

Washington, D.C.
21 June 1945

My dear Dr. Robinson,

With regard to our telephone conversation of this noon I am sending you my ideas on the entire War Crimes situation.

First, it has been made clear to me by Neumann and the others that my report (or indictment) will be virtually the first and last word on the subject as far as the United States War Crimes Office is concerned. The group going to London early in July contemplates no further work on the subject.

In view of this situation I believe that we both are anxious to see to it that as thorough a job as possible be done.

When the report is completed it should contain the following:

I. A short chapter proving the existence of a preconceived anti-Jewish conspiracy on the part of the Germans, the implications of this charge, and the purposes this conspiracy was meant to serve.

This, as well as all other chapters, must be written in as restrained and dignified a tone as possible. Our case is sufficiently strong to warrant under- rather than over-statement.

II. A concise and clear-cut analysis of the different types of crimes committed against the Jews (only by the Germans; there is to be no mention in this particular report of the collaborationists), including religious desecration, violation of the dignity of man, segregation, forced labor, etc.

These must be shorter and more to the point than your preliminary studies. It should also clearly establish the overall responsibility of the various German agencies and their subordinate sections. In the interest of brevity, it should not be broken down country by country, except as illustrations of specific points, but should contain a general discussion of how the crime was perpetrated.

III. (The most important chapter) The responsibility of the various German agencies for crimes committed against Jews (by country).

I am completing a preliminary study for this section but, as you can readily see, it requires amplification. Secondly, it is based only on legislative material and lacks

evidence of further responsibility available in other documents, books, periodical literature, eye witness accounts, ~~via~~ official and semi-official statements of key officials of these agencies, etc.

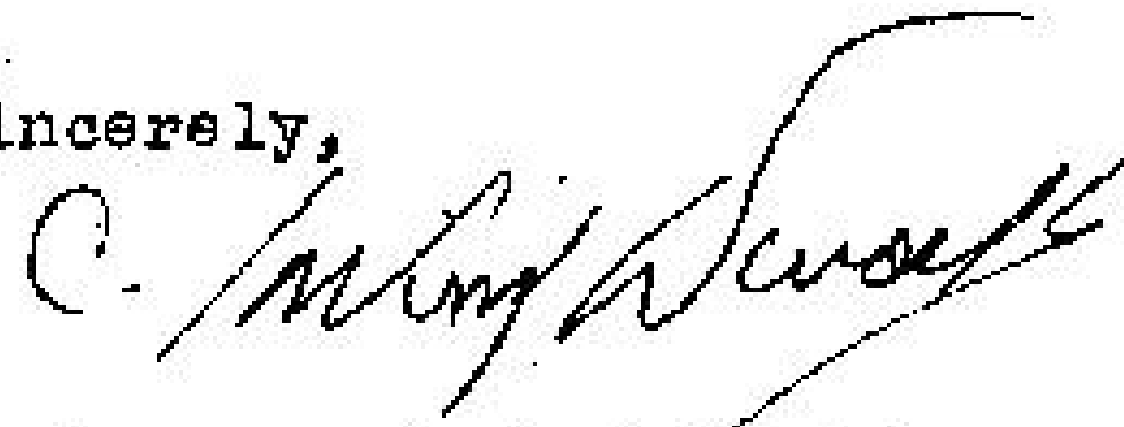
Also wherever possible, the direct chain of command from the highest to the lowest authorities should be indicated.

Further information on what is desired is available to you in the general discussion of the project which I presented during your visit here.

Thus, as you can see, there is a considerable amount of work to be done in so short a space of time--far, far too much for one man working alone--ignoring my present difficult personal situation.

Therefore, I should be most anxious to have the assistance of your colleagues and yourself in the preparation of this indictment which must be just as complete as the crime itself!

Sincerely,



P.S. I was sorry to learn, through our mutual friend Dr. Schechtman, of the illness of your wife. I hope it is not serious.