those for public institutions such as museums (Musée de Malmaison, Musée du Luxembourg, etc.), semi-public institutions such as the Polish Library in Paris (Bibliothèque polonaise de Paris), the Turgenev Russian Library (Bibliothèque russe Tourguénieff), or the International Jewish Alliance (Alliance israélite universelle), and private gallery owners, dealers specializing in art, books, and antiquities, families, and individuals, including many households whose furnishings (including works of art and books) were removed by the Möbel-Aktion.

Some of the individual files may contain only a single letter of inquiry and a reply from the CRA, but others consist of lengthy formal claims for plundered cultural property, with subsidiary files with inventories, supporting documentation, such as appraisals, attestations, and related correspondence with French restitution offices, including OBIP, the CRA, and the Commission on Choice, and formal restitution transfer documents and receipts. In some cases, the files have one or more subdivisions for correspondence and inventories. Occasional files contain copies of ERR or other wartime seizure inventories, although the inventories found here were usually compiled by or for the owners, and can be checked against ERR inventories. Other files, especially those above the number 46.632.1656, contain inventories of losses compiled by OBIP and correspondence relating to communication with owners, when they could be located. Some of the inventories and documents from these files were submitted to the U.S. Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives (MFA&A) section of the U.S. Office of Military Government in Germany (OMGUS) for claims; hence copies will be found among claims files in OMGUS records in the U.S. National Archives in College Park or TVK records in the Bundesarchiv Koblenz. However, the CRA and OBIP files are likely to contain more extensive documentation of restitution proceedings.

These CRA files were recently reprocessed in La Courneuve as a separate series and are now arranged in 69 archival cartons numbered RA 1-69. Within the cartons, dossiers are not arranged alphabetically, but by numbers in order of the receipt of the first communication from the owner. Dossier numbers start with the last two digits of the year the file was opened, which are followed by a number representing the sequence of the file by year opened and then a number denoting the case's place among cumulative claims (e.g., 46.632.1656). The names and address of the owners usually appear on the file folders. In many cases, however, the names may belong to the legal heirs (often indicated under "Succession") of owners who perished in the Holocaust or an attorney representing the family or firm seeking restitution. Similarly, addresses may be postwar addresses within France or abroad. Consequently, the owners plundered or addresses from which their belongings were seized are not always immediately obvious.

Finding Aid

"Fonds de la Commission de récupération artistique, Dossiers des propriétaires spoliés, Cartons 1 à 69." Comp. Anne Géorgeon-Liskenne. Paris: MAEE, 2009.

A detailed preliminary inventory of the CRA claims files described above, listing case by case the names of institutions or persons addressed and briefly describing the type and dates of the documentation contained. The above

description of this fond is based on the introduction to a copy of the September 2009 version of this most helpful finding aid, kindly furnished by the compiler.

2.1.1.6.2. OBIP CLAIMS

Cartons RA 591- 680: Dossiers nominatives (Name files)

Cartons RA 686- 704, 725-727: Dossiers des bibliothèques (Library files)

Following the official disbandment of the CRA in 1949, the Office of Private Property and Interests (Office des biens et intérêts privés, OBIP) continued to carry out many CRA functions. OBIP claims dossiers that remained with the RA collection in La Courneuve have recently been processed and described, and many of them are being prepared for public access, as permitted under the 2008 French archival law mentioned above. Additional OBIP claims files that remained in the MAEE Nantes facility were recently transferred to La Courneuve, where processing is planned (see Section 2.2.1.).

Finding Aids

Provisional finding aids have been created for the art (RA 591- 680) and library (RA 686-704 and 725-737) sections of this series, but processing continues.

2.1.1.6.3. PRINTED FRENCH REGISTERS OF WAR LOSSES

Under the auspices of the French occupation authorities in Germany, an extensive compendium based on OBIP files was printed for limited circulation. Most relevant for looted art, for example, vol. 2 lists selected individual looted art objects with, short titles, artists, names of owners, and OBIP claim numbers. The volumes in the on-line version for which links are provided below are not annotated to indicate those items that have been restituted to their owners.

Répertoire des biens spoliés en France durant la guerre 1939-1945. 8 vols. with supplements. [Berlin], 1947, supplements: -1952. Commandement en chef français en Allemagne, Groupe français du conseil de contrôle, Division des réparations et restitutions, Bureau central des restitutions. Added English title on title page: *List of Property Removed from France during the War 1939-1945*. Added titles in German and Russian.

Vol. 1: *Matériel industriel / Industrial materials*;

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_1.pdf

Vol. 2: *Tableaux, tapisseries et sculptures / Paintings, tapestries and sculpture*;

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_2.pdf

Vol. 3: *Meubles / Furniture*;

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_3.pdf

Covers pianos and harpsichords as well.

Vol. 4: *Argenterie, céramique, objets précieux / Silverware, ceramics and precious items et supplément aux tomes II, III et IV;*

On-line version: forthcoming

Vol. 5: *Matériel de transport / Means of transport;*

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_5.pdf

Vol. 6: *Valeurs mobilières / Securites;*

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_6.pdf

Vol. 7: *Archives, manuscrits et livres rares / Archives, manuscripts and rare books;*

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_7.pdf

Vol. 8: *Bijoux / Jewels;*

On-line version: http://www.culture.gouv.fr/documentation/mnr/RBS/T_8.pdf

Supplément aux tomes II, III et IV;

On-line version: forthcoming

Deuxième supplément aux tomes II, III et IV. Objets d'art;

On-line version: forthcoming

Troisième supplément aux tomes II, III, IV et VII. Objets d'art et livres rares.

On-line version: forthcoming

N.B. Volumes 1, 5, and 6 each have two supplements, but do not concern looted cultural property. Copies of some volumes in this series, with annotations by Rose Valland and later staff (primarily in vol. 2), are located in the Archives of the National Museums of France in the Louvre (see Section 2.3.2.). Another set is contained in B 323 in the Bundesarchiv Koblenz (see Section 3.2.1.4.5.). A microfilm version of *Répertoire des biens spoliés* is in *NARA Microfilm Publication M1946*, rolls 141-145 (see Section 9.1.5.3.4.). An incomplete microfilm version of *Répertoire des biens spoliés*, with only vols. 1-5, is available in *NARA Microfilm Publication M1949*, rolls 31-35 (see Section 9.1.5.2.). Finally, the series, in various degrees of completeness, can also be found in a few major research libraries.

The website for the National Museums of Recovered Artwork (Musées nationaux recuperation, MNR) is being upgraded. Therefore, the links provided here are temporary and are likely to cease functioning in the spring of 2011. When the revised site is on-line, *Répertoire des biens spoliés* should be available in full. At that point, the information in this Survey will be updated.

2.1.2. ARCHIVES DE L'OCCUPATION FRANÇAISE EN ALLEMAGNE ET EN AUTRICHE

[Archives of the French Occupation in Germany and Austria]

Formerly held in the MAEE repository in Colmar, these records have been transferred to La Courneuve, where reprocessing continues.

Surveys (published)

Piketty, *Guide des recherches*, passim.

Notes some of the relevant holdings that were then in Colmar, but are now in La Courneuve.

2.2. MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET EUROPEÉNES (MAEE), CENTRE DES ARCHIVES DIPLOMATIQUES DE NANTES (CADN)

[Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Center for Diplomatic Archives in Nantes]

17, rue du Casterneau; 44000 Nantes

Tel.: +33 (0)2 / 51 77 24 59

Fax: +33 (0)2 / 51 77 24 60

Website: http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/ministere_817/archives-patrimoine_3512/colonne-droite_5491/salles-lecture_11548/nantes_22495.html

E-mail: archives.cadn@diplomatie.gouv.fr

2.2.1. RECORDS OF THE OFFICE DES BIENS ET INTÉRÊTS PRIVÉS (OBIP)

[Office of Private Property and Interests]

In December 1944, the Office of Private Property and Interests (OBIP), which had been established in 1919 to preserve French interests and property abroad, was assigned the task of identifying and restituting property seized in France during the German occupation, including the extensive French property the Germans transported abroad. The agency was placed jointly under the ministries of foreign affairs and of finance. Its operations, together with those of the Service of Private Property and Interests, established in December 1953, continued effectively until 1955.

OBIP processed claims received from French individuals and organizations, sent experts abroad to locate plundered French property, and carried out restitution proceedings for property found to individuals and organizations. Under the auspices of the French occupation authorities in Germany, an extensive compendium based on OBIP files was printed for limited circulation:

Répertoire des biens spoliés en France durant la guerre 1939-1945. 8 vols. with supplements. [Berlin], 1947, supplements: -1952. Commandement en chef français en Allemagne, Groupe français du conseil de contrôle, Division des réparations et restitutions, Bureau central des restitutions. Added English title on title page: *List of Property Removed from France during the War 1939-1945*. Added titles in German and Russian.

Vol. 1: *Matériel industriel / Industrial materials*;

Vol. 2: *Tableaux, tapisseries et sculptures / Paintings, tapestries and sculpture*;

Vol. 3: *Meubles / Furniture*;

Covers pianos and harpsichords as well.

Vol. 4: *Argenterie, céramique, objets précieux / Silverware, ceramics and precious items et supplément aux tomes II, III et IV*;

Vol. 5: *Matériel de transport / Means of transport*;

Vol. 6: *Valeurs mobilières / Securites*;

Vol. 7: *Archives, manuscrits et livres rares / Archives, manuscripts and rare books*;

Vol. 8: *Bijoux / Jewels*;

Supplément aux tomes II, III et IV;

Deuxième supplément aux tomes II, III et IV. Objets d'art;

Troisième supplément aux tomes II, III, IV et VII. Objets d'art et livres rares.

N.B. Section 2.1.1.6.3. for an on-line version of *Répertoire des biens spoliés en France*.

Many of the claims for works of art (vol. 2), as well as other categories deemed of high cultural value (vols. 3, 4, and 7) were processed in more detail by the Commission for Recovery of Art (CRA). Since those files were transferred from OBIP to CRA, they are now held with the CRA records in the MAEE Archives in La Courneuve (see Section 2.1.1.6.).

Nonetheless, the OBIP records in Nantes contain the master files for declarations of loss as a result of German plunder in France. Copies of all declarations remain in the central series on German spoliation. Other copies of the declarations remain in the specialized series (monies, prisoners of war, and deportees). An information database covers 30,000 individual files, with three other databases containing approximately 70,000 entries.³⁴ In some cases, inventories, seizure documents, and photographs accompany the claims files. However, most of these covering works of art are to be found among the CRA records in La Courneuve, rather than the OBIP records in Nantes. Note that some other OBIP files are held as part of the files of the Restitution Service for Property of Victims along with the records of the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ) in the Archives Nationales – Paris Site (see Section 2.3.3.).

Surveys (published)

Piketty, *Guide des recherches*, pp. 53-55, 208-212, 232, 244-247, and passim.

Provides a brief agency history and survey of OBIP holdings in Nantes. Later chapters on research regarding specific subjects provide additional scattered comments on the OBIP archives, with illustrations of the types of documents to be found there, and other parts of the OBIP records held elsewhere.

³⁴ Details of the databases are explained in Hamon, “Property Looted during the Second World War.”

2.3. ARCHIVES DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX (AMN)

[Archives of the National Museums]

Agency: Direction des Musées de France, Service des Bibliothèques, des Archives de la Documentation Générale
[Directorate of Museums of France, Service of Libraries, Archives, and General Documentation]

6, rue des Pyramides; 75041 Paris
Tel.: +33 (0)1 / 40 20 52 66
E-mail: amn.dmf@culture.gouv.fr

The Archives of the National Museums (AMN) in the Louvre are divided into a number of different series. A special series (R) is devoted to records of the National Museums during the Second World War, including the evacuation of works of art and postwar recovery. Most of the records of the state agencies involved in postwar retrieval and restitution are now held in the Archive of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE, see Section 2.1.). As noted above, after the dissolution of the Commission for Recovery of Art (CRA), most of its records with related files of other French restitution agencies remained in the Louvre in the office of Rose Valland. In 1982, they were transferred to the Musée du château de Bois-Préau (Rueil-Malmaison), before being turned over to MAEE at the Quai d'Orsay in 1992. The AMN have retained two important series of relevant interest, some directly, others tangentially, involved with artworks plundered by the ERR and processed in the Jeu de Paume.

Access: The archives are open to the public, although advance inquiry and appointment is required.

Finding Aids (published)

Poizat, Gilles; and Elisabeth Rey-Freudenreich. *Les Archives des musées nationaux: Guide de recherché*. Paris: Direction des Musées de France, 2005.

Provides a brief paragraph about the records remaining from the period of the Second World War and postwar restitution.

See also Piketty, *Guide des recherches*, pp. 215-232.

Finding Aid (unpublished)

“Etat général des fonds des archives des musées nationaux.” [Paris]: Direction des Musées de France, Service des Bibliothèques, des Archives de la Documentation Générale, December 2002 (updated January 2007). Typescript.

A copy is available in the reading room of the AMN and in the catalogue collection reading room of the Archives Nationales – Paris Site. The R (Second World War) section is described on pp. 51-52.

2.3.1. SÉRIE R: LES MUSÉES NATIONAUX PENDANT LA SECONDE GUERRE MONDIALE ET L'ÉVACUATION DES ŒUVRES

[National Museums during the Second World War and the Evacuation of Works of Art]

Of particular importance for the present survey, the separate Série R of the contemporary division of the archives is devoted to the National Museums during the Second World War. (215 units, divided into various discrete sub-series)

Finding Aids

Unpublished inventories or summaries are available for some sub-series.

Documentation most relevant to relations with the ERR is found in the following sub-series:

R 2C: Correspondence with the Art Protection Office (Kunstschutz), 1940-1944.

R 4 and R 15: Files regarding negotiations with German authorities for exchange of works of art in French state collections and the case of the Ghent Altarpiece.

R 31: Evacuation of private collections, non-national museums, and diverse institutions.

R 32: Jewish collections during the war, collection of notes and documentation of Rose Valland, 7 cartons and one register, 1939-1957.

R 32.1: “Recueil des rapports de Rose Valland au directeur des Musées nationaux, 1941-1944”

A commemorative reconstruction of notes from Valland to museum director Jacques Jaujard, 1941-1944, bound with a tributary preface by Jaujard. Valland's handwritten notes contain many details about ERR operations in the Jeu de Paume, with some lists of named collections and notes or comments on some specific paintings, exchanges, and removals.

R 32.2-32.7: Files on Jewish Collections Evacuated and Confiscated

Files relating to private collections placed under National Museums protection during the war, including major Jewish ones, such as the collection of David-Weill, deposited in the Château de Souches and seized by the ERR, and smaller Jewish collections seized by the ERR from the châteaux of Brissac and Chambord. Includes official deposit papers, although usually not inventories of the contents of crates deposited.

