

DOCUMENTS

Searching for Lost Archives

New documentation on the pillage of trade union archives and libraries by the Deutsche Arbeitsfront (1938–1941) and on the fate of trade union documents in the postwar era

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INTRODUCTION

Since late 1989 and early 1990, conditions have greatly improved for reconstructing the fate of missing documents from the era of fascist rule over Europe. This has come about in the aftermath of political change in the GDR, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, with regards to archival policy there. It has also been due to the fact that US documents have recently become available pertaining to the confiscation of material from Nazi organizations in the initial postwar years. In the forefront of historical and political interest are – understandably – those sensational finds which either close important gaps in knowledge, or, as in a few cases, once again question the findings of research that had been considered completed. Examples of the latter include the discovery of the archives of Office VII of the RSHA, Reich Security Headquarters (Research and Evaluation), and the files from the supervisor of building works at the concentration camp at Auschwitz which are located in the Moscow Special Archive.¹ No less important are the numerous, newly identified fragments of former collections, which also promise to advance research significantly once they have been carefully compiled with known archival remains.

Among the documents falling into this second category are all of the file fragments and library remnants now known to exist that pertain to the realm of labour and social policy of the Nazi dictatorship both in Germany and the occupied countries. Of particular interest are the recent revelations dealing with the main collection of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront (namely, the Central Archive and Central Library of the DAF's Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut); it was indeed a compilation of the widely pillaged archives and libraries of the entire European labour movement. Most of these archives and libraries are believed to be lost still today. The new material being presented here on the DAF pillages and the later

¹ Special Archive of Moscow, collection 500 (Reichssicherheitshauptamt), collection 502 (Zentralbauleitung der SS im KL Auschwitz), ca. 3000, specifically 2370 files.

whereabouts of books and archival papers should be considered as a direct continuation of the documents published on the topic in issue 2/1989.² Not addressed here is the topic of the confiscation of German labour movement documents prior to the raids in the occupied territories. Let it simply be noted that the RSHA special collection of the SED Central Party Archive at the Institute for Marxism–Leninism (now the Institute for the History of the Labour Movement, Berlin) helps considerably to clarify this issue.³ This collection has been made accessible recently. Until mid-1937, the documents of the crushed German trade unions were a bone of contention with the security forces apparatus, and were confiscated and analysed exclusively for purposes of repression.⁴ Not until the DAF treasury finally took over the confiscated trade union finances, starting in the summer of 1937, did the more general interests in the documentary plunder that had been accumulated by then prevail. This was due in good part to the confrontation between the DAF bureaucracy and the compensation claims of several hundred former trade union secretaries.⁵ It was under these circumstances that the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF finally was in a position to step in, following a two-year effort by the institute to compile the documents and libraries of the disbanded labour organizations along social science and sociopolitical guidelines.⁶

This conflict over competency between the relatively narrow interests of repression and the long-term ones of power and social engineering was to repeat itself as Nazi Germany invaded its neighbours, one after another. When the Wehrmacht and the SS marched into Austria in March 1938, special units of the Gestapo and SS Security Service (Sicherheitsdienst, henceforth: SD) seized the archives and libraries of the trade union federation and its workers' chambers. On the one hand, the security police's interest in examining this material was to gain insight into the nature of the federation's labour and social policy. On the other hand, this scrutiny of the booty served to still the craving for seizing special trophies from

² Karl Heinz Roth, "Searching for Lost Archives. The Role of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront in the Pillage of West European Trade Union Archives", *IRSH*, 34 (1989), pp. 272–286.

³ The collections referred to are RSHA P St. 3 and RSHA St. 3, which have become available since 1990 in the Bundesarchiv at Potsdam under the collection signatures 17.01 RSHA P St. 3 and St. 3.

⁴ Contestants for the archival booty were the Deutsche Arbeitsfront's secret service "Amt Information", the Gestapo-Amt (Gestapa), and the headquarters of the SD; see Bundesarchiv at Koblenz (henceforth: BAK), NS 22/vorl. 268 and vorl. 659, R58/80, 349, 447 and 764; Bundesarchiv at Potsdam (henceforth: BAP), 62.01 DAF Zentralbüro, no. 88, 17.01 RSHA P St. 3, no. 476/4.

⁵ These events are described in BAP, 62.01 DAF Zentralbüro, no. 88, sheets 70f.; concerning the takeover of the confiscated trade union property by the DAF, see in addition Beate Dapper and Hans-Peter Rouette, "Zum Ermittlungsverfahren gegen Leipart und Genossen wegen Untreue vom 9. Mai 1933", *IWK*, 20 (1984), 4, pp. 509–533.

⁶ Karl Heinz Roth, "Klios rabiate Hilfstruppen. Archivare und Archivpolitik im deutschen Faschismus", *Archivmitteilungen, Zeitschrift für Archivwesen, archivalische Quellenkunde und historische Hilfswissenschaften*, 41 (1991) 1, pp. 1–10, here pp. 2f.

the Austrian Marxist labour movement, a movement which had itself been sidelined within the “ständestaatlichen” corporations. In late April 1938, the libraries of Pernerstorfer, Adler and Winarsky, which had been set up in separate rooms of the Workers’ Chamber of Vienna, were shipped to Berlin.⁷ The special task force of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut in Vienna was not able to take any action until after the workers’ chambers and trade unions had been disbanded on 10 June 1938, and their property turned over to the DAF.⁸ In his capacity as DAF representative of the Reich Commissar for the Reunification of Austria with the German Reich, Theodor Hupfauer assigned on 25 July the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut with the responsibility of taking over and managing all of the social statistical facilities, libraries and collections belonging to the disbanded unions and workers’ chambers.⁹ In the weeks both preceding and succeeding this, there evolved a strong tug-of-war with Odilo Globocnik, the Viennese NSDAP Gau leader who repeatedly tried to block particularly the transfer of the Workers’ Chamber library to the Central Library of the DAF in Berlin.¹⁰ The conflict ended in Berlin’s favour when Reich Commissar Josef Bürckel, a close ally of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut,¹¹ ousted Globocnik in early February 1939.¹² By the spring of 1939, the Gestapo and SD headquarters were also forced to surrender the majority of their trade union booty to the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, chiefly because the primacy of security interests in these documents could no longer be sustained against the legally uncontested DAF claim to ownership once annexed Austria had become politically stabilized.¹³

By the time the French Republic capitulated to the Wehrmacht over two years later, the conflict which had again become so obvious in the case of Austria between those interested in the material as a means of

⁷ See Doc. no. 2.

⁸ Manfred Sterling, “Aufbau und Wandel der Organisationsstrukturen der Arbeiterkammern von 1920 bis 1938”, Ph.D. Thesis, Vienna, 1983, pp. 385f.

⁹ See Doc. no. 1.

¹⁰ Karl Stubenvoll, “‘Unbekanntes Ortes verschickt?’ Der Raub der Wiener Arbeiterkammerbibliothek 1938/39”, *Biblos, Österreichische Zeitschrift für Buch- und Bibliothekswesen*, 39 (1990) 2, pp. 109–115, here pp. 113f.

¹¹ Karl Heinz Roth, “Sozialimperialistische Aspekte der Okkupationspolitik: Strategien und Aktivitäten der ‘Deutschen Arbeitsfront’ (DAF)”, in Werner Röhr (ed.), *Faschismus und Rassismus. Kontroversen um Ideologie und Opfer* (Berlin, 1922), pp. 353–375, here pp. 356f.

¹² However, the conflict over the library belonging to the Workers’ Chamber of Vienna played a minor role in this “Vienna Gau leader crisis”. For more on the background, see Gerhard Botz, *Wien vom “Anschluß” zum Krieg. Nationalsozialistische Machtübernahme und politisch-soziale Umgestaltung am Beispiel der Stadt Wien 1938/39*, Vienna, 1980, pp. 420f.

¹³ On the other hand, Stubenvoll (n. 10, p. 113) assumes that the material the Gestapo robbed from the library of the Workers’ Chamber arrived at the Central Library of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut immediately. As other similar yet better documented incidents show, it is more probable that the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut only obtained the material following long negotiations with the Gestapo, whereby it profited significantly from the DAF’s strengthened claim to ownership.

repression and those interested in it for social-engineering purposes had by no means been resolved, but it had been institutionalized. In the "Sicherungsstab Paris" (Paris security task force), assigned to the head of the security police and the SD, the archival and library experts from the secret services, the foreign office, and the DAF were responsible from the very beginning for seeing to it that a division of labour was set up to locate, confiscate and divide up the booty.¹⁴ For the representatives of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, this was of utmost importance since France, with the exception of Elsass and Lorraine, would not be annexed, and therefore it would not be possible to construe any form of DAF ownership claim – regardless how ingenious – to property and documents belonging to the French trade unions. However, a new conflict arose in addition to that of juggling the various intended purposes for the captured archives and libraries by the acquisitions task force: namely, the problem of the relationship between the occupational force in the process of establishing itself and the workers' organizations. Open confiscation of the most politically sensitive property of the French trade unions was only opportune if severely repressive action was taken against the entire spectrum of the labour movement and, as a consequence, no attempt was made from the very start to establish a collaborating regime supported by a broad societal consensus. In the first few weeks following the signing of the armistice, such political considerations played no role. On the contrary, Hans Richter, the head of the documentation department of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, contacted the "Archivsonderkommando" (archival special commando) of the Foreign Office in order to get his full share of the booty from the Wehrmacht plunderings, which he had learned were taking place.¹⁵ As the recently recovered letter of 29 July to SS-Sturmbannführer Helmut Knochen at the Paris acquisitions task force and other documents show, Richter even travelled to Paris himself in mid-July 1940, and presented an encompassing list of demands, which claimed for the DAF central office in Berlin all papers from the International Federation of Trade Unions (IFTU), the French office of the International Labour Office, the Confédération Générale du Travail (CGT), and each of the larger French trade unions.¹⁶ Cooperation with the acquisitions task force ran smoothly, and obviously the DAF's expressed wishes were given top priority during the course of the raids. Had the pillaging specialists on site been supplied with enough personnel to aid them and sufficient transportation capacities,¹⁷ then the documentation department of the

¹⁴ Karl Heinz Roth, "Klios rabiate Hilfstruppen", pp. 6f.

¹⁵ See Doc. no. 6.

¹⁶ See Doc. no. 7 and additional documents in the Archiv der Gewerkschaftsbewegung Berlin (AdG), coll. A110.1. The document labelled doc. no. 7 belongs to the note that we published as doc. no. 1 in the first documentation (see n. 2).

¹⁷ These bottlenecks were repeatedly lamented, see Politisches Archiv des Auswärtigen Amts, col.. Inland I Partei, packet 49/3 to 50/2.

Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut would have been able to celebrate yet another triumph following the successes in Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Yet it was not to turn out this way. On 9 August 1940, the head of the SD headquarters in Paris notified the head of Office IV (Gestapo) at Reich Security Headquarters that the hunt demanded by Richter for the material from the International Labour Office believed to be in southern France could not be carried out¹⁸ – an initial indication that the evolving collaboration with the Vichy government would also require concessions from the beneficiaries. Whereas at first it was the established borders that had to be respected – the operation was to have taken place in Toulouse in the unoccupied sector of France¹⁹ – institutional barriers quickly followed. The first truck transports of confiscated material originally from the French offices of international trade union organizations and the CGT were finally shipped to Berlin in September and October 1940.²⁰ Yet on 7 November, a staff member from the DAF office Hellwig, now established at the military command headquarters in France, informed the heads of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut that any further shipment of CGT material was being stopped. One week later, Director Wolfgang Pohl explained his relinquishment so:²¹ the anti-communist CGT minority associated with René Belin, who had recently advanced to the position of Vichy Industry and Labour Minister, had developed into a significant pillar of support of the Pétain government and needed to be respected.²² Four days later, Pohl retracted this since the Vichy government had just decided to disband the CGT.²³ However, the otherwise so well-informed director of the DAF social science research centre had erred in his, the political, interpretation of this decree. Belin and his associates had supported the decision to disband the CGT because they wanted to strive towards a corporative social constitution beyond institutionalized class conflict.²⁴ As a result, it remained a part of the collaboration pact, and Pohl was forced on 25 November, in all due form, to concede to the chief of military administration at military command headquarters in France that the period of unlimited looting had finally come to an end, including the plundering of archives

¹⁸ Doc. no. 8.

