

Conference Record

1. The following persons took part in the conference on the Final Solution of the Jewish Problem held on January 20, 1943 in Berlin, Am Grossen Wannsee No. 56/58:

Gauleiter Dr. Meyer and Reichsamtseiter Dr. Leibbrandt	Reichs Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories
State Secretary Dr. Stuckart *)	Reich Ministry of the Interior
State Secretary Neumann *)	Commissioner for the Four Year Plan
State Secretary Dr. Freisler	Reich Ministry of Justice
State Secretary Dr. Buchler	Office of the Governor General
Under State Secretary Luther	Foreign Office
SS-Oberfuehrer Klopfer *)	Party Chancellery
Ministerialdirektor Kritzinger	Reich Chancellery

*) in Nurnberg jail

SS-Gruppenfuhrer Hofmann	Race and Settlement Main Office
SS-Gruppenfuhrer Mueller	Reichssicherheitshauptamt
SS-Obersturmbannfuhrer Eichmann	(Reichs Main Security Office)
SS-Oberfuhrer Dr. Schoengarth	Security Police and SD
Commander of the Security Police and the SD in the Government General	
SS-Sturmbannfuhrer Dr. Lange	Security Police and SD
Commander of the Security Police and the SD for the General District Latvia, as deputy of the Commander of the Security Police and the SD for the Reich Commissariat for the Ostland.	

II. At the beginning of the meeting of the Security Police and the SD, SS-Obergruppenfuhrer HEYDRICH reported his appointment by the Reichsmarschall to serve as Commissioner for the Preparation of the Final Solution of the European Jewish Problem, and he pointed out then that the officials had been invited to this conference in order to clear up the fundamental problems. The Reichsmarschall's request to have a draft submitted to him on the organizational, physical and material requirements with respect to the Final Solution of the European Jewish Problem, necessitated this previous general consultation by all the central offices directly concerned, in order that there should be coordination in the policy.

Besides the raising of Reichsmarks foreign exchange was necessary for the money, it was required that the immigrant have and for the immigration tax. To spare German foreign exchange funds the Jewish financial institutions abroad were required by the Jewish organizations here to provide for the securing of the requisite foreign exchange. In this way the gifts of these foreign Jews made available up to October 30, 1941 altogether approximately 9,500,000 Dollars.

Meanwhile, in view of the dangers of an emigration during the war and in view of the possibilities in the East, the Reichsfuehrer-SS and the Chief of the German Police had forbidden the emigrating of the Jews.

III. The emigration program has now been replaced by the evacuation of the Jews to the East as a further solution possibility, in accordance with previous authorization by the Fuehrer.

These actions are of course to be regarded only as a temporary substitute; none-the less here already the practical experience has been acquired which in view of the coming Final Solution of the Jewish Problem is of great importance.

In the course of this final solution of the European Jewish problem approximately eleven million Jews are involved. They are distributed among the individual countries as follows:

Country	Number
A. Original Reich Territory	131,800
Austria	43,700
Eastern Territories	420,000
Government General	2,284,000
Bialystok	400,000
Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia	74,200
Estonia - free of Jews -	
Latvia	3,500
Lithuania	34,000
Belgium	43,000
Denmark	5,600
France / Occupied Territory	358,000
Unoccupied Territory	700,000
Greece	69,600
The Netherlands	160,800
Norway	1,300
B. Bulgaria	48,000
England	350,000
Finland	2,300
Ireland	4,000
Italy, including Sardinia	58,000
Albania	200
Croatia	40,000
Portugal	3,000
Romania, including Bessarabia	342,000
Sweden	89,000
Switzerland	18,000
Serbia	10,000
Slovakia	88,000
Spain	6,000
Turkey (European part)	55,500
Hungary	742,800
U.S.S.R.	5,000,000
Ukraine	2,994,684
White Russia, excluding Bialystok	466,484
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Total: over	11,000,000

In the Jewish population figures given for the various foreign countries, however, only those of Jewish faith are included, as the stipulations for defining Jews along racial lines still are in part lacking there. The treatment of the problem as regards the general attitude and viewpoint will meet with certain difficulties in the various countries, especially in Hungary and Rumania. It is still possible today in Rumania, for example, for the Jew to acquire for money the right documents to give him official proof of a foreign nationality.

