



# Early Tracing and Documenting

Spring 1945: the Nazi regime had been defeated.

Now the Allies were confronted with many new challenges, including the care for millions of victims of Nazi persecution. Many people were concerned about their relatives and friends some of whom they had lost contact with years ago.

The Allies only searched for the victims of Nazi persecution. German war victims and prisoners of war, refugees and expellees, however, had to turn to German tracing services.

Tracing missing victims of the Nazis was difficult at the start. The Allies were overwhelmed by the scale of the persecution, and information could often only be found in Nazi documents, millions of which had to be gathered and studied first. Therefore, survivors also took matters into their own hands by actively engaging in postwar search and documentation work with the support of both new and experienced organizations.

The victorious Allied powers made every effort to coordinate the search for Nazi victims and documents. They created the *Central Tracing Bureau* (CTB) for this task. This was the root of the *International Tracing Service* (ITS), founded in 1948 as the central tracing and information office.

## Self-Organization by Survivors

In the spring of 1945, prisoners liberated in Dachau established the *International Information Office* (IIO). It supported former prisoners and their relatives by issuing certificates of imprisonment in Dachau which could be used to claim relief services.

The IIO also documented the horrors of the Dachau camp with lists of people who had been imprisoned and died there. They were based on concentration camp records saved by prisoners. Today they are kept in Bad Arolsen, alongside original IIO files.



**Passport Photos for IIO Imprisonment Certificates,  
circa 1945/1946**

The IIO issued individual certificates of imprisonment in Dachau concentration camp, which former inmates could use to acquire food, civilian clothing, shelter and medical care. These certificates required passport photos, around 2,100 of which are still preserved in the *Arolsen Archives*.

11796

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INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION OFFICE  
DACHAU  
SCHLEISSHEIMERSTRASSE 90

**CERTIFICATE Nr. 2976**

It is hereby certified that Mr. Eiger  
Dawid born 5 - 11 - 1922  
in Radom was detained in Dachau  
Concentration Camp from 9 - 4 - 1945 to the day  
of deliverance by the United States Army 29. April 1945 and was  
registered in the Camp Records under the number  
150312  
He came from Concentration Camp: Natzweiler

INTERNATIONAL  
INFORMATION OFFICE  
DACHAU

CIESLIK-WAITER

Issued 4 - 7 - 1946

International Information Office  
Dachau

**Imprisonment Certificate Issued by the IIO  
for Dawid Eiger, July 4, 1946**

Dawid Eiger was a Polish Jew born in 1922. He was imprisoned in Dachau shortly before the liberation in April 1945. After the war the IIO issued this certificate of his time in the camp, which enabled Eiger to claim relief services.

4481

erfahren, ob mein Vater damals als politischer  
Häftling oder politischer Gefangener wurde. Ich hoffe,  
dass Sie Ihnen sich nach Unterlagen über diese  
Verfahren oder Verurteilung vorhandene sind.  
Ich selbst habe alle die politische Partei-  
mitgliedschaften in den Jahren vor mein Vater  
Häftling im KZ Lager war. Er ist aber für  
mich von großer Wichtigkeit welche Personen  
mein Vater zu dieser letzten Zeit besaß.

Ich bitte Sie sehr um Ihre Hilfe  
bei dieser Angelegenheit. Haben Sie mir bitte  
meinen ergebensten Dank. Für Ihre Antworten  
bitte ich mich sehr zu bedanken.

Respektvoll  
Ihre Voigt

P.S.V.

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**Excerpt of a Letter from Ilse Voigt from  
Warnemünde to the IIO, June 12, 1946**

In March 1946, at the request of Ilse Voigt, the IIO had issued a certificate confirming that her father, Otto Riebe, had been a prisoner in Dachau. However, this certificate did not reveal his prisoner category. Ilse Voigt therefore wrote to the IIO again to ask for this information.

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Jan 28. 6. 1946

Fräulein Ilse Voigt  
Warnemünde - Ostsee  
im Strand 67

NO  
231/72/46  
v. 12.6.1946

Betreff:  
Otto Riebe  
geb. 3.5.1898

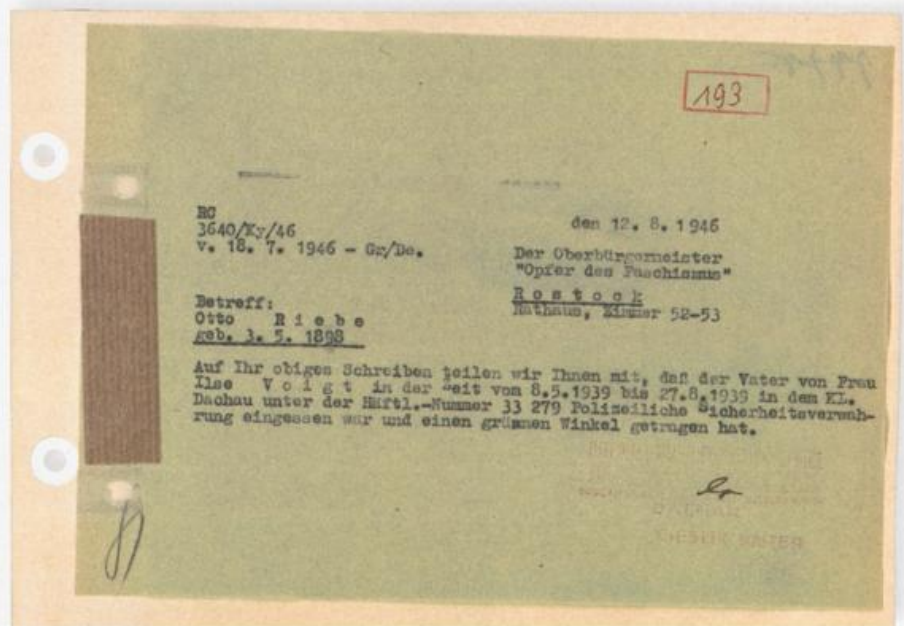
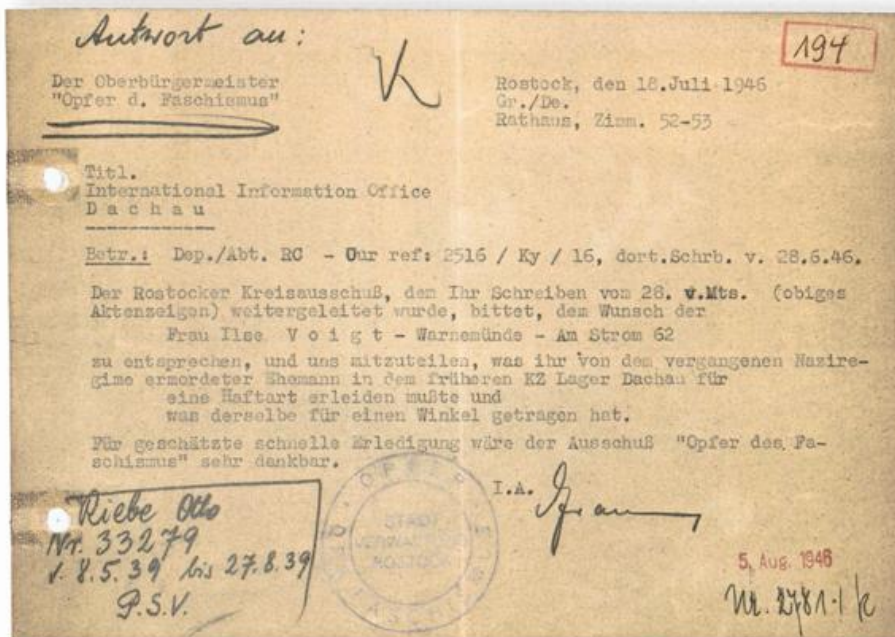
Hierdurch teilen wir Ihnen mit, das wir die Haftart von der Haft-  
farbe der abnommenen KZ-Nummern nur an die zuständigen Ver-  
waltungsstellen mitteilen. Wenn Sie sich an Ihre KZ-Verwaltungsstelle und  
diese soll die gewünschten Angaben bei uns anfordern.