R 32.8: Documentation Rose Valland, 1940-1952, 1985

Includes her file on “Train no. 450044 – train d'Aulnay,” with an inventory and crate list of the contents of paintings saved when the train with the shipment of 1 Aug. 1944 intended for Nikolsburg was diverted by the French resistance and prevented from leaving France.

2.3.2. ANNOTATED REFERENCE COPIES OF *RÉPERTOIRE DES BIENS SPOLIÉS EN FRANCE*

Annotations by Rose Valland in one copy of the series held in the AMN, especially vol. 2, run through 1964. A second copy of the series extends staff annotations through 1970. In those

annotations, individual items are lined through in red if they were restituted to France for transfer to their rightful owner or heirs, with date of restitution added. Those that were not found and whose owners or heirs filed for indemnification claims under West Germany's Federal Restitution Law (Bundesrückerstattungsgesetz, BRüG) are marked accordingly in blue.

Répertoire des biens spoliés en France durant la guerre 1939-1945. 8 vols. with supplements. [Berlin], 1947, supplements: -1952. Commandement en chef français en Allemagne, Groupe français du conseil de contrôle, Division des réparations et restitutions, Bureau central des restitutions. Added English title on title page: *List of Property Removed from France during the War 1939-1945*. Added titles in German and Russian.

Vol. 1: *Matériel industriel / Industrial materials*;

Vol. 2: *Tableaux, tapisseries et sculptures / Paintings, tapestries and sculpture*;

Vol. 3: *Meubles / Furniture*;

Covers pianos and harpsichords as well.

Vol. 4: *Argenterie, céramique, objets précieux / Silverware, ceramics and precious items et supplément aux tomes II, III et IV*;

Vol. 5: *Matériel de transport / Means of transport*;

Vol. 7: *Archives, manuscrits et livres rares / Archives, manuscripts and rare books*;

Also present here are at least two supplement volumes.

2.4. ARCHIVES NATIONALES – SITE DE PARIS (AN-PARIS)

[National Archives – Paris Site]

Previous name: Centre historique des Archives nationales (CHAN)
[Historical Center of the National Archives]

Administration: Service Archives nationales

60, rue des Francs Bourgeois; 75141 Paris

Tel.: +33 (0)1 / 40 27 12 and 40 27 63 31

Fax: +33 (0)1 / 40 27 03

Website: <http://www.archivesnationales.culture.gouv.fr/chan>

Reading Rooms: Centre d'accueil et de recherche des Archives nationales (CARAN)

[National Archives Center for Reception and Research]

11, rue des Quatre-Fils; 75005 Paris

Tel.: +33 (0)1 / 41 27 64 19

The National Archives – Paris Site (AN-Paris) is home to several series of records that contain files with scattered documents bearing on ERR activities, especially plunder, although no groups of documents of direct ERR provenance have been identified. In most series or sub-series, the listings below represent documents examined *de visu*, but additional documents will undoubtedly be found.

N.B. A new research center for contemporary records is under construction at Pierrefitte-au-Seine and plans to open sometime in 2013 (see website, under “Nouveau bâtiment”).

2.4.1. SÉRIE AB XIX: DOCUMENTS ISOLÉS ET PAPIERS D'ÉRUDITS

[Isolated Documents and Papers]

This sub-series represents a small part of the collection of Masonic documents captured by the ERR and other German agencies in Paris and turned over to the Reich Security Main Office (RSHA), the amalgamated Security Police (including the Gestapo) and the Security Service (SD), in Berlin. From there, the documents were evacuated to Silesia in 1943. While most of these materials were seized by the Red Army, the files discussed below were recovered by the Poles and returned to France as a gift from the Polish State Archives in May 1960.³⁵

³⁵ Other original stray documents from French Masonic lodges seized by the Poles near the end of the war or shortly thereafter are now held in the files of BArch-Lichterfelde, R 58 (Reich Security Main Office, RSHA). These were acquired from Poland by the Bundesarchiv in 1997. A much larger quantity of original Masonic files seized by Soviet authorities after the war and taken to Moscow were returned to Paris in 1994, as listed in *Returned from Russia*, pp. 166-167.

Finding Aid (unpublished)

AB XIX/6

3367: Scattered fragmentary documents include minutes of a meeting and inquiry by Oscar Wirth concerning possible Franco-German reconciliation; correspondence between Wirth and Jean de Berne and newspaper and journal articles (1876-1938); documents regarding aide from French Masons to Spanish Masons and refugees from the Spanish Civil War, including funding appeals and lists of refugees (1934-1939).

2.4.2. SÉRIE AJ 38: COMMISSARIAT GÉNÉRAL AUX QUESTIONS JUIVES (CGQJ) ET DU SERVICE DE RESTITUTION DES BIENS DES VICTIMES DES LOIS ET MESURES DE SPOLIATION

[General Commissariat for Jewish Questions and Restitution Service for Property of Victims of Spoliation Laws and Measures]

The extensive records of the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ), which was charged with the implementation of anti-Semitic laws and regulations during the German occupation, and the postwar Restitution Service for Property of Victims of Spoliation Laws and Measures, under the Ministry of Finance, are relevant for both general historical consideration, as well as the identification of plunder and restitution proceedings for Jewish firms and families. In that connection, they provide documentation and clues regarding the confiscation or plunder of Jews undertaken by the ERR and related German agencies. Copies of actual ERR documents, however, would be found only in very rare instances, where they were used in conjunction with an individual attestation of loss in connection with postwar restitution claims. Most such claims files for art and valuable cultural property, or significant documentation therein, would probably have also been turned over to the CRA. In many cases, the CGQJ files were used in postwar claims and restitution proceedings.

These records have been open for public research since 1998. Documentation and individual card and case files within this record group are available only on microfilm in CARAN. A copy of part of these records is available on microfilm in the Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation (CDJC), as are some additional original files and files of earlier copies of scattered documents (see sample listings under Section 2.4.).

Finding Aid (published)

Inventaire des archives du Commissariat général aux questions juives et du Service de restitution des biens des victimes des lois et mesures de spoliation. Sous-série AJ38, Archives nationales. Comp. Marie-Thérèse Chabord and Jean Pouëssel. Paris: Centre historique des Archives nationales, 1998.

A detailed inventory of remaining CGQJ records. Provides descriptive data about the various groups of files on “economic Aryanization,” one of the Nazis’ main instruments of spoliation in France. Helps locate individual “Aryanization” files, frozen bank accounts, details about the plunder by the M-Aktion, and postwar restitution programs for furniture and pianos, among other items.

Piketty, *Guide de Recherches*, pp. 27-41, 167-178, 183-184, 200, 231, 241-244, 265-283, and passim.

The genesis of the CGQJ records is well outlined in *Guide de Recherches*. See also the description of the card files and dossiers within this record group from the Directorate of Economic Aryanization (Direction de l'Aryanisation économique), to which Jewish firms were subjected under German occupation, in Appendix 3 and 4, pp. 265-279. Sources for research on various specific subjects, including the plunder and restitution of works of art are mentioned in several chapters in the second half of the book.

Wieviorka and Azoulay, *Le pillage des appartements et son indemnisation*.

In connection with its coverage of the M-Aktion and the process of postwar restitution or compensation claims, the authors explain the operation of the CGQJ and the Restitution Service for Property of Victims of Spoliation Laws and Measures. Mention is made of the relationship of records available in Paris (including those of the Centre historique des Archives nationales [CHAN], the previous name for AN-Paris) to those now held in Israel and Berlin. Under AJ 38, the authors reference especially AJ 38/16, 17, 801, and 1142 (p. 237), and additional files for restitution claims (p. 241).

Some examples from AJ 38 include:

AJ 38/5937-39: Lists of plundered books and libraries established by claimants.

AJ 38/5940: CGQJ correspondence relating to the seizure of works of art, books, furniture, and other items belonging to Jews under German occupation (1940-1941). Some of the documents on ERR seizures include:

- from the Louvre: Mme Porges (14 Aug. 1940);
- from Château de Chambord (7 July 1940): Jacobson, Maurice Leven, Roger-Lévy, Lewel, Bernard Reichenbach, Mme Reichenbach, Léon Reinach, Rouff, and the British Embassy (2 cases);
- from the Château de Brissac (14 Aug. 1940): Aronson, Erlanger, Raymond Hesse, Simon Lévy, Mme Léonce Bernheim, and Kapferer;
- from the Château de Sourches (11 Apr. 1941): David-Weill (130 cases), also Wildenstein;
- from villa de Madrid (24 June 1941): M. Julien Bernach;
- from the Château de Chambord (3 July 1941): Claude Roger-Marx and Calman-Lévy [Marx and Kalmann-Levy in ERR records];
- correspondence relating to several repositories for works of art, books, and moveable goods abandoned by Germans in France and in Germany, and some postwar correspondence related to repositories in Karlsruhe and others places (1945-1948);
- lists of seized libraries, and sample declarations of loss;
- lists of seized collection of art established by the Restitution Service for Property of Victims and correspondence regarding individual claims.

2.4.3. SÉRIE AJ 40: ARCHIVES ALLEMANDES DE LA SECONDE GUERRE MONDIALE

[German Archives of the Second World War]

2.4.3.1. AJ 40/1-415 AND 439-990: MILITÄRBEFEHLSHABER IN BELGIEN UND NORDFRANKREICH (MB BELGNFR, COMMANDANT MILITAIRE EN BELGIQUE ET LE NORD DE LA FRANCE) AND MILITÄRBEFEHLSHABER IN FRANKREICH (MBF, COMMANDANT MILITAIRE EN FRANCE)

[Military Commander in Belgium and Northern France and Military Commander in France]

Many of the records of the main military agencies for the administration of France and Belgium during the occupation (1940-1944) were destroyed or evacuated at the end of the war. The French found some files that the Germans left behind, but were able to retrieve only a part of those evacuated to Germany. Many of the occupation records from France, as well as some from Belgium, were recovered by the U.S. Army in Germany and taken to the United States despite French claims.

Processed and microfilmed within a larger group of German military records, they were turned over to West Germany in the 1960s. The records of the Military Commander in France (MBF) and the Military Commander in Belgium and Northern France (MB BelgNfr) are thus split between the AN-Paris and the Federal Archives-Military Archives in Freiburg (see Section 3.4.2. and Section 3.4.3.). Thanks to French and German cooperation, detailed parallel finding aids for the Paris and Freiburg holdings were published in 2002, making both parts of these fonds now much more accessible to researchers. Copies of some of the documents now in AN-Paris and a few additional original MBF documents are held in the CDJC (see Section 2.4.).

As units working under the MBF, the Wehrmacht's special "protection" offices for libraries, archives, and art were often in competition with the ERR. At the same time, the ERR was reporting to those offices and was directly dependent on the MBF for supplies and local arrangements. The Secret Field Police (Geheime Feldpolizei, GFP) was often simultaneously working for and reporting to related agencies under the MBF and the ERR. Hence some documentation from and relating to ERR operations in France and/or confiscated culture property taken over by the ERR is to be found within these records. These include documents among the files from operations of the Library Protection Office (Bibliothekschutz), the Archives Group of the Archives Protection Office (Archivschutz, Gruppe Archivwesen), and the Art Protection Office (Kunstschutz), as well as correspondence and numerous reports and inventories of archives, libraries, and other cultural property.

The economics departments of the MBF and the MB BelgNfr have extensive files on the registration and confiscation of "enemy" [especially Jewish] cultural property, whether in homes or in bank vaults. Scattered documents relate to ERR activities and collections confiscated on behalf of the ERR, or turned over and processed by the ERR. Thus scattered documentation in these files relate to the ERR and are especially important in tracking the cultural property the ERR plundered, although the documents may not have been directly created by the ERR.

Also of interest in this series are the documents gathered after the war for the French trial of Hermann Bunjes, who was also involved with Göring and the art-looting activities of the ERR.

Finding Aid

La France et la Belgique sous l'occupation allemande, 1940-1944: Les fonds allemands conservés au Centre historique des Archives nationales. Inventaire de la sous-série AJ 40. Ed. Guy Beaujouan et al. Paris: Centre historique des Archives nationales, 2002.

Provides detailed listings of folder contents in the records (see Section 3.4.2. for the corresponding volume covering the Bundesarchiv holdings in Freiburg)

Internet availability

Since 1998, a French project involving the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) and the German Historical Institute in Paris (Deutsches Historisches Institut in Paris, DHIP / Institut historique allemand, IHA) has been working with the AN-Paris to prepare some of the more general MBF documents from AJ 40, such as the situation reports (*Lageberichte*), for Internet accessibility. See the explanation of the project and search mechanism at <http://www.ihtp.cnrs.fr/prefets>. Although these publications provide access to some documents from AJ 40 and AJ 41, none of the documents of special relevance cited below have so far been included.

Microfilm Copies

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) has some scattered microfilms of files from AJ 40, but as of June 2008, many frames of the copy available to researchers were poorly legible.

AJ 40/1-415: Militärbefehlshaber in Belgien und Nordfrankreich (MB BelgNfr, Commandant militaire en Belgique et le Nord de la France)

For Belgium, there are several MB BelgNfr files that involve the ERR, for example:

Verwaltungsabteilung (Division administrative)**AJ 40/14-38: Group 6 Kultur (Culture, enseignement), 1940-1944**

AJ 40/15: Some documents directly related to Rosenberg offices and seizures, especially 15/6 on the Institute nationale d'histoire sociale, Brussels, and Emil Vanderevelde.

AJ 40/37: Bureau G (Questions artistiques en Belgique); reports from the Kunstschutz under Count Franz Wolff-Metternich; the Van Eyck Altar in Ghent; and seizures in Louvain (Leuven); Bureau H (Archives); Bureau I (Bibliothèques). The latter includes lists and reports of visits to libraries. Subsequent files containing declarations of enemy goods and those dealing with the liquidation of Belgian Jewish enterprises contain some documentation of confiscation and plunder with which the ERR may well have been involved.

AJ 40/439-990: Militärbefehlshaber in Frankreich (MBF, Commandant militaire en France)

For France, files of interest from the records of the MBF include:

Verwaltungsstab Group, V 4 Schule und Kultur (État-major administrative, Enseignement et culture), 1940-1944

AJ 40/564: Divers

Reference to an ERR inventory of works of art belonging to Jews (31 Aug. 1941).

AJ 40/569-570: Bibliothekschutz (Office for the Protection of Libraries)

Reports about libraries with documentation about some confiscated libraries, including relations of the Archivschutz and the Kunstschutz with the ERR.