¹⁹ Instead, the collection of documents belonging to the International Labour Office in the occupied sector of France was confiscated, see AdG, coll. A110.1 as well as the documents nos. 2–5 in the documentation published previously (n. 2).

²⁰ This can be taken indirectly from the documents nos. 11 and 13.

²¹ Doc. no. 11.

²² Georges Lefranc, *Les Expériences syndicales en France de 1939 à 1950* (Paris, 1950), pp. 40ff.; Jacques Julliard, "La Charte du travail", *Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques* (ed.), *Le Gouvernement de Vichy 1940–1942, institutions et politiques* (Paris, 1972), pp. 157–194, here pp. 158ff.

²³ Doc. no. 12.

²⁴ Belin himself had signed the decree to dissolve, see Julliard, "La Charte du travail", p. 164.

and organizations' registries.²⁵ All further transfer of documents from the CGT and other French trade unions was stopped; even the material that had already been shipped to Berlin was supposed to be returned.²⁶

At military command headquarters in France, Belgium and northern France, and at the Reich Commissar for the Dutch occupied territories, the DAF offices – named after Werner Hellwig, the head of the DAF Legal Office – switched to the new line of collaboration and began in a less spectacular manner to acquire the mastery necessary for implementing the social policy of the occupation.²⁷ However, while this was occurring elsewhere, the expert looters of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut intensified their efforts aimed at the collections of the international trade union organizations that were expressly excluded from the restrictions now in effect.²⁸ Yet all in all, by spring 1941, the experts of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut had so intensively studied the constellations of western Europe's trade union movement that, with the help of openly pro-Nazi, union-like "opposition groups",²⁹ they succeeded in effectively curbing the highly mistrusted collaboration course of a René Belin or Hendrik de Man.³⁰ In connection with the previously published documents, those presented here provide greater insight into the scope and limitations of the confiscation of trade union documents conducted by the DAF and its Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut. It can therefore be assumed that the examples outlined for Austria and France are representative for the various procedures in cases of annexation and occupation of developed, capitalized states with the corresponding consolidated trade union movements.

So where did the confiscated books and archival material end up? Were they destroyed when the seat of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut was

²⁵ Doc. no. 13.

²⁶ It has not yet been possible to determine to what extent this actually happened.

²⁷ For further detail on the changes in procedure (buying up of specialized libraries, organized brain drain from social science institutes in the occupied countries, secret cooperation with social statistics agencies that had still remained intact, etc.), see AdG, coll. A110.1.

²⁸ Doc. nos. 13 and 14.

²⁹ These groups have been researched intensively since the 1970s, although the secret manipulation exerted by the German occupation authorities has not been examined. See especially, Dominique Durrleman, "L'Atelier, hebdomadaire du travail français". Des Syndicalistes dans la Collaboration (1940–1944)", *Les cahiers d'histoire de l'Institut Maurice Thorez*, n.s. 9 (1945) no. 14 (special), pp. 117–159; Pascal Ory, *Les Collaborateurs 1940–1945* (Paris, 1978), ch. 7, pp. 128ff.; Jacques Rancière, "De Pelloutier à Hitler: syndicalisme et collaboration", *Les Révoltes logiques*, 4 (winter 1977), pp. 23–61; Michel Dreyfus, "Syndicats, nous voilà! Le syndicalisme vichyssois à travers un journal: 'Au Travail'", in Denis Peschanski (ed.), *Vichy 1940–1944. Quaderni e documenti inediti di Angelo Tasca. Fondazione Giangiacomo Feltrinelli*, Annali 24 (1985), pp. 93–110.

³⁰ Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis, coll. Hendrik de Man, nos. 560–562; "Resistance in Belgium", in *Fascism*, ed. by ITF, 9 (1941), no. 10 (12 May 1941), p. 67; Wilfried Wagner, *Belgien in der deutschen Politik während des Zweiten Weltkriegs* (Boppard a. Rh., 1974), pp. 185ff.

bombed during an air raid on Berlin on 22–23 November 1943?³¹ As the documents presented here show, the losses among the collection of the Central Library were far less severe than has been assumed. Evacuated remnants belonging to the Central Archive and the registries of several departments of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut were saved.

As early as 26 May 1945, Gerhard Bock, the former librarian at the Central Library, wrote a short memorandum for the Berlin City Council on the fate and condition of the collection following the fierce final battle for the capital of the Reich.³² He stated that by then the Central Library of the DAF had comprised 320,000 books, excluding the newspaper and periodical collections. Of these, nearly one-third was supposed to have been evacuated to Silesia before the end of the war, the rest having remained stored at Immelmannstraße 10 in the Kreuzberg district (later part of the US sector). This structure remained undamaged, as was not the case for the administrative offices at Leipziger Platz and in the Französische Straße. In addition, the collection in the Immelmannstraße should have been retrieved, since the building itself was required by the German book printers association. (Prior to 1933 it was the “House of Book Printers”.)

More detailed information is to be found in a file memo dated 10 July 1945, which was probably also written by Bock.³³ According to this, the evacuated portion of the library (250,000 volumes) was supposed to have been shipped in fourteen freight cars to a mill in Quickendorf in Lower Silesia. Remnants were also thought to be among the ruins of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut at Leipziger Platz 14 and at Französische Straße 22. The author does not seem concerned by the discrepancy between the figures cited in the reports of 26 May and 10 July. According to the latter report, the total collection of the Central Library must have consisted of 750,000 volumes, if one accepts as accurate the contention that the estimated 250,000 evacuated volumes consisted of a third of the total collection. From this there arises a difference of 430,000 volumes compared to the initial figures cited in the report of 26 May, a difference that can in no way be made up by the uncounted magazine and newspaper volumes. Actually, the fact is probably that approximately one-third of the 250,000 “volumes” stored safely in Silesia consisted of files from the Central Archive, which also had some offices located in the Immelmannstraße. Beginning in the autumn of 1943, the Archive’s 300,000 files, equalling 8,700 running meters, was also being evacuated to several safety

³¹ On the destruction of the headquarters of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut at Leipziger Platz 14, see *Auszugsweise Abschrift eines Schreibens von Marcel Mitschke an das Bundesarchiv Koblenz vom 10.7.1953*, BAK, archive register no. (*Archivgut Zugangsbuch*) 0178.

³² Doc. no. 16.

³³ Doc. no. 17.

depots.³⁴ Since there still existed about 230,000 items in the library racks of the Immelmannstraße facility in early 1946,³⁵ the entire collection of the Central Library at the end of the war probably totalled a sum of about 400,000–450,000 books, magazine and newspaper volumes, from which 130,000–150,000 were shipped to Lower Silesia in regions later to become Polish territory.³⁶

On 18 July 1945, the Berlin City Council's Department for Adult Education turned over the remaining collection from the Immelmannstraße stacks of the former Central Library to the Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (FDGB, Federation of Free German Trade Unions), which was just in the process of being established.³⁷ The council also authorized the removal of this material. In turn, the FDGB assigned its board member Ernst Lenner with the task of conducting a comprehensive inspection of the entire documentation of the former DAF, in order best to prepare to take possession of as much of it as possible. Lenner summed up the results of his inspection on 18 August in a memorandum for his fellow board members.³⁸ We have this report to thank for the most accurate overview to date of the scope and the displacement of the entire collection of files and books that had been in the possession of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF shortly before the end of the war (March 1945). According to this report, the main body of the collection from the Central Archive and the Central Library, including the 180,000 publications stemming from the library of the Vienna Workers' Chamber, was to be found in the stacks of the Immelmannstraße facility, in so far as it was not shipped to Falkenstein in Silesia and the NSDAP training camp at Crössinsee in Pommern by autumn 1944.³⁹ The safety depot at Falkenstein, to which references have recently been discovered, has yet to be definitely identified.⁴⁰ The depot at Quickendorf in Lower Silesia, mentioned by Bock, was obviously just an intermediate station or stop for the material being shipped in Silesia. Remnants of the reference libraries remaining in

³⁴ Reports by Marcel Mitschke to the Bundesarchiv Koblenz, dated 10 July 1953, 24 July 1953, and 18 August 1953. *Auszugsweise Abschriften*, BAK, archive register no. 0178.

³⁵ Compiled from the reports of the Berlin representative of the Library of Congress Mission, Jacob Zuckerman. See Library of Congress, Washington D.C., Library of Congress Mission Records (LC, LCM Records), Progress Reports from Representatives, folder Jacob Zuckerman.

³⁶ It appears that they were first sent to Quickendorf and then distributed to several depots in Silesia and northern Bohemia.

³⁷ Doc. nos. 18 and 19.

³⁸ Doc. no. 20.

³⁹ In the reports he submitted to the Bundesarchiv Koblenz eight years later, Marcel Mitschke, the former lector of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, mentioned Crössinsee and several other depot locations in West Germany, but not the especially important shipments to Silesia; see n. 34.

⁴⁰ In the historical atlas of Lower and Upper Silesia, there is no place named Falkenstein to be found, although there is a Falkenau near Neisse and the neighbouring Falkenberg near Oppau.

Berlin were otherwise to be found in the ruins of the former headquarters of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut at Leipziger Platz and in its subsidiary offices at Teltower Damm and in the Französische Straße, according to Lenner's expertise. For the first time, Lenner was also successful in locating the gigantic archive of newspaper clippings.⁴¹ It turned up in the "House of Technology" in the Friedrichstraße, which the DAF leadership had purchased in March 1941 for the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut.⁴² Lenner was convinced that a major portion of the collection had been lost due to the comprehensive evacuation efforts and the destruction of both the main office and the Berlin subsidiary offices of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut. But he did confirm the key importance of the Immelmanstraße stacks, as had Bock, and advocated in conclusion that all material to be found in Berlin should be seized for safekeeping.

However, in the following months, no major action was undertaken to salvage the documentation, which should come as no surprise considering the immense problems involved in trade union policy during the phase of reconstruction. Not until unexpected competition for the inheritance of the DAF's Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut appeared in February–March 1946 did the FDGB once again become active.

In autumn 1945, a special mission of the Library of Congress in Washington was formed labelled the "Library of Congress Mission". Its task was to locate non-archival documents of disbanded Nazi organizations with the support of the American occupational authorities and on the basis of the corresponding decrees issued by the Allied Control Council, to confiscate or purchase and send them to Washington.⁴³ The first Berlin representative of this special mission, Jacob Zuckerman, arrived in early 1946 and was soon informed of the immense library depot of the DAF in the Immelmanstraße. By the time he visited the stacks for the first time on 15 March, the FDGB had just moved a large portion of the collection to its central offices in the Wallstraße in the Soviet sector of the city.⁴⁴ Zuckerman chose not to protest formally, especially since the FDGB action had been authorized by a city council ruling. Instead he attempted to negotiate exchanges. Four days later he inspected the new FDGB depot in which 150,000–200,000 volumes from the Immelmanstraße stacks were stored. He then worked out an agreement to have technical journals sorted out for the "LC Mission" and to have those library remnants returned

⁴¹ See Zentrales Staatsarchiv Potsdam, *Bearbeitungsplanung für die Zeitungsausschnittsammlung des Bestands Awl der DAF*, 15 February 1967.

⁴² Karsten Linne, "Der Bestand 'Deutsche Arbeitsfront' im Archiv der Gewerkschaftsbewegung", 1999, 8 (1993) 1, pp. 130–131.

⁴³ Reuben Peiss, *Final Summary Report of the Library of Congress Mission*, 30 November 1946, LC, LCM Records, *Progress Reports of Representatives*, folder Reuben Peiss; Reuben Peiss, "Report on Europe", *College and Research Libraries*, 8 (1947) 2, pp. 113–119; Robert B. Downs, "Wartime Co-Operative Acquisitions", *The Library Quarterly*, 19 (1949) 3, pp. 157–165.