Informationen über die  
Dachau  
5  
CIESLIK, WALTER  
Leiter

Ilse Voigt

**Letter from Walter Ciešlik (IIO) to Ilse Voigt,  
June 28, 1946**

This letter from Walter Ciešlik, head of the IIO, informed Ilse Voigt that only the municipal concentration camp prisoner support office responsible for Voigt was authorized to provide information about her father's prisoner category.



**Inquiry from the Victims of Fascism Committee  
(Rostock City Council) to the IIO, July 18, 1946**

In response to the prior correspondence between Ilse Voigt and the IIO, the concentration camp prisoner support office in Rostock also inquired about Otto Riebe's prisoner category in July 1946. In this letter, Otto Riebe is mistakenly referred to as Voigt's husband, not as her father.

**Response from Walter Cieřlik (IIO), August 12, 1946**

Walter Cieřlik of the IIO informed the Rostock city council in August 1946 that Otto Riebe had been in "police protective custody." He therefore belonged to the group of so-called "professional criminals" not eligible for relief services. To this day, they have neither been recognized, nor have they received compensation as victims of Nazi persecution.

GAR

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

UNITED STATES ZONE  
BUREAU OF DOCUMENTS AND TRACING Return 3. 10. 46. Nr 254  
APO 757, U. S. ARMY

27 September 1946

SUBJECT: Preparation of Official Bureau Tracing Registry  
on Dachau Concentration Camp Inmates

TO: Mr. G. B. Fromageot  
Branch Chief  
South Bavarian Branch  
MUNICH

1. It is my understanding that the inmate records of the Dachau Concentration Camp are as complete as humanly possible at the present time. The excellent work of the staff of the former International Information Office deserves full credit for this achievement. } Cieslik

2. In view of paragraph one above, we must prepare an Official Registry of the Dachau Concentration Camp Inmates for the utilization of Allied Government National Tracing Bureaux in their tracing of United Nations Nationals.

3. You are directed to engage in this activity immediately.

4. You are encouraged to delegate the responsibility of this project to Mr. Walter Cieslik in view of his previous status with the International Information Office. However, you will be held responsible for the progress and accuracy of the work.

5. The Official Registry shall contain a brief history of the camp, officially recognized photographs, selected human interest stories and a complete listing of inmates according to nationalities and alphabetization.

6. The Official Registry shall contain the following information concerning each inmate :

(a)	Surname, Christian name ✓
(b)	Camp serial number ✓
(c)	Reason for detention ✓
(d)	Date of birth ✓
(e)	Date of entry in the camp ✓
(f)	Previous location prior to Dachau ✓
(g)	Date of departure from Dachau ✓
(h)	Destination at departure from Dachau ✓
(i)	Reason for departure (e. g. liberated,

/s. (j)

Compiling one of the First Prisoner Lists for Dachau  
Concentration Camp, August 23, 1946

In the summer of 1946, the IIO merged with the Munich branch of the UNRRA tracing and documentation department. This office was asked to compile a list of all former prisoners of Dachau concentration camp based on the camp documents preserved by the IIO. Walter Cieslik initiated this project.

UNRRA  
BUREAU OF DOCUMENTS AND TRACING  
South Bavarian Branch

INVENTORY OF DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP  
INDEX CARDS

G E R M A N S

Surname: Christian name Camp ser.no.	Birth date: Birth place (Prev.resid.)	Reason for arrest (Occupation):	Admission date: From where: Place of capture	Depart date: Reason for dep. Destination:
ABB Wilhelm 35644 <i>From state</i>	7.12.00 Altomünster Aschaffenburg	crim.pris. locksmith <i>Religion</i>	15.Sep.39	27.Sep.39 trans to CC.Mauthausen
ABE Ferdinand 7451/4	20.9.11 Nürnberg Munich	pol.pris. plumber	13.5.35	15.Jan.41 released
ABEL Andreas 91580	22.6.94 Spiesen Spiesen	work ev. baker	14.Aug.44 14.Sep.44 fr. Natzweiler	24.Aug.44 trans to Natzweiler 29.Sep.44 trans to Flossenburg 20.April 39 released
ABEL Christoph 11218	4.5.91 Heidsheim Würzburg	pol.pris. worker	21.12.36	20.April 39 released
ABEL Karl 16664	27.9.05 München München	crim.pris. baker	30.Aug.40	7.Sep.40 transp. to Sachsenhausen
ABELEIN Richard 30592	14.3.15 Stuttgart Stuttgart	work ev. garden worker	24 June 42	7.8.42 transp. to Neuengamme
ABELES Walter 18201	6.10.87 Wien Wien 2 Bez.	crim.pris. renter	6 Sep.40	5 Juli 41 trans to Buchenwald
ABELMANN Paul 23236	28.7.14 Ahaus/Westf. Nordenham	pol.pris. sailor SAS.SAW Δ	22 Jan.41 fr. Neuengamme	died 24 July 41
ABERL Johann 35001	28.8.90 Allershausen München	pol.pris. clergman	21 Aug.42	19 Sep.42 trans to Buchenwald
ABEL Franz 16391	21.1.92 Walkwitz Vienna 8	pol.pris. editor	17.6.38 1.2.39	25.1.39 transp. 26.4.34 - to Vienna
ABLER Jacob 64879	23.2.07 Oberdettingen Hamburg	crim.pris. bookkeeper	4 March 44 fr.Natzweiler	deliv red in out-detail by U.S.Army

