

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
RG-19.071

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Acc. 1995.A.116

Title: American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee records, 1945-1950

Extent: 1 box (4 folders, 96 documents)

Provenance: The records were originally copied for the Liberation exhibition at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Subsequently the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC) Archives donated the records to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives in December 1994.

Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on Use: No restrictions on use.

Languages: English, German, French, Yiddish

Preferred Citation: Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch, from American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Archives, AR3344.384¹

Organization and Arrangement: Chronologically arranged.

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of a document prepared by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 19, rue de Teheran, Paris 8e, between July 18 and Aug 2, 1939. The document is titled *Ms. St-Louis passengers and their distribution* containing a list of 907 passengers. The collection also consists of reports, memos, correspondence (letters and cables), news releases, minutes of meetings, summaries, and surveys related to assisting survivors; newly liberated displaced persons in camps in Germany (e.g. Landsberg, Bergen-Belsen, Heidelberg, Bremen, etc.), and in Austria (e.g. Neustadt, Villach, Linz, etc.); moving children to Switzerland; helping refugees (e.g. from Poland) to emigrate, repatriation issues, education of surviving children; the general situation in Germany and Austria; growing trends of anti-Semitism; and personnel and staff issues of AJDC.

¹ See the Dec 15, 1994 AJDC letter in the donor file.

Biographical/Historical Note: In 1914, the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) was formed to help needy Jews in Palestine and in war-torn Europe. After World War I, JDC helped local Jewish communities establish relief programs and new health and child care facilities in Poland and Russia. JDC also supported religious, cultural and educational institutions. In 1921, JDC began working through local agencies to make Jewish communities self-supporting. As Hitler consolidated power between 1933 and 1939, JDC accelerated its aid to German Jewry. JDC maintained thousands in hiding throughout the war. JDC supported refugee resettlement efforts in Latin America and organized a relief program in Shanghai for more than 20,000 refugees. After Pearl Harbor, JDC channeled aid to Jews in occupied Europe and Shanghai through connections its Swiss office had established with neutral embassies and the International Red Cross. Late in 1944, JDC entered Europe's liberated areas and organized a massive relief effort. By the end of 1947, some 700,000 Jews received aid from JDC. More than 250,000 of them lived in Displaced Persons (DP) camps operated by JDC. JDC's retraining programs helped people in DP camps learn trades that would enable them to earn a living, while its cultural and religious activities helped re-establish Jewish life.

Inventory:

Folder 1

"MS. St-Louis passengers and their distribution"

List of passengers. The list contains order number (1-907), the respective passenger's name (from Aberbach, Adolf through Zweigenthal, Fritz), year of birth, age, country of current residence. The list was prepared by American Joint Distribution Committee [AJDC], 19, rue de Teheran, Paris 8e, between July 18, and Aug 2, 1939.

28 pages of photocopies

Folder 2

1945

1. ² AR 4564/393

[ICRC's report re: Apr 18-19, 1945 visit to the Landsberg camp]

² The description of each individual document contains its AJDC Archives (711 Third Avenue, New York, NY) number, if available, e.g. AR 4564/392 (meaning AR[chives] [No.] 4564 / [of file] 392); serial numbers if any (e.g. on No. 50 "N.Y.161", or No. 53/A "Memo # 261") title or brief description of the document, date of creation of the document, if not in English, language of the document, and its extent, marked with the letter P if paginated, and marked with the letters NP if not paginated. Lack of archives number is noted by "0 AR#" marking. The description might also contain reference to other documents, e.g. documents no. 8 and 27 are related.

