

M1925

RECORDS REGARDING INTELLIGENCE AND FINANCIAL
INVESTIGATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE
GROUP, OMGUS, 1945–1949

M'Lisa Whitney prepared the introductory materials
and arranged these records for microfilming.

National Archives and Records Administration
Washington, DC
2009

United States. National Archives and Records Administration.
Records regarding intelligence and financial investigations
of the financial intelligence group, OMGUS, 1945–1949 / M’Lisa
Whitney.– Washington, D.C. : National Archives and Records
Administration, 2009.

p. ; cm. — (National Archives microfilm publications. Pamphlet
describing ; M 1925)

Cover title.

“M’Lisa Whitney prepared the introductory materials and
arranged these records for microfilming” – Cover.

1. Germany (Territory under Allied occupation, 1945–1955 : U.S. Zone). Office of Military
Government. Finance Division – Records and correspondence – Microform catalogs. 2.
Germany – History– 1945–1955 – Sources – Bibliography – Microform catalogs.
I. Whitney, M’Lisa. II. Title.

INTRODUCTION

On the nine rolls of this microfilm publication, M1925, are reproduced records relating to intelligence and financial investigations of the Financial Intelligence Group, Office of the Finance Adviser (FINAD or OFA), Office of Military Government, U.S. Zone [OMGUS], during the period 1945–1949. This series, Records Regarding Intelligence and Financial Investigations, 1945–1949 [A1, Entry 574],¹ is contained within Records of U.S. Occupation Headquarters, World War II, Record Group (RG) 260.

BACKGROUND

The origin of the Office of the Finance Adviser and its predecessor, the Finance Division, can be traced to February 14, 1944, when the reorganization of the Civil Affairs Division of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF) created a German Country Section with a finance division as one of its component parts. Six months later, European Theater of Operations United States Army (ETOUSA) established the U.S. Group Control Council for Germany (USGCC). The rapid growth in staff and in activities due to the changing military situation in Europe, however, required further redefinition of finance functions and responsibilities. On November 25, 1944, Finance became one of the 12 independent divisions set up within USGCC.

Following the surrender of Germany on May 8, 1945, the Finance Division undertook investigations based both on captured German records and on interrogations of German officials. These investigations sought to locate German assets concealed abroad in “safe-havens” secured through secret arrangements between the Nazis and German industrialists that would fund party operations in case of the defeat of Germany. The Division continued to block and freeze those assets in order to prevent their possible use in funding underground Nazi activities from within postwar Germany.

In June 1945, the Financial Intelligence and Liaison Branch of the Finance Division was established to secure and collate financial intelligence from various sources, including other military government units, and conduct investigations of financial institutions and other aspects of the German financial structure. In this way, the Branch supplied other operating and policy-making agencies with the information necessary for the formulation of policy, for the checking of the effectiveness of its execution, and for the proposal of amendments to existing law or procedures.

The Office of Military Government, U.S. Zone (Germany) [OMGUS] became the successor to the USGCC on October 1, 1945. The Branch, now a part of the OMGUS Finance Division, continued to investigate the links between the Nazi party and government with German banking and industry and concentrated on locating property that was

¹ Textual record series designators usually consist of the series title with a date span, the finding aid notation, and the Holdings Management System (HMS) entry number, shown here in brackets.

transferred under duress or through wrongful acts of confiscation, disposition, or spoliation from many European countries, including gold removed by the German Army (Wehrmacht) from various national treasuries. The Branch conducted interrogations of leading Reichsbank and other financial officials that led to the discovery of hoards of gold and other valuables hidden in caves and salt mines, identified German external assets, and uncovered the role of the Reichsbank in the disposition of SS "loot" seized from concentration camp inmates. This included non-monetary gold such as dental fillings and scrap jewelry. The latter information was used at the trial of Reichsbank President Walther Funk at Nürnberg.

The Branch subsequently focused its attention more and more on the collection, evaluation, and analysis of intelligence connected with financial conditions within the German economy and the degree to which they were developing within the framework established by the quadripartite agreement.

The Financial Intelligence Group, created on February 18, 1948, was the successor to the Financial Intelligence and Liaison Branch. Its functions were limited to conducting both special and continuing investigation in the finance field; providing intelligence in support of policy formulation, negotiations, and operations by the soon-to-be established Office of Finance Adviser (OFA); preparing reports required of the OFA; and representing the OFA in all matters pertaining to travel policy and individual travel clearance. The OMGUS Finance Division was dissolved effective March 1, 1948, and the OFA and the Property Division were established. From the former Finance Division, the OFA retained the power of review regarding policy changes and proposals; the interpretation of partite agreements, programs, and policies with implications for subjects other than finance; and the review of policies requiring Länder implementation. Responsibilities for foreign exchange, the blocking and freezing of property, and external assets were transferred to the Property Division.

