

**GEHEIME STAATSPOLIZEI (GESTAPO).
SELECTED RECORDS, FRANCE, 1940-1944
1998.A.0099, RG-43.140M**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo). Selected records, France.

Dates: 1940-1944.

Accession number: 1998.A.0099, RG-43.140M.

Creator: Germany. --Geheime Staatspolizei.

Extent: 10 microfilm reels.

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW,
Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The collection contains the records of the Gestapo's department of Jewish affairs in France with regard to the persecution, internment, and deportation of Jews there as well as its relations with the Italian authorities on these subjects.

Languages: German, French, Italian.

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but may be stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo). Selected records, France, RG-43.140M, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Microfilm copies obtained from the Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine (CDJC) of the Mémorial de la Shoah, 1998.

Custodial history:

A large number of SS records were acquired by the CDJC in the early post-war period. Part of the collection originated in the archives of the Italian consulate in Paris, which were likely seized by the Gestapo between the Italian surrender and the liberation of France.

In early 1956, the collection was filmed in a joint project between the CDJC and Yad Vashem. In 1998, a microfilm reproduction of the CDJC copy of the film was made for USHMM.

Reel 10 may not have been included in the Yad Vashem project but introduced from another source.

Existence and location of originals:

Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine
Mémorial de la Shoah
17, rue Geoffroy l'Asnier
75004 Paris
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www.memorialdelashoah.org

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: Joel Horowitz, January 2014.

Administrative history

The Gestapo (*Geheime Staatspolizei*) was a subdivision of the SiPo (*Sicherheitspolizei*) within the SS police system, the RSHA (*Reichssicherheitshauptamt*). To resolve jurisdictional problems with the SD and other departments, a single Jewish affairs office for the RSHA was created under the Gestapo. This Gestapo office of Jewish affairs was formally classified as Amt IV B 4, but was known as the *Judenreferat*. Under the leadership of Adolf Eichmann, it played a central role in the final solution through the organization and coordination of deportations and other anti-Jewish measures.

The highest authority of the Gestapo in France during the first years of the occupation was Helmut Knochen, the Commander of the SiPo and the SD in France (*Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei und des SD*) or "BdS-Frankreich." That changed in June 1942, when Carl Obert became Knochen's superior upon assuming the new post of Senior SS and Police Leader (*Hoherer SS- und Polizeiführer*) or "HSSuPF" for France.

Knochen appointed Theodor Dannecker head of Amt IV J, which functioned as a branch office of the *Judenreferat* in Berlin. Dannecker held that position until July 1942, when he was replaced by his deputy, Heinz Röthke. Roundups of Jews began in May 1941, and alongside the commencement of large-scale deportations began occurring on a much larger scale during the spring and summer of the following year.

During the occupation, the status of Italian Jews in France and Jews in Italian occupied France generally, were a source of conflict between Italy and the German and French authorities. Italy was chiefly represented through its consul in Paris, Gustavo Orlandini. Orlandini had served as vice consul

from 1936 until the declaration of war in 1940. He returned as Consul after the armistice later that year and remained until the Italian surrender in Sept. 1943. His vice consuls included Giovanni Lucioli (Aug. 1941-Jun. 1942) and thereafter Cesare Pasquinelli. In January 1942, Italy also received permission from Vichy to reopen its embassy with Gino Buti as ambassador.

After the occupation of Southeastern France by Italian forces in November 1942, Germany was also in conflict with Italian military authorities opposed to deportations. In February 1943, the Germans demanded that all Jews be deported or repatriated to Italy, only to agree to a succession of delays through to the Italian surrender in September. In March 1943, the German government succeeded in having the issue put in the hands of the Italian "racial police" under Guido Lospinoso, only to find him as uncooperative as his military counterparts.

Scope and content of collection

A large part of the collection documents the role of the Gestapo, through Amt IV J and Amt IV B 4 (the *Judenreferat*), in the development of German deportation policy from July 1941 to December 1943, including a lengthy situation report by Dannecker from the start of this period.

Some of the 1941 documents relate to the *Judenreferat's* original role in emigration, but later subjects include the efforts of Gauleiters to deport Jews to France and ultimately the commencement of large-scale internments in French camps, and deportations for compulsory labor and "to the east." Also discussed are issues surrounding the exemption or possible exemption of certain categories of Jews, French collaboration, and the reactions of the French public and resistance. Several lists of names of deportees are also included.

The collection also covers the efforts of the Gestapo to have Jews arrested or made subject to deportation between 1942 and 1944. This includes correspondence detailing the planning and implementation of the May 5th 1942 ordinance requiring Jews in the occupied zone to wear the Yellow Star and public reactions both before and after it went into effect on June 7th as well as efforts in 1943 to procure French legislation denaturalizing all Jews naturalized since 1927 for subsequent deportation.

The collection also has case files on individuals investigated or arrested for specific reasons as well as correspondence from the French police, Gestapo, German embassy, and foreign governments documenting German policy towards Romanian, Swedish and Italian Jews and Jews in France generally that were in partially or wholly protected categories as well as reports on individual Jews and lists of names from each one. There are also lists of foreign, arrested, and deported Jews from outside the Paris region.