Apr 24, 1945
French, 2 pages, P

2. 0 AR #
[ICRC's memo re: Landsberg camp]
Apr 29, 1945
French, 2 pages, P

3. AR 4564/393
[ICRC's letter to Saly Mayer re: ICRC visit to the Landsberg camp]
May 1, 1945
French, 2 pages, P

4. AR 4564/393
[Memos to Moses A. Leavitt, Secretary of AJDC re: moving children from Buchenwald to Switzerland]
Apr 14-May 2, 1945
4 pages, NP

5. 0 AR #
[ICRC's memo re: Landsberg camp]
May 4, 1945
French, 1 page

6. AR 4564/393
[Cable from Paul Baerwald to Leverett Saltonstall requesting to address delegates at Pittsburgh meeting]
May 14, 1945
1 page

7. AR 4564/393
[Letter re: problems of DPs]
May 15, 1945
1 page

8. AR 4564/393
[Letter by Moses A. Leavitt to James Brunot re: staff issues]
May 15, 1945
1 page
See No. 27

9. AR 4564/393
[Cable from Joseph Schwartz to Moses Leavitt re: staff issues]
May 15, 1945

1 page

10. 0 AR #

[ICRC's letter to Saly Mayer re: ICRC visit to the Landsberg camp]

May 15, 1945

French, 1 page

11. AR 4564/393

[Cable from Joseph Schwartz to Moses Leavitt re: staff issues]

May 16, 1945

1 page

12. AR 4564/393

[Cable from S. Levine to JDC re: Bergen-Belsen camp]

May 16, 1945

1 page

13. AR 4564/393

[Cable from Donald B. Hurwitz to S. Levine re: assistance to survivors]

May 17, 1945

1 page

14. AR 5464/393

[Letter requesting help for a sick person]

May 25, 1945

1 page

15. AR 4564/393

[Report concerning DPs in the Garmisch-Uffing-Munich-Dachau-Landsberg-Memmingen region]

June 4, 1945

French, 15 pages, P

16. AR 4564/393

[Cable from Arthur Greenleigh to Moses Leavitt re: staff issues]

June 13, 1945

1 page

17. 0 AR #

[Cable from Moses Leavitt to Jacob Lightman, Buenos Aires, re: employment of stateless persons]

June 14, 1945

1 page

18. AR 4564/393
[Cable from Arthur Greenleigh to Moses Leavitt re: staff issues]
June 16, 1945
1 page
19. AR 4564/393
[Cable from Moses Leavitt to Jacob Lightman re: staff issues]
June 18, 1945
1 page
20. AR 4556/161
[Letter by the International Jewish Committee Camp Mauthausen to the Alliance of Jewish Communities in Switzerland]
June 19, 1945
German, 1 page
21. AR 4564/393
[ICRC] Special report about the situation of Jewish refugees in "Displaced Persons Centers" in Austria and Germany
June 20, 1945
4 pages, NP
22. AR 4564/393
[AJDC's news release] Relief teams prepared to enter concentration camps to aid surviving Jews
June 21, 1945
4 pages, P
23. AR 4564/393
[Cable from Paris to Joseph Schwartz, NYC re: situation in Germany]
June 27, 1945
1 page
24. AR 4564/393
Concentration of Jews in Germany and Austria
[June-July, 1945]
5 pages, NP
25. 0 AR #
[AJDC's news release] Harry Viteles heads J.D.C. mission into Germany
July 2, [1945]
2 pages, P
26. 0 AR #

Relief inside Germany [Memo initialed by D.B.H.]

July 3, 1945

1 page

27. 0 AR #

[Letter by James Brunot, Executive Director of The President's War Relief Control Board to Moses A. Leavitt, Secretary of AJDC]

July 3, 1945

1 page

See No. 8

28. AR 4564/393

[Memo re: distribution of food through Jewish U.S. Army chaplains]

July 11, 1945

German, 1 page

29. 0 AR #

[ICRC's letter to Saly Mayer re: Jewish survivors in Austria and Bavaria]

July 12, 1945

French, 1 page

30. 0 AR #

[ICRC's letter to Saly Mayer re: repatriation from the Landsberg camp]

July 13, 1945

French, 1 page

31. AR 4564/393

[Cover letter from World Jewish Congress and report by survivors, at that time living in Straubing]

June 18-July 20, 1945

3 pages, NP

32. 0 AR #

[Jewish survivors report: Documents of Nazi guilt. No. 3, Theresienstadt... by Max E. Mannheimer]