⁴⁴ Doc. no. 21.

that the DAF robbed from Austria, Holland, Belgium and Poland.⁴⁵ The first exchange occurred in early April. The FDGB received a truckload of books from the "LC Mission" stemming from the remaining Immelmannstraße collection that the DAF had robbed from the German trade union libraries. In turn, the FDGB itself handed over two truckloads of technical journals designated for the Library of Congress and booty from European trade union libraries.⁴⁶ Further transactions were not documented, although they undoubtedly took place for there was a great deal of criticism in the US of them. This placed Zuckerman under considerable pressure to legitimize the transactions. At the end of April, he emphasized in his report to his superiors that, together with the section of the US military government responsible for such matters, he had undertaken everything possible to sort out the stolen material before its shipment to Washington and to ensure its return to previous owners. With regards to the Immelmannstraße collection, he pointed out that if he had not intervened, a great amount of material confiscated by the DAF in Holland, Czechoslovakia and Austria would have disappeared in the FDGB depot in the Soviet sector of Berlin.⁴⁷ Certainly that was only half of the story. Undoubtedly, large amounts of the DAF booty were handed over to the US military government and taken to special depots where they were then returned to their original owners by 1947–48.⁴⁸ However, of the 150,000 items from the DAF collection that arrived at the Library of Congress, another 60,000 items were sorted out in 1947 alone and returned the following year to the West German trade unions.⁴⁹ Therefore it cannot be completely ruled out that parts of the lost collections from the formerly occupied countries may still be located today in the 115 special libraries in the USA to which material was distributed by the "LC Mission".⁵⁰ In the final analysis, it remains certain that the material from the DAF Central Library still in Berlin after 1944–45 – an estimated two-thirds of the entire collection – was dispersed along the following lines up until 1948: most of the specialized technical literature and actual DAF publications landed in the USA; two-thirds of the material previously plundered from the German trade unions was returned to the East German trade union movement and one-third to West German labour, while restitution to the

⁴⁵ Doc. no. 22.

⁴⁶ Doc. no. 23.

⁴⁷ Doc. no. 24.

⁴⁸ The largest special depot was the "Archival Depot" of the American military government in Offenbach am Main, in which approximately 4.5 million books were accumulated. It was here that Austrian library experts found in 1948 a part of the Vienna Workers' Chamber library that had been robbed in 1938–39. See Franz Konrad Weber, "Die Rückführung der in den Jahren 1938 bis 1945 verschleppten österreichischen Bücherbestände", *Biblos*, 28 (1979) 1, pp. 26–32, here pp. 29, 31.

⁴⁹ Doc. no. 26; for further information, see Library of Congress, "Return of Confiscated German Materials", 2 December 1957, LC, LCM Records, folder Confiscated Material.

⁵⁰ Robert B. Downs, "Wartime Co-Operative Acquisitions" (n. 43).

European trade union movement progressed unsystematically and inadequately. Still completely unknown are the whereabouts of the material that had been evacuated to Silesia, northern Bohemia and Pomerania by the autumn of 1944. We only know from recently discovered documents in FDGB files that the extensive Silesian *Verlagerungsbestände* had been put together in Cracow, Poland, in 1946. Although the FDGB has known of this since 1949, no subsequent investigations have been undertaken. An initiative started seventeen years later also became bogged down.⁵¹ It still has to be investigated what has become of these Cracow files, which probably contained parts of the DAF Central Archive as well.

However, the archive of newspaper clippings belonging to the *Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut* remained largely intact. It had been stored, completely unprotected, in the cellar of the Friedrichstraße edifice until the autumn of 1947⁵² and was formally turned over to the FDGB fiduciary office in December 1947.⁵³ By no means did this ensure the safekeeping of this precious collection, in which existed important documentary material from the trade unions and social policy groups that dated back in part to the First World War, in addition to a massive collection of newspaper and periodical articles pertaining to specific topics and institutions.⁵⁴ The bulk of the collection (18 tons) was stored by the FDGB fiduciary office in a coach house at the mill of Sanssouci palace in Potsdam until 1950, after which it was removed by the State Bureau of Palaces and Gardens of the GDR and not transferred until 1957 to the stacks of the former German Central Archive in Potsdam. A subsequent delivery was turned over to Potsdam by the FDGB archive in 1964.⁵⁵

Finally, the reconstruction of the DAF Central Archive began. Compared to that of the Central Library and the archive of newspaper clippings, it progressed in a particularly chaotic manner and is not being pursued even today by any party with the energy required. In a renewed search of the cellar of the former "House of Technology" (Friedrichstraße 110–111) that took place in October 1951, the FDGB fiduciary office found parts of the Central Archive, namely "trade union material from the Social Democratic and Communist Workers' Party from 1900 up to the

⁵¹ Cf. Doc. no. 27; Mr Heinz Braun, Head Keeper of the "Archiv der Gewerkschaftsbewegung" in Berlin, has been kind enough to inform us of the existence of unsorted items of correspondence dating from the period 1966–67.

⁵² Letter from the FDGB archive (Georg Reiss) to the FDGB administrative office of greater Berlin, dated 10 September 1947, re: "Übernahme des Archiv-Materials aus dem 'Haus der Technik' in der Friedrichstraße", AdG, coll. FDGB-Bundesvorstand, A7044.

⁵³ Doc. no. 25.

⁵⁴ See Zentrales Staatsarchiv Potsdam, *Bearbeitungsplan für das AWI der DAF*, n.d.; Zentrales Staatsarchiv Potsdam, *Findmittel zum Bestand 62.03 DAF, Deutsche Arbeitsfront, Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut (AWI), Zeitungsausschnittsammlung (7 vols.)*.

⁵⁵ Zentrales Staatsarchiv Potsdam, *Einleitende Bemerkungen zu 62 DAF 3, Deutsche Arbeitsfront, Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut (AWI), Zeitungsausschnittsammlung, section "Inland"*.

upheavals".⁵⁶ It was picked up by the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute of the SED and incorporated into the collection of the Central Party Archive. In the 1950s, remnants of trade union files were also found in West Berlin and made available to the Historic Commission.⁵⁷ However, when these finds are compared with the entire collection of historical files on the German and European labour movement that had existed in the DAF Central Archive, it becomes clear how small these later finds were. Nothing will probably change the fact that most of this material has been lost, even after the standard, currently available archival sources on the trade union movement in Germany and Europe have been checked for an eventual "stopover" in the Central Archive of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront. Much effort was made by the central archival bureaucracies of both East and West Germany beginning in the 1950s to obtain and inventory the special registries of the main DAF offices that also belonged to the Central Archive. Yet the rewards were not very great, disregarding the relevant material turned over by the FDGB archive to the Central State Archive in Potsdam.⁵⁸ Even they remain incomplete. Only recently was material from the department "Colonial Social Policy" of the DAF's Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut located in the FDGB archive,⁵⁹ enhanced by a few documents, chaotically lumped together, which belonged to the Institute and have often been cited here. Without any knowledge of this source remnant, the search for the lost archives of the German, European and international labour movement would further stagnate. This small find has once again confirmed how important it would be to investigate further the now-known clues and to extend the search, especially to the depot locations in Eastern Europe that are mentioned in the documents as being the places where the collection was evacuated to safety in 1944–45 before the air war commenced. The hypothesis that the collection has survived in the

⁵⁶ Doc. no. 28.

⁵⁷ The American occupation authorities turned them over to the Berlin regional association of the SPD. From there they were first deposited in the archive of the pro-SPD August Bebel Institute and were finally accepted in 1975 by the archive of the Historic Commission at Berlin as part of its permanent collection. Since the mid-1980s, the *Quellen zur Geschichte der deutschen Gewerkschaftsbewegung im 20. Jahrhundert*, edited by Hermann Weber, Klaus Schönhoven and Klaus Tenfelde, have been studied to date without any knowledge of the fate and whereabouts of trade union documents under the Nazi dictatorship. See *Quellen zur Geschichte der deutschen Gewerkschaftsbewegung im 20. Jahrhundert*, founded by Erich Matthias, edited by Hermann Weber, Klaus Schönhoven and Klaus Tenfelde, Vols. 1ff. (Cologne, 1985–).

⁵⁸ They were inventoried under the rubric 62.01 to 62.03 (DAF-Zentralbüro, Adjutantur Ley and DAF AWI-Zeitungsauschnittsammlung). A preliminary review over the archival material of the DAF available today can be found in *Inventar archivalischer Quellen des NS-Staates. Die Überlieferung von Behörden und Einrichtungen des Reichs, der Länder und der NSDAP*, part 1, commissioned by the Institut für Zeitgeschichte, ed. by Heinz Boberach (Munich etc., 1991), pp. 508–515.

⁵⁹ Karsten Linne, "Der Bestand 'Deutsche Arbeitsfront' im Archiv der Gewerkschaftsbewegung", in: 1999, 8 (1993), 1, pp. 130–131.

stacks of the major archives of Eastern Europe, especially in Poland and the former Soviet Union, appears to be justified by very recent reports of large, special collections, unknown until now.⁶⁰

DOCUMENT INDEX

1. Order of DAF representative of the Reich Commissar for Austrian Reunification with the German Reich, Theodor Hupfauer, concerning the takeover of statistics facilities, libraries and archives belonging to the disbanded labour chambers and trade unions by the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF, 25 July 1938.

source: Österreichisches Staatsarchiv, Archiv der Republik (henceforth: ÖStA, AdR), Reichskommissar für die Wiedervereinigung Österreichs mit dem Deutschen Reich, carton no. 169/4705.

2. Letter from the managing director of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF, Robert Budell, to State Secretary Mühlmann, who was assigned to the Reich Governor in Austria, concerning the shipment of sections of the Vienna Labour Chamber library by the Gestapo and the planned transfer of the rest of the library to the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut in Berlin, 30 July 1938.

source: ÖStA, AdR, BKA Inneres – Reichsstatthalterei III, sheet 200.219/1938.

3. Letter from Hans Richter, senior departmental head of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF, to State Secretary Mühlmann concerning the shipment of the Labour Chamber library to Berlin and the establishment of a reference library for Gau leader Odilo Globocnik, 12 August 1938.

source: ÖStA, AdR, BKA Inneres – Reichsstatthalterei III, sheet 200.472/1938.

4. Letter from Robert Budell to Jakob Knissel of the staff of Reich Commissar Josef Bürckel on commencing shipment of the Vienna Workers' Chamber library to Berlin, 4 February 1939.

source: ÖStA, AdR, Reichskommissar für die Wiedervereinigung Österreichs mit dem Deutschen Reich, carton no. 168/4700.

5. Confirmation of Jakob Knissel for the Vienna task force of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut on shipping the Vienna Workers' Chamber library to Berlin, 6 February 1939.

source: *ibid.*

⁶⁰ We would like to thank Heinz Braun (Berlin), Mohan Devan Kartha (Washington) and Karl Stubenvoll (Vienna) without whose commitment this documentation could never have been published.

6. Letter from Hans Richter to the Consul General of the Foreign Office, Krug zur Nidda, concerning the participation of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut in "securing" French libraries and archives by the Wehrmacht (copy), 8 July 1940.

source: Archiv der Gewerkschaftsbewegung Berlin (henceforth: AdG), coll. A100.1

7. Letter from Hans Richter to SS-Sturmbannführer Helmut Knochen from the Paris security task force with a list of the material plundered from the trade unions for the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF (copy), 29 July 1940.

source: *ibid.*

8. Letter from SS-Sturmbannführer Sattler from the SD headquarters in Paris to SS-Oberführer Heinrich Müller at Office IV of the Reich Security Headquarters concerning the impossibility of conducting a search for material belonging to the International Labour Office in Toulouse, 9 August 1940.

source: Bundesarchiv Abteilungen Koblenz, R58/551, sheet 55.

9. Letter from Hans Richter to SS-Sturmbannführer Knochen from the Paris security task force concerning the relocation "of the papers secured for the DAF" (copy), 17 August 1940.

source: AdG, coll. A110.1.

10. Letter from Hans Richter to the Paris headquarters of the commissioner representing the chief of the security police and the SD for Belgium and France concerning the upcoming shipment of CGT and IFTU documents (copy), 3 September 1940.

source: *ibid.*

11. Letter from the director of the DAF Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, Wolfgang Pohl, to Siegfried Bollacher at the Hellwig office of the military commander in France, on stopping further shipments of CGT documents still to be found in Paris, 14 November 1940.

source: *ibid.*

12. Letter from Wolfgang Pohl to Siegfried Bollacher concerning the resumption of shipping CGT material following the Vichy government's decision to disband the French trade unions (copy), 18 November 1940.

source: *ibid.*

13. Letter from Wolfgang Pohl to Werner Best, head of the administration staff at military command headquarters in France concerning the return of documents belonging to the French trade unions and the whereabouts of plundered collections from the international trade union organizations at the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, 25 November 1940.

source: *ibid.*

14. Letter from Hans Richter to Siegfried Bollacher concerning the release of book inventories belonging to the International Association of Civil Servants and Public Employees in Paris for the purposes of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut (copy), 16 December 1940.

source: *ibid.*

15. Index of the Inventory Z (International Relations) from the archive of newspaper clippings of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut (c. 1943).

source: AdG, coll. A110.33.