Excerpt from Overview of Dachau Prisoners Compiled  
by Walter Cieřlik, circa 1946

This list, alphabetically ordered by name, was based on a card file from Dachau concentration camp, saved by prisoners at the end of the war. It noted the prisoners' places and dates of birth, information about their profession and prisoner category, and the dates of their imprisonment and release from the Dachau concentration camp.

# Walter Cieślik

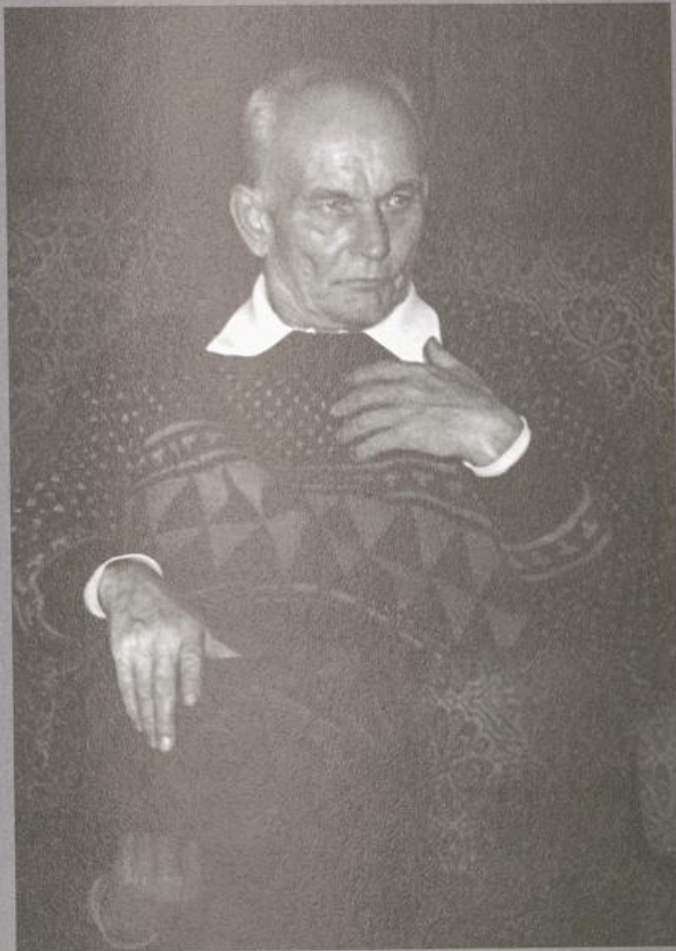
1914 - 1998

Before Walter Cieślik worked for the IIO after the war, he spent five years as a prisoner in Dachau concentration camp. The persecution of the Polish bank clerk began in 1940, when the Gestapo arrested him in Zabrze, Silesia. Cieślik was taken to Dachau as a political prisoner. The SS assigned him to work in the registry office, which gave him access to the camp's prisoner documents. Two years after he was liberated, Walter Cieślik decided to return to Poland, where he passed away in 1998.



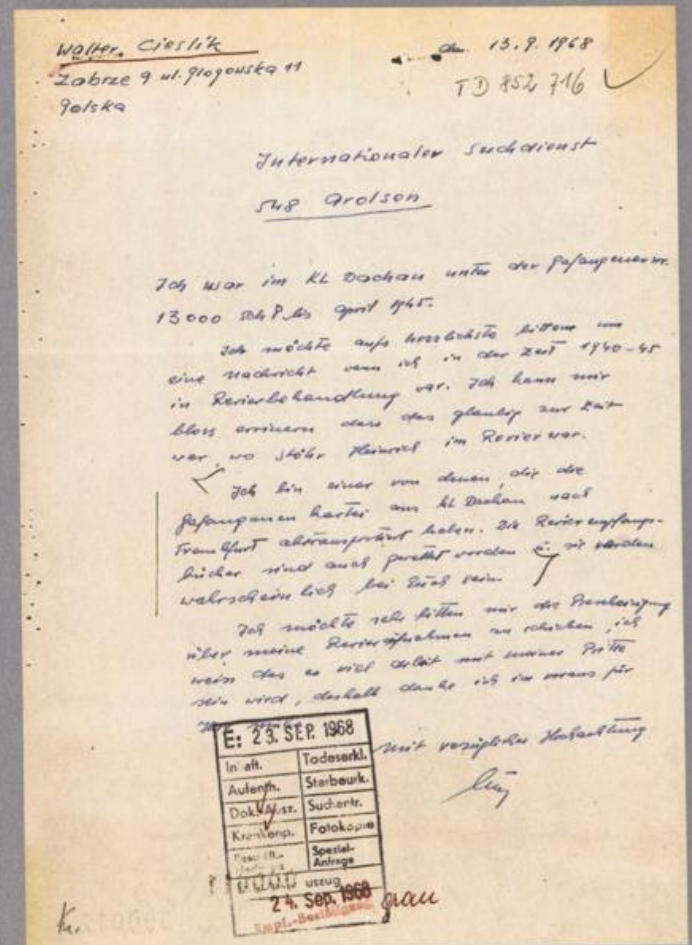
Walter Cieřlik in Prisoner Clothing at his Desk at the IIO, Dachau, June 5, 1945

Cieřlik returned to Poland in 1947, taking many IIO documents with him. But it was his express wish for the documents to return to Dachau after his death. Since 1999, they have been preserved by the Dachau Memorial. The files provide a valuable insight into the work of the IIO.



