A P P E N D I X IV

includes some of the notices which appeared in the press in connection with the disclosure of the Berlin Gestapo Deportation Index.

AJDC Finds Nazi Finance File Giving Data on Missing Jews

The discovery of an important Nazi government file that is expected to play a vital role in clearing up the mystery of what happened to thousands of German Jews still listed as missing, was announced last week by Eli Rock, director of the Berlin office of the American Joint Distribution Committee, a voluntary agency working under UNRRA, supervising in the U. S. zone in Germany.

Containing 100,000 cards with cross references, the file gives the complete record of 73,000 Jews arrested in Berlin during the Nazi regime. Its discovery is one of the most important recent developments in the tracing of German Jews whose fate remains unknown. The file was among records stored in the German Finance Office where it survived destruction during the war.

The idea of looking into the authentic records of the Finance Office was conceived by Larry Lebetsky, head of the Tracing Office of the AJDC. Lebetsky was an inmate of Dachau for four and a half years. He escaped in 1945 disguised as a German officer and joined advancing American troops as an interpreter. Since then he has worked with UNRRA and AJDC.

After AJDC representatives discussed the matter with military officials, the Four-Power-Allied Kommandatura ordered the German Finance Office to make the list available to the AJDC for copying.

In addition to listing the arrest and deportation of the Jews apprehended in Berlin, the cards in the file carry full names, dates and places of birth, last known addresses, names of other members of families and the case numbers in the German Reason Files, which carry even more complete details. With these case numbers, it is possible to ascertain to which concentration camps the deportees were sent.

The AJDC is also checking the new file against 50 original German transport lists, and is get all available information a survey is now being conducted in Berlin by the AJDC among survivors of various transports to concentration camps. They are being asked to supply whatever facts they remember concerning other members of the transports who did not return.

An extremely vital part of information contained in the file is the disposition of confiscated property belonging to the Jews who had been arrested. This data will be helpful in locating and reclaiming such property in rightful hands, since a property restitution law has been enacted for Germany.

The Berlin tracing department of the AJDC has already handled more than 25,000 cases since the beginning of the year. It has been instrumental in reuniting families, in locating Jews in all sections of Germany and establishing contact between them and relatives in the United States and other areas of the world. It is also as a constant source for hitherto undiscovered data which will throw additional light on the fate of the missing.

OMGUS OBSERVER, US Army Berlin Nov. 22nd 1946

TAGESSPIEGEL, Berlin

Liste verschleppter Juden gefunden

November 22nd 1946

NEW-YORK TIMES,

KEY TO JEWS' FATE FOUND

Berlin Office Yields Full Record of 73,000 'Missing'

BERLIN, Nov. 18 (AP).—A German file that may enable the Allied authorities to trace thousands of Jews still listed as missing and to establish their fate has been found among records of the Gestapo Finance office, according to a New York dispatch from Berlin.

Eli Rock, director of the Berlin office of the American Joint Distribution Committee, announced the find today. He said the file contained a full record of 73,000 Jews arrested there in addition, in addition to such, the file also showed to which concentration camps the Jews were taken and the disposition of their confiscated property.

Lebetsky, head of the Tracing Office of the AJDC, who discovered the find today. He said the file contained a full record of 73,000 Jews arrested here. In addition to listing concentration camps the Jews were taken and the disposition of their confiscated property.

November 18th 1946

FIND LIST OF MISSING JEWS

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JEWISH GAZETTE, November 20th,1946

Fate of 73,000 Jews Is Unearthed

By ELSE ABEL

Berlin — A Polish and Czechoslovakian Kommandatura have joined in the search for an Hungarian Jew who, it is alleged, by order of a local Nazi Gestapo chief, shot dead by the Nazis to concentration camps, or to the chamber of horrors, through between 1938 and 1945.

This was in an interview with Eli Rock, head of the American Joint Distribution Committee, who, with Larry Lebetsky, head of the Tracing Office of the AJDC, discovered the Gestapo Finance Office file.

The Russians were less thorough than the Germans. It was later discovered that although the Polish file had been destroyed, the Dutch archives were complete. Arrangements have just been completed to return them to Holland.

Lebetsky's search for the Berlin records, which Eichmann never seen left in the city, began shortly after he joined the AJDC here. After many fruitless efforts and false starts, he began to concentrate his attention on the various financial and tax offices, reasoning that for tax purposes the Germans probably maintained a record of deported Jews.

Last May he succeeded in finding the clue which led to an office building on Kurfurstendamm in the British sector. British M.C. officials readily agreed to make the file available, and, after securing permission from the four-power kommandatura which governs Berlin, the work began.

It will be two months yet, Lebetsky estimates, before all 73,000 names have been copied out.

The files fill two large rooms and, unexpectedly, were found to contain detailed transport lists, giving full names of each person deported, his occupation, the date of deportation and the destination.

Close scrutiny has revealed that through such "underground telegraph" many Jews knew they were to be deported one or two days before the event. Within 48 hours of such transport's departure there was a rash of suicides, the files disclose.

The discovery will help dispose of almost 13,000 requests for information from relatives of missing Jews. To date, AJDC has been able to close only 1,200 cases.