AJ 40/569

Folder 6 (July 1940-Aug. 1941): Reports and memoranda, many of which relate to ERR seizures, activities, and relations with the Security Service (SD), the Nazi party intelligence service, and the High Command of the Wehrmacht, for example: a copy of Wilhelm Grau's report on the ERR seizure of libraries in Paris with cooperation from the GFP and the SD (16 Sep. 1940); the Polish and Turgenev Russian libraries; the Boldeau and Utikal library seizure from the Château of Beaumesnil (Fürstenberg and Bibliothèque nationale); Herbert Gerigk of the Special Staff Music (Sonderstab Musik) and his seizure of manuscripts from the libraries of the Arsenal, Conservatory, and Opera in Paris; seizure of the Bamberger library (Hénonville); the Dreyfus palace library (Paris) and Château Beaumanoir (Côtes-du-Nord), among others.

AJ 40/571-572: Archivwesen (Archives)

Correspondence and reports of the activities of the German archives mission, Georg Schnath, and Gruppe Archivwesen, with files about different archives.

AJ 40/573-574: Kunstschutz

Correspondence and reports from the Kunstschutz with lists and inspection reports on visits to châteaux for state and private collections; reports on dealers and sales and purchases for German museums; activity reports from Count Franz Wolff-Metternich, the head of the Kunstschutz, and his successor Baron Bernhard von Tieschowitz.

AJ 40/574

Folder contains a large group of German typed registration sheets for museums and private collections in one area of France, organized by location (A-Z);

Folder 2: Correspondence with art dealers and appraisers with many photographs; one folder has a catalogue of the Succession Georges Viau sale (17 Dec. 1942), along with a list of paintings purchased for over 1 million francs, and a list of purchases from 17 Dec. 1942;

Folder 5: Receipts (including Linz and Dresden museums) with names and dimensions of paintings purchased or appraised (e.g., Theo Hermesen in Paris).

AJ 40/575-577

Press clipping service (Metropolgesellschaft) concerned with fine arts.

Wirtschaftsabteilung (Section économique), 1938-1945

AJ 40/579-611: Group Wi 1/2 Feindvermögen / Biens ennemis (Enemy Property)

Reports of the Treuhand- und Revisionsstelle to the MBF; files of the Currency Protection Commando (Devisenschutzkommando, DSK); declarations of "enemy" property (including Jewish) and the administration of enemy property (including businesses and art), with documentation on the property of many Jews stripped of French nationality and whose family art collections were seized on behalf of the ERR, among them, e.g., **591** (Rothschild art) and **611** (several alphabetical files).

AJ 40/868-897: Kommandant von Gross-Paris (Commandant du Grand Paris), 1940-1944

AJ 40/880: Police and Gendarme Files in the Paris Area, Feb.-June 1941

Folder 2: Report on the confiscation of 760 cases of Rothschild banking archives (8 Feb. 1941), which were shipped to Frankfurt; plans with the SD for the seizure of other East European émigré collections, such as Elkin (Miliukov), Bramson, and Aldanov; report on plans for sale of paintings from the Bernheim-Jeune Gallery; report on the phonograph collection of Louise Berta Mosson-Dyer.

2.4.3.2. AJ 40/1027-1105: DEVISENSCHUTZKOMMANDO FRANKREICH (DSK)

Scattered cartons contain lists of confiscations from bank vaults (organized by bank) with names of individuals and firms and notes regarding art collections (some with lists of works of art) transferred to the ERR and processed in the Jeu de Paume. Among many others to be found scattered in these cartons are, for example:

AJ 40/1035: under Banque Franco-Portugaise are some documents regarding the collection of Adolfo Weiss, transferred to the ERR with pretensions of others (including Göring) for some of the paintings;

AJ 40/1036: under Banque Nationale pour le Commerce et Industrie, indication of 34 modern paintings found in the safe of M. Watson (2 Dec. 1940) (no list), 19 transferred to the ERR; a separate list names artists of 15 modern paintings said to belong to M. Sidery, including two Dali, three Braque, three Picasso, and three Cherico;

AJ 40/1099: under Westminster Bank, notice of removal of 43 paintings from the safe of Salomon Flavian (12 Feb. 1941); 13 oil paintings from the safe of Élisabeth Wildenstein (15 May 1941), transferred to the ERR; and three paintings from the safe of Morris Wolf Jacobson (29 May and 10 July 1941); document noting transfers to the ERR on 27 Apr. 1941, with reference to paintings of Joseph Kronig [Kronick in ERR records] (Monaco), Sara Rosenstein, Salomon Flavian, the Hamburger family, Mme Thierry, and Oscar Federer.

2.4.3.3. AJ 40/1671-1683: TRIAL OF HERMANN BUNJES

Bunjes served with the Art Protection Office (Kunstschutz) under the MBF, headed the German Art History Research Institute (Deutsche Kunsthistorische Forschungsstätte), and functioned for a brief period as Göring's personal art agent. He was closely involved in the ERR operations, including art registration in the Jeu de Paume. After the war he was extradited back to France to stand trial. His administrative documents, correspondence, and personal papers gathered in this group within AJ 40 include scattered documents of relevance to the ERR, including transfers to the Göring Collection, for example:

AJ 40/1673

Folder 16: Devoted to the ERR with Bunjes's correspondence and reports on private Jewish collections seized by the ERR, and other scattered related documents.³⁶

2.4.4. SÉRIE 3W/347-359: ARCHIVES DE BERLIN

This series is made up of certified copies of German wartime documents, primarily from the Political Archive of the German Foreign Office (PA AA), and French translations, which were used for postwar trials of enemy war criminals and collaborators (1947-1948).

These include some reports on the activities of the German Foreign Office, cultural plunder by the German Embassy in Paris, including Ambassador Otto Abetz and his staff, and by Commando Künsberg from the German Foreign Office. Also to be found are reports on the plunder of the archives of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the Quai d'Orsay, Karl Epting and the seizure of the original Treaty of Versailles, the capture of Deuxième Bureau (military intelligence) records in Lyon (March 1943), and the confiscation of Maurice de Rothschild's collections (which were then transferred to the ERR). A few scattered documents relate to the seizure and transport of art and archives to Germany or Switzerland. While several documents were identified as stemming from Commando Künsberg, only one report was found on the ERR (concerning Rosenberg and ERR staff member Georg Ebert). Another report was found regarding the Möbel-Aktion seizures from French homes.

Access: Because of their status as court exhibits, these documents were, as of 2008, available on application by special permission for limited research but without permission for reproduction. All of the originals are open to researchers in the PA AA in Berlin (see Section 3.5.).

Finding Aid

A document-level typescript inventory (with dates and subjects) is available on special request in the AN-Paris, Section for Contemporary Archives (Archives Contemporaine).

“Archives dites de Berlin,” 3W 347-359. [n.d.]

The list specifies the subject and date of each numbered document.

³⁶ See additional Bunjes correspondence in MAEE, carton RA 104, under Section 2.1.1.2.

2.4.5. SÉRIE BB 35: TRIBUNAUX MILITAIRES INTERNATIONAUX (TMI)

[International Military Tribunals, IMT]

Tribunal militaire internationale de Nuremberg (International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg)

The AN-Paris holds the official French records from the International Military Tribunal (IMT), although many more original documents were acquired after the trials by the CDJC (see Section 2.5.). This series includes many French administrative documents; transcripts of the IMT Trial of the Major War Criminals; official deposition documents (trial exhibits) by France, Great Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union; various series of documents collected for the trial (designated C, D, EC, ECH, ECR, L, M, PS, R, and TC); additional collected documents; and documentation from the twelve Subsequent Nuremberg Trials, as well as the Tokyo Trial. Hence French copies of interrogations and documentation for the IMT Trial of the Major War Criminals, which included Rosenberg as a defendant, are to be found here, together with copies of ERR documents exhibited at the trial or used in preparation.

Finding Aid (unpublished)

“BB 35: Tribunal militaire internationale de Nüremberg – TMI: Inventaire.” Comp. Catherine Bertho, with a preface by Elizabeth Dunan. Typescript. Paris: Archives Nationales, n.d.

A detailed inventory of the records with a very helpful introduction about the documentation remaining from the trials. A copy bound in two volumes is available in the CARAN inventory room, and another copy is available in the CDJC library.

2.4.6. SÉRIE F 17: MINISTÈRE DE L’INSTRUCTION PUBLIQUE

[Ministry of Public Instruction]

Previous names: Ministère de l’Education Nationale
[Ministry of National Education]

Sub-series F/17 – 17974 to 17996: Bibliothèques pillées sous l’occupation (Libraries looted during the occupation), 1945-1953

The Sub-Commission on Books (SCL), which operated 1945-1949 as part of the Commission on Art Recovery (CRA), dealt with the location, identification, and restitution of books (including manuscripts and incunabula) plundered by Nazi agencies in France. Headed by Jenny Delsaux of the Bibliothèque nationale, the SCL was legally disbanded in October 1949, but in fact continued its activity through 1951. A large part of the records of the SCL – 23 archival cartons – are held as this sub-series in the records of the Ministry of National Education. However, the main CRA records in the Archives of the MAEE (see Section 2.1.1.) contain many additional files relating to libraries, including another part of the SCL records (see Section 2.1.1.3.).

Because the ERR was the Nazi agency most extensively involved in the systematic plunder of French libraries and the processing of books confiscated by the Möbel-Aktion and other agencies, SCL records are important in following ERR activities and the fate of its loot. Copies of a few ERR documents, including lists of plundered libraries in Paris, are to be found scattered

throughout several files within this series. Carton 17077, for example, contains a collection of German documents (16 June 1940-July 1944) with French translations, many of which relate to the ERR, for example, Johann Pohl's 1943 report on the library of the Institute for Research on the Jewish Question (Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage, IEJ) in Frankfurt. Postwar French charts list moving companies involved in transporting books, and a chart of Germans involved in library plunder.

As apparent from these files, however, the SCL had not acquired copies of many of the surviving ERR files, such as the more comprehensive ERR library seizure lists from France among the ERR records in Kyiv (Kiev) and those found by the British in the collections of the Central Library of the Hohe Schule (ZBHS) in Tanzenberg, Austria. These might have assisted SCL restitution operations.

Particularly important for tracking the fate of plundered books and their wartime destinations are the numerous postwar French reports on missions abroad – in Germany, Austria, Poland, and Czechoslovakia, where books plundered by the ERR were later found. These include specific ERR repositories or institutions of the Hohe Schule. Some reports on the convoys returning books from abroad list statistics; others include short titles and indicate individual owners to whom the books were returned (e.g., those in carton no. 17980). Other reports cover ERR book repositories in France.

Carton nos. 17993-17994 contain the records of four separate meetings of the Commissions on Choice, which was charged with approving the return or alternate disposition of recovered books: the First (14 Dec. 1949), Second (4 May 1950), Third (14 Dec. 1950), and Fourth (2 Dec. 1953).

Finding Aid (unpublished)

“Série F/17: Bibliothèques pillées sous l’occupation, 1945/1953 (F17 – 17974 à 17996).” Paris: Archives nationales, n.d.

Provides a succinct administrative history of the SCL and a box list with brief notes about the contents of files retained. As of spring 2008, a copy of this finding aid was not available in the CARAN reference consultation room and had to be specially requested.

Administrative Surveys (published)

Labracherie, J.C. “La Sous-commission des livres et les spoliations allemandes pendant l’occupation de 1940-1944.” *Gazette des Archives*, 1973, n.s. no. 82, pp. 159-162.

Delseaux, Jenny. “La Sous-commission des livres à la récupération artistique, 1944-1950.” Typescript. Paris, 1976.

Reference copy in MAEE, a photocopy from the Bibliothèque de documentation internationale contemporaine.

2.4.7. SÉRIE F 37: MINISTÈRE DE FINANCES, COMMISSIONS FINANCIERS

[Ministry of Finance, Financial Commissions]

Sous-série Commission consultative des dommages et réparations (Consultative Commission on Damages and Reparations), 1939-1948, 1950

F 37/155³⁷: A folder entitled “Affaires juives” found in this carton within other records of the Prefecture de la Seine, Direction des Affaires de liquidation et d’occupation, includes various documents relating to the Jewish population of France, including statistical summaries.

Series of large-format charts listing groups of sealed Jewish residences from which the contents were removed (with street address, but in somewhat random order).

“Liste d’appartements mis sous scellés et parfois vidé de leur meubles par l’authorité allemande (locations presumes israélites)”³⁷; nine separate lists contain a total of 322 residences, the first dated 22 Aug. 1942 and the ninth dated 25 Apr. 1943, all in French, with no German orders or related explanatory documents.

2.4.8. SÉRIE Z 6: LES ARCHIVES DE LA COUR DE JUSTICE

[Records of the Court of Justice]

This series contains considerable documentation regarding art sales by galleries and individual dealers, many of whom maintained direct relations with the ERR.³⁸

Access: With the 2008 French archival law, the dossiers on individual cases are closed for a period of 75 years.

Finding Aids

There are no inventories available. There is a card file of personal names and a register of cases before the court, but these are not open to researchers. Prospective researchers should address inquiries to an archivist in the Section for Contemporary Archives of the AN-Paris.

³⁷ I am grateful to Caroline Piketty for calling my attention to this carton and the particular folder that she recently identified after publication of her *Guide de recherche*. Piketty suggests more such lists may have been preserved in this series, but they have yet to surface.

³⁸ References to files containing significant ERR documentation have not yet been established, but researchers may want to consult the appropriate indexes and registers available.

2.5. MÉMORIAL DE LA SHOAH, CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION JUIVE CONTEMPORAINE (CDJC)

[Shoah Memorial, Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation]

17, rue Geoffroy l'Asnier; 75004 Paris

Tel.: +33 (0)1 / 42 77 44 72

Fax: +33 (0)1 / 53 01 17 44

Website: <http://www.memorialdelashoah.org/getHomeAction.do?langage=en>

E-mail: archives@memorialdelashoah.org or phototheque@memorialdelashoah.org

The Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation (CDJC) was created clandestinely in Grenoble in 1943 to collect and to preserve documentation on the Shoah. Headed by Rabbi Isaac Schneersohn, the CDJC moved to Paris after the liberation.

The archives of the CDJC, now part of the Shoah Memorial in Paris, hold a large concentration of original ERR documents, as well as many photocopies from other sources. These documents are intermixed with sources of provenance in other offices of Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg, along with several other collections acquired from the International Military Tribunal (IMT) in Nuremberg. In addition, as will be seen below, there are important (but fragmentary) groups of documents (originals and photocopies) from German agencies in occupied France, as well as French agencies and other sources.

The focus of CDJC holdings is the Shoah, anti-Semitism, the deportation of Jews, and the resistance. As part of the Shoah Memorial, the CDJC has simultaneously amassed significant documentation on individual casualties and provided leads for tracing individuals. Regarding cultural property, there is extensive documentation on confiscation by and on behalf of the ERR, and related documents of other agencies such as the Wehrmacht's Art Protection Office (Kunstschutz) and Secret Field Police (GFP), Göring's Currency Protection Commando (DSK), and the Gestapo, as well as a collection of documents related to the German Embassy in Paris and the trial of Ambassador Otto Abetz, and protests to the French authorities through the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ). There are also some documents relating to postwar claims and restitution efforts. The CDJC also has large collections of photographs and posters from the war.