16. Memorandum by the librarian Gerhard Bock on the former Central Library of the DAF in Berlin (transcript), 26 May 1945.

source: AdG, Bundesvorstand des FDGB Berlin, no. 38.

17. Unsigned file memorandum from the Department for Adult Education of the Berlin City Council concerning both the material evacuated prior to the end of the war and the inventories of the DAF Central Library still existing in Berlin (transcript), 10 July 1945.

source: *ibid.*

18. Letter of the Department for Adult Education of the Berlin City Council to the Preparatory Committee of the Federation of Free German Trade Unions concerning the transfer of the former DAF Central Library, 18 July 1945.

source: *ibid.*

19. Authorization by the Department for Adult Education of the Berlin City Council permitting the Federation of Free German Trade Unions to take possession of and remove the library inventories from the stack rooms of the DAF Central Library in the Immelmanstraße, 18 July 1945.

source: *ibid.*

20. Note written by Ernst Lenner for his colleagues on the FDGB board of directors concerning the library of the former DAF, 18 August 1945.

source: AdG, A200.11/c/858.

21. Excerpt from Report No. 19 by Jacob Zuckerman, Library of Congress Mission, Berlin, to the director of the Library of Congress Mission in Frankfurt/M., David H. Clift, concerning a visit to the former DAF Central Library in the Immelmanstraße, 15 March 1946.

source: Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., Library of Congress Mission Records (henceforth: LC, LCM Records), Progress Reports from Representatives, folder Jacob Zuckerman.

22. Excerpt from Report No. 20 by Jacob Zuckerman to David H. Clift concerning the inspection of the collections that had since been transferred from the former

DAF Central Library to the FDGB headquarters and concerning the evacuation of the books still remaining in the Immelmannstraße, 20 March 1946.

source: *ibid.*

23. Excerpt from Report No. 25 by Jacob Zuckerman to David H. Clift concerning the exchange of material from the former DAF Central Library with the Federation of Free German Trade Unions, 10 April 1946.

source: *ibid.*

24. Excerpt from Report No. 31 by Jacob Zuckerman to the Library of Congress Mission assigned to the US forces European high command (UFSET), 23 April 1946.

source: *ibid.*

25. Letter from the director of the FDGB archive, Reiss, to the managing offices of the FDGB Berlin headquarters, 10 December 1947.

source: AdG, Bundesvorstand des FDGB, A7044.

26. File memorandum written by the head librarian from the Library of Congress, Luther H. Evans, for Reuben Peiss, chief of the Acquisitions and Distribution Division of the Library of Congress concerning the return of 60,000 items from the former DAF Central Library to West German trade unions (undated, c. 1948).

source: LC, LCM Records, folder Confiscated Material.

27. Letter from the FDGB library division of greater Berlin to the International Secretariat of the FDGB concerning the inventories of the DAF Central Library in Cracow (Poland) evacuated to Silesia, 5 January 1945.

source: Archiv des FDGB-Bundesvorstands, Beziehungen zu Polen 1947–1950, 13/189/2057.

28. Letter from the Fiduciary Office of the FDGB headquarters of greater Berlin to the Kuhn secretariat concerning the discovery of file material belonging to the DAF archive, 10 October 1951.

source: AdG, B201.963.

29. File memorandum of the Fiduciary Office of the FDGB headquarters of greater Berlin, signed by Kettler and confirmed by Jürgen Stroeck from the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute of the SED, concerning the discovery and transfer of parts of the DAF Central Archive, 3–4 October 1951.

source: *ibid.*

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS WITH TRANSLATIONS

1

**Der Reichskommissar
für die Wiedervereinigung Österreichs
mit dem Deutschen Reich
Stellvertreter für die DAF**

Betr.: Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut der Deutschen Arbeitsfront

I.

1. Die von den Arbeiterkammern, Berufsverbänden und Gewerkschaften in Österreich durchgeführten statistischen Erhebungen werden vom Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut der Deutschen Arbeitsfront übernommen und – soweit erforderlich – weitergeführt.
2. Die bei den Arbeiterkammern, Berufsverbänden und Gewerkschaften in Österreich vorhandenen Einrichtungen, Akten usw., die der Statistik gedient haben, sind dem Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut zu übergeben.
3. Die Gauverwaltungen stellen dem Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut auf Anforderung das zur Überleitung erforderliche Personal zur Verfügung.

II.

4. Die bei den Arbeiterkammern, Berufsverbänden und Gewerkschaften in Österreich vorhandenen fachwissenschaftlichen Büchereien gehen in die Verwaltung des Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts über. Soweit diese Büchereien nicht der Zentralbibliothek der DAF überwiesen werden, sondern an ihrem bisherigen Standort verbleiben, haben die Gauverwaltungen die erforderlichen Etatmittel bereitzustellen.
5. Akten, Dokumente und sonstiges Schriftgut der Arbeiterkammern, Berufsverbände und Gewerkschaften in Österreich sind dem Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut der DAF zu überweisen, sobald sie zur ordnungsgemässen Abwicklung der Geschäfte nicht mehr benötigt werden.

gez. Dr. Hupfauer

Translation

**The Reich Commissar for Austrian Reunification with the German Reich
Representative of the DAF**

re: The Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront

I.

1. The statistical surveys conducted by workers' chambers, occupational associations and trade unions in Austria are to be taken over and – as is necessary – continued by the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront.
2. The facilities, files, etc. that supported statistical survey at the workers' cham-

- bers, occupational associations and trade unions in Austria are to be turned over to the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut.
3. Upon request, the Gau administrations are to supply the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut with the personnel needed for the transition.

II.

4. The administration of the technical or specialized libraries found in the workers' chambers, occupational associations and trade unions in Austria is to be taken over by the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut. The Gau administrations are to supply the necessary budgetary funds to finance those libraries that are not to be transferred to the DAF Central Library but will remain at their current location.
5. Files, documents and other papers belonging to the workers' chambers, occupational associations and trade unions in Austria are to be transferred to the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF as soon as they are no longer necessary for the orderly conclusion of business.

signed: Dr Hupfauer

2

Herrn
Staatssekretär Müllmann*
Wien I
Prinz Eugenstr. 28

Sehr geehrter Herr Staatssekretär!

Unter Bezugnahme auf unsere gestrige Unterredung sowie auf das soeben geführte Telefongespräch teile ich Ihnen mit, dass die Gestapo bereits am 25.4.d.J. die Pernerstorfer-, die Viktor Adler und die Winarski-Bibliothek beschlagnahmt und nach Berlin abtransportiert hat. Bei diesen Bibliotheken handelt es sich um Leihgaben der Sozialdemokratischen Partei Österreichs an die Kammerbibliothek, die also nicht zum eigentlichen Bestand dieser Bücherei gehört haben. Nachdem die Einschränkung des Herrn Gauleiter Globocnik wonach die Bibliothek der Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte nur dann nach Berlin überführt werden dürfe, wenn die Pernerstorfer-Bibliothek dem Gau Wien erhalten bleibt, gegenstandslos geworden ist, bitte ich Sie, dem Herrn Gauleiter vorzuschlagen, dass die Bücherei nach Berlin abtransportiert werden kann.

Sie waren so freundlich, mir einen Besuch der Bibliothek in Aussicht zu stellen, und würde ich mich herzlich freuen, wenn ich Sie in den nächsten Tagen begrüßen dürfte.

Heil Hitler!
[Budell]
Reichshauptstellenleiter

* Mühlmann (Kajetan Mühlmann, Staatssekretär im Amt des Reichsstatthalters in Österreich).

Translation

To
State Secretary Müllmann*
Vienna I
Prinz Eugenstraße 28

Dear Mr State Secretary,

In reference to our discussion yesterday as well as the telephone conversation just completed, I would like to inform you that the Gestapo already confiscated the Pernerstorfer, Viktor Adler and Winarski libraries on 25 April of this year and shipped them to Berlin. These libraries were loans made by the Social Democratic Party of Austria to the chamber library and therefore did not belong to the actual collections of this library. Since Gauleiter Globocnik's restriction is no longer valid, namely that the library of the Chamber for Workers and White-Collar Employees may only be transferred to Berlin if the Pernerstorfer library remains in the possession of the Gau Vienna, I would like to ask you to suggest to Mr Gauleiter that the library be shipped to Berlin.

You were so friendly as to propose visiting the library, and I would be very pleased to be able to greet you here in the next few days.

Heil Hitler!
(Budell)
Managing Director

* Mühlmann (Kajetan Mühlmann, State Secretary at the Office of the Reich Governor in Austria).

3

Herrn
Staatssekretär Müllmann*
Wien I
Prinz Eugenstr. 28

Sehr geehrter Herr Staatssekretär!

Ich nehme höflichst Bezug auf Ihre Besprechung mit Parteigenossen Budell vom Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut der Deutschen Arbeitsfront und wäre Ihnen sehr verbunden, wenn Sie im Sinne dieser Unterredung dahin wirken würden, dass Gauleiter Globocnik uns sobald wie möglich schriftlich bestätigt, dass wir die in Frage stehende Bibliothek nach Berlin abtransportieren können. Je früher der Transport erfolgt, desto eher kann die Bibliothek auch wieder in Dienst gestellt werden und ihren vielseitigen Aufgaben nachkommen.

Wie Ihnen Parteigenosse Budell schon mitgeteilt hat, werden wir der Gauleitung Wien eine brauchbare und dem Arbeitsgebiet einer Gauleitung entsprechende Handbibliothek zusammenstellen. Ich bin zurzeit mit dieser Arbeit beschäftigt und hoffe, Ihnen in den nächsten Tagen schon den Kern dieser Arbeitsbibliothek zeigen zu können. Sie werden sich bei einem Vergleich dieses Materials mit dem der alten Kammerbibliothek leicht davon überzeugen können, dass der Bestand der Kammerbibliothek rein theoretisch-wissenschaftlichen Charakter besitzt und

somit nicht geeignet ist, eine Arbeitsbibliothek abzugeben. Aus diesem Grund sind wir, nach nochmaliger genauer Überprüfung zu dem Entschluss gekommen, die für die Gauleitung bestimmte Handbibliothek neu anzuschaffen, damit auch wirklich Schrifttum darin enthalten ist, das als Arbeitsunterlage für die politische und praktische Arbeit eines Gauleiters dienen kann.

Ich bitte daher, mir Gelegenheit zu geben, wegen des endgültigen Umfanges und Inhaltes dieser Bibliothek kurz mit Ihnen sprechen zu können, und werde mir erlauben, Sie nach Ihrer Rückkehr, am Dienstag, in Ihrem Büro aufzusuchen.

Heil Hitler!
[Dr. Richter]

* Mühlmann (Kajetan Mühlmann, Staatssekretär im Amt des Reichsstatthalters in Österreich).

Translation

To
State Secretary Müllmann*
Vienna I
Prinz Eugenstraße 28

Dear Mr State Secretary,

I would like with respect to refer to your discussion with party comrade Budell from the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront and would be greatly indebted to you if, as was the point of this discussion, you would see to it that Gauleiter Globocnik sends us written authorization as soon as possible, so that we can ship the library in question to Berlin. The sooner this shipment occurs, the sooner the library can be set up in order to serve its various tasks.

As party comrade Budell has already informed you, we will compile a usable reference library suitable for the working needs of a Gau administration. I am currently involved with this work and hope to be able to show you the core of this library in the next few days. When you compare this material with that of the former chamber library, you will quickly become convinced that the inventory of the chamber library is of a purely theoretical-scientific nature and thus not suitable to be a reference library. For this reason, we have come to the conclusion, after further serious deliberation, to acquire a new reference library for the Gau administration in order to ensure that it actually contains the material that would serve the political and practical work of a Gau leader.

Therefore, I would like to request that I be given the opportunity to speak briefly with you concerning the permanent size and content of this library and, upon your return, will take the liberty of visiting your office on Tuesday.

Heil Hitler!
(Dr Richter)

* Mühlmann (Kajetan Mühlmann, State Secretary at the Office of the Reich Governor in Austria).