"This will help meet the humanitarian demand for certain knowledge that the missing persons can be presumed dead," said Rock.

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

TELEGRAPH, Berlin

Wichtige Kartei gefunden

November 20th 1946

NEUE ZEIT, Berlin

MAGDEBURGER, Berlin Nov. 19th,1946

TAEGLICHE RUNDSCHAU, Berlin

Liste des Schrecktaten gefunden

Berlin, 19. November 1946

Kartei über verschleppte Juden

AJDC Finds Nazi Finance File Giving Data on Missing Jews

The discovery of an important Nazi government file that is expected to play a vital role in clearing up the mystery of what happened to thousands of German Jews still listed as missing, was announced last week by Eli Rock, director of the Berlin office of the American Joint Distribution Committee, a voluntary agency working under UNRRA supervision in the D. P. operation in Germany.

Containing 100,000 cards with cross references, the file gives the complete record of 75,000 Jews arrested in Berlin during the Nazi regime. Its discovery is one of the most important recent developments in the tracing of German Jews whose fate remains unknown. The file was among records stored in the German Finance Office where it survived destruction during the war.

The idea of looking into the authentic records of the Finance Office was conceived by Larry Lubetsky, head of the Tracing Office of the AJDC. Lubetsky was an inmate of Dachau for four and a half years. He escaped in 1945 disguised as a German officer and joined advancing American troops as an interpreter. Since then he has worked with UNRRA and AJDC.

After AJDC representatives discussed the matter with military officials, the Four-Power-Allied Kommandatura ordered the German Finance Office to make the list available to the AJDC for copying.

In addition to listing the arrest and deportation of the Jews apprehended in Berlin, the cards in the file carry full names, dates and places of birth, last known residences, names of other members of families and the case numoers in the German finance files, which carry even more complete details. With these case numbers, it is possible to ascertain to which concentration camps the deportees were sent.

The AJDC is also checking the new file against 50 original Gestapo transport lists, and to get all available information a survey is now being conducted in Berlin by the AJDC among survisors of various transports to concentration camps. They are being asked to supply whatever facts they remember concerning other members of the transports who did not return.

An extremely vital item of information contained in the file is the disposition of confiscated property belonging to the Jews who had been arrested. This data will be helpful in locating and returning such property to rightful heirs, once a property restitution law has been enacted for Germany.

The Berlin tracing department of the AJDC has already handled more than 25,000 cases since the beginning of the year. It has been instrumental in reuniting families, in locating Jews in all sections of Germany and establishing contact between them and relatives in the United States and other areas of the world. It is also on a constant search for hitherto undiscovered lists which will throw additional light on the fate of the missing ...

OMGUS OBSERVER, US Army Berlin Nov. 22nd 1946

TAGESSPIEGEL, Berlin

Liste verschleppter Juden gefunden

Unter den Akten des Finanzministeriums wurde eine Liste gefunden, die die Namen von 75 000 in Berlin verhafteten Juden enthält. Die Aufstellung gibt auch an, in welche Konzentrationslager die Verhafteten gebracht wurden und was mit ihrem Vermögen geschah

November 22nd 1946

NEW-YORK TIMES,

KEY TO JEWS' FATE FOUND

Berlin Office Yields Full Record of 75,000 'Missing'

BERLIN, Nov. 18 (AP)—A German file that may enable the Allies' authorities to trace thousands of Jews still listed as missing and to establish their fate has been found among records of the German finance office.

Eli Rock, director of the Berlin office of the American Joint Distribution Committee, announced the find today. He said the file contained a full record of 75,000 Jews arrested here. In addition to statistics on each, the file shows to which concentration camps the Jews were taken and the disposition of their confiscated property.

November 18th 1946

FIND LIST OF MISSING JEWS

A German file that may enable the Allied authorities to trace thousands of Jews still listed as missing and to establish their fate has been found among records of the German finance office, according to a Nov. 18 dispatch from Berlin.

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MONTREAL GAZETTE, November 20th, 1946

Fate of 73,000 Jews Is Unearthed

By ELIE ABEL

Berlin — A hunch, and characteristic German thoroughness have led to the discovery in an unheated downtown office building here of a card file containing the names and fate of 73,000 Berlin Jews, deported by the Nazis to concentration camps or to the ghettos of Eastern Europe between 1942 and 1945.

"This find is of tremendous importance," said Eli Rock, local director of the American Joint Distribution Committee, whose tracing bureau unearthed the records after almost a year of patient searching.

Actual discovery was made by "Larry" Lubetzky, a 22-year-old Lithuanian Jew, who escaped from Dachau disguised as an SS colonel a few weeks before the camp was liberated.

For thousands of Jews all over the world these card files will provide conclusive proof that the relatives about whom they were wondering and worrying are dead.

The record was painstakingly maintained by Berlin's municipal tax office which was concerned with keeping tabs on property rights. Details are so complete that, after the cards are transcribed and indexed, the tracing bureau will know for a certainty on which transport each of the groups were sent to the death camps and on what date.

Ten girl copyists now are at work transcribing all information contained in the file.