Walter Cieřlik, Private Photo, Location unknown, 1986

After his time at the IIO, Cieřlik stayed in close contact with other survivors of Nazi persecution. In the 1990s he worked with humanitarian organizations in Germany to support former inmates of the concentration camps and ghettos.



Inquiry from Walter Cieřlik to the ITS, September 13, 1968

In 1968, Walter Cieřlik contacted the ITS and requested a certificate of his time spent in the sick bay of Dachau concentration camp. He also mentioned his activities at the IIO and his role in transferring the documents which today are stored in the Arolsen Archives.

## Tracing Activities by Experienced Organizations

Experienced relief organizations also took part in the search, such as the *American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee* (AJDC), which had been founded in 1914 in the context of World War I. It had tracing offices all over Europe for clarifying the fates of missing persons and survivors of the Holocaust. Many of its employees had been persecuted by the Nazis themselves. Searching for documents with information about Nazi crimes was another important activity which the organization carried out. Many documents from the AJDC later went to the ITS and are now preserved in the *Arolsen Archives*.

0137/\_12  
21.1.1946

**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**  
C/O 618 Mil. Gov. Det.  
(British Army on the Rhine)  
**HONNE-BELSEN CAMP**

Date: *21.1.1946*

**Enquirer / Nadawca / Anfrage**

Name/Name: **BURGENTHAL Mrs** First Name/Vorname: **GERDA** Nationality/Nationalität: **Czech**

Place of Birth/Geburtsort: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth/Geburtsdatum: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parents/Name der Eltern: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Beruf: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address/Gegenwärtige Anschrift: **Oettingen, Wagnerstr. 5** Relation/Vermögensverhältnis: **Widow**

Original Home Address/Heimatanschrift: \_\_\_\_\_

The enquirer desires news of the addressee.  
Nadawca prosit o wiadomosci o adresacie.  
Der Adressgebende erbetet die neue Anschrift.

**Particulars of Person Sought  
Angaben fehlender Personen**

Name/Name: **BURGENTHAL** First Name/Vorname: **TOMMY**

Place of Birth/Geburtsort: **Lubchaw/C.S.R.** Date of Birth/Geburtsdatum: **11.5.24** Marital Status/Verh. stand: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name/Name des Vaters: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's name/Name der Mutter: **Mrs. Buergenhal Gerda**

Date of last communication/Datum der letzten Verbindung: **January 1945**

Last known address/Letzte bekannte Anschrift: \_\_\_\_\_

Further useful particulars/Wichtige weitere Angaben: **Mother has seen photo of her son in Harnoverscher Kurier dated 13 July 1945, crossing street in Berlin with British M.P. and says 'All boys are happy, water HOCHENHAUS, his friends know he is now in Palestine'**

The addressee reply to be written on the reverse side.  
Odpowiadz adresatowi  
Für die Antwort des Empfänger die Rückseite benutzen

**Inquiry Form for Thomas Buergenthal, AJDC Office in Belsen, August 4, 1946**

Thinking she had seen her missing son Thomas in a newspaper photo, Gerda Buergenthal, who lived in Göttingen, intensified her search for him. One of her inquiries reached the AJDC tracing office near the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. She had last seen her son in January 1945.

Telephone: REGENT 6944-5  
BURGENTHAL TOMMY  
2-061-1946

**AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

MP/E: **199, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND** Oct. 23, 1946. 0137/\_58

TO: **A. J. D. C. BELSEN.**

FROM: **A. J. D. C. LONDON.**

RE: **YOUR LETTER 1.10.1946 RE TOMMY BURGENTHAL.**

With further reference to your letter as above, we have to-day received the following report from Warsaw Office in reply to the cable sent at your request:-

"We beg to notify you, that the Manager of the Orphanage in Otwock wrote us, that Tommy Buergenthal was informed by cable of the location of his mother just before receipt of the J. D. C. Letter. Tommy Buergenthal lives in this Children's Home since 7.11.1945. He was in a camp in Sachsenhausen; after the liberation he was taken by the 1st Division of the Polish Army as a regiment's child and was brought by a soldier to us. He went through many hardships. Tommy is a nice, pleasant, good and brave boy and is very liked by his teachers and colleagues. Simultaneously his uncle from the USA takes an interest in Tommy. To his mother and uncle, Tommy will write himself."

Faithfully yours,

*Margot Fels*  
Margot Fels,  
A. J. D. C. LONDON.

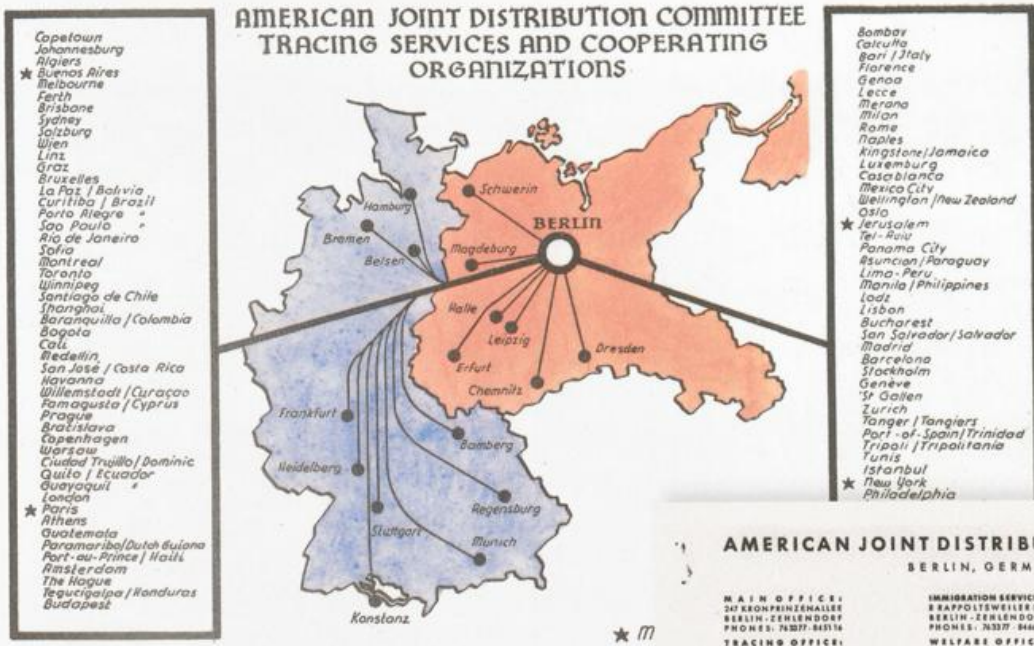
Tommy's parents appear to be located at 55 Search Bureaux, Göttingen, B.S.O.R.