4

An den
Parteigenossen
Jakob Knissel
Wien
Parlament

Lieber Jakob!

Auf Grund unserer Unterredung, die wir am 19.1. hatten, haben wir mit dem Abtransport der in Wien lagernden Bücher begonnen. Nachdem am 30.1. die endgültige Entscheidung des Führers bezüglich des Gau's Wien getroffen ist, bitte ich, mir die vereinbarte schriftliche Bestätigung zugehen zu lassen.

Besten Dank

Heil Hitler!
Dein
[Rob. Budell]

Translation

To
Party Comrade
Jakob Knissel
Vienna
Parliament

Dear Jakob,

Based on the discussion that we had on 19 January, we have begun to evacuate the books stored in Vienna. Seeing as how the final decision of the Führer with reference to the Gau Vienna was made on 30 January, I ask that I be sent the written confirmation agreed upon.

Many thanks

Heil Hitler!
Yours,
(Rob. Budell)

5

Bestätigung

Gegen die Überführung der Bibliothek der ehemaligen Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte zum Zentralbüro der DAF – Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, bestehen keine Bedenken.

Translation

Confirmation

There are no objections to the transfer of the library of the former Chamber for Workers and White-Collar Employees to the headquarters of the DAF – Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut.

An das
Auswärtige Amt
z.Hd. Herrn Generalkonsul Krug zur Nidda
Berlin W. 8
Wilhelmstr.

Sehr geehrter Herr Generalkonsul!

Ich nehme Bezug auf das mit Herrn Jahnke geführte Telefongespräch und erlaube mir, meine Bitte wunschgemäss schriftlich zu wiederholen. Herr Geheimrat Luther vom Auswärtigen Amt, der vor einiger Zeit unser Institut besuchte und Gelegenheit hatte, sich auch über die Aufgaben und den Umfang der Zentralbücherei der DAF zu unterrichten, machte mich darauf aufmerksam, dass vom Oberkommando der Wehrmacht in den besetzten Gebieten Bibliotheken und Archive sichergestellt worden sind und schlug vor, mich dieserhalb an Sie zu wenden. Herr Geheimrat Luther glaubte annehmen zu können, dass die betreffenden Stellen der Wehrmacht sich nur für die heereswichtigen militärischen Unterlagen interessieren und dass die anderen Materialien gegebenenfalls für andere Dienststellen zur Verfügung ständen. In der Annahme, dass bei letzteren Unterlagen sich in grösserem Umfange auch Schrifttum, Dokumente u.ä. befinden, die für die Forschungsaufgaben des Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts und für unsere Bibliothekszwecke wichtig sind, wäre ich dankbar, wenn derartige Unterlagen der Zentralbücherei der DAF zur Verfügung gestellt würden.

Ich darf Sie daher bitten, mit den betreffenden Stellen der Wehrmacht und uns eine Verbindung herzustellen, damit wir unsere Wünsche und Vorschläge unmittelbar vortragen können. Für Ihr Entgegenkommen in dieser Angelegenheit danken wir Ihnen im voraus verbindlichst.

Heil Hitler!
[Richter]

Translation

To the
Foreign Office
attn: Consul General Krug zur Nidda
Berlin W8
Wilhelmstraße

Dear Mr Consul General,

With reference to the telephone conversation with Mr Jahnke, I am taking the liberty of repeating my request in writing, as asked. Geheimrat Luther from the Foreign Office, who visited our institute a while ago and had the opportunity to inquire into the purposes and size of the DAF Central Library, pointed out to me that libraries and archives in the occupied territories have been seized by the Wehrmacht high command. He suggested that I contact you concerning this matter. Geheimrat Luther thought it possible to assume that the Wehrmacht headquarters in question would only be interested in the military papers important for the army and that the other material would become available for other agencies

as seen fit. Assuming that there are a great many writings, documents, etc. to be found among the latter material that would be important for the research goals of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut and for our library's purposes, I would be grateful if such papers would be turned over to the Central Library of the DAF.

Therefore, I would like to ask you to set up contact between the appropriate Wehrmacht headquarters and us, so that we can make our requests and proposals directly. We offer you our many thanks in advance for your efforts in this matter.

Heil Hitler!
(Richter)

7

An
Sturmbannführer Dr. Knochen
Paris
72 Avenue Foch

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Knochen!

Ich bin nunmehr wieder gut in Berlin angekommen, und ich möchte nicht versäumen, Ihnen gleich meinen besten Dank auszusprechen für die mir bei meiner Pariser Tätigkeit geleistete Unterstützung. Ich darf Ihnen im folgenden nochmals genau skizzieren, auf welche Unterlagen welcher Verbände die Deutsche Arbeitsfront, insbesondere das Arbeitswissenschaftliche Institut, für seine künftigen Aufgaben Wert legt. Ich bitte Sie daher, wie schon mündlich besprochen und Ihnen auch schon handschriftlich mitgeteilt, darauf zu achten, dass das für uns sichergestellte Material unter allen Umständen nach Berlin kommt. Ich wäre Ihnen dankbar, wenn Sie mir zu gegebener Zeit Nachricht zukommen liessen, damit die Übernahme durch uns ohne Zeitverlust und technische Schwierigkeiten erfolgen kann. Der Ordnung halber teile ich Ihnen nochmals mit, was durch den Sicherungsstab Paris für uns sichergestellt worden ist.

Von dem *Internationalen Gewerkschaftsbund* (IGB) und dem *Französischen Gewerkschaftsbund* (CGT) sowie den im Hause des Französischen Gewerkschaftsbundes untergebrachten französischen Gewerkschaften (Federation de l'Agriculture; Federation de l'Alimentation et des Hotels, Cafes, Restaurants; Federation nationale des Travailleurs des Industries du Batiment et du Bois; Federation des Coiffeurs; Federation de l'Eclairage; Federation des Employes; Federation de l'Habillement; Federation des Metaux; Federation de la Pharmacie et de la Droguerie; Federation des Ports et Docks; Federation Postale; Federation des Services Publics et de Sante; Federation du Sous-Sol; Federation nationale des Syndicats Maritimes; Federation des Transports; Federation des Voyageurs et Representants)

1. alles von den Verbänden selbst herausgegebene Schrifttum wie Zeitungen, Zeitschriften, Serien, Jahrbücher, Monographien u.ä.
2. alles in den Bibliotheken dieser Verbände enthaltene international und nationalwichtige sozialpolitische Schrifttum, insbesondere amtliche Veröffentlichungen (Gesetzesblätter, offizielle Statistiken, Enqueten) ferner das dort vorhandene wesentliche wissenschaftlich-theoretische Schrifttum sowie die vorhandenen Bibliothekskataloge.

3. Vorhandenes Dokumentenmaterial, das über die sozial-politischen Ziele und Arbeiten der Verbände Aufschluß gibt. Dazu gehören u.a. Sitzungsberichte, Protokolle, Tagungsberichte u.ä.

Wie Sie mir mitteilten, sind Sie mit der Überholung der in Paris vorhandenen französischen Gewerkschaften noch nicht vollständig fertig. Ich bitte Sie, auch hier unsere Interessen zu wahren und zu veranlassen, dass insbesondere bei folgenden Gewerkschaften das uns interessierende Material sichergestellt wird.

1. Federation des Cheminots, 19, rue Baudin, Paris.
2. Federation des Cuirs et Peaux, rue Charles-Malard, Fougères.
3. Federation du Livre, 7, rue Jules-Breton, Paris.
4. Federation du Papier Carton et des Industries Chimiques, Bourse du Travail, 3, rue du Chateau-d'Eau, Paris.
5. Federation du Verre, 27, rue du Chateau-d'Eau, Paris.

Ich weiss nicht, ob die Anschriften noch stimmen, da ich sie einem Verzeichnis entnommen habe, das nicht erkennen lässt, wann es erschienen ist. Ich glaube jedoch, dass es neueren Datums ist.

Ich bitte Sie, mir mitzuteilen, wann die Sicherstellung durch den Sicherungsstab erfolgt ist, damit ich gegebenenfalls in 3 oder 4 Wochen Pg. Weinberger zur Überprüfung nach Paris schicken kann.

Sollte sich in der Zwischenzeit eine Möglichkeit ergeben, das für uns beschlagnahmte Material ausserhalb des Sammeltransports nach Berlin zu bringen, wäre ich Ihnen für entsprechendes Bescheid dankbar.

Sturmbannführer Boemelburg bitte ich zu grüssen und ihm nochmals bestens für seine wertvolle Mitarbeit bei der Sicherstellung des Materials zu danken.

Heil Hitler!

Translation

To

Sturmbannführer Dr Knochen
Paris
72 Avenue Foch

Dear party comrade Dr Knochen,

Now that I am once again safely back in Berlin, I want to take this opportunity to express my utmost gratitude for the many ways you supported my activity in Paris. Please allow me again to outline precisely in the following which papers from which organizations are valued by the Deutsche Arbeitsfront, and particularly the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut for its future work. As has already been discussed and given you in handwritten form, it is my request that you see to it that the material secured for us is sent to Berlin in any event. When this time comes. I would be grateful for word from you so that the transition can be made by us without any technical difficulties or loss of time. For the record, let me again itemize for you what has been secured for us by the Paris acquisitions task force.

From the *International Federation of Trade Unions* (Internationaler Gewerkschaftsbund, IGB) and the *French Federation of Trade Unions* (CGT), as well as the French trade unions located at the headquarters of the French Federation of Trade Unions (Fédération de l'Agriculture; Fédération de l'Alimentation et des

Hôtels, Cafés, Restaurants; Fédération nationale des Travailleurs des Industries du Bâtiment et du Bois; Fédération des Coiffeurs; Fédération de l'Eclairage; Fédération des Employés; Fédération de l'Habillement; Fédération des Métaux; Fédération de la Pharmacie et de la Droguerie; Fédération des Ports et Docks; Fédération Postale; Fédération des Services Publics et de Santé; Fédération du Sous-Sol; Fédération nationale des Syndicats Maritimes; Fédération du Spectacle; Fédération des Tabacs; Fédération du Textile; Fédération des Transports; Fédération des Voyageurs et Représentants)

1. all material published by the organizations themselves, such as newspapers, periodicals, book series, annuals, monographs, etc.
2. all of the documents important for international and national social policy found in the libraries of these organizations (law gazettes, official statistics and inquiries) as well as the significant material available on scientific theory and the existing library catalogues.
3. Existing documentation that gives insight into the social policy goals and work of the organizations. These include – among others – meeting minutes, protocols and conference reports, etc.

You have reported that you have not completed the inspection of the French unions in Paris. I ask you also to protect our interests here and to ensure that material of interest to us, especially from the following trade unions, is seized.

1. Fédération des Cheminots, 19, rue Baudin, Paris.
2. Fédération des Cuirs et Peaux, rue Charles-Malard, Fougères.
3. Fédération du Livre, 7, rue Jules-Breton, Paris.
4. Fédération du Papier, Carton et des Industries Chimiques, Bourse du Travail, 3, rue du Château-d'Eau, Paris.
5. Fédération du Verre, 27, rue du Château-d'Eau, Paris.

I do not know whether the addresses are still correct since I took them from a directory that does not indicate when it was published. However, I think that it is a recent publication.

Please let me know when the confiscation has been completed by the acquisitions task force so that I can send Weinberger to Paris for an inspection in 3 or 4 weeks, if necessary.

In the meantime, should the possibility arise to bring the material confiscated for us to Berlin other than by collective shipment, I would be grateful if you would notify me of such.

Please give Sturmbannführer Boemelburg my greetings and my utmost thanks for his valuable cooperation in securing the material.

Heil Hitler!

An
das Reichssicherheitshauptamt, Amt IV,
z.Hd. von SS-Oberführer Müller
Berlin

Betr.: Internationales Arbeitsamt.
Anl.: 1

Unter dem Material des J.G.B. in Paris wurde auch die beigeftigte Liste der Mitglieder des Internationalen Arbeitsamtes gefunden. Ein Auszug der französischen Mitglieder und des belgischen Mitgliedes Mertens ist gefertigt worden.

Mertens, welcher als Vizepräsident des Verwaltungsrates das Büro des I.A.A. in der Liste erscheint, wird mit Datum vom 4.VI.1940 als in Toulouse, 65 rue du Tour wohnhaft, aufgeführt. Höchstwahrscheinlich befindet sich dort das aus Genf entfernte Material des I.A.A.