July 1945

11 pages P

33. AR 4564/395

[Letter by Maurice Eigen, AJDC, Belsen Camp to Don [?] re: concentration camp Bergen-Belsen]

Aug 7, 1945

4 pages, P

2 different copies

34. AR 4564/392
[Letter of Dr. Revel, UNRRA Team 268, Neustadt to Joseph (?) re: situation of liberated Jews in DP camps]
Aug 9, 1945
German, 3 pages, P
35. AR 4564/392
[Letter by ICRC official in Geneva to Saly Mayer, AJDC, St. Gall[en?] re: Jewish DPs in the Lübeck region]
Aug 13, 1945
French, 2 pages, P
36. AR 4564/392
[Letter by Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Vice-Chairman of AJDC re: AJDC's activity in Europe]
Aug 24, 1945
3 pages, P
37. AR 4564/392
[Maurice Eigen's Aug 31, 1945 report on the Bergen-Belsen camp]
Aug 31, 1945
8 pages, P
Nos. 35. and 36. are different copies of the same text.
38. AR 4564/392
[Judah Nadich's] Report on conditions in assembly centers for Jewish displaced persons
[Aug-Sep 1945]
5 pages, P
39. AR 4564/392
[Acknowledgement of No. 35]
Sep 5, 1945
German, 1 page
40. AR 4564/392
[Report on the situation of Jewish DPs in and around Lübeck, Germany]
Sep 5, 1945
German and English, 8 pages P/NP
41. AR 4564/161
AJDC NY Headquarters, Displaced Persons Division
Report concerning: Visit to Volkendorf Camp, Villach
Sep 8, 1945
2 pages, P

42. 0 AR#
AJDC NY Headquarters, Displaced Persons Division
[Minutes of] Meeting of the Jewish Aid Committee, Salzburg
Sep 12, 1945
3 pages, P
43. AR 4564/395
[Cover letter and Maurice Eigen's Aug 31, 1945 report on the Bergen-Belsen camp]
Sep 12, 1945
1+6 pages, P
Nos. 37. and 43. are different copies of the same text.
44. 0 AR #
[Letter by Philipp Auerbach former US appointed chief administrator of the Buchenwald camp, to Herbert H. Lehmann, President of UNRRA]
Sep 14, 1945
1 page
45. AR 4564/161
[James P Rice's (JDC) report on DP camps in] Steiermark and Upper-Austria
Oct 4, 1945
19 pages, P
46. AR 4564/161
[James P Rice's (JDC)] Report of developments in the American zone [concerning Jewish DPs]: October 1-11 [1945][And correspondence]
Oct 14, 1945
1+1+11 pages, NP/P
47. AR 4564/392
Report on J.D.C. activities – Westen military district
Aug 1-Oct 15, 1945
“Enclosure – Paris Memo #863 – Oct. 31, 1945.” [?]
14 pages (paginated = P)
48. AR 4561/406
Report of preliminary work for educational program of JDC among displaced Jews in Germany and Austria, Sept. 18-Oct. 25, 1945
Oct 31, 1945
2 pages, P
49. AR 4564/395
[Letter by J. Rosensaft, Chairman of Central Jewish Committee, Bergen-Belsen to AJDC]

Nov 17, 1945

2 pages, NP

50. AR 4564/392 N.Y. 161

Report by Dr. J. M. Shapiro on Jewish communities, outside of camps, in the Western district of the United States zone, October 25-November 12, 1945

[Nov-Dec, 1945]

6 pages, P

51. AR 4556/406 N.Y. # 211

Report of the educational director of the AJDC in Germany and Austria for November 1945

Dec 1, 1945

5 pages, P

52. AR 4564/392

Rabbi Alexander Rosenberg's report on visits to DP camps in Germany

Dec 4, 1945

2 pages, NP

53. AR 4564/392

[Union O.S.E. (Geneva, Switzerland) requests immediate action helping DPs in Germany]

Dec 11, 1945

German

4 pages, NP

53/A AR 4565/392 Memo. # 261

[AJDC's cover letter and list of communities in the 7th Army area. Includes statistical data]