The transition from military to civilian occupation administration was initiated by the Presidential appointment of the U.S. High Commissioner for Germany (HICOG), who assumed his duties on September 2, 1949. On September 3, 1949, the functions, personnel, equipment, and records of both the OFA and the Finance Division were transferred to the newly created Finance Division in the Office of Economic Affairs of HICOG, which assumed responsibility for the field of finance. The transition was completed by September 21, 1949, the same day of the establishment of the Federal Republic of Germany. OMGUS was formally abolished on December 5, 1949. Most of the OMGUS records, including the records of the Financial Intelligence Group, were retired to an Army record center in Kansas City until they were accessioned into the National Archives in the early 1960s.

RECORDS DESCRIPTION

Records Regarding Intelligence and Financial Investigations, 1945–1949 [A1, Entry 574], is arranged alphabetically by subject and consists primarily of reports, balance sheets, and memoranda pertaining to the gathering of financial information. The series

includes bank statistical reports; lists of bank assets and balance sheets; material relating to policy decisions in the construction of local military government financial administrations; records concerning agricultural cooperatives; reports on bank investigations, including a report on the investigation of the Deutsche Bank; exhibits and reports of interrogations relating to denazification of German finance personnel; an interrogation report of Hjalmar Schacht, the former Reichsminister of Economics and Plenipotentiary for the War Economy; a report on the operations of I.G. Farben AG; plans for the seizure of Reich ministerial records called "Operation Goldcup"; information relating to fiscal conditions in former German-occupied countries; and a report of banking in the Soviet Zone.

RELATED RECORDS

Textual Records in the National Archives

RECORDS OF U.S. OCCUPATION HEADQUARTERS, WORLD WAR II, RG 260
OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT, U.S. ZONE (GERMANY) [OMGUS]

Economics Division

Miscellaneous Records, 1945–1950 [A1, Entry 235]

Office of the Finance Adviser

Records Relating to Financial Institution Policy, 1945–1949 [A1, Entry 570]

Financial Intelligence Group

General Records, 1945–1949 [A1, Entry 573]

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT, BAVARIA [OMGBY]

Finance Division

Finance Division Field Team, Nürnberg

Records of the Supervision of Banks in Nürnberg, 1945–1946 [A1, Entry 996]

U.S. ELEMENT, BIPARTITE CONTROL OFFICE [BICO]

Finance Group

Public Finance Branch

Miscellaneous Reports and Publications, 1944–1949 [A1, Entry 1917]

Includes the OMGUS investigation reports on Dresdner Bank, Deutsche Bank, and Commerzbank

National Archives Microfilm Publications

M1642, *Records of the Office of Strategic Services, Washington Director's Office Administrative Files, 1941–1945* (RG 226, 136 rolls)

M1922, *Records of the External Assets Investigation Section of the Property Division, OMGUS, 1945–1949* (RG 260, 88 rolls)

M1923, *OMGUS Finance Division Records Regarding Investigations and Interrogations, 1945–1949* (RG 260, 8 rolls)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES PUBLICATIONS

Researchers should also consult *Holocaust-Era Assets: A Finding Aid to Records at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland*, compiled by Greg Bradsher (Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1999). This finding aid includes information on specific areas within military records, such as War Department and Occupation records, as well as civilian records, such as those of the State Department, that contain information on looted assets.

Additional information concerning the Holocaust may be located on our web site at www.archives.gov.

ROLL LIST

ROLL CONTENTS

- 1 Aktiven der Deutschen Industriebank (Erlangen)
Aktiven der Heeres-Rüstungskredit AG
Allied Control Authority
American Zone: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks, Mar. 1947
American Zone: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks, June 1947
American Zone: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks, Sept. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Mar. 1946
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Jan. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Feb. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Mar. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Apr. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, May 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, June 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, July 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics, Aug. 1947
American Zone: Report of Selected Bank Statistics – Land Bremen, July 1947
Augsburg: Personnel – Dismissals and Replacements
Austrian Accounts Reconciliation: Cases 3–20 (with gaps)
Austrian Accounts Reconciliation: Cases 21–34 (with gaps)

- 2 Balance Sheets of Land Control Banks, n.d.; 1944–1946
Balance Sheets of Land Control Banks, 1947–1949
Banking Investigation Report: Schroeder, Kurt von (partial report)
Banking Positions Guide
Bavaria Social Government Memoranda
Berlin: Statistics and General Information
Binder, Paul (Military Government Law No. 57)
Blacklist (Berlin) Working File
Brandenburg: Report
Bremen Enclave
Burkhardt and Co. (Banking)
Civil Censorship: General Intelligence
Claims and Liabilities Against Persons in Germany
Commerzbank Frankfurt: Stock Exchange
Complaint and Protection Writings: Dr. Hjalma Schacht
Control Council: Directive No. 24 Information Copy
Control Council: Law No. 10 Information Copy
Cooperatives: Agricultural
Correspondence: Incoming
Currency and Bank Statistics

