

## German, French and Jewish Organizations in Occupied France

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Chief of Security Police (BdS) has been informed

Paris, 22 February 1942

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Jews to the records IV B

1) Duty of the Sipo and the SD in France.

In margin:

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Initials

Selection of the

Arrestee?

The virtual competency of the Paris office for the combating of elements hostile to Germany originating from the Jews has been established by various decrees of the OKW, OKH and the Military Commander in France.

From the European point of view, pursuant to the order of the Reich Marshall, dated 31 July 1941 the Chief of the Security Police and SD virtually became the "Jewish Commissar for all of Europe".

Whilst the regulating of this matter by the Military remained within a comparatively narrow scope, at the same time much more had to be accomplished in the interest of the final solution in Europe.

However, the following points listed below can be considered as success after the gradual removal of numerous stumbling – blocks (competences) produced by the offices of the Military Commander.

a) Jewish Registry

Thanks to our influence an excellently organized Jewish registry was set up in the Paris Prefecture De Police which is compiled as follows:

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Alphabetically

According to streets

According to professions According to nationalities.

The registry has been in existence since the end of 1940. Improvements are continuously required by our office. An overall control is guaranteed. Even though this registry is still not a complete registry of the occupied territory it nevertheless contains the Jews resident in the departments with the greatest Jewish population (Seine).

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b) French Commissioners for Jewish Affairs.

Efforts should be made within the scope of the final solution of the Jewish Question that in France exclusively French Offices should also deal with this matter. But as a result of the two types of legislation (Military Commander and French Government) this cannot yet be done 100%.

Nevertheless already at the beginning of 1941 at our suggestion, the necessity to establish a separate Commissioner for Jewish Affairs was put before the deputy chief of the French government by the German Embassy. On 8 March 1941 the French Ministerial Council accepted the proposal; on 29 March 1941 the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs was appointed.

Even though there exists a great deal of controversy on the person of the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, nevertheless it must be stated that owing to the presence of a commissioner for Jewish affairs anti-Jewish legislation has been set into motion and pushed forward.

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c) French Anti-Jewish Police

Since 17 January 1941 a representative of our Jewish referat has been detailed to the Paris Prefecture de Police. In this way we have no doubt been successful in influencing in a certain direction the competent leading and subordinate officials. It is certain that the administration of our office for Jewish questions is not only generally recognized by the French Police, but also by the Prefectures.

On 23 August 1941 the representation in the Prefecture de Police was terminated. The number of inspectors was raised to eleven. Independent of the Prefecture de Police they were allocated as so-called "Active Service" under the leadership of an SS-Fuehrer. The operation of this service also clearly demonstrated to the French authorities the necessity for their own

special organization to actively combat the Jewish element. After we had discussed the matter with the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs the active service was terminated and the Inspectors have been incorporated since the middle of December 1941 into the French Jew Police created on the basis of a decree of the French Ministry of the Interior.

It must be stated that in this way owing to our influence a “Jew Police” was also created for the unoccupied territory.

Those French inspectors who are trained by working together with our Jewish referat serve today to a certain extent as elite troops and instructors for those French who have recently been

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detailed to the “Jew Police”. In the occupied territory every influence upon the “Jew Police” has been assured by our Jewish referat. The offices of the Military Commander regard this matter as being exclusively within the competency of the Sipo and the SD.

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d) Operations

Up to date 3 large scale operations against the Paris Jews have been started. Each time our office was responsible both for the choice of Jews to be arrested and also for the entire preparatory and technical work. In the cases of all these operations the above described Jewish registry greatly facilitated matters.

e) Anti-Jewish Institute

Naturally the direction and expansion of anti-Jewish trends of thought had to be pursued. Adopting the point of view that the solution of the Jewish question in Europe originated from National Socialism and thus from Germany the creation of an anti-Jewish institute was begun. On 11 May 1941 the “Institute d’Etude des questions Juives” was created in Paris. During the last four months of the year 1941 the institute became prominent and known on all sides through an elaborately organized exhibition “The Jew and France”.

For the time being the financing of the institute is still being done by the German embassy through our Jewish Referat. It is hoped that the financing will be completely transferred to the French and this should be guaranteed by

the end of 1942. Advantage: the initiator to all outward appearances will be the French, whilst the Germans are still able to exert their influence.

The competent offices of the RSHA have expressed their agreement to our proposal, which states that assistance will be given to the institute by the Frankfurt Jewish Institute (*Reichsleiter* Rosenberg). A representative from Frankfurt has been in Paris since December 1941. He has been in possession of a written order of the *Reichsleiter* for a few weeks.

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f) Jewish Compulsory Association

Experience gained in Germany and in the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia has shown that if the Jews are consistently excluded from all spheres of life the establishment of a compulsory association of Jews becomes unavoidable, (c.f. Reich Association of Jews in Germany).

But as the aim here is also to bring about a differentiation

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and separation between none-Jews and Jews to all intents and purpose special difficulties are originating from French offices. Therefore, to a certain extent as an example, a Jewish coordinating committee was founded owing to our pressure which began operating on 30 January 1941. The Jewish welfare institutions of greater Paris are incorporated into this.

Since the middle of 1941 during discussions with the Commissioner of Jewish Affairs, the necessity of such an institution was pointed out again and again. The Military Commander too, strictly adhering to our proposal, also demanded the establishing of a compulsory association in a letter to the French representative in Paris. Finally on the 29 November 1941 the French law concerning the "Union generale des Israelites de France" was published. Separate administration for the occupied and unoccupied territory is provided for. In view of the fact that the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs is still hesitant about this measure, it must nevertheless still be regarded as being completely in the earlier stages of its development.

But our administration approved by the Military Commander will enable the desired development to take place within a reasonable time.

2) "Tuesday conference".

The extent and the importance of the problem necessitated absolute coordination of all German

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offices. Special consideration must be given to the fact that officials who need not necessarily be unscrupulously hostile to Jews are working in the offices of the Military Commander which again, thanks to the skill of the French, frequently led to the fact that offices were played off against one another.

Since the middle of 1941 a so-called Tuesday conference takes place weekly in which representatives of the following offices participated:

Military Commander Administrative Staff, Department Administration

“ “ “ “ Department Police

“ “ “ “ Department Economy

German Embassy, Paris

*Einsatzstab* West of the *Reichsleiter* Rosenberg

The conference effected (naturally with quite a limited number of exceptions which were caused from outside) that the policy with regard to the Jews of the occupied territory is being put into practice.

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Recognized leadership is expressed by the fact that the conference takes place in our office.

Signature: DANNECKER SS-Obersturmfueherer

**Source: Yad Vashem Archives TR2\N11\1009\E, NG 2070**