Descriptive Survey (published)

Poliakov, L. "Le Centre de documentation juive: ses archives, ses publications." *Cahiers d'histoire de la Guerre*, no. 2 (October 1949), pp. 39-44.

Now outdated in terms of the holdings, finding aids, and publications.

2.5.1. ARCHIVES DE NUREMBERG

[Nuremberg Archives Collection]

2.5.1.1. ARCHIVES DE NUREMBERG – ROSENBERG

[Nuremberg Archive – Rosenberg]

The CDJC Rosenberg Collection – ca. 2,000 documents (mostly originals but some photocopies) – was acquired by French specialists led by Joseph Billig after the Trial of the Major War Criminals before the IMT in Nuremberg. Most of the documents previously formed part of the various Rosenberg records captured by the U.S. Army in Germany in 1945, mostly those from Banz Castle and nearby Staffelstein.³⁹

As presently arranged, individual cartons within the CDJC archival collection bear Roman numerals, while individual documents in separate folders within have Arabic numbers. The documents are still arranged in the jumbled order in which they were received, many of them with the initial numbers assigned to them when they were withdrawn for the trials from the larger U.S. Rosenberg Collection. Accordingly, many of the documents in the CDJC Rosenberg Collection still have copies of the numbered “docID,” or “pull slips,” from the Office of the U.S. Chief of Counsel for War Crimes. Copies of those correlated numbered pull slips remained in the group of records later taken to the United States and processed by the National Archives and Records Administration as temporary record group EAP 99 before being turned over to West Germany’s Bundesarchiv in the 1960s. Those numbers hence permit correlation with the Rosenberg files in the Bundesarchiv. The printed numbered pull slips in the CDJC collection continue through no. 448 (with a few gaps for missing documents) and then start up again with 592. Although not all of the pull slips are retained, that numbering in order of pull slips continues through no. 645. The CDJC collection has been retained in the order of those numbered Nuremberg document slips. Later files start with other numerical sequences.

Corresponding numbered slips indicating missing documents are now found among files within the records of the several Rosenberg offices held by the Bundesarchiv in Berlin-Lichterfelde under NS 30 (ERR) and other Rosenberg record groups, such as NS 8 (Kanzlei Rosenberg) and NS 15 (Der Beauftragte des Führers für die Überwachung der gesamten geistigen und weltanschaulichen Schulung und Erziehung der NSDAP, DBFU) (see Section 3.1.1.-Section 3.1.3.).

The documents in the main Rosenberg Collection in the CDJC were collected by the prosecution for the Trial of the Major War Criminals, which included Rosenberg himself. Most of the originals and carbon copies here represent documents collected in preparation for the Nuremberg proceedings but not actually used in court. They remain arranged as a collection, rather than as groups of archival records based on their office of provenance. The mix of documents found here comes from all of Rosenberg’s key agencies, including his Chancellery; the Commissioner of the Führer for the Supervision of the Entire Intellectual and Ideological Schooling and Training of the NSDAP (DBFU), together with the planned Hohe Schule and its various institutes and Central Library (ZBHS); the NSDAP Foreign Policy Office (Aussenpolitisches Amt, APA) and its Office for Jewish and Free Mason Questions (Amt Juden- und Freimaurerfragen); and the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories (Reichsministerium für die besetzten Ostgebiete, RMbO) and

³⁹ I will provide more details about the U.S. seizure of ERR records and the subsequent fate thereof in a projected monograph on ERR operations and its surviving archives.

its subordinate civil occupation authorities the Reich Commissariat for Ostland (Reichskommissariat für das Ostland, RKO) and the Reich Commissariat for Ukraine (Reichskommissariat für die Ukraine, RKU). Documents of ERR provenance (also intermixed from Rosenberg's various agencies) include those from the central administrative offices in Berlin, the evacuated offices in Ratibor (postwar Racibórz, Poland), the ERR main working groups and working groups (Hauptarbeitsgruppen [HAG] and Arbeitsgruppen [AG]) in many different countries, especially France, as well as those of ERR special units, such as the Sonderstab Musik, but these have not been separated out or arranged accordingly.

As described by Billig in his 1963 selective inventory, the CDJC Rosenberg Collection embraces four main subject headings (a smaller fifth part embraces more general racial measures, with a sixth part listing a few documents on the general history of the NSDAP):

- I. Rosenberg's activity in the realm of "Nazi culture" and ideology, his several institutions for cultural purification (especially anti-Semitism), including the DBFU and the Hohe Schule, its library and institutes, such as the Institute for Research on the Jewish Question (IEJ), and Rosenberg's publications;
- II. The creation, organization, and goals of the ERR: the confiscation of books, archives, works of art, furniture, and musical instruments; reports on seizures and confiscations, including those by the Möbel-Aktion, which was technically an extension of the western affairs office (Dienststelle Westen) of the RMbO, but worked mainly with ERR personnel and facilities in occupied Western Europe;
- III. Rosenberg's political and ideological activities on an international scale, starting with the DBFU and continuing with the Hohe Schule, and his anti-Jewish policies;
- IV. Policies concerning the occupation of the Soviet Union, including the military mobilization of native ethnic communities against the Soviet Union and Rosenberg's conflicts with Reichsführer-SS and Chief of the German Police Heinrich Himmler, Party Chancellery Head Martin Bormann, Reich Commissar for Ukraine Erich Koch, and Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels.

Although the CDJC Rosenberg documents are not arranged and numbered accordingly, Billig provides an excellent characterization of the CDJC Rosenberg Collection with annotations of selected documents under those general subject headings and subsidiary chapters, providing pointed description of the documentary highlights. His expository inventory thus gives an excellent orientation to Rosenberg's policies and functions in the Third Reich and the more specific role of the ERR. Most of the CDJC ERR documents he cites involving cultural plunder operations (under the DBFU) fall under Billig's Part II (chapters 1 and 2) with an emphasis on policy and arrangements, rather than specific acts of plunder. Chapter 3 discusses the Möbel-Aktion and lists selected M-Aktion documents. Documents involving ERR organization, policy, and propaganda functions appear in other parts of the inventory, especially those connected to the DBFU and its subsidiary Hohe Schule in Parts I and III. ERR documents do not appear in Part IV, which is devoted to RMbO policy and administration, as well as the RKO and the RKU.

The 1947 compilation by Jean Cassou provides French translations of 56 CDJC Rosenberg documents (predominantly from the ERR) relating specifically to the plunder of French Jewish-owned art collections. It emphasizes more general policies and reports, such as the retrospective report of ERR art plunder by Robert Scholz (15 July 1944). There are also a few documents regarding the Jewish art collections first taken to the Germany Embassy and, for example, the exposé by Count Franz Wolff-Metternich, the first head of the Kunstschutz, who opposed the Nazis' looting of art. The two documents on libraries

include the frequently cited April 1943 report by Johann Pohl on the IEJ library [= IMT, PS-171* (US-383, RF-1324)], which was largely made up of books plundered by the ERR, sometimes with the help of IEJ staff members. Overall, the emphasis is on documents of general background and context. Cassou's volume does not have current CDJC document citations, but these are penciled in the margins of a copy of this compilation in the CDJC reading room.

The all too brief citations of sample ERR documents below, intended to complement these publications and alert the researcher to their often hidden riches, follow the current CDJC order of cartons and folder numbers. Coverage is not exhaustive. Examples emphasize culture plunder, with notes on the Möbel-Aktion and the Hohe Schule. The CDJC card catalogue, with its document-by-document résumés, is still the most helpful finding aid for researchers. The card catalogue is gradually being updated in an electronic database with revised descriptions and key-word indexing and, in some cases, a concordance to the full-text documents themselves.

Finding Aid (published)

Billig, Joseph. *Alfred Rosenberg dans l'action idéologique, politique et administrative du Reich hitlérien: Inventaire commenté de la collection de documents conservés au C.D.J.C. provenant des archives du Reichsleiter et Ministre A. Rosenberg*. Paris: Edition du Centre, 1963; = *Les inventaires des archives du CDJC*, vol. 1.

An annotated register of selected ERR and other Rosenberg documents held by the CDJC with commentary (see especially pp. 123-171). Current CDJC code numbers are provided for most of the documents described. The introduction explains the genesis of the Rosenberg Collection (pp. 9-17) and gives a good biographical sketch of Rosenberg (pp. 18-28). Significantly, as a help to researchers, the register is arranged in subject categories, with sections for the Hohe Schule, the IEJ, the ERR, and confiscations, etc.

Finding Aids (unpublished)

Card Catalogues (*fichiers*): Nuremberg – Sources – Inventaire – Général

A detailed card catalogue with brief document-by-document abstracts covering ERR Nuremberg files and other documents from German occupation authorities is available on the balcony above the CDJC reading room. Coverage in the main catalogue drawers reflects current order, as they have been numbered by archival carton (Roman numerals) and individual folders within (Arabic numerals). The Rosenberg section is covered in drawers 18 and 19.

Other drawers contain a personal name index for the collection, but those cards are interspersed in the general CDJC name card index. The name index is not comprehensive, although helpful in many instances.

The key word or subject section of the CDJC card catalogue is also not comprehensive and therefore much less useful for the Rosenberg Collection. The choice of topics covered is rather arbitrary, but some subject headings, such as "ERR" or "Franc-maçonnerie," may lead researchers to related ERR documents nonetheless. See in particular the heading "Spoliations – Pillage biens culturels" (drawer no. 129), with subcategories for "Oeuvres d'art" and "bibliothèques," but these latter categories are intermixed, and coverage remains incomplete.

Electronic Database

The CDJC has recently digitized the entire Rosenberg Collection and is in the process of entering newly verified descriptions in the CDJC electronic database in the reading room. Although still incomplete, it is the most accurate and up-to-date finding aid for CDJC holdings. As of April 2009, approximately 480 Rosenberg documents have been entered and can be searched within the system. An abbreviated version of the database is available on the French version of the CDJC website – <http://ww.memorialdelashoah.org> – under the rubric “Récherche dans le catalogue.” Entries provide summaries (with archival codes) of selected documents. Only a few documents, as well as photographs, are available in full, but expansion of the website offering is planned.⁴⁰

Published ERR Documents

Le pillage par les Allemands des oeuvres d'art et des bibliothèques appartenant à des Juifs en France: Recueil de documents. Ed. Jean Cassou. Paris: Éditions du Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine, 1947; = *Centre de documentation juive contemporaine. Série Documents*, no. 4.

Provides a sample group of 56 selected ERR documents from the CDJC in French translation. Unfortunately, the published documents do not reference the current CDJC code numbers, although the CDJC reading room copy has penciled marginal indications added accordingly.

Microfilm Copies

Preservation microfilms (18 rolls) of the Archives Rosenberg were prepared in the 1960s. A copy of the films (10 reels and 23 microfiche) is available in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Acc. 1998-A.0104), but orientation and access is extremely difficult, because the essential CDJC card catalogue is not included, and no other finding aid for the microfilms is available in the museum.

Cartons from the Collection Archives de Nuremberg – Rosenberg

Although all of the cartons in the Rosenberg Collection are listed below, showing the extent and mix of holdings, the brief coverage of documents within cartons indicated remains fragmentary, often with mention of only a few individual ERR documents as examples. Some of the listings have been compiled on the basis of the CDJC card catalogue or Billig's listings. Others have been examined *de visu*.

N.B. Although many of the documents had been assigned IMT numbers, especially in the PS series, only a few Nuremberg PS numbers have been added where available.

⁴⁰ Because the CDJC Internet version of documents is still under development, no attempt has been made here to indicate the specific documents listed below now available on-line.

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No. 335 in the CDJC Nuremberg Collection, but now also considered part of the Rosenberg Collection, two folders, document nos. 2-122; original documents of provenance in the Rosenberg Chancellery (1934-1944), including Rosenberg correspondence with Heinrich Himmler, Reichsführer-SS and chief of the German police, and Reinhard Heydrich, chief of the Security Police (incl. Gestapo), on a variety of subjects.

15: Werner Koeppen letters (25 Feb. 1944) with mention of bombing of ERR Berlin headquarters building (Bismarckstrasse 1) during the night of 22-23 Nov. 1943 and the consequent loss of parts of the ERR records.

43: Correspondence involving the conflict between Heydrich and Rosenberg over materials from the International Institute of Social History (Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis, IISG) in Amsterdam and the rights to appropriate them for the ERR (2 May-7 Nov. 1941).

50: Note for file by Dr Max Thomas, commissioner of the Security Police and SD in France and Belgium (Beauftragter des Chefs der Sicherheitspolizei und des SD für Frankreich und Belgien), regarding respective competence for seizure and utilization of materials with the ERR (28 July 1940).

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Intermixed documents from the DBFU, Rosenberg Chancellery, the NSDAP Office for Jewish and Free Mason Questions, and the IEJ.

21: Note regarding Georg Ebert as Rosenberg's representative in the German Embassy (4 Aug. 1942) and rejection by the Foreign Office to Rosenberg (14 Oct. 1942), as well as reports by Ebert and the embassy (22 May 1942).

15: Report on ERR library and archive confiscations from Paris and their disposition, including the shipment of books from the Alliance israélite universelle, the École rabbinique, Librairie Lipschitz, and several Free Mason lodges to Frankfurt. letters of IEJ Director Wilhelm Grau, receipt in Frankfurt of 1,092 crates, with the loss of one shipment of Jewish and Masonic books and archives from Paris (Sep. 1940, 26 Nov., Jan. 1941).

17: August Schirmer (IEJ) to Rosenberg requesting Judaica and Hebraica from the Rothschild library in Paris to be shipped by Heil (ERR) directly to the IEJ and not to Plassenberg (11 Oct. 1940), with reply from Koeppen confirming Rosenberg's agreement (23 Oct. 1940).

19: Rosenberg to the IEJ regarding a Talmud dictionary to be prepared by Johannes Pohl (12 July 1940).

23: Schirmer to Rosenberg (13 May 1938) regarding publication of a study on the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and the question of its origin.

26: Notes on the confiscation of the library of the Reverend Marc Boegner, a French "Aryan" and president of the French Protestant Federation (31 Jan., 15 Feb. 1941).

32-40: Documents regarding the Sonderstab Musik.

44-45: Documents regarding the IEJ (1944).

51-57: Documents concerning Klaus Schickert and the IEJ.

53: Report on the IEJ (Nov. 1943-March 1944).

63-64: Reports by Dr Hans Maier on ERR seizures of music in Verona and Trieste (30 Apr. and 9 Sep. 1944).