- 3 Denazification: Checks
Denazification: Correspondence

ROLL CONTENTS

- 3 Denazification: Policy and Directives, 1944
(cont.) Denazification: Policy and Directives, 1945
Denazification Team: Special Reports
Depositions and Interrogations
Desirability of Requiring Reports
Deutsche Bank: Report (pages 1–116)
Deutsche Bank: Report (pages 117–233)
Deutsche Bank: Report (pages 234–337; Tables I–XVII)
Deutsche Bank Frankfurt: Stock Exchange Dealings
Deutsche Industriebank: List of Loan Accounts, Mar.–Apr. 1945
Dresdner Bank

- 4 Dresdner Bank Investigation Report
Farben Report (I.G. Farben)
Field Inspection Trips
Field Relations
Field Reporting Information
Field Trip – Current [Denazification, Blocked Accounts, Regulations]
Finance and Economics
Finance Conference Minutes
Finance Statistics Meetings: Stuttgart
Finance Statistics Meetings: Stuttgart – Financial Status of Local Government
Bodies
Financial and Economic Six-Month Review
Foreign Exchange Fund
Foreign Relations
Frankfurt: Financial Branch Activities, Aug.–Sept. 1945

- 5 Frankfurt Stock Exchange
Gemeinsame Steuer- und Zollabteilung Reports
German Finance Personnel: Evaluations (“Berlin List”)
German Land Government
German Stock Exchange: General
German Stock Exchange: Reports
GOLDCUP: Finance Functional Plan
GOLDCUP: Plan
Hellingrath Karl Max von
Henkel & Cie, GmbH
Hoelzer, Dr. Karl
Horn, Werner
Hunke, Heinrich
Hunke, Heinrich: Office of Strategic Services (OSS) Recommendation
Hunke, Heinrich: Preliminary Interrogation
Ilmenau: Reports
Index of Files From Berlin

ROLL CONTENTS

- 5 Integrity of Prominent People in German Economic Circles
(cont.) Intelligence Information on Fiscal Conditions in Belgium
Intelligence Information on Fiscal Conditions in Czechoslovakia
Intelligence Information on Fiscal Conditions in Denmark
- 6 Intelligence Information on Fiscal Conditions in Netherlands
Intelligence Reports: Nürnberg
Inter-Divisional Advisory Committee on Statistics
Inter-Divisional Personnel Committee
J. Dreyfus and Company (Banking)
Karlsruhe
Koch, Ilse
Länder Reports Immediately After Currency Reform
Leads on German Foreign Exchange Agencies
Mannheim: Denazification
Marks, 1948
Men to Be Placed on Watch List
Merck, Finck & Company (Banking)
Military Government Law No. 60
Mott, Lt. Colonel Rodney L.: Reports
Munich Stock Exchange
Munich: Denazification
Nazis Dismissed From German Banking Structure
Nazis Employed at the Finanzamt Fürth
Newspaper Clippings: Post Currency Reform
Niederbayern: Denazification
Nürnberg: Denazification
Nürnberg: Removal Orders for Personnel of Financial Institutions
Ohlendorf, Otto
Personnel (Germany)
Potential Ministerial Personnel
- 7 Proposed German Consultants
Quarterly General Financial Statistics
Reichsbank Reports
Reichschuldenverwaltung
Reichsfinanzministerium: Report by Major W. J. Dougherty (U.S. Group Control Council)
Reichs-Kredit-Gesellschaft: Report on Investigation
Reichswirtschaftsministerium
Reichswirtschaftsministerium: Records Collecting Center (Hans Mueller)
Removal of Nazis and Militarists
Report on the Investigation of Law 52 in the U.S. Zone (Draft)
Russian Zone Banking

ROLL CONTENTS

- 7 Rüstungskontor GmbH: Investigation, 1945
(cont.) Rüstungskontor GmbH: Investigation, 1946
Schacht, Hjalmar: Report Exhibits (A–E)
Schacht, Hjalmar: Report Exhibits (F–J)
- 8 Schacht, Hjalmar: Report Exhibits (K–U)
Schmid-Lossberg, Heinz
Schmitt, Kurt
Steel Industry Organization
Stock Exchange and Stock Statistics
Stuttgart: Denazification
Switzerland Economics
Tables for Statistical Annex
Tax Revenues Worksheets
Vereinigte Stahlwerke
Weekly Report of Activities, 1948
Weekly Report of Activities, 1949
Weekly Statistical Data From German Department for Finance
White List
Wiesbaden: Denazification
Wirtschaftsgruppe Rück- und Kreditversicherung (Munich Re-Insurance
Company; Dr. Alois Alzheimer)
- 9 Working Contract Between German Foreign Office and German Ministry of
Propaganda
Working Party on Uniform Public Finance Statistics
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Bank – Kreissparkasse
Esslingen)
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Kreissparkasse
Göppingen – Sillenbucher)
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Spar- und
Darlehenskasse: Aidlingen – Löwenstein)
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Spar- und
Darlehenskasse: Maichingen – Wolpertshausen)
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Städt – Volksbank
Ludwigsburg)
Württemberg-Baden: Interim Balance Sheets for Banks (Volksbank Magstadt –
Württembergische)
Year-End Statements