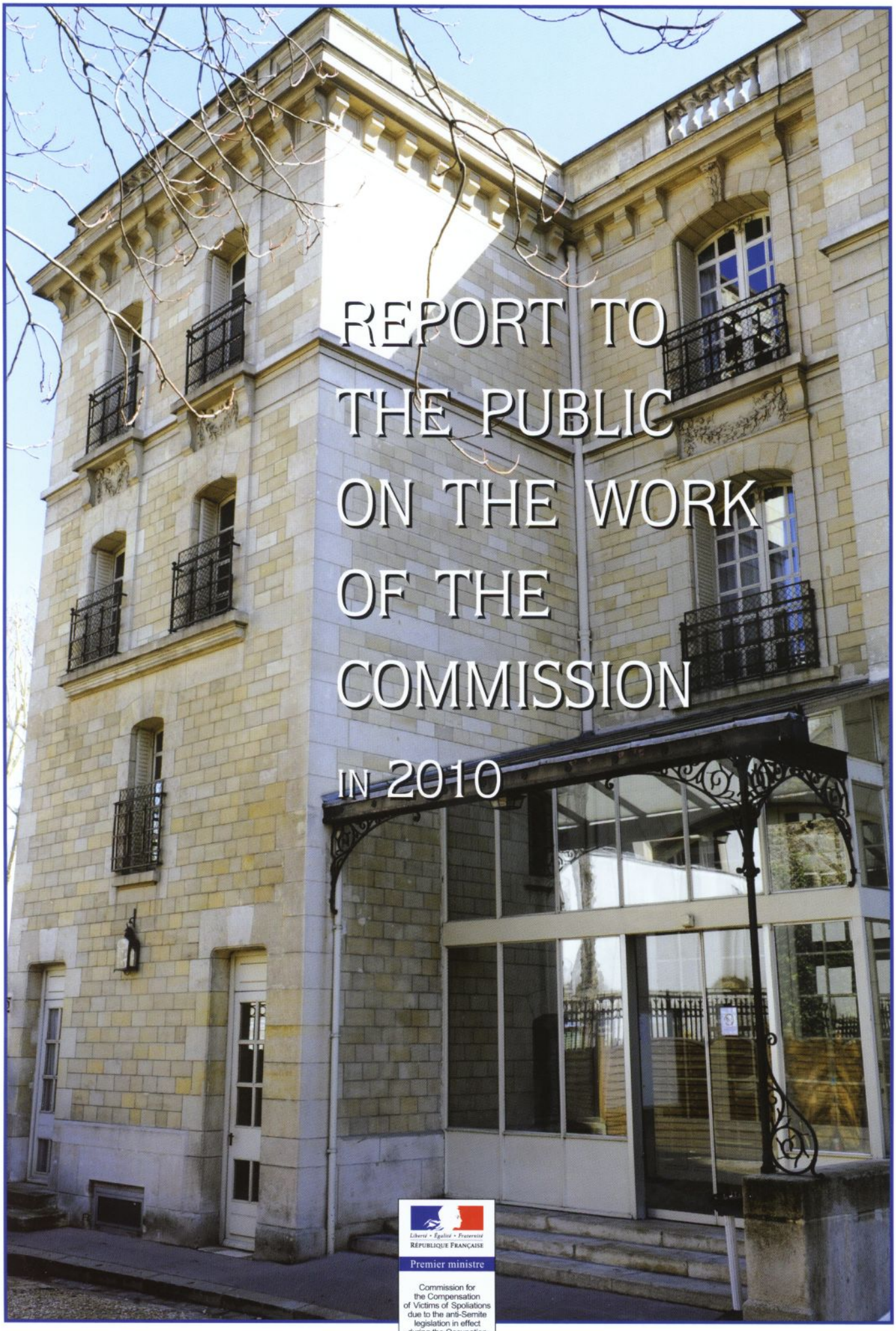

REPORT TO THE PUBLIC ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION IN 2010

Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Premier ministre

Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliations due to the anti-Semite legislation in effect during the Occupation

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Introduction

The Report to the Public on the Work of the CIVS for 2009 presented a review of the ten years that have passed since its inception.