*Tel 4254  
Göttingen  
Vignette 8*

**Letter from the London AJDC Office to the AJDC Office in Belsen, October 23, 1946**

Nearly two months later, the London tracing office of the AJDC confirmed Thomas Buergenthal was alive. He was freed from Sachsenhausen concentration camp at the end of the war. A Polish soldier eventually took him to an orphanage in Otwock, Poland, where he learnt that his mother was looking for him.





The Network of AJDC Tracing Offices and Cooperating Partners, circa 1948

This image, produced by the AJDC office in Berlin highlighted here, illustrates the worldwide search for missing persons and documents conducted by a single established organization like the AJDC. However, this work was not fully coordinated: the individual AJDC offices used varying approaches to carry out their search activities.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
BERLIN, GERMANY

MAIN OFFICE: 34 KRONPRINZENALLEE  
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF  
PHONE: 743277-845114

IMMIGRATION SERVICES: 8 RAPOLDTWIELE ST.  
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF  
PHONE: 743277-844635

WAREHOUSE: 33 HAGELBERGER ST.  
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF  
PHONE: 243597-243514

TRACING OFFICE: 34 KRONPRINZENALLEE  
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF  
PHONE: 743277

WELFARE OFFICE: 8 RAPOLDTWIELE ST.  
BERLIN-ZEHLENDORF  
PHONE: 743277

HOSPITAL: 38 CARSTENWEG  
BERLIN-LICHTENFELDE, W.  
PHONE: 240195

Sehr geehrte Herren,  
wie Ihnen bekannt sein dürfte, war es uns möglich in den Besitz der von der Gestapo seinerzeit angelegten Karte über die aus Berlin erfolgten Deportationen von nahezu 126 000 Juden zu gelangen. Dadurch sind wir in die Lage versetzt, den Transport sowie den Tag der Deportation von fast allen Berliner Juden anzusehen.

Auch von den Ueberlebenden dieser Transporte, d.h. von den aus der Deportation Zurückgekehrten, haben wir vollständige Listen vorliegen.

Es ist uns aber auch bekannt, dass viele Juden sich in anderen Gemeinden niedergelassen haben, um auch darüber unterrichtet zu sein, benötigen wir von sämtlichen Gemeinden Deutschlands Listen, aus denen diejenigen Personen ersichtlich sind, die dort zugezogen sind, und wir bitten Sie, uns solche Listen, welche die genauen Personalien, die letzte Anschrift vor der Deportation und die jetzige Adresse enthalten müssen, zuzusenden.

Ausserdem benötigen wir auch eine Liste sämtlicher Gemeindeglieder mit genauen Personalien und jetziger Adresse. Auch die inzwischen ausgewanderten Mitglieder bitten wir noch zu vermerken.

Wir hoffen, dass es Ihnen möglich ist, uns recht bald solche Listen zuzusenden und sehen Ihrer Rückmeldung entgegen.

Hochachtungsvoll  
LARRY LUBETSKY  
Tracing Officer  
AJDC Berlin

Suchabteilung  
11/48

ARMY ADDRESS: APO 742A, POSTMASTER NEW YORK, N.Y.

Circular from Larry Lubetsky about Documentation Efforts, Berlin, June 5, 1947

In 1946, the AJDC found Gestapo documents in the Berlin Finance Department which proved the deportation of Jews from Berlin. In this circular addressed to Jewish communities in Germany, Larry Lubetsky from the Berlin AJDC office asked for support in the further documentation of Nazi crimes.

# Thomas Buergenthal

\* 1934

After the liberation, Gerda Buergenthal searched for her son. She also asked an AJDC tracing office for help. Thomas Buergenthal was born in Czechoslovakia in 1934, one year after his parents had fled from Germany. The family went to Poland in 1939 where the Germans arrested them. They were then deported from the Kielce ghetto to Auschwitz. The family was separated. In 1945, the father died in Buchenwald. In December 1946, mother and son were reunited. At the end of 1951 they emigrated together to the USA, where Thomas Buergenthal studied law and became a judge.



Thomas and Gerda Buergenthal, Shortly before Emigrating to the USA, Location Unknown, circa 1951

Thomas Buergenthal documented his family's persecution by the Nazis and the dramatic search after 1945 in his autobiography *A Lucky Child: A Memoir of Surviving Auschwitz as a Young Boy*.



Thomas Buergenthal as a Judge at the *International Court of Justice*, The Hague, circa 2003

Thomas Buergenthal specializes in human rights and international law. He was co-founder of the *Inter-American Court of Human Rights* and has taught at many universities in the USA.