The influence of the Jews in all territories in the U.S.S.R. is known. In the European part of Russia there are perhaps five million Jews, in Asiatic Russia hardly 1/4 million.

Broken down according to occupations, the Jews living in the European part of the U.S.S.R. were about as follows:

In Agriculture	9, 1%
As Urban Workers	14, 8%
In Commerce	20, 0%
Employed as Government Workers	23, 4%
In Private Professions - Medicine, Press, Theater etc.	32, 7%

Under proper direction the Jews should now in the course of the final solution, be brought to the East in a suitable way for use as labor. In big labor gangs, with separation of the sexes, the Jews capable of work are brought to these areas and employed in road-building, in which task undoubtedly a great part will fall out through natural diminution.

The remnant that finally is able to survive all this - since this it is undoubtedly the part with the strongest resistance - must be given treatment accordingly, since these people, representing a natural selection, are to be regarded as the germ cell of a new Jewish development, should they be allowed to go free. (See the experience of history)

In the program of the practical execution of the final solution, Europe is combed through from the West to the East. The Reich area, including the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, will have to be taken in advance, alone for reasons of the housing problem and other social-political necessities.

The evacuated Jews are brought first group by group into the so-called transit ghettos, in order from there out to be transported farther to the East.

An important provision for the whole execution of the evacuation, SS-Obergruppenfuhrer HEYDRICH explained further, is the exact establishment of the category of persons who are to be included.

It is intended not to evacuate Jews over 65 years of age, but to remove them to a ghetto for the aged - Theresienstadt is under consideration.

Along with these old-age classes - of the perhaps 280,000 Jews who on 31/10/1941 were in the Old Reich and in Austria, perhaps 30% are over 65 years old - there will also be taken to the ghettos for the aged the Jews who are serious war-wounded cases and Jews with war decorations (Iron Cross, First Class). With this

appropriate solution the many petitions for exceptions will be eliminated with one blow.

The beginning of the individual larger evacuation actions will be very much dependant on the military development. With regard to the handling of the Final Solution in the European areas occupied and influenced by us, it was proposed that the officials working on the matter in the Foreign Office should confer with the respective official of the Security Police and the SD.

In Slovakia and Croatia the matter is no longer too difficult, as the most essential problems in this respect have already been solved there. In Rumania likewise the government has meanwhile appointed a commissioner for Jewish affairs. For settling the problem in Hungary it will be necessary in the near future to force upon the Hungarian government acceptance of an adviser on Jewish problems.

With regard to taking up the preparations for the settling of this problem in Italy, SS-Obergruppenfuehrer HEYDRICH thinks a liaison with the Police Chief in these matters is suitable.

In occupied and unoccupied France the taking of the Jews for evacuation can in all probability proceed without great difficulties.

Under State Secretary LUTHER stated at this point that in a more basis treatment of this problem in a few countries, such as in the Northern countries, difficulties would come up, and it is therefore advisable to postpone these countries for the time being.

In consideration of the small number of Jews in question here, this postponement constitutes anyway no appreciable limitation.

On the other hand, the Foreign Office sees no great difficulties for the Southeast and West of Europe.

SS-Gruppenführer HOFFMANN intends to ask to have an official of the Race and Settlement Main Office sent along to Hungary for general orientation, when the affair is started there by the Chief of the Security Police and the SD. It was decided to assign this official of the Race and Settlement Main Office, who is not to be active, temporarily in the official capacity of assistant to the Police Attaché.

IV. In this course of the Final Solution plans, the Nuremberg laws are in a certain degree to form the basis, and accordingly the complete settlement of the problem is to include also the solution of the mixed marriage and the Mischlinge problems.

In connection with a letter of the Chief of the Reich Chancellery, the Chief of the Security Police and the SD discussed the following points, for the time being theoretically:

1) Treatment of the 1st Degree Mischlinge

1st. Degree Mischlinge are to be treated the same as the Jews as regards the Final Solution of the Jewish problem.