Der Hauptabteilungsleiter Dr. Hans Richter vom Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Institut der DAF, Berlin, Leipziger Platz 14, hatte bei seinem Besuch in Paris am 15.7.1940 gebeten, ihm u.a. auch das evtl. erfaßbare Material des Internationalen Arbeitsamtes in Genf zur Verfügung zu stellen.

Nach Rücksprache mit Kriminalrat Boemelburg besteht aber keine Möglichkeit, an das Material heranzukommen. Ich bitte um Kenntnisnahme. Dr. Richter wurde von hier aus nicht benachrichtigt.

Im Auftrage:
[Sattler]

Translation

To
The Reich Security Headquarters, Office IV
attn: von SS-Oberführer Müller
Berlin

re: International Labour Office
attachments: 1

Among the material of the I.F.T.U. in Paris was found the enclosed list of members of the International Labour Office. A summary of the French members and of the Belgian member Mertens has been compiled.

Mertens, who appears on the list as vice president of the administrative council of the I.L.O. headquarters, is registered as living in Toulouse, 65 rue du Tour, as of 4.VI.1940. It is highly likely that the I.L.O. material evacuated from Geneva is to be found there.

Dr Hans Richter, senior departmental head of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF, Berlin, Leipziger Platz 14, requested during his visit to Paris on 15 July 1940, that he be supplied, among other things, with any material eventually seized from the International Labour Office in Geneva.

Following consultation with Chief Detective Superintendent Boemelburg, it does

not appear at all possible to obtain the material. Please take note of this. Dr Richter has not been informed by this office.

by order of:
Sattler

9

An
Sturmbannführer
Pg. Dr. Knochen
Sicherungsstab Paris
Paris
72 Avenue Foch

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Knochen!

Ich wäre Ihnen dankbar, wenn Sie mir mitteilen würden, ob in absehbarer Zeit mit dem Abtransport der für die DAF sichergestellten Unterlagen durch Sie gerechnet werden kann. Es besteht die Möglichkeit, von hieraus einen Lastzug nach Paris zu schicken, da ein hiesiger Spediteur Wehrmächtsaufträge hat und sich entsprechend für den Rücktransport einrichten könnte.

Heil Hitler!
Ihr [gez. Dr. Richter]

Translation

To Sturmbannführer
Party Comrade Dr Knochen
Security Task Force Paris
Paris
72 Avenue Foch

Dear party comrade Dr Knochen,

I would be grateful to learn from you whether we can count on receiving a shipment of the material confiscated for the DAF from you in the foreseeable future. It is possible to send a truck to Paris from here, since a local carrier has military contracts and would be able to make the necessary arrangements for the return shipment.

Heil Hitler!
Yours,
(signed: Dr Richter)

10

An den
 Beauftragten des Chefs der
 Sicherheitspolizei und des SD
 für Belgien und Frankreich
 Dienststelle Paris, Abt. IV
 Paris
 Place Beauveau
 Material der C.G.T.

Wir bestätigen mit verbindlichstem Dank den Eingang Ihres Schreibens und werden Ihnen in den nächsten Tagen mitteilen können, wann ein Lastkraftwagen von hier nach Paris abfährt. Wir bitten, auch dafür zu sorgen, dass das für die DAF sichergestellte Material des IBG ebenfalls zum Abtransport bereit liegt.

Heil Hitler!
 [Dr. Richter]

Translation

To
 The Commissioner for the Chief of the Security Police and the SD for Belgium
 and France
 Paris Headquarters, Dept. IV
 Paris
 Place Beauveau
 C.G.T. Material

With our many thanks, we acknowledge having received your letter and will be able to notify you in the next few days when a truck will depart for Paris from here. We ask you also to ensure that the IFTU material confiscated for the DAF is made ready for shipment as well.

Heil Hitler!
 Dr Richter

11

An den
 Militärbefehlshaber in
 Frankreich / Verwaltungsstab
 Dienststelle Dr. Hellwig
 z.Hd. Pg. Dr. Siegfried Bollacher
 Paris

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Bollacher!
 Ich bestätige den Eingang Ihres Schreibens an Pg. Weinberger und bin selbstverständlich unter den von Ihnen geschilderten Umständen bereit, auf den weiteren Abtransport des noch in Paris befindlichen Materials der CGT zu verzichten. Sehr

wünschenswert für die weiteren Arbeiten der DAF, insbesondere des Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts, wäre es jedoch, wenn Sie durchsetzen könnten, dass das Material, das sich schon hier befindet, beim Institut verbleibt. Auf jeden Fall müsste das jedoch bez. der Bestände des Internationalen Gewerkschaftsbundes zu erreichen sein.

Ich wäre Ihnen dankbar, wenn Sie die Erledigung dieser Angelegenheit in diesem Sinne betreiben würden und bitte Sie, mir Mitteilung zu machen, sobald in dieser Angelegenheit eine klare Entscheidung getroffen ist.

Heil Hitler!
Der Leiter des
Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts
[gez. Wolfgang Pohl]
Reichsamtleiter

Translation

To
Military Command Headquarters in France
Administrative Staff
Office Dr Hellwig
attn: Party Comrade Dr Siegfried Bollacher
Paris

Dear party comrade Dr Bollacher,

I acknowledge the arrival of your letter to party comrade Weinberger and, of course, am willing to halt any further shipment of CGT material still existing in Paris due to the circumstances you described. However, it would be very desirable for the further work of the DAF, and especially for that of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut, if you could ensure that the material that is already here could remain at the institute. In any case, this should be possible to achieve for the inventory of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

I would appreciate it if you would arrange that this matter be settled in this manner; please let me know as soon as a definite decision has been made about this matter.

Heil Hitler!
The Director of the
Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut
(signed: Wolfgang Pohl)
Reichsamtleiter (director)

12

An den
 Militärbefehlshaber in
 Frankreich / Verwaltungsstab
 Dienststelle Dr. Hellwig
 z.Hd. Pg. Dr. Siegfried Bollacher
 Paris

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Bollacher!

Wie Sie wohl ebenfalls aus der Presse ersehen haben, hat die Regierung in Vichy beschlossen, die französischen Gewerkschaften aufzulösen. Unter diesen Umständen ist m.E. Ihr Schreiben vom 7.11. und mein Schreiben vom 14.11.1940 inhaltlich überholt. Ich nehme an, dass es bei der veränderten Lage möglich ist, auch noch die für die DAF sichergestellten Restbestände der CGT nach Berlin zu überführen. Ich bitte, entsprechende Erkundigungen einzuziehen und mir baldmöglichst Bescheid zukommen zu lassen, damit wir noch Zeit haben, die Unterlagen abzutransportieren.

Heil Hitler!
 Der Leiter des
 Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts
 [gez. Wolfgang Pohl]
 Reichsamtsleiter

Translation

To
 Military Command Headquarters in France
 Administrative Staff
 Office Dr Hellwig
 attn: Party Comrade Dr Siegfried Bollacher
 Paris

Dear party comrade Dr Bollacher,

As you, too, have certainly seen reported in the press, the Vichy government has decided to dissolve the French trade unions. In my opinion, the content of your letter dated 7 November and my letter dated 14 November 1940, is out-of-date in these circumstances. I assume that it will be possible in this altered situation still to transport the rest of the CGT inventory secured for the DAF to Berlin. I ask you to make the necessary inquiries and let me know as soon as possible, so that we still have time to ship the papers.

Heil Hitler!
 The Director of the
 Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut
 (signed: Wolfgang Pohl)
 Reichsamtsleiter (director)

Herrn

Ministerialdirektor Dr. Best

Kriegsverwaltungschef

Feldpostnummer 06 661

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Best!

Ich nehme Bezug auf die mit Ihnen in München gehabte Unterhaltung bez. der Übernahme von Gewerkschaftsschrifttum durch Mitarbeiter meines Instituts und übersende Ihnen in der Anlage die Abschrift der Berichte, aus denen Sie ersehen können, dass von unserer Seite aus in Paris nichts ohne Einverständnis des Sicherungsstabes unternommen worden ist. Ich habe davon Kenntnis genommen, dass auf Grund der neuesten Entwicklung das Schrifttum der französischen Gewerkschaften, das zum Teil schon nach Berlin überführt worden ist, wieder zurückgegeben werden muss. Ich halte es für zweckmässig, dass wir uns in dieser Angelegenheit unmittelbar mit den Herren des Sicherungsstabes Paris, mit deren Hilfe die damalige Aktion unternommen worden ist, in Verbindung setzen. Sollten Sie jedoch einen einfacheren Weg der Rückgabe des Materials wissen, wäre ich für baldige Benachrichtigung dankbar.

Verabredungsgemäss bleibt jedoch das von uns übernommene Material der Internationalen zur Verfügung des Instituts.

Heil Hitler!

Der Leiter des

Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts

[gez. Wolfgang Pohl]

Reichsamtleiter

Translation

Ministerial Director Dr Best

Military Administrative Head

Field Post Number 06 661

Dear party comrade Dr Best,

I am writing with reference to the discussion I had with you in Munich about colleagues of my institute taking possession of trade union documents. Enclosed you will find the transcript of the report from which you can see that nothing has been undertaken on our part in Paris without the permission of the acquisitions task force. I realize that, due to very recent developments, the documents of the French trade unions, which have in part been transported to Berlin, must be returned. I think it would be wise if we contacted the gentlemen of the Paris acquisitions task force directly in this matter, with whose help the operations had been undertaken before. Should you be aware of a simpler way of returning the material, I would be grateful to hear from you soon.

As agreed, the material in our possession belonging to the International will, however, remain at the institute's disposal.

Heil Hitler!
The Director of the
Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut
(signed: Wolfgang Pohl)
Reichsamtleiter (director)

14

An den
Militärbefehlshaber in Frankreich
Verwaltungsstab, Abt. C
Dienststelle Dr. Hellwig
z.Hd. Pg. Dr. Siegfried Bollacher
Feldpostnummer 06 661

Sehr geehrter Parteigenosse Dr. Bollacher!
Ich danke Ihnen verbindlichst für Ihr Schreiben und bitte Sie, zu veranlassen, dass die von Ihnen vorgefundenen Bücherbestände des Internationalen Verbandes der Beamten und öffentlichen Dienstnehmer Paris für die Zwecke des Arbeitswissenschaftlichen Instituts von der Gestapo freigegeben werden. Wie mir bekannt ist, bestehen seitens des Ministerialdirektors Dr. Best keine Bedenken, sobald es sich bei der Übernahme um Bestände von Internationalen handelt.

Für baldigen Bescheid wäre ich Ihnen dankbar.

Heil Hitler!
[gez. Dr. Richter]

Translation

To
Military Command Headquarters in France
Administrative Staff, Dept. C
Office Dr Hellwig
attn: Party comrade Dr Siegfried Bollacher
Field Post Number 06 661

Dear party comrade Dr Bollacher,
I thank you very much for your letter and ask you to arrange to have the Gestapo release the book collections that you found belonging to the Paris branch of the International Association of Civil Servants and Public Employees for the benefit of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut. As I am aware, Ministerial Director Dr Best has no reservations as long as the material being taken over consists of inventories from the International.

I would be grateful for a reply as soon as possible.

Heil Hitler!
(signed: Dr Richter)

Awi-Archiv

Z Internationale Beziehungen

- 110–112 Amsterdamer Internationale
- 124 Antikomintern
- 170–176 Arbeitsamt, internationales
- 100–109 a Bewegungen, internationale, allgemein
- Z Beziehungen, internationale
- 170–176 Internationales Arbeitsamt
- 100 Internationale Bewegungen, allgemein
- 110–112 Gewerkschafts-internationale
- 130–132 Gewerkschafts-internationale, christliche
- 150–156 Genfer Liga (Völkerbund)?
- 120–122 Dritte Internationale
- 130–132 Christliche Gewerkschafts-internationale
- 10 Rechtsfragen, internationale
- 10 Völkerrecht
- 150–156 Völkerbund(?), Genfer Liga
- 110–112 Zweite Internationale

Translation

Awi-Archive

Z International Relations

- 110–112 Amsterdam International
- 124 Anticomintern
- 170–176 Labour Office, international
- 100–109 a Movements, international, general
- Z Relations, international
- 170–176 International Labour Office
- 100 International movements, general
- 110–112 Trade unions – international
- 130–132 Trade unions – international, Christian
- 150–156 Geneva League (League of Nations)?
- 120–122 Third International
- 130–132 Christian trade unions – international
- 10 Legal issues, international
- 10 International law
- 150–156 League of Nations(?), Geneva League
- 110–112 Second International

Die Zentralbücherei der DAF Berlin wurde im Jahre 1934 als Sammlung für das arbeits- und sozialrechtliche Schrifttum des In- und Auslands von der DAF ins Leben gerufen.

