MEMO

To Mr. Hirshberg

From Mr. Dresden

July 26, 1945

As you know, we have been engaged for over a month in the preparation of material on the so-called Jewish count in the number of our enemies. I understand that the authorities attach the greatest importance to the very plain fact that so many millions of Jews have disappeared — that this fact is the result of the deliberate policy of the Nazi regime. We, therefore, submitted to them the statistical survey on Jewish communities which you have done. However, presenting us this problem, in order to see that the following figures might possibly be increased. It may be argued that the figures we are giving for the Jewish population in the various countries at the moment of the occupation of those countries, or installation of Nazi regimes, may not exactly represent the real numerical strength of the Jews at that moment of occupation or control by the Nazis. It may furthermore be argued that numerous Jews might have escaped, and that in reality Jewish communities are much larger than those given by us.

I, therefore, consider it of paramount importance to have a counter-established, containing statistics of Jews in Nazi-controlled or occupied countries, published by the Nazi Government. I am sure that the Nazis, following the same pattern elsewhere, used to take special census of the Jewish population in other countries.

May I ask you, upon your return to New York, to go through our files and yours, and try to establish in what countries there were Nazi figures of Jewish population under their control, and to have all these figures then compiled into one table. Drawn tally, we should bring a new claim into our statistical table, namely, "The Jewish population in the country according to Nazi figures."

The group working on these problems (Prof. Gurovich, Dr. Solodkin, Jr., Horely and Mr. Singer) will be very anxious to discuss the matter with you in greater detail upon your return.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Hershberg.