The first indication that Germany maintained such an archive came last year from Georg Kaiser who, as a representative of the Jewish community, was ordered by the Nazis to remove and destroy the files of Polish and Netherlands Jews. Kaiser had the records transported to Erfurt, now in the Russian zone. But instead of destroying them, he buried the files in a castle near that town.

When the war ended, Kaiser returned to Erfurt in the hope of reclaiming the records. He found a Red army hospital had been established in the castle and that the commandant had ordered his troops to burn all the "junk" in the basement.

The Russians were less thorough than the Germans. It was later discovered that although the Polish file had been destroyed, the Dutch archives were complete. Arrangements have just been completed to return these to Holland.

Lubetzky's search for the Berlin records, which Kaiser knew had been left in the city, began shortly after he joined the AJDC here. After many fruitless efforts and false starts, he began to concentrate his attention on the various financial and tax offices, reasoning that for tax purposes the Germans probably maintained a record of deported Jews.

Last May he succeeded in finding the clue which led to an office building on Kurfurstendamm in the British sector. British M.G. officials readily agreed to make the files available, and, after securing permission from the four-power kommandatura which governs Berlin, the work began.

It will be two months yet, Lubetzky estimates, before all 73,000 names have been copied out.

The files fill two large rooms and, unexpectedly, were found to contain detailed transport lists, giving full names of each person deported, his occupation, the date of deportation and the destination.

Close scrutiny has revealed that through some "underground telegraph" many Jews knew they were to be deported one or two days before the event. Within 48 hours of each transport's departure there was a rash of suicides, the files disclose.

The discovery will help dispose of almost 13,000 requests for information from relatives of missing Jews. To date, AJDC has been able to close only 1,800 cases.

"This will help meet the human need for certain knowledge that the missing persons can be presumed dead," said Rock.

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

TELEGRAPH, Berlin

Wichtige Kartei gefunden

DANA Berlin, den 19. November

Durch die Auffindung einer wichtigen Kartei der Naziregierung hofft man feststellen zu können, was mit Tausenden noch vermissten deutschen Juden geschehen ist, erklärte hier am Montag Eli Rock, der Leiter des Berliner Büros des American Joint Distribution Committee, einer freiwilligen Hilfsvereinigung, die unter der Aufsicht der UNRRA zur Unterstützung der verschleppten Personen in Deutschland arbeitet. Die gefundene Kartei enthält 100 000 Überweisungskarten und eine vollständige Liste von 75 000 Juden, die während des Naziregimes in Berlin verhaftet worden. Überweisungskarten enthalten unter dem Datum der Verhaftung und Verschleppung der Juden ihre vollen Namen, Geburtsort, letzte Anschriften, Namen von Familienmitgliedern und Aktennummern der deutschen Finanzämter, in denen noch weitere Einzelheiten festzustellen sind. Durch diese Aktennummern kann das Konzentrationslager festgestellt werden, in das die Verschleppten geschickt wurden.

November 20th 1946

Akten von 75 000 Juden gefunden. Berlin (NZ). — Im ehemaligen deutschen Finanzministerium in Berlin ist eine Kartei gefunden worden, die über das Schicksal von 75 000 Berliner Juden Auskunft gibt. Die Alliierte Kommandantur hat die Kartei, die die vollständigen Personalien und Angaben über die Verschickung in die verschiedenen Konzentrationslager enthält, dem amerikanischen jüdischen Hilfswerk zur Verfügung gestellt. An Hand dieses Materials ist es außerdem möglich, beschlagnahmten jüdischen Besitz den Eigentümern zurückzugeben

NEUE ZEIT, Berlin

NACHT-EXPRESS, Berlin Nov. 19th, 1946

Liste des Schreckens gefunden

Berlin, 19. November (AP)

Eine noch unter der Naziregierung aufgestellte Liste, auf Grund derer die Nachforschung nach noch verschollenen Juden und die Bestimmung ihres Schicksals den alliierten Behörden möglich sein sollte, wurde unter den Akten des Finanzministeriums in Berlin gefunden.

Nach Angaben des Direktors der jüdischen Hilfsorganisation „Joint", Eli Rock, enthält die Liste eine volle Aufstellung über 75 000 von den Nazis in Berlin verhafteten Juden.

Neben statistischen Angaben über jeden einzelnen der Verhafteten gibt die Aufstellung an, nach welchem Konzentrationslager diese gebracht wurden und was mit ihrem Vermögen geschah.

TAEGLICHE RUNDSCHAU, Berlin

Kartei über verschleppte Juden

Der Leiter des „American joint distribution Comitee", Eli Rock, erklärte, daß es gelungen sei, eine wichtige Kartei der Naziregierung aufzufinden. Diese Kartei gebe Aufschluß über das Schicksal von Tausenden noch vermißter deutscher Juden. Sie enthalte 100 000 Überweisungskarten und eine Liste von 75 000 Namen von Männern und Frauen, die während der Nazizeit allein in Berlin verhaftet wurden. Die Kartei ermögliche, das Konzentrationslager festzustellen, in das die Verhafteten verschleppt wurden. (ADN)