Sie umfasst etwa 320 000 Buchbinderverbände ohne die Zeitschriften und Zeitungsbände, von denen etwa $\frac{1}{3}$ nach Schlesien evakuiert worden sind. Die restlichen Bände sind im Magazin der Bücherei Immelmannstr. 10 untergebracht.

Die Verwaltungsräume waren vom Magazin völlig getrennt. Sie befanden sich zusammen mit der Ausleihe zuerst am Leipziger Platz 14 und zuletzt Französische Strasse 22.

Nach Besuch der Französischen-Str. 22, des Leipziger Platzes und der Immelmannstr. 10 ergibt sich folgendes Zustandsbild: Während die Verwaltungsräume in der Französischen-Strasse und am Leipziger Platz völlig zerstört sind, ist das Magazin in der Immelmannstr. fast unversehrt. Der Alphabetische Katalog und der Sachkatalog für die Zeit 1934–1943 ist ebenfalls noch vorhanden. 4 Kisten enthalten den Nachweis über die Bestände 1943/44. Der Katalog des Metallarbeiterverbandes und die bibliographischen Nachschlagewerke sind unter den Trümmern des Leipziger Platzes bzw. der Französischen Strasse begraben.

Ich erlaube mir nun, folgende Vorschläge zur machen: Nach Feststellung des jetzigen Besitzers – die DAF besteht nicht mehr – sind Aufräumarbeiten in der Bibliothek erforderlich. Sie könnten von mir mit Beistand des Magazinverwalters, Herrn Schluck, unternommen werden. Die Bücherei birgt so einzigartige Schätze aus der Zeit vor 1933, dass sie nicht verloren gehen darf. Eine Heranholung der Bestände, die evakuiert sind, wäre möglichst bald in die Wege zu leiten. Zumindestens wäre eine Sicherstellung der dortigen Bestände erforderlich. Da das Haus mit seinen gesamten Räumen vom deutschen Buchdruckerverband benötigt wird, ist eine Übersiedlung der Bestände dringend erforderlich.

gez. Dr. Gerhard Bock

Translation

The Central Library of the Berlin DAF was established in 1934 by the DAF as a collection of both domestic and foreign documents on labour and social law.

It contains around 320,000 bound books, excluding the volumes of bound periodicals and newspapers, of which approximately one-third were evacuated to Silesia. The remaining books are located in the stacks of the library at Immelmannstraße 10.

The administrative offices were at a completely different location from that of the stacks. Together with the issuing department, they were to be found first at Leipziger Platz 14 and finally at Französische Straße 22.

Visits to Französische Str. 22, Leipziger Platz and Immelmannstr. 10 have revealed the following conditions: whereas the administrative offices located in the Französische Straße and at Leipziger Platz have been completely destroyed, the stacks in the Immelmannstraße are nearly intact. The alphabetical catalogue and the subject catalogue for the period between 1934 and 1943 also still exist. Four boxes contain the list for the 1943/44 collection. The catalogue of the metal workers association and the bibliographical reference volumes are buried under the ruins of the Leipziger Platz and the Französische Straße buildings.

Please permit me to make the following suggestions: according to the current owners – the DAF no longer exists – it is necessary to clean up the library. This work could be started by me with the assistance of the stack librarian, Herr Schluck. The library holds such unique treasures from the period prior to 1933 that it must not be lost. A retrieval of the evacuated books should be undertaken

as soon as possible. At the least it is necessary to take possession of the inventories found there. Since every room in the building belonging to the German book printers will be needed by them, it is urgently necessary to remove the inventory.

signed Dr Gerhard Bock

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Berlin, 10. Juli 1945

Aktennotiz

Die *Bibliothek der Deutschen Arbeitsfront* ist mit einem Drittel ihres Gesamtbestandes nach Quickendorf/Unterschlesien in die Berger-Mühle evakuiert worden. Es handelt sich um 250 000 Bände, die in 14 Waggons dorthin verfrachtet wurden. Die in Berlin verbliebenen Restbestände befinden sich

1. Immelmann-Strasse 10 im ehemaligen "Haus der Buchdrucker".
2. Leipziger Platz 14, in den Diensträumen der DAF befindet sich die Handbibliothek mit den wichtigsten Nachschlagewerken. Diese Buchbestände liegen unter Trümmern des Gebäudes verschüttet.
3. Französische-Str. 22, ebenfalls unter Trümmern.

Translation

Berlin, 10 July 1945

File memorandum

One-third of the entire collection of the library of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront has been evacuated to the Berger mill in Quickendorf, Lower Silesia. It consists of 250,000 volumes, which were shipped in 14 freight cars.

The remaining inventory is located in Berlin at:

1. Immelmann-Straße 10 in the former "House of Book Printers";
2. Leipziger Platz 14; the DAF offices houses the reference library with the most important reference books. This collection now lies buried under the ruins of the building;
3. Französische Str. 22, also in ruins.

18

An den
Vorbereitenden Ausschuss des
Freien Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes
Berlin C2
Wallstr. 61-65

Betreff: Bibliothek der ehemaligen Deutschen Arbeitsfront

Der Magistrat der Stadt Berlin – Abteilung Volksbildung – hat Ihr Gesuch vom 12.7.1945 um Überlassung der Bibliothek der ehemaligen Deutschen Arbeitsfront genehmigt.

Eine Bescheinigung, die zur Übernahme der Bibliothek gegenüber dem Bezirksamt Kreuzberg berechtigt, liegt bei. Ausserdem fügen wir die Denkschrift eines Bibliothekars der Bibliothek, Dr. Bock, und eine Aktennotiz in Abschrift bei, aus denen Sie ein Bild über den augenblicklichen Zustand der Bibliothek gewinnen. Wir bitten, die Übernahme der Bibliothek zu bestätigen.

Abteilung für Volksbildung
beim Magistrat der Stadt Berlin

Translation

To
The Preparatory Committee of the
Federation of Free German Trade Unions
Berlin C2
Wallstr. 61-65

re: Library of the former Deutsche Arbeitsfront

The City Council of Berlin – Department for Adult Education – has approved your request of 12 July 1945 to take possession of the library of the former Deutsche Arbeitsfront.

An authorization is enclosed that permits you to take over the library from the Kreuzberg district office. In addition, we are sending a transcript of a file note and the memorandum of one of the library's librarians, Dr Bock, from which you can draw a picture of the current condition of the library.

We ask you to confirm the takeover of the library.

Department for Adult Education
of the City Council of Berlin

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Bescheinigung

Die Bibliothek der ehemaligen Deutschen Arbeitsfront ist dem Freien Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbund überlassen worden. Dieser ist berechtigt, die in Berlin vorhandenen Bestände der Bibliothek aus den bisherigen Magazinräumen Immelmannstr. 10 abzutransportieren.

Es wird gebeten, den Beauftragten des Freien Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes ungehinderten Zutritt zu den genannten Räumen zu gewähren.

Abteilung für Volksbildung
beim Magistrat der Stadt Berlin

Translation

Authorization

The library of the former Deutsche Arbeitsfront is to be turned over to the Federation of Free German Trade Unions. This organization is authorized to remove the existing inventory of the library from the current stack rooms at Immelmannstr. 10.

We request that the representative of the Federation of Free German Trade Unions be guaranteed unlimited access to the above-mentioned rooms.

Department for Adult Education
of the City Council of Berlin

20

Ich habe mit Hilfe einiger Mitarbeiter Erkundigungen über die Bücherbestände und Materialsammlungen der ehemaligen DAF angestellt. Ihre Sicherstellung für den FDGB erscheint mir von grosser Wichtigkeit. Die Gefahr der Verschleuderung durch unbefugte Stellen und Personen ist nicht von der Hand zu weisen.

Nach dem Stand von März 1945 waren die umfangreichen Buchbestände und Materialsammlungen der ehemaligen DAF auf folgende Plätze verteilt:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>Leipziger Platz 14</i> | Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut der DAF.
Restbestände, in den Kellern untergebracht. |
| <i>Immelmannstrasse</i> | (1) Der grösste Teil der "Zentralbücherei und -archiv" Deutsche Arbeitsfront-Arbeitswiss. Institut.
(2) Die 180 000 Bände umfassende "Bibliothek für Arbeiter und Angestellte in Wien". Diese Bestände waren noch nicht einmal katalogisiert worden. Sie wurden nur zu einen kleinen Teil ausgeliehen. |
| <i>am wichtigsten!</i> | (3) Zeitschriftensammlung.
(4) U.a. auch die Berichte des Internationalen Arbeitsamtes Genf. |
| <i>Teltower Damm</i> | Handbibliothek. Das Arbeitswiss. Institut war Anfang 1945 dorthin übersiedelt. |
| <i>Friedrichstrasse im "Haus der Technik"</i> | Das gesamte Zeitungsausschnitt-Archiv. Trotz einer grösseren "Razzia" zur Ausmerzung alter Artikel enthält es noch zahlreiche Zeitungsausschnitte aus den Jahren vor 1933 bis 1923 zurück. |
| <i>Französische Str. Nr. 22-23</i> | Handbibliotheken einzelner Mitarbeiter. |
| <i>Falkenstein in Schlesien</i> | Dorthin ist im Herbst 1944 ein Teil der Bücher aus der Immelmannstrasse in Sicherheit gebracht worden. |
| <i>Ordensburg Crössinsee</i> | Dorthin waren Ende 1943 kleinere Buchbestände vom Leipziger Platz und aus der Immelmannstrasse geschafft worden. Im Sommer 1944 wurde das Lektorat des Arbeitswiss. Instituts dorthin evakuiert. Sie nahmen ihr Arbeitsmaterial mit und konnten bei ihrer plötzlichen Rückkehr im Februar 1945 keine Bücher usw. zurückschaffen. |

Ein grosser Teil dieser Bestände muss als verloren angesehen werden. Das greifbare Material vor allem in Berlin müsste sichergestellt werden. Für die Bestände

in den Häusern der ehemaligen DAF in Zehlendorf am Teltower Damm wurde bereits ein Aufräumungskommando bestellt.

Translation

With the assistance of several staff members, I have inspected the book inventories and collections of material of the former DAF. I feel it is imperative that these be secured for the FDGB. The danger of ransacking by unauthorized offices and persons cannot be ruled out.

As of March 1945, the extensive book inventories and collections of material of the former DAF were distributed between the following places:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <i>Leipziger Platz 14</i> | Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut of the DAF. Remaining inventories stored in the cellar. |
| <i>Immelmannstraße</i> | (1) The greater part of the "Central Library and Archive" of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront-Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut.
(2) The 180,000-volume "Library for Workers and White-Collar Employees in Vienna". These collections had not yet even been catalogued. Only a small part of these were loaned out. |
| <i>most important!</i> | (3) Periodical collection.
(4) Among other things, the reports of the International Labour Office in Geneva. |
| <i>Teltower Damm</i> | Reference library. In early 1945, the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut was moved into there. |
| <i>Friedrichstrasse in the "House of Technology"</i> | The entire archive of newspaper clippings. Despite a rather large "raid" to . . . older articles, it still contains numerous newspaper clippings dating from 1923 to some time before 1933. |
| <i>Französische Str. No. 22-23</i> | The reference libraries of individual staff members. |
| <i>Falkenstein in Silesia</i> | In the autumn of 1944, some of the books were brought here from the Immelmannstrasse for safekeeping. |
| <i>Ordensburg Crössinsee</i> | In late 1943, smaller collections of books were brought here from the Leipziger Platz and Immelmannstrasse locations. In summer 1944, the lectorate of the Arbeitswissenschaftliches Institut was evacuated there. They took their working material with them and were not able to bring back any books, etc. when they returned suddenly in February 1945. |

A majority of these inventories must be considered to be lost. The material at hand, especially in Berlin, must be taken into safekeeping. For the collections in the buildings of the former DAF in Zehlendorf am Teltower Damm a removal commando has already been set up.