Dec 17, 1945

1+2 pages, P

54. AR 4564/392

Paris Memo No. 1114

Summary of recent reports from JDC representatives in Germany [concerning DPs in Germany]

Dec 18, 1945

7 pages, P

55. AR 4564/406 N.Y. #283

Education report for Zeilsheim of Koppel S. Pinson

Dec 24, 1945

9 pages, P

56. 0 AR # Report # 195
Paris memorandum No. 1130
Dec 31, 1945
Attached Dec 5, 1945 Memo from Hans Lamm re: Projected plan of activities in Munich area
2 pages NP
See No. 58.

57. AR 4564/392 N.Y. # 238
[AJDC's cover letter and statistical information re: DP camps in the Eastern Military District, Munich and its vicinity]
Dec 31, 1945
1+4 pages, P

58. AR 4564/449 Report # 195 Paris memorandum No. 1130
Dec 31, 1945
[Attached Dec 5, 1945 Memo from Hans Lamm re: Projected plan of activities in Munich area. Includes office stamp and initials of readers.]
3 pages, NP
See No. 56.

Folder 3

1946

59. AR 4564/406 N.Y. 225
Report of education survey – American zone, Third Army Area, Germany, December 26, 1945 – January 5, 1946
[Report received] Jan 22, 1946
6 pages, P
See No. 60. The two versions are different.

60. AR 4564/406 N.Y. # 292
Report of education survey – American zone, Third Army Area, Germany, December 26, 1945 – January 5, 1946
[Report received] March 19, 1946
16 pages, P
See No. 59. The two versions are different.

61. 0 AR # N.Y. #265
Report on conference of JDC representatives in the American zone, January 28 and Jnuary 29, 1946
Feb 8, 1946
10 pages, P

62. 0 AR #
[Cable from the Paris office re: currency devaluation]
Feb 10, 1946
1 page
63. 0 AR #
Report on A.J.D.C. activities in Heidelberg area, [from] November 1945 to January 1946
Feb 11, 1946
14+4 pages P/NP
64. AR 4564/391 Report No. 324
Survey of conditions of Jews in March 1946 [in the] British zone of Germany
Apr 2, 1946
20 pages, P [One or more pages are missing]
65. AR 4564/391
[Klausner's report on the German police killing a surviving Jew on April 8, 1946 in
Stuttgart]
Apr 8, 1946
2 pages
66. AR 4564/391 Report No. 329
Letter from D. B. Wodlinger, Director British Zone [in Germany] describing current
situation [of DPs]
May 2, 1946
3 pages, P
67. AR 4564/391
"From personal files"
[From Herbert A. Fierst; Memo re: Conference with key Jewish leaders on subject of
policy as to future Entry ... into U.S zones of Germany and Austria, 8 May 1946]
After May 8, 1946
1+4 pages P
68. AR 4564/395 Report No. 341
Report on Bergen Belsen by Shlome Michael Gelber
June 28, 1946
6 pages, P
69. 0 AR #
[Correspondence of Erwin Dallo, Edward M. Warburg, and Maurice Eigen re:
Übergangslager oder Auswanderingslager Bremen]
Aug 21-26, 1946

4 pages, NP

70. AR 4564/411

Report on emigration activities: Districts III and V for August 1946 [Includes 2 pieces of correspondence]

Aug 1946

1+10+2 pages NP/P

71. 0 AR #

Report # 366

Memoranda [re:] Jewish population in Austria

Sep 11, 1946

7 pages, P

72. AR 4564/390

[Letter from the Central Committee of the Liberated Jews in the British Zone, Bergen-Belsen to AJDC, NYC]

Sep 18, 1946

1 page

73. AR 4564/390 Report # 374

Report on the activities of the AJDC in the British zone, Germany, [from] December 8, 1945 to September 20, 1946

Sep 20, 1946

14 pages, P

74. AR 4564/309

Oscar A. Mintzer, The legal situation of Jewish DP's [sic] in the American zone, Germany

Sep 23, 1946

6 pages, P

75. AR 4564/390

Report on the influx of Jews into U.S. zone of occupation in Germany in August, 1946.