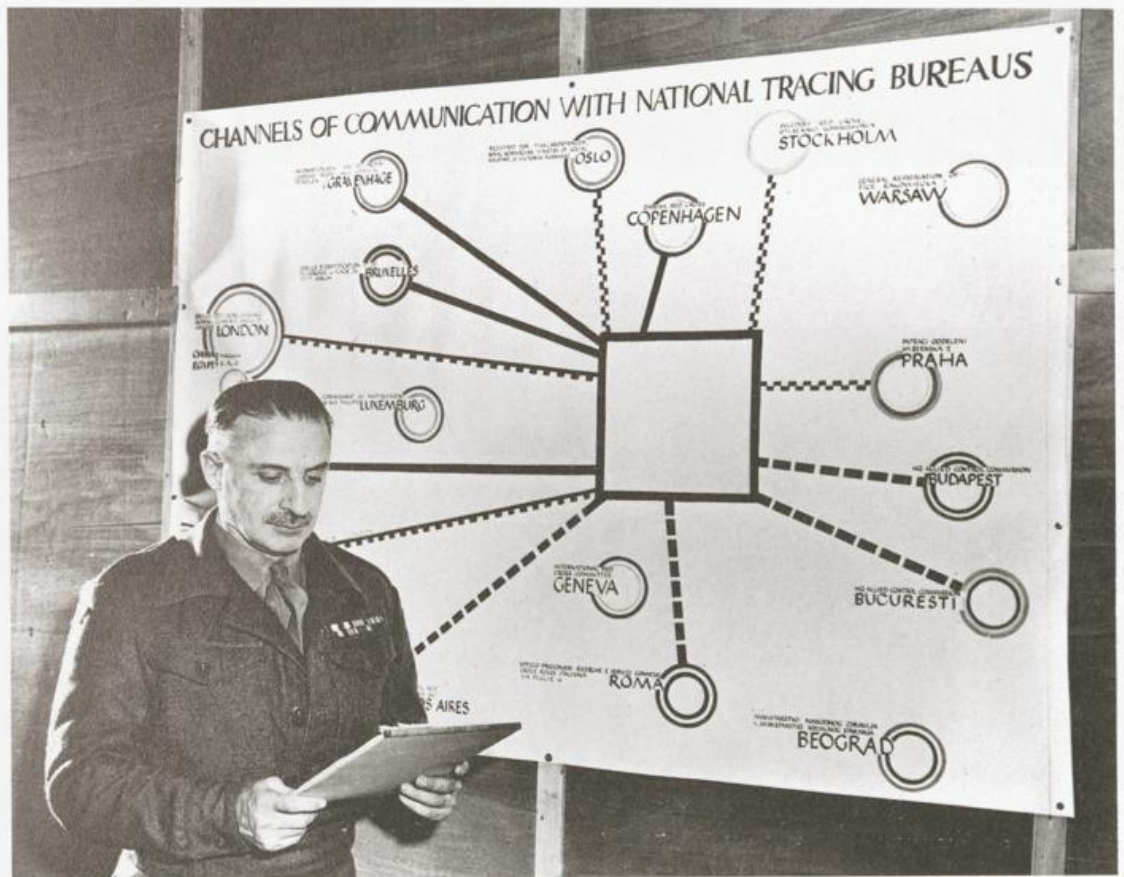
Buergenthal Family, Czechoslovakia, circa 1937

It was through the ITS that Buergenthal discovered his father's place of death: he died in January 1945 in Buchenwald concentration camp. For Buergenthal the *Arolsen Archives* are a "memorial of my father. There are no others, not even a marked gravestone in a cemetery."

# The *Central* *Tracing Bureau* (CTB)

In 1943 the Allies began developing a system for searching civilians from UN states who were missing and documents that would help clarify their fate.

This gave rise to the *Central Tracing Bureau* (CTB), run by the *United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration* (UNRRA). It was first located in Frankfurt-Höchst, then Arolsen from 1946. The Allies also ran bureaus in the individual occupation zones. These zonal bureaus handled inquiries and secured documents. The role of the CTB, in turn, was to coordinate the activities of the zonal tracing bureaus and many national tracing bureaus.



John R. Bowring, Head of the CTB, with an Overview of Communication Channels, Frankfurt-Höchst, 1945

The CTB worked with national tracing bureaus to collect documents about Nazi persecution and to handle individual inquiries. When the national tracing bureaus needed support, the CTB was able to assist in many cases through referral to its zonal tracing bureaus.



CTB Incoming Mail Room, Frankfurt-Höchst,  
November 19, 1945

In the months after the war, the number of search inquiries sent to the CTB continued to rise. Every day thousands of letters arrived. This photo shows CTB employees sorting the mail before individual cases were forwarded to be handled by other units.



CTB Employees Working on Individual Cases,  
Frankfurt-Höchst, circa 1945

Incoming information was recorded on index cards which were filed in a tracing index. Ideally, inquiries and existing information about a missing person would collide here in a *meeting of cards*. Many of the employees had been persecuted themselves. Their language skills were a pillar of the CTB.

Name:	<u>KRUPKA, Szlamek</u>	No.:	<u>84817</u>
Nee:		Nat:	<u>Polish/Jew</u>
B. D.:	<u>5.5.1908</u>	X Ref:	
B. P.:	<u>Lodz, Poland</u>		
Address:			
Occupation:			
Last news:	<u>Deported from Lodz, Poland, to the</u>		
Date:	<u>Auschwitz Concentration Camp.</u>		
Enquirer's name:	<u>Rosia Krupka-Birenbaum (Wife)</u>		
Address:	<u>c/o The British Red Cross Society,</u>		
Relation:	<u>29, Belgrave Square, London, S. W. 1.</u>		

Library

CHECKING REPORT.

Date 5.9.46

Name: KRUPKA SCHLAMA Registr. Nr. \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: POL/JEW Date of birth 5.5.08 Pl. of birth LODSCH

Last known Address LODSCH Date when known to be there \_\_\_\_\_

Camp DACHAU Prison No. 87570 Arrived 6.8.1944

Transferred to \_\_\_\_\_ On POL. PRISONER Liberated on FROM MUELDORF

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Cause of death \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Burial \_\_\_\_\_ Grave Number \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: LIBERATED AT MUELDORF

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Inquiry Card for Szlamek Krupka, circa 1946

After the war, Rosia Krupka-Birenbaum searched for her husband, Szlamek Krupka, a Polish Jew. She submitted a search inquiry to the Red Cross in London. Her case was forwarded to the CTB, where all the important basic information was recorded on the card shown here.

#### Checking Report for Szlamek Krupka, September 5, 1946

Based on the information submitted with the inquiry for Szlamek Krupka, the documents at the CTB were checked. The CTB determined that Krupka had last been imprisoned in Dachau concentration camp and was liberated in the Muehldorf subcamp at the end of the war. This was noted in the checking report.

CENTRAL TRACING BUREAU  
UNRRA  
APO 757 U.S. Army.

No. 84817

FILE : 584-CR-( 84817 )Z/P

SUBJECT: ENQUIRY CONCERNING DISPLACED PERSONS. 12 SEPT 1946

TO : District Tracing Office (Attn: Tracing Officer)  
UNRRA District Headquarters,  
WIESBADEN District.

ENQUIRY

1. NAME KRUPKA Birth- Birth- Nationality  
(surname) date place  
Szlamek 5.5.1908 Lodz Polish/Jew  
(Christian name)  
Others in  
family enquired  
for: None

2. LAST KNOWN ADDRESS MUHLDORF (Formerly Dachau and Auschwitz)  
Krupka's name is shown in the Dachau records held by this  
Bureau - arrived 6.8.1944, liberated at Muhl Dorf.  
Muhl Dorf. (UNRRA 4346)

3. REQUEST  
Information concerning whereabouts and welfare.

4. NAME OF ENQUIRER Krupka Birth- Birth- Nation-  
date place ality  
CHRISTIAN NAME Rosia 5.7.1918 Lodz Polish  
FORMER HOME ADDRESS Lodz  
PRESENT ADDRESS c/o The British Red Cross Society, 29 Belgrave  
Square, London, S.W.1.