The year 2010 was marked by a noticeable decrease in CIVS activities: The number of new claims dropped notably; correspondingly, the number of recommendations shrank, though to a lesser extent, thus making it possible to reduce the number of claims still being examined. Staff and rapporteur numbers also fell. The investigation methods, and more generally, the procedures used by the Commission, changed.

There is no reason to regret this general decrease in activity indicators. For one thing, it illustrates that the Commission has largely fulfilled the mission that was entrusted to it ten years ago. Secondly, it invites us to consider the consequences of this situation.

General drop in activity indicators

Overall considerations[1]

All activity indicators of the Commission (e.g. new compensation claims registered, reports submitted, hearings organised, recommendations signed, and staff numbers) saw a marked drop in 2010.

New claims

At 31 December 2010, the CIVS registered 27,327 case[2] files, of which 9,177 were bank-related[3].

In 2010, the Commission recorded 841 claims (1,021 in 2009, 1,192 in 2008):
- 724 "material" files
- 117 "bank-related" files, of which 69 internal creations.

Of the material files, over one third now concern events that happened in Tunisia, compensation for which is difficult to incorporate into the process set up by the decree which founded the CIVS. To explain, in this territory there was no organised looting of homes (as happened under the Möbelaktion campaign in continental France) nor any Aryanisation of companies. Rather, as claimants themselves acknowledge, most damages were incurred as a consequence of war or upheaval, damages for which the Commission is not designed to offer compensation.
All the same, it is noteworthy that although during the first ten years of its existence the CIVS only handled around 150 claims of this type, over 250 new claims were filed in 2010 alone. The late arrival of these claims, written in general or even identical terms, explains why the number of compensations granted to date (more than one out of two for the region3 has noticeably decreased. The conclusions which can be drawn from these figures were confirmed during the first two months of 2011, during which almost half of the new claims (42 of 87) concern Tunisia.

1 - Because of a computer breakdown which disrupted the production of statistics at CIVS at the end of 2010, some figures are liable to be revised later.
2 - These 27,327 claims led to the issue of over 30,000 recommendations (see box page 6). Additionally, it should be noted that a single claim may correspond to two files (i.e. material and bank-related).
3 - Whereas for continental France, the ratio is 9 out of 10.

Examination

For 2010, the number of reports submitted totalled 801, compared to 1,118 in 2009, a drop of 28%. The reports submitted break down as follows:

- material claims: 647 (787 in 2009);
- bank-related claims: 115 (250 in 2009);
- reexamination requests: 36[4] (70 in 2009);
- shelving[5]: 132 (84 in 2009).

Hearings

In 2010, the Commission organized 96 sub-commissions, 19% fewer than in 2009. They enabled the examination of 814 files (an average of 8 files per hearing). Additionally, 21 plenary hearings were held (20 in 2009), leading to the examination of 71 files identified as complex6, for an average of 3 files per hearing.
For three years, we have seen a drop in the number of files examined at each hearing concomitant to the number of claims registered at the Commission.

In 2010, the "Chairman presiding alone" procedure resulted in the issuance of 406 recommendations for 398 files examined[7].

Recommendations

In 2010, 1,263 recommendations were issued, of which 935 concerned material spoliations and 328 concerned bank-related spoliations, for a total amount of 17,427,335 euros (16,099,522 euros for material spoliations and 1,327,813 euros for bank-related spoliations).
The number of case files giving rise to reexamination by the Commission totalled 14 (11 in 2009), only 1% of all recommendations.
Of these 1,263 recommendations, 205 recommendations for refusal were formulated, 70 concerning "material" claims and 135 relating to "bank-related" claims, of which 82 resulted from foreclosure linked in Fund B. Finally, 308 recommendations of allocation of reserved portions were issued (236 material and 72 bank-related).

4 - This very low figure reflects the high degree of satisfaction of claimants who, most of the time, follow the Commission's recommendations.
5 - Abandonment of claim, disqualifications on the part of the claimant, lack of jurisdiction of the Commission.
6 - Precedent-setting cases, reexaminations, etc.
7 - Allocation of reserved portions, complementary claims (e.g. smuggler's fees, assets seized at internment camps), bank-related claims presenting no difficulties.