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Almost entirely documents on ERR activities throughout Europe (most 1942-1944), including reports from Ratibor and Paris. Many report individual seizures or transports.

- 66:** Postwar draft report of Wolff-Metternich, first head of the Kunstschutz, on attempts to protect French art collections seized by German Embassy, the ERR, and Göring; report on furniture from Dutch residences sent to Germany (July 1943).
- 69:** Report from Dr Friedrich Zeiss in Frauenberg, evacuation site in Austria (19 Jan. 1945), regarding ERR operational procedures.
- 70:** Report of meeting of Hans Hagemeyer with Winkler (Welt-Dienst publishing house) and Otto Marrenbach (German Labor Front [Deutsche Arbeitsfront, DAF]) regarding plans for further ERR anti-Jewish propaganda campaign.
- 71:** Hagemeyer letter to Hans Muchow (11 Nov. 1943) regarding ERR ideological propaganda work.
- 73 and 108:** Report from Dr Maier in Verona (21 Feb. 1944) on ERR propaganda against Italian Jews and Masons, etc.
- 74:** Report to Koeppen with list of M-Aktion Dutch seizures (23 June 1943).
- 76:** Utikal to Rosenberg regarding Quisling and possibility of ERR mission to Norway (12 Feb. 1942).
- 77:** List of ERR personnel.
- 79:** Göring order on the ERR (1 May 1941).
- 80:** Ebert to Koeppen regarding ERR activities in Paris, the provinces, and Brussels (8 Dec. 1940).
- 81:** Letter from Dr Koeppen (26 Nov. 1946) to Heil concerning that the Rothschild collection of autographs, which should be placed in a safe, and inquiry about other books and documents in Rothschild collections of interest to the ERR.
- 82:** Ebert to Rosenberg regarding ERR cultural seizures with support of Göring to the exclusion of other services (6 Nov. 1940) and noting a new ERR section for library seizures in the Angers region with 60-100 addresses established.
- 83:** Herbert Gerigk letter (15 Oct. 1940) regarding shipment of historical musical instruments seized from Wanda Landowska.
- 84:** List of ERR personnel.
- 85:** Letter from Koeppen to Kurt von Behr (23 Oct. 1940) ordering that Hebraica and Judaica from Rothschild collections be sent to the IEJ.
- 86:** Letter of attestation (26 June 1940) that Ebert had arranged for the GFP to seize important Free Mason collection on behalf of the ERR.
- 87:** Letter from Zwiebel in Riga explaining that Jewish periodicals seized in Riga were first sent to Vilnius (also Vilna; prewar Wilno, Poland) and then to the IEJ (27 June 1944).
- 90:** Note from Riga on the dispatch of Jewish journals to Ratibor (27 June 1944).
- 91:** Report on the HAG Ostland regarding distribution of books seized in Soviet institutions and work on Bolshevism (n.d.), with reference to the Ostbücherei (90,000 vols.) and one million others, as well as 288,000 volumes of Judaica sent to the IEJ.
- 92:** Gerd Wunder order (28 Mar. 1944) to search for birth and circumcision record for Maxim Litvinov so his real identity can be established.
- 93:** Note from Georg Anton to Pohl (Welt-Dienst) regarding seizure of a Talmud from Bakhchisarai [Ger. Bachtchissarai] in the Crimea (17 Jan. and 2 Feb. 1944).
- 94:** Notes of the ERR Berlin regarding seized archives of Russian writer Zenskii (9-14 Dec. 1943-2 May 1944).

- 96:** Requests by the Reich Ministry of Finance to choose for its library from books seized in the Netherlands by the ERR (5 May-19 Aug. 1944).
- 97:** Report from Dr Zeiss on situation of Jews in Bucharest, adding that it was not currently opportune for an ERR mission (June 1944).
- 99:** Johannes Pohl report on the IEJ library (29 Apr. 1943).
- 102:** Anton report regarding opposition of Edmund Veessenmayer (Reich plenipotentiary in Hungary) on ERR activity in Hungary, based on ERR activities in the Balkans and SD opposition to competition (29 Mar. 1944); Utikal to Koeppen with details of ERR activities in Zagreb (18 Apr. 1944).
- 103:** Robert Scholz July 1944 report "Sonderstab Bildende Kunst," Oct. 1940-July 1944 (15 July 1944) [= IMT, PS-1015(b)* (US-385, RF-1323)].
- 105:** Transfer of Dienststelle Westen back to the ERR (24 Nov. 1944); order to transfer to Germany all goods seized in the Netherlands, including those seized by M-Aktion; thanks from Rosenberg to Behr (23 Jan. 1945).
- 106:** Report by Muchow (12 Apr. 1944) on panic and corruption involved in ERR evacuation from Paris.
- 109:** Note from Wunder on Rothschild bank records from Vienna (12 Dec. 1944).
- 112:** Herbert Lommatzsch identifying a seized library from the Jewish Music Institute in Kyiv (Kiev) that was being transported to Hungen (20 Sep. 1944).
- 113:** The ERR to the ZBHS (18 Mar. 1944) regarding Torah scrolls for the IEJ.
- 114:** Report by Dora Solamon on ERR archives (21 Aug. 1944), suggesting not much would be appropriate for "utilization," naming three crates from the residence of G. Straus (a Paris lawyer), two from the Club du Faubourg, and the papers of Georges Mandel, Léon Blum, and Victor Busek, among others.
- 116:** Wunder report on seizure of the Boris Souvarine library from Paris (10 Nov. 1944) and the search for the manuscript of Souvarine's book on Stalin.
- 119:** Lommatzsch report (27 Mar. 1943) regarding the possible confiscation of the library belonging to the Jewish physician Ernst Hellie of Karlsbad for the ZBHS.
- 120:** Letter from the director of the Finance Office in Dortmund regarding the policy for destruction of recent Hebrew and religious books and the retention of early books and German books by Jewish authors to be turned over to the ERR (19 Oct. 1942).
- 121:** Letter from the Finance Office in Bonn asking which books are of interest to the ERR, with reply that the ERR wants early books and all those concerning Jewish history and culture (19 Oct. 1942).
- 123:** Letter from the Finance Office in Bärn with a list of Jewish books and a response from Dr Ulrich Cruse (15 May 1943) that the books listed are not of interest and can be disposed of as waste paper.
- 122, 124-135, 140, 141:** Similar correspondence regarding books confiscated by the Gestapo in different cities in Germany, and some with lists of offers for the ERR and Hohe Schule.
- 127:** Hermann Langkopf (ERR) to Wunder regarding receipts from the Dutch M-Aktion in Hamburg.

CXLI

Continues ERR documents from all over Europe (most 1942-1944).

- 142-146:** ERR reports from Ratibor (1944) and Paris.

- 147:** Lommatzsch quarterly report on the ERR (9 Oct. 1942), with emphasis on the Special Mission in the Soviet Union, involving the preparation of card files and selection of confiscated materials.
- 148:** Paul Ruhbaum quarterly report on the ERR (third quarter 1943), with emphasis on the confiscated documentary collection, especially papers of Georges Mandel, and other Jews and Masons in France.
- 150:** Gerd Wunder report on his visit to Bad Schwalbach (Welt-Dienst) and to Hungen (IEJ) regarding ERR cooperation (Ratibor, 28 Nov. 1944).
- 151:** Report on the science section of ERR regarding its work and plans for conference in Prague.
- 152:** Wunder report, following his trip to Frankfurt in June, on use of ERR-seized archival materials by the IEJ and Welt-Dienst (22 July 1943).
- 154:** Annual report of “Exploitation” section by Wunder for 1942, regarding the Ostbücherei formed in Riga and transferred to Berlin with details and statistics of holdings (26 Jan. 1943).
- 155:** Quarterly report from Wunder (Berlin, 1 Jan. 1943), including the Ostbücherei and receipts from Commando Künsberg for books from Pavlovsk and Gatchina.
- 156:** Report by Wunder (Berlin, 8 Oct. 1942); the Ostbücherei, with receipts of archives and libraries from the West, including library of Léon Blum; receipts from Commando Künsberg from Tsarskoe Selo and Kyiv.
- 157:** Note from Dr Engelbach on his trip to Mannheim to survey confiscated Judaica (27 Oct. 1943, 31 Mar. and 20 Oct. 1943).
- 158:** General summary report on ERR activities ([n.d.] through 1944), including plundered libraries and archives, the Ostbücherei (1 million vols.), with statistics of shipments and destinations, including receipts from the HAG Frankreich, the HAG Belgien-Nordfrankreich, the HAG Ukraine, the HAG Ostland (which covered the Baltic countries and, until May 1943, the General Commissariat White Ruthenia), and the HAG Mitte (established effective 1 May 1943 to cover the General Commissariat White Ruthenia and Rear Area Army Group Center), along with special staffs for Prehistory and Fine Arts.
- 159:** Cruse report on ZBHS (1 Jan. 1944), including books received from Tsarskoe Selo, Riga, and Kyiv, confiscated by the ERR, and annual report (June 1943).
- 161:** Lommatzsch ERR report from Vilnius (8 May 1943), including the Jewish Scientific Institute (Yidisher Visnshaftlekher Institut, YIVO) and the Communist Party archive in Smolensk.
- 162:** Wunder proposal to efface Jewish ownership markings on books confiscated for the Wehrmacht (13 Feb. 1944).
- 163:** Note from Zeiss (13 Jan. 1944) regarding Talmud roll from Bakhchisarai [Ger. Bachtchissarai] in the Crimea, needed by Pohl.
- 165-195:** Documents regarding Sonderstab Musik and M-Aktion music instrument confiscations in France.

CXLII

Box starts with materials from the Rosenberg Chancellery, including many for the Hohe Schule.

- 197:** Rosenberg to Franz Xavier Schwarz regarding of the appointment of Klaus Schickert to head the IEJ (6 Sep. 1944).
- 199:** Rosenberg to Schwarz regarding his visit to Tanzenberg (ZBHS) (18 Jan. 1944).

- 200:** Rosenberg to Schwarz regarding Schickert and the IEJ (20 Oct. 1943).
201, 230: IEJ-related documents.
203: Rosenberg to Schwarz (20 Feb. 1943) regarding budget for the Hohe Schule following Hitler's order (13 July 1943) to suspend most work on the Hohe Schule.
204: Rosenberg to Schwarz regarding funding for ZBHS and other Hohe Schule institutes (18 Jan. 1944).
205: ERR Sonderstab Musik seizures in Paris (19 Feb. 1941), including Fernand Halphen, Gregor Piatigorsky, Wanda Landowska, and Arno Poldes, as well as the international concert agency Valmalète and its owners Victor Schiff, Horwitz, and Hugo Simon.
206-208: ERR Sonderstab Musik, more seizure reports, including from M-Aktion, and packing lists for musicalia from Paris.
209: correspondence between Rosenberg and Martin Bormann regarding the Hohe Schule (Oct. 1941 and 1943).
210: Plans for the opening of the IEJ (23 Jan. 1941).
211: Accusations against Wilhelm Grau as IEJ director and the seizure of books (27 Sep. 1941).
212-218: Rosenberg and Bormann correspondence (1942-1943) regarding Hohe Schule institutes.
234: Declaration of ERR authority in the east (21 Oct. 1941).
235: Rosenberg to Bormann regarding staff animosities of population vis-à-vis military because of functions forbidden to military under armistice (30 May 1941); list of ERR staff and functions in the west.
249: Rosenberg correspondence with Himmler and Heydrich regarding the conflict between the ERR and the SD in Ukraine (5 Jan. and 6 Mar. 1942).

CXLIII

Documents on ERR reorganization, the IEJ, and other Hohe Schule operations. Some files go back to 1928, others relate to Rosenberg's work with the NSDAP, including the newspaper *Völkischer Beobachter*, for which he served as editorial director.

- 253:** Borman to Rosenberg regarding Heydrich's objections to ERR competence in seizure of materials relating to ideology of "enemies of Reich" (19 Apr. 1941); Rosenberg to Bormann regarding relations between the ERR and SD (Reich Security Main Office) and SD priorities; ERR mission in the Balkans to prioritize archives and libraries, with art only secondary (23 Apr. 1941) [= IMT, PS-72* (US-357) and PS-71* (US-371) respectively].
254: Rosenberg to Bormann regarding Otto Abetz's attempt to prevent dispatch of materials from the Grand-Orient de France for an exposition in Berlin (10 Feb. 1941).
258: Bormann to Rosenberg (25 Nov. 1940) prohibiting distribution of the book by Liebbrandt on the Soviet Union at present because of potential impact on German-Russian relations.
264: Dr Friedrich Krebs, Oberbürgermeister of Frankfurt, to Schwarz (25 Nov. 1940) protesting the redistribution of Jewish books from Frankfurt libraries all to the IEJ, suggesting some should go to other local libraries.
265: Correspondence of Schwarz and Rosenberg regarding the publication of a dictionary on the Jewish question (12 and 14 Feb. 1942).
267: Rosenberg to Schwarz regarding exhibit of seized archives from a Masonic lodge in Jersey and the Paris Banque de Rothschild (18 Feb. 1941).

- 268:** Rosenberg to Schwarz regarding plans for the opening of the IEJ in the Rothschild palace (3 Feb. 1941).
- 269:** Report on plans for the Hohe Schule (6 Nov. 1940).
- 275:** Rosenberg to Schwarz with thanks for support and seizure of the Rothschild and Polish libraries in Paris (18-21 Sep. 1940).
- 287:** Notice regarding the ERR mission in Zagreb and formation of a local Deutsches Kulturinstitut (28 Aug. 1941); report of ERR mission to Zagreb (5 Oct. 1941); and other documents regarding ERR Zagreb (Nov. 1941-Jan, 1942).
- 293:** Annual report of Grau on the work of the IEJ for 1941.
- 308:** Dr Walther Grothe to Rosenberg regarding possible transfer of ZBHS to Fürstenstein.
- 310:** Hans Heinrich Lammers, head of the Reich Chancellery, to Wilhelm Keitel, head of the High Command of the Wehrmacht, regarding Hitler's approval of the M-Aktion, as proposed by Rosenberg.
- 312:** Regarding investigation about Lenin's Jewish grandfather.
- 357:** Declaration of ERR authority in the east (7 Feb. and 23 May 1942).
- 368:** Report of Robert Ebert on abandoned Masonic lodges in Paris with request to confiscated materials (1 July 1940).
- 380:** Report on M-Aktion in Paris (4 Nov. 1943) [= IMT, PS-1737(b)].