5. Please send report to this office.

*W. J. ...*  
S. P. ...  
Colonel  
Director, Central Tracing Bureau

REPORT

ENQUIRY REC'D 19/9/46 FORW'D FOR ACTION TO:  
(date) Director of UNRRA Team 503 30 Sept. '46.

FOLLOWING REPORT REC'D FROM: DP. Camp ZEILSHEIM, c/o. UNRRA Team 503  
Person(s) enquired about are living at Good.  
Health and welfare conditions  
Repatriation status  
Other information  
Not located Information secured useful for  
tracing

(signed) *P. FELUSKI*  
1st Lt. Colonel  
WIESBADEN.

Form No. 1 (English)

- 8 -

## Tracing Form for Szlamek Krupka, September 12, 1946

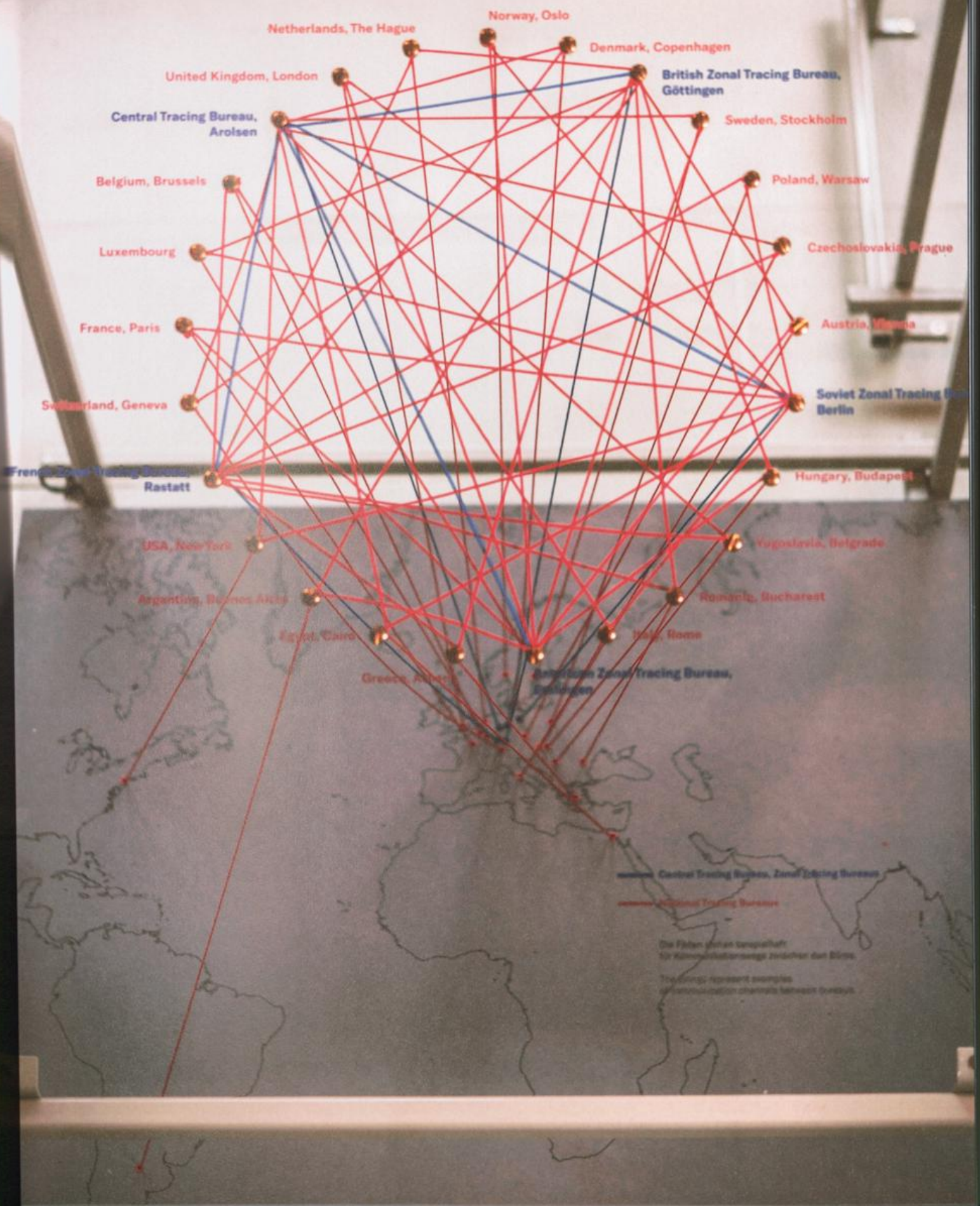
The CTB turned to the tracing bureau in the US zone and asked whether it knew Krupka's location and state of health. The answer was noted on the bottom half of this form: Szlamek Krupka was alive and well and living as a Displaced Person (DP) in a camp in Zeilsheim.



# Infographics

## Links between the *Central Tracing Bureau* (CTB) and the Zonal and National Tracing Bureaus

Despite its name, the CTB alone did not play a very central role. In many cases, its job was to circulate search inquiries. During this time, the zonal tracing bureaus were more active. They searched locally and worked directly with the national bureaus. The CTB was often not involved in this.



## The Founding of the *International Tracing Service (ITS)*

In 1947, UNRRA brought most of its work in Europe to an end. Tracing activities were taken over by its successor at the UN, the *International Refugee Organization* (IRO) based in Geneva. To consolidate the search for missing persons even more, the CTB became the *International Tracing Service* (ITS) in 1948. It brought together the three Western zonal tracing bureaus. This meant they were gradually dissolved in the following years, and most documents and employees were moved to Arolsen. The Soviet Union was not involved in the ITS, however, because conflict with the Western powers was intensifying.

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## Officials Confer On Future Of UNRRA CTB



UNRRA and Allied officials shown at a recent conference at the former UNRRA Central Headquarters, for the DP Operation in Germany, which was called to discuss plans for the future of UNRRA Central Tracing Bureau.