Staff

For ten years, our staff have been rigorously matched to the CIVS' activity. The decrease in the backlog systematically leads to a redeployment of staff through internal transfers, temporary recruitment, and elimination of job positions when members of staff leave. Today, the Commission has 35 staff members (37 in 2009).
Additionally, the activity of the rapporteur magistrates has been adjusted. Since 2009, 7 (out of 18) of them worked two days per week instead of the three worked previously.
This strategy aims to maintain the skills that staff members have acquired on the job, but also to make all the staff adaptable to any changes. Maintaining current staff levels remains a requirement for the smooth operation of the CIVS, given the diversity of its activities and the complexity of some cases, still under investigation, which require extensive research.

Over 30,000 recommendations issued since 1999

Some 18,446 material recommendations and 11, 484 bank-related recommendations have been issued since 1999, for 29,930 in total. Of these, 23,409 gave rise to compensation for all losses combined (78% of all recommendations) for a total amount of 492,267,134 euros (444,880,117 euros relating to material spoliations and 47,387,017 euros relating to bank-related spoliations). 3,347 recommendations for refusal were pronounced, and 3,174 recommendations for allocation of reserved portions were formulated. Additionally, 262 other recommendations involved abandonments of claims, case files sent back for additional information, statements of lack of jurisdiction of the Commission and proposals to refund previously allocated sums[8]. In the end, the Commission reviewed 601 case files within the framework of the reexamination procedure.

18,500 claims, over 40,000 beneficiaries

Because several claimants can be listed in a single case file, the number of beneficiaries in a given case of compensation is considerably larger than the number of claims. Surviving spouses, direct or collateral descendents, and more rarely, the associates of an Aryanised company can all be considered to be entitled to compensation. At 31 December 2010; over 40,000 people had in this way come into direct contact with the CIVS.

Two particular cases

Cultural Personal Property

Claimants may apply for compensation as a result of the spoliation of Cultural Personal Property (Fr. BCM), and more particularly, works of art.
Since the beginning of its work until 31 December 2010, the CIVS has examined 2,169 case files of this type. Out of all the claims considered, only 165 mention works of art in the strict sense of the term, or 6% of all the claims labelled in this manner by claimants, and less than 1% of all the claims.

Nevertheless, the examination of these case files is particularly sensitive and requires regularly updating our investigation tools..

8 - The Commission is unaware of all heirs of a given case file at the moment it renders its judgement. Some are only identified after the Prime Minister's decision..

Diversification of investigative tools

Because of the complex questions raised when tracing a given work of art, several sources must be consulted. The main field for investigation are the archives of the Office for Personal Property and Interests (OBIP) and the Artistic Recovery Commission (Fr. CRA), both of which are kept by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, but also the archives of Musées de France, the French National Archives, the Paris Archives, and the Departmental Archives.

Since October 2010, a database with 20,000 documents and photographs relating to artwork looted by the Nazis in French and Belgium has been available online for consultation at the initiative of the Claims Conference and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM). This tools allows institutions and families to do their own research.
The available documents and historical information consist of three archives: the National Archives and Records Administration of the United States, the German Federal Archives (Bundesarchiv) in Koblenz, and the archives of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, in La Courneuve. The database is accessible at the following web address: **http://www.errproject.org/jeudepaume**.

Despite improvements in research tools and the more detailed knowledge now available, inquiries are often inconclusive because of the lack of information, the vagueness of claims and the absence of photographs or certified lists. If attempts to find the property have been unsuccessful and the case file contains information whose apparent likelihood convinces the Commission, compensation is offered.

A complex assessment

Assessing works of art presents several challenges. Using documents and personal accounts produced by the claimants, as well as information found in the archives, a complete study is performed: biography and valuation of the artist, sales of his/her work, art market, etc. To do so, various works listing art sales and providing final auction prices for the works of a given artist over the period 1935-1956 are consulted. Even if this study gives an idea of an artist's valuation, it should be borne in mind that comparing the auction prices of several works by the same artist only provides an imperfect, flimsy estimate given the differences in format, technique, quality, historical importance, and even reliability of the suggested attributions.