Annex A: Transports of Jewish refugees from Poland arriving in the U.S. zone of Germany from

August 12 to August 31, 1946; Annex B: Existing [and] newly-established UNRRA camps

Sep 1946

7 pages NP

Might be part of No. 70.

76. 0 AR # Report No. 384

Report of Harold Nordlicht, J.D.C. representative in Linz, Austria – May to September, 1946

Oct 8, 1946

5 pages, P

77. 0 AR #

[Letter from AJDC, Paris (Joseph Schwartz) to Moses A. Leavitt, AJDC, NYC, re: situation of DPs in Germany]

Nov 9, 1946

7 pages, P

78. AR 4564/390

Summary report on infiltrate movement of Jews to U.S. zone of occupation in Germany from June 1946 to November 15, 1946

Nov 18, 1946

13 pages, P

79. 0 AR # Report No. 386

Report of Salzburg [Austria] area, Feb. 1946- Dec. 1946

Dec 10, 1946

11 pages, P

80. 0 AR #

[Minutes of AJDC meeting]

Dec 17, 1946

Yiddish written in Latin letters, 1 page

Folder 4

1947

81. AR 4564/447

Report on conditions at the Bremen immigrant staging area

Jan 7, 1947

3 pages, P

82. AR 4564/389

[General analysis of the Jewish DP program in the US zone of occupation, Germany]

Jan 13, 1947

2+17 pages P

83. 0 AR #

[Cover letter and] An evaluation of the AJDC program in the American occupied zone of Germany, from its inception to January 1947, by Boris Pliskin, Leon Retter and Samuel Shlomowitz.

Jan 28-Feb 4, 1947

1+9 pages, P

84. 0 AR #
Report # 396
January report-abstract [Statistical data re: DPs in Germany]
"Feb 15, 1946?" [Typo! In fact 1947]
13 pages, P
85. AR 4564/389
[Norbert Wollheim's letter to Josef Schwartz re: general issues]
March 7, 1947
German, 2 pages
86. 0 AR #
[From Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British Zone, Bergen-Belsen, letter to Edward M. Warburg re: Norbert Wollheim's trip to the U.S.]
March 7, 1947
3 pages, P
87. AR 4564/389
[Norbert Wollheim to Edward M. Warburg re: situation of European Jews]
Apr 3, 1947
German, 2 pages, P
88. AR 4564/389
[Norbert Wollheim's letter to Kurt Baum, WJC re: publication of a periodical]
Apr 3, 1947
German, 1 page
89. AR 4564/449
[From Paris office of AJDC re: Report for Council of Voluntary Agencies]
June 10, 1947
9 pages NP
90. AR 4864/853 HQ/DD/1564
[Minutes of conference of Executive staff, AJDC Italy]
Dec 12, 1947
1+12 pages P
- 1948
91. AR 4564/386

[Cover letter 8/26/48; Memo from Herman D. Stein re: 8/4-18/48 field trip in US zone, Germany; Addendum 8/25/48; 6/15-24/48 field trip; Report on Germany by Kurt R. Grossman, 9/5/48
June 15-Sep 5, 1948
29 pages NP

92. AR 4564/447
[AJDC NY to AJDC Munich] Re: Self-help [in the Heidelberg area]
Dec 7, 1948
1 page

93. AR 4564/386
[Situation report re: DP problems, current problems, re-evaluation of policy. Submitted by William Haber, Adviser of Jewish Affairs to the Commander in Chief, HQ European Command]
Dec 20, 1948
2+29 pages P

94. AR 4564/164
[Memo from Harold Trobe, Vienna re: number of refugee families in Austria]
Nov 30, 1950
3 pages P

95. AR 4556/161
Bericht über die Lage der Juden in Linz und Umgebung
N.D.
No reference to it in surrounding documents.
German, 2 pages, NP

96. 0 AR #
[Conversation with German Authorities approx. 10 days ago [?]
N.D.
German
3 pages P

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