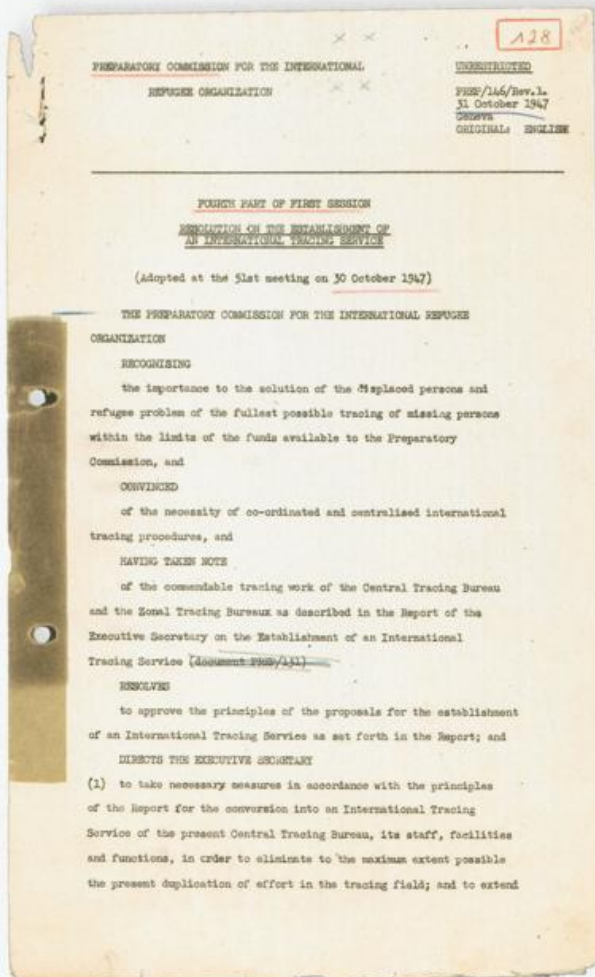
The group includes, reading around table, left to right: Miss Cecile Kautzman, chief of tracing division at CTB; Mrs. Schlesinger, of the British Red Cross search office, Goettap; Miss Warner, of British Red Cross foreign relations, London; Lt. Col. Robert W. F. Dawson, chief of UNRRA field operations, British zone; Miss Helen Montgomery, deputy chief of field operations, CIG; Carl H. Martin, director of field operations, CIG; Roman Flohr, director of CTB; Evelyn Mendosa, secretary to Mr. Flohr; Capt. Puzoska, Czechoslovak liaison officer; Col. Garnett, USPT chief liaison officer, UNRRA bureau of documents and tracing, U.S. zone; Royal D. McTeerick, director of the U.S. zone bureau of documents and tracing; Miss Martha Jellie, deputy director of U.S. zone bureau of documents and tracing; Miss Odette Desplaces, UNRRA repatriation officer, French zone; Miss Marjorie Dyck, child search officer, CIG; Miss Eileen Blackey, child welfare consultant, CIG; and Miss Joan Hastings Hungerford, chief of child tracing at CTB.

Also, at table in center, left to right: Lt. Col. Francisco Riverola, French liaison officer; Mrs. Zawislowska, Polish liaison officer; Maj. Marcel Willy Wolf, Belgian Red Cross officer; Capt. Armand Hüper, Luxembourg liaison officer; Miss Sheila Collins, chief of the record division at CTB; and Miss Dorothy Clarke, chief of mass tracing bureau, CTB.

UNRRA PI Photo By R. G. Berry

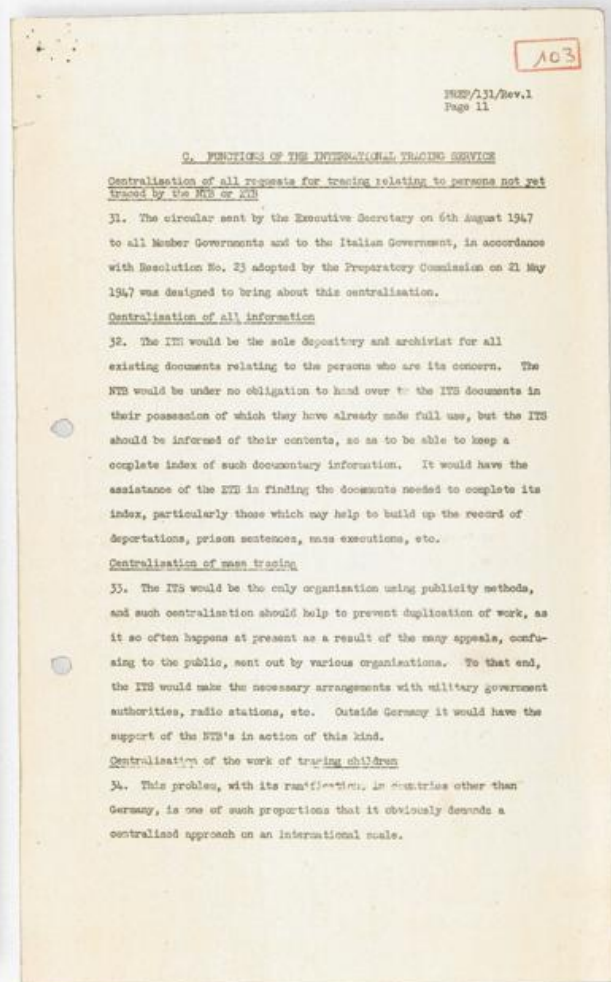
### Article about the Future of the CTB in the UNRRA Newsletter *Team News*, March 22, 1947

In spring 1947, the future of the CTB was uncertain. It was clear that UNRRA would stop running the tracing service. But the search for and documentation of missing persons was far from over. Therefore, representatives of UNRRA met with the national tracing bureaus to find a solution to the operation of the tracing service.



**Resolution on the Founding of the ITS,  
October 30, 1947**

The resolution on the founding of the ITS was passed just months before it officially began work at the start of 1948. The minutes shown here document the decisive meeting of the IRO, when it was acknowledged that the search for missing persons and the documentation of Nazi persecution had to be continued centrally.



**Excerpt from an Overview of the Reorganization of  
the ITS in Arolsen, November 6, 1947**

When the tracing service was reorganized, Maurice Thudicum of the *International Red Cross* in Geneva first acted as a consultant. In a memo on the institution's future structure, he recommended centralizing the ITS documents and processes in Arolsen for a more systematic approach to the tracing and documentation of missing persons.

