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# GENERAL

W 9912  
8 JUL 1943

1943

ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE  
AFFAIRS.

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FROM Mr. Henriques  
(Trading with the Enemy  
Department)

No. 1.A.D.29

Dated 6th July 1943

Received in Registry } 8th July 1943

W: Allied Administra-  
tive Affairs

## Inter-Allied Sub-Committee on Acts of Dispossession.

Transmits a copy of the minutes of the sixth meeting of the Inter-Allied Sub-Committee on Acts of Dispossession held at the Trading with the Enemy Department on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Last Paper.

w 9911

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Some members of the Sub-Com<sup>tee</sup> want to be heard the terms of reference is to discuss discussing joint action in the future. This is a question which will have to be considered at some time but the moment has hardly arrived yet.

*E. R. Dept. Mar.*

Mr Jean P.D  
10. VIII. 43.  
Mr Coulson  
11/8

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} to see with  
(apologies for delay)  
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(Action completed.)

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(Index.)

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Next Paper.

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WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF  
 Mr. E. F. Q. Henriques  
 TRADING with the ENEMY BRANCH Dept.  
 (TREASURY & BOARD OF TRADE)  
 24 KINGSWAY,  
 LONDON, W.C.2.

I.A.D.29.

6. 7. 43.

INTER ALLIED SUB-COMMITTEE ON ACTS OF DISPOSSESSION  
 MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING HELD AT  
 24, KINGSWAY, W.C.2, on 30th JUNE, 1943

W 9912

8 JUL 1947

Present: Mr. H.S. Gregory (Chairman) representing United Kingdom  
 Mr. H.R. Spiegel " United States of America  
 Mr. R. Colstein " Belgium  
 Dr. Y.L. Liang " China  
 Dr. Hugo Stein " Czechoslovak Republic  
 M.V. Bodson " Luxembourg  
 Dr. W. Huender " The Netherlands  
 M.F. Hiorthoy " Norway  
 M.W. Moderow " Poland  
 M.A. Istchenko " Union of Soviet Socialist  
 Republics  
 Dr. N. Dimovic " Yugoslavia  
 M.R. Marjolin " French National Committee  
 Mr. E.F.Q. Henriques (Secretary)

## In attendance:

Mr. H.R. Pyke (Secretariat)

1. Minutes:

The minutes of the 5th meeting as circulated in I.A.D.23 were approved.

2. Presentation of the Interim Report:

It was noted that this had now been presented and that it was to be printed omitting the annex.

3. Statements on methods

The Committee noted that statements had been received from the following:-

Belgium, Czechoslovak Republic, Yugoslavia, Norway, Luxembourg, French National Committee, and that in connection with Hongkong the United Kingdom had presented an interim statement.

The Chairman asked members to lodge outstanding statements as soon as possible; Mr. Istchenko said that he hoped to submit one shortly; Mr. Moderow expected to lodge his in a few days; Dr. Huender announced the Netherlands hoped to put in one statement in respect of their territory in Europe in about a fortnight and a further statement dealing with the Netherlands East Indies a little later. Mr. Spiegel said that owing to the difficulty of obtaining information the United States were not proposing to lodge a statement concerning their territories in the Pacific for some time to come, but he thought his Government might be disposed to consider the making of some tentative and interim statement based on such reports as were now available. Dr. Liang gave the Committee to understand that he would not at present be lodging a statement.

The Chairman suggested that the Committee should proceed to deal in some detail with the methods of dispossession practised in Europe and then consider what could be said in their report about the position in the Far East.

4. Sources of Information:

The Chairman referred to the Terms of Reference which said that the Committee has been asked to receive and collect available information upon the methods /

methods adopted by the enemy Governments and their adherents to lay their hands upon property, rights, etc., in the territories which they have occupied or brought under their control. While the main source of information would be the statements lodged by the various Governments, he asked the Committee to consider whether it would make use of information obtained from other sources. In the ensuing discussion reference was made to information having some reference to the same subject submitted to the Armistice Committee of European Allies and to Lord Maugham through Foreign Ministries, to information collected in the United States by U.S. Government Departments, by the League of Nations Research Bureau there, and by a Foreign Property Owners Protective Association in New York, to the work of the Inter Allied Information Committee, and to the printed publications of the Foreign Office Research Department (formerly known as Chatham House). The feeling of the Committee was that information taken from newspapers, private reports and so on should be used where confirmation was available and that Mr. Spiegel be asked to ascertain what information was available in the United States concerning the methods of plunder employed by the Axis.

5. A plan of the Report:

The Chairman pointed out that the Committee was now approaching the most difficult part of its work, and suggested that after recording the methods of plunder employed by the Axis it might be necessary for the Sub-Committee to review its Interim Report on existing legislation to see how far it covered or was adequate to deal with the various Axis methods. Without raising specifically any question whether it would be desirable to make recommendations on this point in the report, he suggested the Committee ought to consider the subject so that members could clear their own minds as to the nature of the acts which have been committed by the Axis and the measures which existed to combat those acts.

The Chairman referred to the Secretary's notes No. 2. and suggested that the Committee should consider whether their original classification of types of property should be made use of in the drafting of the report or whether the classification should be by countries or by geographical areas or by Axis methods. He thought a definite decision on this might wait until more material was available, but suggested that the whole Committee was too large as a body to draft a report of this nature and proposed the appointment of a small sub-Committee to consider the available material and then present to the whole Committee for approval a skeleton outline of the contents of the rest of the report. In the course of discussion the Committee expressed the view that a report of this nature must be drafted by an individual and that that work should be undertaken by the Secretary, and that a small sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Dr. Huender, Dr. Dimovic and the Secretary, should examine the statements on methods lodged by Governments and consider how the presentation of the rest of the report could best be framed. In this connection Dr. Huender suggested it would be useful to know the underlying object of the report and in particular how far it was concerned with the question of joint action. The Chairman thought that while the question of joint action was not to be ruled out, he did not see how the report was really affected by it. Dr. Dimovic said that in his opinion the work of the Sub-Committee so far had been concerned with the past and it was not very helpful unless they also look to the future. He suggested the intention was that they should see where the property had gone and what had been done with it with a view to considering what might be done to get it back. Mr. Moderow thought that joint action would not cover all the matters requiring attention and that each sovereign state would deal on its own with its own problems. Mr. Marjolin thought that a factual study was necessary first before seeing how far everything done by the Germans could be undone. It was arranged that the Sub-Committee should meet shortly.

The proceedings then terminated.



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