The collection also holds some detailed but patchy records of aryanizations undertaken in France. A registry of aryanizations in Paris covering the duration of the occupation that was apparently prepared for the French Ministry of Finance records the name and location of each enterprise as well as its date of identification and aryanization and in some cases to person to whom it was sold. There is also a book recording property seizures in Marseilles in 1943 and 1944 after the occupation of the Southern Zone.

Another large group of documents concerns German-Italian relations regarding the Jewish Question. Much of this material came originally from the records of the Italian consulate in Paris and includes its correspondence for almost the entire occupation. These records, primarily in Italian apart

from a long and barely legible report from the foreign ministry translated into French, document the evolution of Italian policy towards Italian and other Jews in France.

These initially focused on gaining exemptions from anti-Jewish measures, and attempts to gain Italian permission for repatriation. From 1942, concessions were made on persecution and efforts focused on preventing deportations. The documents also cover the period during which Italy occupied parts of Southern France.

The collection also contains materials on the same subjects from German and French sources, but these are more limited due to the dearth of German diplomatic records in the collection. They include files of correspondence between the Gestapo and the German embassy on the issue of Italian Jews in France, German and post-war French documents on arrests of Jews in the Southern Zone, and documents on Jewish Affairs in the Italian Zone prior to its occupation by Germany in late 1943.

System of arrangement

The arrangement of the collection is thematic. Groups of documents are typically arranged in chronological order with some errors (see below), the major exception to this being Cote XLVI-XLVIIa, which is arranged alphabetically.

A number of errors were made during the original filming of the collection and should be kept in mind. In Cote XXVa on Reel 1, numbers 162-206 were filmed after numbers 207-248 in the middle of the file on policy towards Italian Jews.

In Cote XLVIII on reel 7, no.28 was filmed twice, once at the start of the reel before no.1 and again at the end of the reel where it belongs. Additionally, Cote XLVIIIa on Reel 8 was filmed out of order, beginning with the second part of no. 1, the first part of which is in the middle of the reel.

It should also be noted that XXVa 1-119 and XXVc 250 appear to be either missing or not included in the collection.

Indexing terms

Germany.--Geheime Staatspolizei
France--History--German occupation, 1940-1945
Jews--Persecutions--France.
World War, 1939-1945--Deportations from France.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Cote	No.	Description	Date
1	XXVa		Jews in France	Apr. 1942-Mar. 1944
1	XXVa	120-150	Romanian Jews in France	Apr. 1943-Mar. 1944
1	XXVa	151-161a	Swedish Jews in France	Mar.-Aug. 1943
1	XXVa	207-248	Italian Jews in France and Jews in the Italian Zone	Aug. 1942-Sep. 1943
1	XXVa	162-206	Jews in France	Jun. 1942-Feb. 1944

1	XXVa	249-340	Italian Jews in France and Jews in the Italian Zone	Sep. 1942-Jan. 1944
2				
2	XXVb	1-169	Internments and Deportations of Jews	Sep. 1941-Sep. 1942
3				
3	XXVc	170-249	Internments and Deportations of Jews (cont.)	Sep. 1942-Dec. 1943
3	XXVc	251	Book Recording Property Seized by the SD in Marsailles	Jun. 1943-Aug. 1944
3	XXVc	252-254	Lists of Foreign, Arrested, and Deported Jews	Oct. 1942-Jul. 1944
4				
4	XXVI	2-80	Deportations	Jul. 1941-Dec. 1943
4	XXVI	1	Report of Theodor Dannecker "Jewish Questions in France and their Handling"	1 Jul. 1941
4	XXVII	1-52	The Denaturalization of the Jews	Apr.-Oct. 1943
5				
5	XLVI	A-J	Individual Cases A-Z	1943-1944
6				
6	XLVIa	K-Z	Individual Cases A-Z (cont.)	1943-1944
7				
7	XLVIII	28	Italian Jews in France, Correspondence of the Italian Consul General in Paris	Oct. 1940-Dec. 1942
7	XLVIII	1-26	Italian Jews in France, Correspondence of the Italian Consul General in Paris	Jul.-Oct. 1941
7	XLVIII	27	Report of the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs Concerning the Actions of the Italian Government Relating to Italian Jews in France and Foreign Jews in Italy	
7	XLVIII	28	Italian Jews in France, Correspondence of the Italian Consul General in Paris	Oct. 1940-Dec. 1942
8				
8	XLVIIIa	1 (Cont.)	Italian Jews in France, Correspondence of the Italian Consul General in Paris (cont.)	May 1943-Aug. 1944
8	XLVIIIa	2-7, 31	Reports Concerning the Arrest of Jews in the Southern Zone	1942-1946
8	XLVIIIa	1	Italian Jews in France, Correspondence of the Italian Consul General in Paris	Jan.-May 1943
8	XLVIIIa	8-30	Jewish Affairs in the Italian Zone (Italian Jewish Measures in Newly Occupied Territories)	Dec. 1942-Sep. 1943
9				
9	XLIX	1-76	Deportation of the Jews	Mar. 1942-Dec. 1943
9	XLIXa	1-114	The Yellow Star	Mar.-Sep. 1942
10				
10			Finance Ministry: Files on Jewish Enterprises	1940-1944