CXLIV

- 381-433:** Many documents stamped as received by the Dienststelle Rosenberg and the RMbO, including plans for French industry in Eastern Europe.
- 399:** Report by Scholz on a visit to the ERR art repository in Neuschwanstein Castle and competition with Linz agents (5 May 1943).
- 401:** Description of types and quantity of art collected by the ERR in Paris and ERR staff involved in inventory, also in the Soviet Union (6 Nov. 1941).
- 402-404:** Gerigk letters concerning confiscation of musical instruments.
- 428:** Dr Mommsen and Dr Speer report on the mood of the population and on archives in Belarus and Smolensk (1 Sep. 1942).
- 429:** Report of Robert von Berg (19 Aug. 1943) on Lithuanian activities and the Katyn massacre of Polish officers by the Soviets.
- 443:** Rosenberg to Hitler regarding expanded priority for M-Aktion receipts.
- 445:** Distribution of Nazi books and library confiscation in France (29 Aug. 1940).
- 446:** Confiscation order (22 Aug. 1940) for records from 176 Dutch Masonic lodges.
- 449:** Note of Keitel to commander in the Netherlands, explaining Hitler's permission to confiscate library and archival materials in occupied western countries (5 July 1940) [= IMT, PS-139 (RF-1303)].
- 451:** Dutch M-Aktion transports and lists of Dutch M-Aktion loot (1 Oct. 1944).
- 454a:** Evacuation of the ERR from Paris, Brussels, and Verona (12-22 Sep. 1944). (No. 448 is the last with U.S. pull slips, but nos. 446 and 447 have penciled slips.)
- 457:** Lammers to Keitel and Lammers to Rosenberg regarding Hitler's approval of the M-Aktion (31 Dec. 1941).

CXLV

Documents from the Rosenberg Chancellery and the prewar DBFU ideological division (1933-1939, 1944). None have pull slips retained. Continuation of the numbered sequence, nos. 488-645.

- 483:** ERR transport of “valuable” cultural property (including art) to Germany and right to do so (17 Sep. 1940) [= IMT, PS-138* (RF-1310, RF-1443)].
- 488-509:** Relating to the Eastern Front, especially the RKO (1941-1942).
- 568:** Requests from Gauleiter Karl Kaufmann (Hamburg) to Rosenberg for books to be given to the municipal and university libraries in Hamburg (3 Apr. 1944); with reply from Rosenberg that appropriate books will be found in the M-Aktion depots and those seized in the Soviet Union, but such distribution will be possible only after the war (21 Apr. 1944).
- 569:** Transfer of Dienststelle Westen back to the ERR (24 Nov. 1944); M-Aktion orders and thanks to Kurt von Behr (25 Jan. 1945).
- 572-573:** Gerhard Utikal appointed to head the ERR (1 Apr. 1941) with illness of Ebert [= IMT, PS-143 (USSR-371)]; Ingram mission in preparation for ERR mission to Southeast Europe and the Balkans.
- 574:** Library confiscations from the Rothschilds and the Polish Library based in Paris (Sep. 1940).
- 578-583:** Most on ERR arrangements in France for seizure of libraries and art.
- 580:** Creation of the Hohe Schule (18 Jan. 1939).
- 582:** Letter from Göring on priorities for the disposition of seized art in the Jeu de Paume (5 Nov. 1940) [= IMT, PS-141* (US-368, RF 1309)]; documents on Nazi ideology and other matters intermixed (1934-1944).
- 591, 592, and 625:** Rosenberg’s book *Myth of the 20th Century* (1929-1944).
- 609-615, 638-645:** Sonderstab Musik, and M-Aktion music confiscations.

CXLV(a)

Starts new running nos. 1-82. Many files of RMbO provenance (no. 16 is in an RMbO printed folder). Some bear signatures and incoming stamps of the Reich Commisariat Ostland (RKO), including a few marked “secret” (*Geheim*), others regarding the Reich Commisariat Ostland (RKU).

CXLVI

- 1-57:** Rosenberg files from the NSDAP (some 1929-early 1930s), NSDAP Foreign Policy Office (APA), Rosenberg speeches.
- 15:** Rosenberg to Schwarz requesting monies for confiscations and noting materials gathered already among French and Belgian archives and libraries with specific mention of the Rothschilds (3 Sep. 1940).
- 16:** Rosenberg to Göring regarding priorities for art seizures (21 Sep. 1940).
- 19:** Rosenberg to Bormann regarding exhibit of seized Masonic documentation from the isle of Jersey (1-4 Feb. 1941).
- 22-37, 39-40:** The Hohe Schule and the IEJ, intermixed with documents on French industry in Eastern Europe; ERR in France, Italy, and the Netherlands; and Rosenberg proclamations.
- 46 and 48:** French M-Aktion music instrument confiscations.
- 50:** Crate list for Dutch M-Aktion loot in Depot Buyskade (Lager Buyskade) and Depot Vondelstraat (Lager Vondelstraat) (26 Oct. 1944).

CXLVII

Scattered documents regarding the ERR and Hohe Schule institutes.

- 7:** Lists of ERR collaborators.

10-12: Institute of Continental European Studies.

CXLVIIa (not ERR-related)

1-30: The RMbO in Berlin, the General Commissariat Volhynia and Podolia, the General Commissariat Latvia, and the RKU.

CXLVIIb (not ERR-related)

Nos, 1-26: RMbO administrative files (with incoming stamps); the RKO (many with original German folders), including Kaunas, Riga, Tallinn (Ger. Reval), and Minsk; the RKU, including the Crimea, Dnipropetrovsk, and Zhytomyr.

CCXXXI

1-21, 48-51: RMbO and Local Administration Commandant Riga (Ortskommandant Riga), with stamps of receipt stamps.

22-36: ERR confiscations in Paris.

22: Protest regarding seizure of library of law professor Wahl (19 Mar. 1941); confiscation of musicalia and historical music instruments from Wanda Landowska (GFP, Paris, 8 Jan. 1941).

23: Confiscation from Sylvian Lévy.

25: Currency Protection Commando (DSK) seized art collection transferred to ERR, including the Rothschilds, Wasserman (inventory), and others (5 May 1941).

26: French protests to Wolff-Metternich about the David-Weill confiscation and others (19 Sep. 1941-2 Sep. 1942).

27: Seizure order to DSK and inventory of the confiscated Weil [Veil] -Picard collection from the Banque de France (29 Oct. 1940).

24 and 28: Wildenstein confiscation with inventory (12 Apr.-29 May 1941).

29: Letters and list of art collection of J. Kronig confiscated by the DSK and transmitted to the ERR, including some acquired by Göring, which were to be restituted (22 May-17 Oct. 1941).

34-41: Reports from the Kunstschutz, Military Commander in France (MBF), regarding seized art.

42-46: MBF regarding art in France.

CCXXXII

1-10: RMbO.

11, 16a-20: ERR reports from different countries.

17: Final report of ERR Sonderkommando in Greece (15 Nov. 1941) with lists of lodges and Jewish seizures (original in Bundesarchiv).

18: Regarding August Schirmer (IEJ).

21, 23, 25, and 30-33: Möbel-Aktion reports, Dienststelle Westen.

2.5.1.2. ARCHIVES DE NUREMBERG: OTHER ERR AND ROSENBERG DOCUMENTS

The CDJC retains copies of many (but not all) of the French records from the IMT Trial of the Major War Criminals in Nuremberg. Accordingly, apart from the Rosenberg Collection as such, there are many other documents from various Rosenberg operations to be found here. The ERR (or ERR-related) documents among them are intermixed in the general

CDJC collections and do not form separate sub-collections based on their provenance. These include some German copies (original carbon copies) of Rosenberg ERR documents, and photocopies of Rosenberg documents held in other archives. Their provenance, or the source from which they were received, is not always apparent, although the CDJC card catalogue does have special drawers covering receipts from other archives.

One group of documents represent copies from the French IMT records, including documents that were assigned numbers by the prosecution, such as ca. three-fourths of the PS series (PS-1 – PS-4069). (The documents that became actual numbered court exhibits were published in the IMT Blue Series.) The CDJC has copies of many (but not all) of the French IMT court exhibits (FA 6 – XIII-37). Some of these, for example, are found in the folders CXXVIII-CXXXVIIIa within the series Archives de Nuremberg (no. 1-5939). Most are photocopies, some (in the case of Rosenberg documents) are copies of originals in the CDJC Rosenberg Collection.

Successive drawers of the CDJC card catalogue cover sub-series within the Nuremberg Collection, such the IMT PS (Paris-Storey), NG (Nuremberg Government; for German government agencies), and NO (Nuremberg Organizations; for Nazi party agencies), which contain scattered ERR (or ERR-related) documents. A few sample listings follow below:

Finding Aid (published)

The Holocaust: Nuremberg Evidence. Ed. Jacob Robinson and Henry Sachs. Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1976.

Lists in English selected documents in various IMT series with indications of published versions in the U.S. and French Blue Series, vols. 25-34, and other publications: NG series, pp. 47-85 (NG-016 – NG-5887); NO series, pp. 85-115 (NO-010 – NO-5939); and PS series, pp. 132-157 (PS-001 – PS-4071).

See also the heading “ERR” in the CDJC card catalogue (drawer 86), listing many PS documents from or relating to the ERR, many of which were published in the IMT proceedings (see below).

Published IMT Documents

Published versions of many of the ERR documents indicated appear in the original German with English titles in the U.S. Blue Series, vols. 25-34, and likewise in the parallel French series (see Section 9.1.7.).

Nuremberg NG Series: Documents Pertaining to the Reich Ministries, Nos. 1-5890
(see CDJC catalogue, drawers 14-15)

CXXVII-56

NT/NG 5142 [NG-3902]; most documents here also have PS numbers; photocopies of Hitler’s orders on the authority and tasks of the ERR in the confiscation of cultural property (1 Mar., 5 July, 30 Sep. 1942).

Nuremberg NO Series: Documents Pertaining to Nazi Organizations, including the SS and the Secret Police (Gestapo), Nos. 1-2321 (see CDJC catalogue, drawer 16)

CXXXVIIa

148: NT/NO-5939, Report on ERR seizures of libraries, art, and other cultural objects (n.d. [1944?]; 14 p., 22 p.) carbon typescript of English translation.

CXXXVIIb

63: NT/NO-5178, Gerhard Utikal deposition regarding the ERR with English translation (27 Aug. 1947; 14 p., 22 p.).

Nuremberg PS Series (Paris-Story Documents), Nos. PS-1 – PS-4069, Cartons CCLI-CCLXXXVIII

The Paris-Storey series contains many important ERR and M-Aktion documents, scattered throughout. The CDJC has easily accessible copies of all of these documents (through PS-4069), listed individually and described briefly in numerical order in the CDJC card catalogue (drawers 21-22).⁴¹

2.5.2. LES AUTORITIES ALLEMANDES EN FRANCE

[Documents of German Authorities in France]

The collections of documents from the German occupation authorities in France mentioned below contain a mixture of originals and photocopies. Some examples highlighting cultural plunder or directly involving the ERR are listed, but the following lists are not exhaustive. Some documents on seizures of art collections and other Jewish cultural property by other German agencies are also included, because many of these were subsequently turned over to the ERR. Likewise, documentation of Möbel-Aktion seizures of furnishings from Jewish homes is included, but it has not been possible to provide a comprehensive list of all of the CDJC holdings in these areas. Also included are French protests of seizures to the German authorities. Although these are not of ERR provenance, they further document many seizures of what later constituted ERR and M-Aktion loot. Some documents listed, but not all, are described in more detail in the Steinberg inventory cited below. Descriptions of other scattered documents are now found on the CDJC website. Almost all of these are covered in the CDJC card files in the reading room.

N.B. It has not been possible to examine *de visu* all of the CDJC documents listed below. Many listings are based on those available in Steinberg, the CDJC card catalogues, or the CDJC database, or on the CDJC website.

Finding Aid (published)

Steinberg, Lucien. *Les autoriteés allemandes en France occupée: Inventaire commenté de la collection de documents conservés au C.D.J.C.* Foreword by Isaac Schneersohn. Preface by Jacques Delarue. Paris, 1966; = *Les inventaires des archives du CDJC*, vol. 2.

⁴¹ Cf. the more complete PS series, 1-PS – 5714-PS, available at the NACP, RG 238 (Entry 1, NM-66; see Section 9.1.7.1.). Copies of some of the documents are available on microfilm.

An annotated register of selected German documents held by the CDJC with commentary. As a help to researchers, documents are arranged in subject categories. Section B “Anti-Jewish Measures on the Material Plane” contains sections on “economic Aryanization,” the pillage of works of art and libraries, and confiscations and seizures (especially pp. 83-97). In connection with preparations for the new electronic database, a few archival signatures have been changed. The general introduction (pp. 11-42) provides a helpful, succinct administrative overview of agencies and their principal personnel. Archival codes indicate whether documents are originals or photocopies.

2.5.2.1. L'ÉTAT-MAJOR ALLEMAND / MILITÄRBEFEHLSHABER IN FRANKREICH (MBF) [Military Commander in France]⁴²

The documents in this CDJC series are predominantly photocopies. As such, they duplicate or overlap with those found in the major groups of records from the MBF now divided between the Bundesarchiv-Militärarchiv in Freiburg (RW 35) and the AN-Paris (AJ 40). However, the CDJC currently has no indication of their source of acquisition, nor is there a correlation table to the originals. Documents in some cartons examined are quality copies from the AN-Paris.

Many of the documents here provide details of GFP operations during the first year of occupation. The art seizures carried out by the GFP went first to the German Embassy in Paris, but then, starting in the fall of 1940, these were turned over to the ERR for processing in the Jeu de Paume.

IV

208-209: Regarding German ordinances to the effect that German Jewish property should become the property of the Reich.

LXII

15: Letter from General Walther von Brauchitsch to Kurt von Behr regarding the ERR (24 Mar. 1943).

LXXV

These are all quality copies from the AN-Paris, although codes are not indicated.

17: Extract from a report on “Aryanization” and ERR operations originating from the Military Commander in Belgium and Northern France (MB BelgNfr, signed Reeder; 1 Nov. 1943).

161, 163-169: French reports and protests regarding German seizure of properties belonging to the Rothschild family (14 Jan.-5 Mar. 1942), includes specific references to ERR activities.

174: Extract of a report on ERR (and M-Aktion) French operations and statistics for Jewish furniture sent to Germany (n.d. [spring 1944]).

178: Report on “Aryanization” and seizures from Jewish firms and communications with the ERR (3 Jan. 1941).

215: MBF monthly situation report for September 1940, including a short paragraph on the ERR (2 Oct. 1940).

⁴² Cf. the much more extensive groups of MBF records in the AN-Paris (see Section 2.4.3.1.) and in the BArch-MA in Freiburg (see Section 3.4.2.1.).