Report No. 19

TO: David H. CLIFT, Library of Congress Mission, Frankfurt/M.
FROM: J. Zuckerman, L.o.C.M., Berlin.

[...]

4. On Friday, the 15th, we visited the library of the former "Deutsche Arbeitsfront" at Immelmannstrasse, Tempelhof. We found out that in the last few weeks more than two-thirds of this library had been evacuated to the building of the "Freie Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund" at Wallstrasse (Russian Zone). The transfer of these books was apparently carried out with some sort of clearance, but we have still to find out whether this clearance permitted an evacuation of books from the American to the Russian Zone. We have received clearance from Maj. NOBLES, Property Control Officer to evacuate this target, where approximately 30,000 books are left now. We intend to discuss the matter with the librarians of the "Freie Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund" but I consider it unwise to take too harsh an attitude in this particular case in view of the fact that the German Trade Unions should get a certain amount of consideration from our side. Among the books which they have already taken over are certainly a great number of duplicates which I would ask them to return while on the other hand we would let them have some of the books which are still left. [...]

J. Zuckerman, R. S. Hill, H. Birnbaum

REPORT No. 20

TO: David H. CLIFT, Library of Congress Mission,
Headquarters, Frankfurt/M.
FROM: J. Zuckerman, L.o.C.M., Berlin.

[...]

We paid a visit today to the building of the Freie Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund in the Russian zone of Berlin, to which place 150,000–200,000 books and other items belonging to the Deutsche Arbeitsfront Library at Immelmann Strasse had been brought. The material is piled up on the ground floor of the building and no attempt has been yet made to sort the material out. From the legal point of view this material is still under American control and the Freie Deutsche Gewerkschaftsbund (*sic*) merely acts as a trustee. It was agreed that the librarian should immediately start sorting out the newspapers, periodicals and books and we shall then have to make further arrangements concerning the final distribution of the material. We think that especially among the newspapers and periodicals there is much material which will be of interest to us. There are apparently a great number of technical magazines available. On the other hand a great proportion of the books consist of material looted from trade union libraries all over Europe (Austria, Holland, Belgium, Poland, etc.) and it is understood that this material will be returned to the respective countries. The books which are still left in the DAF building, Immelman

Strasse (*sic*) will be taken to our store house and we shall also receive there a great number of shelves which are needed by Dr Boermann (the German representative of the Mission). We shall start with the evacuation of this place today. [...]

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REPORT No. 25

TO: David H. CLIFT, Library of Congress Mission,
APO 757, US-Army.
FROM: J. Zuckerman, L.o.C.M., Berlin.

[...]

5. *Ref.: Our Report No. 19 of March 15, par. 4:* We have today exchanged the first truckloads of material with the "Free German Trade Union" (Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund: FDGB). We sent to FDGB a truckload of books bearing stamps showing that these books had been taken away by the Nazis from Free German Trade Union libraries and in exchange we received two truckloads with material for Library of Congress (objectionable material, newspapers and technical periodicals) and material looted from other countries (Austria, Holland etc.). The latter we shall hold at the disposal of FMAA Section to which we shall turn it over as soon as the sorting out of the entire material is completed.

It is understood that the material, which we have sent to FDGB, will not become property of the German Free Trade Union, which will only function as trustee for us. I think, however, that in the new future this material will have to become again the property of the Trade unions.

We further received from FDGB a collection of newspapers, pamphlets and posters which we shall send you under separate cover, and we shall also in future receive this material regularly.

[...]

J. Zuckerman

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REPORT Nr. 31:

TO: Library of Congress Mission, USFET,
APO 757, US Army
FROM: J. Zuckerman, L.o.C.M., Berlin.

[...]

I have been trying to collaborate as far as possible with MFA&A* and, whenever necessary, secured clearance through MFA&A. No target has been evacuated without proper clearance and even then books were not simply packed and shipped to Washington, but carefully sorted out before. All books containing stamps showing that they had originally been looted from German-occupied countries were separated and will be turned over to MFA&A, which will restitute them to the countries of origin. This was particularly the case with the target Immelmann Strasse (Deutsche Arbeitsfront) where 200,000 to 300,000 books were found. If

we would not have intervened, this entire collection comprising a great number of books, stolen from Holland, Czechoslovakia and Austria, would have vanished, since at the time when we first came to the place one-third had already been sent to a storehouse in the Russian Zone of Berlin.

We have – in agreement with MFA&A – made the necessary arrangements that all books which can be identified as to the former country of origin should be sent to our storehouse so that they can be returned to the former owners. On the other hand we have returned to the new German Trade Unions all those books which had evidently been taken from German trade union libraries when the Nazis came into power.

[...]

* Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Section of the US Army.

25

Betr.: Archiv des Awi.

Von der Treuhandstelle wurde uns das Awi-Archiv in Treuhand übergeben. Das vorhandene Material in 275 Karteischränken ist aus dem Haus der Technik nach hier überführt worden. Wir bitten, die Treuhandstelle von der Uebernahme in Kenntnis zu setzen und uns die Aufsicht und Verwaltung des Archivs zu übertragen. Ferner bitten wir, darauf aufmerksam zu machen, dass niemand Schränke oder Material ohne unser Wissen entnehmen darf.

Mit gewerkschaftlichem Gruss!
i.A.
(Reiss)

Translation

re: AWI Archive

The AWI archive was entrusted to us by the fiduciary office. The existing material was transported from the House of Technology to here in 275 filing cabinets. We ask you to notify the fiduciary office of the acquisition and to transfer the supervision and administration of the archive to us. In addition, we would also like to have it made known that no one is permitted to remove cabinets or material without our knowledge.

With greeting from the unions
by order of
(Reiss)

26

Sir:

In 1946, the military authorities transferred the Deutsche Arbeitsfront Library to the Library of Congress Mission to Europe for distribution through our Cooperative Acquisitions Project. After its arrival here, it was found that this library contained a great deal of material that had been confiscated from the

various labor union libraries following the dissolution of the unions by the former German Government. It is estimated that approximately 60,000 books and pieces of other library material will be found to have marks of labor union ownership or may reasonably be assumed to have come from such collections.

I have directed that the material from any union library be segregated from the material being distributed to the participating American research libraries. Although facilities are not available here to reassemble the material belonging to a particular library, it is possible that the newly established German labor unions would welcome the return of this material for their collections and be willing to sort this material after its arrival. If this is the case, I would be happy to transfer this material to you for return to Germany. Distribution may, of course, be made according to your instructions. The Department of the Army has been uniformly helpful in making its facilities available for the shipment of material to our zone in Germany and will undoubtedly assist in this instance.

It will be helpful in our operations if you will advise me at the earliest possible date whether the appropriate authorities desire to have this labor union material returned to Germany.

Sincerely yours
Luther H. Evans
Librarian of Congress

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(Abschrift)

FDGB-Groß-Berlin, Abt. Bibliothek
An das Internationale Sekretariat
im Hause

5.1.49

Wiederaufbau der zerstörten Gewerkschaftsbibliotheken

Wir nehmen Bezug auf unser Schreiben vom 26.11.48 betreffend den Ve[r]bleib der Zentralbibliothek der DAF. Wir haben durch Zufall, auf Grund der Bewerbung eines früheren Mitarbeiters dieser Bibliothek, in Erfahrung bringen können, daß die in Schlesien verlagert gewesene Zentralbibliothek der DAF, ca. 300 000 Bücher umfassend, von den Kriegseinwirkungen verschont geblieben und nach ungefähr einem Jahr nach Kriegsende nach Krakau gebracht worden sein soll. Wir werden bei unseren späteren Bemühungen auf die während der Nazizeit und daher zur "Ausgesonderten Literatur" gehörenden Werke zweckmäßiger Weise verzichten müssen, um wieder in den Besitz der für uns besonders wertvollen Literatur von vor 1933 zu gelangen.

Wir bitten Euch, bei Euren späteren Bemühungen in dieser Angelegenheit diese Dinge mit zu berücksichtigen.

FDGB-Groß-Berlin
Abt. Bibliothek
i.A. A. Hermann

Translation

(Copy)

FDGB-Groß-Berlin, Abt. Bibliothek

To the International Secretariat

Internal Memo

5 January 1949

Restoration of the destroyed Trade Union Libraries

With reference to our letter of 26 November 1948 concerning the whereabouts of the DAF Central Library, we would like to inform you of the following. By chance, when processing the application of a former employee of this library it came to our attention that the DAF Central Library, comprising a collection of 300,000 books, and which had been evacuated to Silesia, survived the war intact and was allegedly moved to Cracow approximately one year after the end of the war. In our future endeavours we will, in effect, be forced to relinquish the titles banned during the Nazi period as part of the "List of forbidden literature" in order to regain possession of the, to us, extremely valuable titles published before 1933. We would like to ask you to take these things into account in any subsequent dealings with regard to this matter.

On behalf of FDGB-Groß-Berlin
Abt. Bibliothek
Mr Hermann

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An den

FDGB Gross-Berlin

Sekretariat Kuhn

Berlin C 2

Wallstr. 61/65

Betreff: Aktenmaterial des Archivs der Deutschen Arbeitsfront

Werter Kollege Kuhn!

In der Anlage übersenden wir Dir einen Aktenvermerk mit Empfangsbestätigung über einen Fund eines Teiles des Archivs der Deutschen Arbeitsfront, das sich vor allen Dingen aus Gewerkschaftsmaterial der Sozialdemokratischen und Kommunistischen Arbeiterpartei aus den Jahren 1900 bis zum Umbruch zusammengesetzt und wahrscheinlich von der Deutschen Arbeitsfront vernichtet werden sollte. Das Material wird uns wichtige Hinweise über die gewerkschaftliche Arbeit der Arbeiterparteien geben.

Mit kollegialem Gruss
Treuhandgesellschaft
des FDGB Groß-Berlin
i.V. (Kettler)

Translation

To
 The FDGB of Greater Berlin
 Secretariate Kuhn
 Berlin C2
 Wallstr. 61/65

re: File material of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront archive

My dear colleague Kuhn,

We are sending you the enclosed memo, which confirms the receipt of the discovered part of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront archive that consists primarily of trade union material from the Social Democratic and Communist Workers' Party from 1900 up to the upheavals. Most probably, this material was to have been destroyed by the Deutsche Arbeitsfront. The material will supply us with important information on the union work of the workers' parties.

Yours sincerely,
 Fiduciary Office of the FDGB of Greater Berlin
 signed for (Kettler)

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Aktenvermerk

Am 2.10.1951 wurden von der Treuhandgesellschaft im Keller des Hauses Friedrichstr. 110/112 Teile des Zentralarchivs der Deutschen Arbeitsfront ausfindig gemacht. Der Genosse Kettler hat den Hauptteil des Materials in seinen Arbeitsraum schaffen lassen und erst einmal sichergestellt. Inwieweit in den zahlreichen noch vorhandenen Panzerschränken weiteres Material vorhanden ist, konnte nicht festgestellt werden.

Am 3.10.51 vormittags wurde der Genosse Hans Jendretzki vom Landesvorstand der SED Gross-Berlin von dem Genossen Kettler fernmündlich hiervon verständigt. Der Gen. Kettler erhielt die Bestätigung, dass das Material vom Zentralkomitee der SED per Fahrzeug abgeholt wird. Die Empfänger bestätigen unterschriftlich den Empfang.

Berlin, den 3.10.51 (Kettler)
 Das o.a. Material erhalten zu haben, bescheinigt
 gez. Jürgen Stroech
 Marx-Engels-Lenin-Institut
 Nr. des Ausweises: 046

Berlin, den 4.10.51

*Translation***Memo**

On 2 October 1951, parts of the Central Archive of the Deutsche Arbeitsfront were discovered by the Fiduciary Office in the cellar of the building located at

Friedrichstr. 110/112. Comrade Kettler had the main section of the material taken to his office in order at least to ensure its safekeeping. It has not yet been possible to determine just how much additional material is contained in the numerous remaining safes.

On the morning of 3 October 1951, Comrade Hans Jendretzki from the state committee of the SED of Greater Berlin was informed by telephone of this by Comrade Kettler. Comrade Kettler was instructed that a vehicle would be sent by the SED Central Committee to pick up the material. The recipient certifies receipt by signature.

Berlin, 3 October 1951

(Kettler)

I certify receiving the above-mentioned material:

signed Jürgen Strocch
Marx-Engels-Lenin-Institute
ID. No.: 046

Berlin, 4 October 1951