- 239:** French protest of German confiscation of the library of Sylvain Lévy (29 May 1941), with reaction from the ERR justifying the confiscation (12 June 1941).
- 240:** French protests of ERR confiscation of libraries owned by French attorneys Suzanne Blum and Paul Weill, with response from the ERR that the libraries had been sent to Germany (1 Mar.-8 Apr. 1941).
- 266:** Note regarding the proposed confiscation of woolen and fur clothing abandoned in residences of Jews, some of them Americans, to be sent to the Eastern Front (31 Dec. 1941).
- 269:** Confiscation of furniture belonging to the “Jew Weiller” (24 May 1941).
- 277:** MBF circular (6 Sep. 1940) regarding creation and mission of the ERR with Dr Wilhelm Grau and authority for seizure of Jewish archives and libraries, and those of Masonic lodges.

LXXVI

7: GFP Group 540 report (11 Feb. 1941) concerning activities on behalf of the ERR (3-8 Feb. 1941), including the confiscation and shipment of 760 cases of archives from the Rothschild brothers’ bank in Paris, as well as a search of ten residences belonging to Jews from Eastern Europe, including Bramson and Aldanoff (three of the residences were sealed), and a search of the offices of the review *L’Europe Nouvelle* (Pertinax), which were then sealed on behalf of the SD; copy of cover document addressed to the chief of the Paris Military District (11-12 Feb. 1941).

LXXVII

- 1:** Confiscation of property belonging to the “German Jew” Hans Israel Stein (Apr.-July 1941).
- 2:** Report by Behr requesting order to send and other letters regarding ERR library confiscations from Justin Godart, André Schwob d’Hericourt, Ida Rubinstein, Wilhelm Unde, Edmund Vermeil, and R. Zerapha (5 Mar., 10 Mar., 23 Apr., and 2 May 1941).
- 5:** Correspondence with the attorney for Ida Rubinstein, protesting as a non-Jew the seizure of her library by the ERR (Mar.-Apr. 1941).
- 11:** Reports to the commandant of the Rambouillet Military District (13 and 17 May 1941) and letters (5, 16, and 30 June 1941) from the GFP, with an inventory of objects taken from the bank vault of M. E. Léon and his residence (28, rue de la Motte, Rambouillet).
- 14:** Correspondence and report from Herbert Gerigk (Sonderstab Musik) regarding the record firm Editions de l’Oiseau-Lyre, and its Australian owner Louise Mosson-Dyer (31 Oct. 1940, 5-10 June 1941).
- 16:** Report to the ERR on clandestine sales of paintings from the art dealer Bernheim Jeune, and orders for GFP requisition (26 Mar., 12 June-28 July 1941).
- 20:** Letter to the ERR regarding the transfer to an ERR warehouse of furniture and other works of art from the “Jewish Ball” firm that were then held in the Louvre (23 June 1941).

LXXIX

7: Letter from GFP and note to Behr regarding GFP activity on behalf of ERR for confiscation of art (25-27 Sep. 1940).

8: File of the Prefecture of Police relating to property of the Rothschild family (18-27 Sep. 1940).

9: GFP Group 540 reports on operations on behalf of ERR for confiscation of art and books from Jewish libraries, such as the Pères de Notre-Dame de Sion, and other individuals and associations, such as Le Fonds national juif, l'Union mondiale de la jeunesse juive, and *Le Journal juif*, and individuals such as Léon Blum, Georges Mandel, and the Rothschilds (13 Oct.-21 Nov. 1940).

11: Correspondence and report of Gerigk (Sonderstab Musik) regarding the record firm Editions de l'Oiseau-Lyre, owned by Louise Mosson-Dyer who fled to Australia and who was dealing in recordings of Jewish music (31 Sep.-10 Nov. 1940).

12: Note to Dr Georg Kiessel (MBF) regarding the requisition of Jewish residences of Mme Vital (11, bd Flandrin) and Mme Schwob-Héricourt (same address).

16: Note to MBF regarding the requisition of Jewish residences of Sokal (29, Faubourg Saint-Honoré, Paris) and Charechevsky (9, quai d'Orsay).

19-19a: GFP Group 540 report concerning activities on behalf of the ERR (27 Jan.-1 Feb. 1941) in seizing Jewish collections of art and other cultural property (3 Feb. 1941), including Hélène Zuylen de Nyevelt de Haar (née Rothschild), Julienne Cain, Jacques Delevsky, Georges Goldchaux, Jacques Grumbach, Alphonse Kann, Robert Kern, Joseph Reinach, Caroline Stern, and N. Watson [M. Watson], among others.

20: Letters and reports regarding GFP confiscations on the behalf of the ERR from Florine Ebstein-Langweil (61, rue de Varenne, Paris) and Moufflard (Apr.-May 1941), with protests.

23: Notes from the GFP and report by Gerd Wunder (ERR) regarding requisitions for the confiscation of art, furniture, and library collections of Eugène de Rothschild, with Göring's blessing (6-15 May 1941).

23a: Wunder requests MBF for confiscation of libraries of Jules Moch and Georges Weill (11 May 1941).

CCCLXXVIII

5: File of documents from the "Service [Ferdinand] Niedermeyer" regarding German proprietorship of and right to seize Jewish property and other anti-Jewish measures in France and Belgium (24 Apr. and 12 Aug. 1942); circular by Eggert Reeder (head of administration office within the MB BelgNfr) regarding the M-Aktion in Belgium and Northern France (18 Sep. 1942), other M-Aktion extensions, and conflicts between the "Service Niedermeyer" and the ERR regarding seized Jewish property.

CCCXCV

13: File of documents concerning the Wildenstein Gallery from the archive of Dr Kurt Blanke (head of the de-Judaization desk within the MBF), including reference to "Aryanization" (Jan.-Feb. 1943); the attempt of Karl Haberstock with the German art journal *Weltkunst* to appoint a new administrator for the gallery (5 Mar, 6 Sep. 1942); regarding attempts of Lohse to assume control (6 Nov.-5 Jan. 1944); and purchase of the gallery by Heinrich Hoffmann (Foto-Hoffmann) with support of Abetz (26 Jan.-28 Feb. 1944).

2.5.2.2. FONDS GESTAPO FRANCE

Only selected documents relating to the ERR and Möbel-Aktion are mentioned below. Most documents in this fond are photocopies, but the source of acquisition is not available.

VII

14: Note from Hans Maier (ERR Sonderkommando Italien) to the ERR in Ratibor with a report of the attorney Ettore Martinoli of the Centre for Study of the Jewish Problem in Trieste on the current situation in the Italian government with regard to the extent and activities of Jews, Masons, and Bolsheviks (18 Feb. 1944).

15: Circular from Alfred Rosenberg to ERR leaders (18 Apr. 1944) regarding preparations for an anti-Jewish conference to be organized by Hans Hagemeyer (DBFU, Main Office for Supra-State Powers [Hauptamt Überstaatliche Mächte]) with participants from all countries.

16: Order from Alfred Rosenberg appointing Georg Ebert to direct the ERR in occupied western lands with office chiefs to be appointed for Paris, Brussels, and The Hague (15 July 1940).

17: Note from Hagemeyer (ERR) regarding a prospective group of French anti-Semitic collaborators (11 Nov. 1943).

XXV

31: Note from the German Embassy to the ERR requesting it not seal the residences of Greek Jews and not evacuate property of Greek Jews deported for political reasons (30 June 1944).

113-115, 120: Disposition of property from the residences of Hungarian Jews (6 Feb.-12 Apr. 1943), including list of those dealt with by the ERR (23 Feb. 1943).

XXVc

251: Register listing 998 confiscations of furnishings and movable goods from Jewish residences in the region of Marseilles: "Beschlagnahmebuch des Sicherheitspolizei (SD)-Kommandos – Marseilles" (14 Aug. 1943-12 Aug. 1944).

This document is missing from the file of paper photocopies and is available only on a microfiche of the file in question. The source is not available.

XLVI

Many of the documents in this box, most of them regarding deportations, have recently been renumbered.

156-161: Documents relating to confiscation of valuables from the Jew Moses Gobets (23 Feb.-16 June 1944).

168-174: Letters regarding property seizure by Dienststelle Westen from Hungarian Katharina Gaarder (wife of Eugen Goldman) claiming that she is not Jewish (8 May-June 1943).

200-202: Letters regarding the deported Turkish Jew Isak (Isaac) Halfon, with appeals from the Turkish Consulate for his release along with his wife and the restoration of furniture confiscated by the ERR in Bordeaux; note suggesting their appeal for confiscated property be addressed to the ERR (29 Feb.-21 June 1944).

XLIXa

97: Letter from MBF official with a censored private letter from Henner Schroeder (ERR) with allegation of Laval's ties to the Free Masons (25 June-1 July 1942).

2.5.2.3. COLLECTION AMBASSADE D'ALLEMAGNE

[German Embassy Collection]

This collection includes scattered documents regarding the seizure and fate of French Jewish art collections. Most of those collections first stored in the German Embassy were turned over to the ERR and passed through the Jeu de Paume, but some remained with the Foreign Office. Several of the following documents are photocopies from files now held in the Political Archive of the Foreign Office (PA AA) in Berlin (see Section 3.5.), but correlations are not available.

II

214: File regarding ERR seizure from the château de Chambord of art belonging to the British Embassy, and to Michael Wright (Secretary of the British Embassy), currently held at the German Embassy, Paris (26 Sep. 1941-2 Apr. 1942).

IIIa

11: Note from the French Secretary of State regarding "Einsatzstab Westen" (ERR) seizure of Jewish furnishings, request to ask Behr for appropriate receipts of requisition (18 Mar. 1942).

V: Dossier Zeitschel

A major in the Wehrmacht and the equivalent thereof in the SS, Carltheo (Karl Theodor) Zeitschel commanded a GFP unit during the invasion of France. After the fall of Paris, he was transferred to the German Embassy in Paris, where ran the Jewish affairs desk. He was one of the principals in charge of the confiscated Jewish art collections held at the embassy (July-October 1940). The folders below contain original documents, photocopies, and French translations.

17: Note from Zeitschel to Ambassador Otto Abetz requesting him to ask Hitler for permission to sell confiscated Jewish art still held in the German Embassy (n.d. [Mar. or Apr. 1941?]).

71: Letter from Zeitschel to Gerd Wunder regarding German Embassy contact with the Hohe Schule, the IEJ (27 June 1941).

95: Correspondence regarding payment for disposition of Jewish art from the ERR to the shipping agency Schenker (29 July 1941).

96: Abetz to DSK ordering confiscation of painting by Rafaël belonging to Adolpho Weiss held in Banque Franco-Portuguese (10 Sep. 1940).

98, 104-107: Dossier regarding art seized from Bordeaux collection of Paul Rosenberg, with lists of works seized and various appraisals (14-28 Nov. 1940).

99, 100: Zeitschel notes regarding German Embassy transportation costs for Jewish art shipped to Germany by the ERR via Schenker (28 June-11 Aug. 1941).

101: Note from Zeitschel to Abetz urging German Embassy sale of 30 confiscated Braque paintings still held in the embassy annex, because of ERR plans to sell quantities of "wild Expressionist" art (11 Aug. 1941).

102: Letter regarding payment for transportation costs of art and other cultural property shipped from Ferrière to Paris, and other shipments.

103: Kurt von Behr request for embassy payment for transport of crates of art for German Embassy as requested by Joachim von Ribbentrop (27 Sep. 1941).

104, 105: Notes regarding appraisal by Lestang and other appraisers of Impressionist art and Jewish (Pissaro) seized from collections of Paul Rosenberg and the Rothschilds (28 Nov. and 15 Nov. 1940).

106: Regarding payment for information about Jewish art collections.

112-114, 124: Documents regarding seizure of residences and furnishings belonging to Jews by the ERR and the German Embassy (5 Apr. 1941-12 Mar. 1942).

116: Letter from Zeitschel regarding forced sale of furniture from abandoned Jewish residence (11 Sep. 1941).

119: Correspondence between Zeitschel and Herbert Gerigk (ERR) regarding sale of Jewish furniture (18 Feb. 1941-12 Mar. 1942).

VI

132: Note to the effect that furniture from British and American Jews should not be seized by Rosenberg M-Aktion.

196: Letter from Professor Maisonneuve to Abetz requesting exemption of the Louis Halphen library from confiscation (20 Sep. 1942).

2.5.2.4. DOSSIER DU PROCÈS OTTO ABETZ

[File from the Trial of Otto Abetz]

As German ambassador to France throughout the occupation, Otto Abetz was responsible for the confiscation of Jewish-owned art collections in the summer of 1940 and for various other war crimes. He was tried in Paris in 1949 and sentenced to 20 years hard labor. Released in 1954, he died in an automobile accident. The documents here are copies of those gathered for his trial, several from Nuremberg records. All are photocopies, some badly faded. Their source is not provided, but from foliation and other indications, it is clear that some are from the files of the Political Archive of the German Foreign Office. The CDJC copies were microfilmed for Yad Vashem in 1958.

LXXI

6: Order from Wilhelm Keitel to place state and private works of art in safe keeping (*Verwahrung*) to be used in peace negotiations.

7: Otto Abetz to the MBF and the GFP reporting Hitler's order (via Ribbentrop) regarding seizure of art in museums and private collections and the seizure of Jewish collections of art to be placed in the German Embassy (1 July 1940).

8: GFP Group 540 procedures for seizure of private Jewish art collections and meeting at German Embassy (2 July 1940).

9: Note regarding three paintings in the Paul Rosenberg Gallery (5 July 1940).

11: GFP Group 540 seizure of art belonging to Devalcourt (6 July 1940); some include lists of items seized.

12: GFP Group 540, "Durchsuchungs-Kommando" (Search Commando), seizure of art belonging to three Jewish dealers, galleries of André and Jacques Seligmann and Bernheim-Jeune (July 1940); some include lists of items seized.

- 13:** GFP Group 540 seizures of art belonging to Jacques Seligmann (9, rue de la Paix) (6 and 8 July 1940).
- 14:** GFP Group 540 seizure André Seligmann (7 July 1940).
- 15:** GFP Group 540 seizure of art belonging to Bernheim-Jeune (6 July 1940).
- 16:** Search of the galleries of Georges Mayer, Gaston and Lucie Manuel, Henri Manuel and Tannhauser, found art had been removed (7 July 1940).
- 17:** Report with list of 14 Jewish art dealers searched by GFP Groups 171 and 540 (7 July 1940).
- 18:** GFP report on seizure of art belonging to Paul Rosenberg and three others.
- 19:** GFP seizures from Jean-Armand and Pierre Seligmann (7-8 July 1940).
- 20:** GFP Group 540 seizure of Jewish art collections from Jacques Seligmann, and Maurice-Charles and James-Armand de Rothschild (July 1940).
- 21:** Note (n.d.) enumerating paintings from Jewish collections transferred to the Foreign Office.
- 22, 23, 29:** Regarding GFP seizure of art belonging to Jews, namely Dreyfus and Devalcourt (2-8 July 1940); some include lists of items seized.
- 24:** GFP report and list of paintings seized from Maurice Dreyfus (8 July 1940).
- 43, 45:** Letter from Martin Luther to Karl Epting with attached lists of art sent from Paris, 17 items with Ribbentrop's specifications and 15 others (8 Nov. 1940).
- 44:** GFP report on painting seized from Raymond Lazare (July 1940).
- 59:** German Foreign Office to Abetz regarding Jewish-owned art reserved by Ribbentrop (21-28 May 1941), with list of items.
- 61:** Notes and objections regarding transport to Germany of artworks belonging to David-Weill (28 Apr.-1 July 1941).
- 71:** Carltheo Zeitschel to German Embassy treasury regarding payment for a catalogue of paintings seized by the ERR (12 Dec. 1941).
- 88-89:** Note from Zeitschel to Abetz reviewing the activity of the GFP (July-Aug. 1940), especially in confiscating art collections of Jews, with list of seized items from the Seligmanns, for example (21 Apr. 1942).
- 95:** Note from Zeitschel to Herbert Gerigk (ERR) suggesting verification of vaults for art and other cultural valuables in five Jewish-owned banks that were being liquidated, including Dreyfus & Cie. (29 May 1942).
- 104-105:** Telegram (31 July 1942) regarding Jewish-owned art brought to the German Embassy, most of which was turned over to the ERR in September 1940, but some remained in the embassy, with additional letter (10 July 1942).
- 112-121:** Interrogation of Abetz by French police (20-27 Nov. 1945) and related documents. No. 117 includes questions about the seizure of Jewish-owned art collections; no. 120 concerns the M-Aktion and furniture shipments to Karlsruhe and other German cities.
- 123:** Abetz deposition (30 May 1947).
- 124:** Abetz deposition (28 May 1947), including data from interrogation by U.S. authorities in preparation for Nuremberg.

CCII Procès Abetz

- 1:** Summaries of Abetz trial from eleven issues of *Le Figaro* (nos. 1504-1515).
- 2:** Abetz indictment before the Permanent Military Tribunal of Paris (1949).

2.5.3. DIRECTION DES SERVICES DE L'ARMISTICE (DSA)

[Directorate of the Services of the Armistice Collection]

Many documents in this collection relate to the Möbel-Aktion, with discussion of legal issues and French reaction. None of them are of ERR or Dienststelle Westen provenance, but many are important for the background and operational details they provide. The documents here are all photocopies, some badly faded.

CCXLVII

10-14: Copies of orders and documents with legal discussion relating to the M-Aktion. No. 12 makes specific reference to the Rothschild case.

CCXLVIII

1-20: Documents relating to the M-Aktion (Dienststelle Westen), with general legal discussion and French reaction and protests.

15-16: Copies of ordinances extending the authority for seizures to German Jews or those who formerly had German citizenship (2 Dec. 1942).

17-18: Copies of ordinance extending the authority for seizures to Jews from Poland and Bohemia-Moravia (27 Sep. 1943).

CCXLIX

1-6, 9-13, 15, 16, 18, 21, 23, 24: Documents relating to the M-Aktion.

10: Relates specifically to the A.J. Seligmann confiscation.

CCL

1-5, 9-11, 14, 17, 18, and 22: Among others, documents relating to M-Aktion.

2.5.4. COMMISSARIAT GÉNÉRAL AUX QUESTIONS JUIVES (CGQJ)

[General Commissariat for Jewish Questions Collection]

Most of the records from the General Commissariat for Jewish Questions (CGQJ) are now in the AN-Paris, where they are well described in a recent finding aid (see Section 2.3.3.). As of 2009, part of AN-Paris collection AJ 38 is available in the CDJC on microfilm. The CDJC also holds a significant number of original documents from this collection unavailable in AJ 38, and many other photocopies, including considerable correspondence concerning individuals affected by Möbel-Aktion or ERR seizures. Many of the original documents are very fragile and were placed in CDJC vaults after microfilming.

Several cartons contain concentrations of individual protests regarding the seizure of art or furniture from Jewish residences, often with copies of letters from the CGQJ to German authorities registering such protests. None of the files contain original ERR or Dienststelle Westen documents, but they are important for background accounts concerning confiscations and contain details that may not be preserved in ERR documents themselves (most in French). Only selected examples are listed below to indicate the type of documents to be found in this series.

Full-text versions of several documents from this group are on the CDJC website.

XXI

Many documents in this carton relate to the ERR plunder of Jewish art collections and protests to the CGQJ. Many are originals and carbon copies, some now only in photocopy.

8: Protest about the seizures of art from the collection of Mme Hirsch in the Banque of France (inventory lacking).

9: Protest about the seizures of art collections belonging to Jews stripped of French citizenship (14 June 1941).

10: Correspondence with the CGQJ regarding seizure of Jewish art collections from the Château de Chambord (13 July 1941).

10a: Protest about the seizure of art collection from Léon Reinach (7 July 1941).

11: Letter from Jacques Jaujard, director of the National Museums, protesting the ERR seizure of the collection of art owned by Léon Reinach (12 Aug. 1941).

12: Correspondence relating Rosenberg's seizures in the Louvre and announcing the next expected seizures from Château Brissac (Sep. 1941).

13: Protest of the seizure of art collections belonging to MM Aronson, Erlanger, Rayond Hesse, Simon Lévy, Mmes Léonce Bernheim and Kapferer.

14, 15, and 44: Protest and testimony regarding the seizure of art collections from the Galerie Bernheim.

17: Protest concerning the seizure of art collections belonging to Veil-Picard [Weil-Picard in ERR records], David-Weill, Alphonse Kann, Bischofsheim, Seligmann, Wildenstein, and Paul Rosenberg, among others.

19, 22, 26, 45, 47, 48, 52, and 57: Letters of protest concerning ERR seizures of Jewish-owned art collections, particularly those from Rothschild family members.

27, 28: Letter from Madame Wasserman to the CGQJ complaining that the ERR seized her collection of paintings (4 May 1941) and a protest to German authorities.

31: Correspondence with the CGQJ and protests regarding seizure of Jewish art collections from the Château de Sourches.

33: Protest letters regarding the ERR seizure of Jewish-owned art collections, particularly naming those of Edouard de Rothschild, David-Weill (Sourches), Wildenstrein, and Ball.

34: Protest letters regarding the ERR seizure of Jewish-owned art collection of David-Weill from the Château de Sourches.

35: Letters of protest regarding seizures of Paul Léon's art library and art collections belonging to Louis Hirsch, Arthur Weil-Picard, Wassermann, and Langweill.

36: Protest letters regarding the ERR seizure of collections belonging of Julian Reinach (11, villa de Madrid), taking books and furniture.

37: Protest letters regarding the ERR seizure of Jewish-owned art collections, particularly those of the Rothschild family, with details about many of the seizures (26 June 1941).

38: Letter from Jacques Jaujard, director of the National Museums, regarding the planned seizure by the ERR of Jewish-owned collections of art from the Château de Chambord, naming many including Jean Zay, Calman, and Claude Roger-Marx (3 July 1941).

39: Protest letter regarding the ERR seizure of the art collection belonging to Elisabeth Wildenstein, with a list of paintings.

46: Letters of protest regarding the ERR seizure of Jewish-owned art collections, with mention of those of Hirsch, Reinach, David-Weill, Wildenstein, and the Rothschilds.

56: Report on the requisition and sale of building belonging to Eugène de Rothschild, as well as the seizure of the building's furniture and cultural property (1 Oct. 1943).⁴³

CVII

Many documents in this carton of photocopies involve details and protests regarding individual Jewish residences and their furnishings seized by the Möbel-Aktion. Many of the earlier documents involve "economic Aryanization" with seizure of buildings or residences owned by French Jews.

- 55:** Circular prohibiting the sale of furnishings left by departing Jews (1 Apr. 1942).
- 63:** Correspondence with the CGQJ regarding ERR requisition of furniture from vacated Jewish residences (9 June 1942).
- 75:** CGQJ correspondence with the ERR regarding the requisition and seizure of the contents in the residence of Monsieur Lévy (21 Sep. 1942).
- 76:** Correspondence with the CGQJ regarding the residence and contents belonging to Monsieur Danon (6-8 Oct. 1942).
- 84, 85:** Letter from the CGQJ to Kurt von Behr regarding a possible residence for Hindu leader Chandra Bose, who wants to launch a journal in Paris (6 Nov. 1942).
- 86:** Correspondence between the insurance company La Concorde and the CGQJ regarding the furniture and personal property of Dr Melchlor Rosenberg, with reference to the ERR office responsible for such removals from Jewish residences (16-27 Nov. 1942).
- 92:** Correspondence with the CGQJ regarding the residence formerly rented by deported Romanian Mademoiselle Moscivici (7-17 Dec. 1942).
- 122:** Letter regarding the liquidation of property owned by Henri de Rothschild, who was stripped of his French nationality (10 July 1944).
- 130:** Letter from Service immobilier with list of Rothschild family members and real estate holdings seized with rights of deposition for Jews stripped of French nationality.

CXVII

- 17:** Concerning a crate of paintings owned by Alfred Weinburger, seized from a vault in the Banque Morgan & Cie and turned over to the ERR (8 Sep. 1941-21 Jan. 1942).
- 38:** Includes a list of fine arts taken from various Rothschild family homes, with French protests about seizures from the Rothschilds. Gerd Wunder's personal involvement in confiscation of cultural property from the home of Eugène de Rothschild (10 Feb. 1942) is also noted.

CXCIII

- 109:** Letters regarding the seizure of Jewish-owned art collections (1942).
- 124:** Letters concerning the German seizure of furniture from Jewish residences (18 Mar. 1942).
- 133:** Collection of letters regarding the art collection of David-Weill that was seized from the Château de Souches by the ERR (8 May 1941-4 May 1942).

CXCV

- 185:** Letter from the Service for Economic Aryanization to Einsatzstab Westen (ERR) regarding certificates for those not belonging to the Jewish race (4 Jan. 1943).

⁴³ Now listed in carton XXI-56, although that may be out of sequence.

CCXI

39: Letter from Léon Reinach to the director of the French National Museums and related correspondence regarding the seizure of the house and art collection deeded to the French state (10 Aug.-8 Dec. 1941).

CCXXXVI

47: Letter from Dienststelle Westen to the CGQJ complaining about the certificates received for those not belonging to the Jewish race (19 July 1943).

CCCLXX

24: Dossier regarding the requisition and pillage of the residence belonging to Pierre Seligmann-Alphandéry.

28: Letter from the CGQJ to Einsatzstab Westen (ERR) noting that the residence of Monsieur Gresalmer (Paris, 57 bis, bd Rochechouar) contains some beautiful furniture (13 Oct. 1942).

2.5.5. COPIES OF DOCUMENTS FROM THE BUNDESARCHIV KOBLENZ**CDXXXVI: Rosenberg, nos. 1-55**

These copies, made in Koblenz, appear to have been prepared before the original records were rearranged by the Bundesarchiv, because they are cross-referenced with the U.S. EAP 99 series numbers, probably from U.S. microfilms. Correlation with the Bundesarchiv's organization of these documents is not easy, although many originals should be found within NS 30 (ERR), now housed in the Bundesarchiv in Berlin-Lichterfelde. Some of these documents will be found in other record groups.

3-5, 7: M-Aktion documents (1944).

6: Regarding a missing painting from the Louvre.

8: Organization of the ERR.

9: Herbert Gerigk and Kurt von Behr agreement regarding pianos confiscated by the M-Aktion in Paris for the Sonderstab Musik (19 Oct. 1942).

10: Concerns fire in a depot for pianos confiscated by the M-Aktion in Paris (27 May 1944).

11: List of military units receiving musical instruments confiscated by the M-Aktion (20 Oct. 1942-6 Dec. 1943).

12: Gerigk to Vogelwerth (27 July 1944) and Muchow (2 June and 15 July 1944) regarding visit to Paris to select musical instruments for the Sonderstab Musik from those confiscated by the M-Aktion.

13: Instructions regarding the handling of musical instruments confiscated by the M-Aktion (6 and 21 Sep. 1943).

14: Confiscation from Darius Milhaud (with inventory) and from Mme Dyer (13 June 1941).

15: Confiscation from Landau (Neuilly) (9 July 1941).

16: Confiscated pianos (17 Sep. 1943).

17: Report on the Sonderstab Musik (22 Aug.-6 Sep. 1943) with lists of goods seized and packed (as of 2 Sep. 1943).

18: Concerning two railway cars of confiscated musical instruments, including pianos, destined for Riga (15 Sep. 1943).

19: Concerning confiscated music manuscripts from a Jewish collection (16 June 1942).

- 22:** Report on ERR in Italy (1944).
- 23:** Otto Nerling report on ERR evacuation from Soviet territories (28 Apr. 1944); Albert Speer report on ERR pillage of Narva archives (28 Mar. 1944).
- 24:** Suffix “for Occupied Territories” dropped from official ERR name (17 Nov. 1944); Dienststelle Westen transferred to ERR jurisdiction (24 Nov. 1944).
- 26-30:** Sonderstab Musik from the DBFU (Mar. 1940) to 1944.
- 32:** Reports by Robert Scholz on ERR-plundered art and transfers from Neuschwanstein Castle to Altaussee (Feb.-Apr. 1944).

2.6. DÉPOT CENTRAL DES ARCHIVES DE LA JUSTICE MILITAIRE

[Central Depot of the Archives of Military Justice]

36300 Le Blanc

Tel.: +33 02 / 54 37 48 55

Website: <http://www.culture.fr/sections/regions/centre/organisme/DAF-ORGDAF29>

Proceedings of many of the postwar war criminal and collaboration trials are now held at the special depository for the records of Military Justice, arranged in chronological order by the date of trial.

Of particular interest are the trials of several members of the ERR staff (1949-1950), including Gerhard Utikal, Bruno Lohse, Georg Ebert, Arthur Pfanstrel, and Robert Scholz (in absentia), along with the dealers Albert Pferfer and Hans Wendland, who were directly involved in some ERR exchanges and sales, including paintings from the Jeu de Paume acquired for the Hermann Göring Collection. Their case was heard by the Permanent Military Tribunal in Paris (Tribunal militaire permanent de Paris).⁴⁴

Regarding the confiscation of Jewish art collections, reference should also be made to the record of the trial of Otto Abetz (1949), excerpts of which are now held in the CDJC in copy (see Section 2.4.2.4.)

Access: It should be kept in mind that court dossiers are normally closed to the public for 75 years from the date of their creation, although some parts of the trial proceedings may be available. Prospective researchers should apply to archival authorities regarding the designation of a given case and the extent of access possible.

⁴⁴ See the MAEE file with newspaper clippings about this trial and the documentary preparation in RA 219 under Section 2.1.1.2.