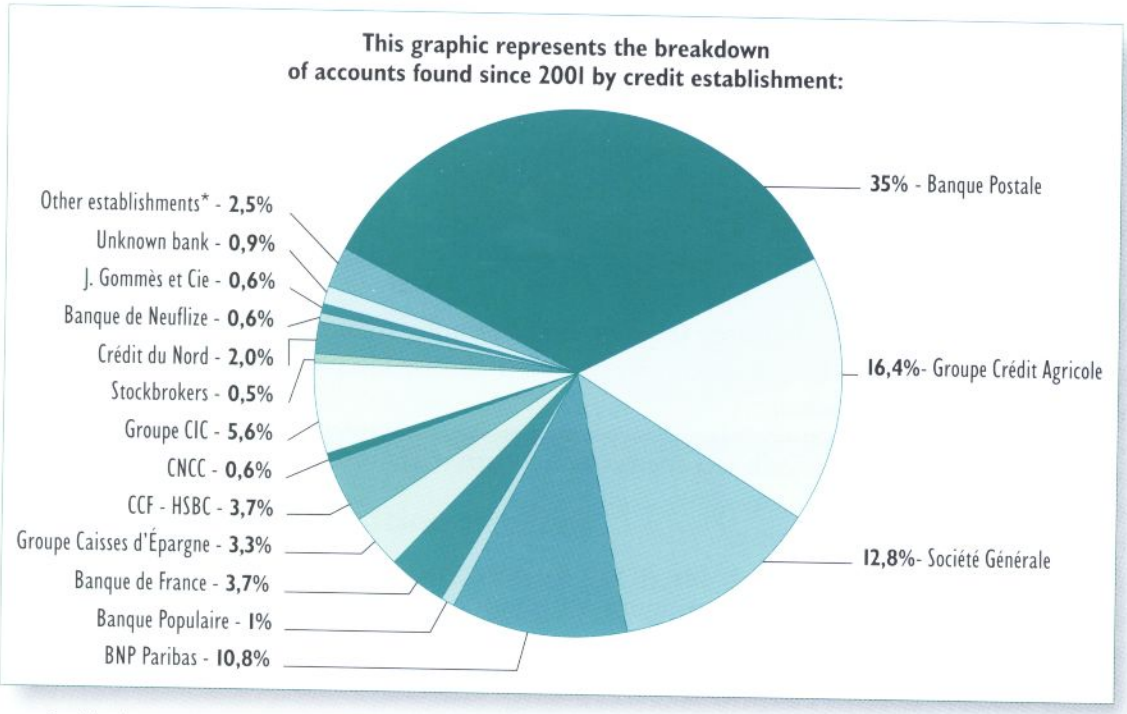
Bank-related spoliations

Forwarding

For its part, the bank-related claims search team has registered a 27% in the number of bank-related case files forwarded by the administrative unit. It should be remembered that bank-related claims are opened at the initiative of claimants. However, to see justice is done, the Commission takes the initiative to open a claim (30% of the 215 case files forwarded) if documents consulted at various archive centres consulted in relation to a compensation claim for material spoliations reveal the existence of professional or personal bank accounts.

Processing

At the end of 2010, almost all of these case files had been studied by the special department of the CIVS. 128 of these, for which cash or securities accounts or safety deposit boxes had been attested to, required investigation at bank archives, who took two months to answer.



* *Category for all banking establishments which represent less than 0.5% of identified accounts.*

Examination

Although the Washington Agreement recognised the priority nature of bank-related case files, their examination is very often inseparable from that of material claims. Of the 244 case files for which examination was finished in 2010, 60% were forwarded to the Principal Rapporteur to be examined by a rapporteur. For the balance of claims, the simplified "Chairman presiding alone" procedure was applied. 70% of these latter case files resulted in a recommendation for refusal given the inconclusive findings of research into the existence of bank assets or a submission of claims after the foreclosure date of 2 February 2005 which was set by the Washington Agreement. At 31 December 2010, the case files pending examination by a rapporteur and presented to a sub-commission or plenary hearing concerned 545 bank accounts likely to be compensated under the provisions of this same Agreement.

Regular information

The Information Notices relating to the management of bank-related case files and the depletion of Funds I and B were produced half-yearly on 15 June and 15 December 2010.

Changes in working methods and Commission procedures

In 2010, the CIVS bodies, procedures and working methods once again had to adapt to the general decrease in the Commission's activity indicators. This change affected claimant reception, investigation procedures, document conservation and communication. Particularly, the reorganisation of the work of the rapporteur magistrates had to be taken into account.

Claimant reception

In April 2010, the department in charge of welcoming claimants was overhauled. It now holds different functions, namely:

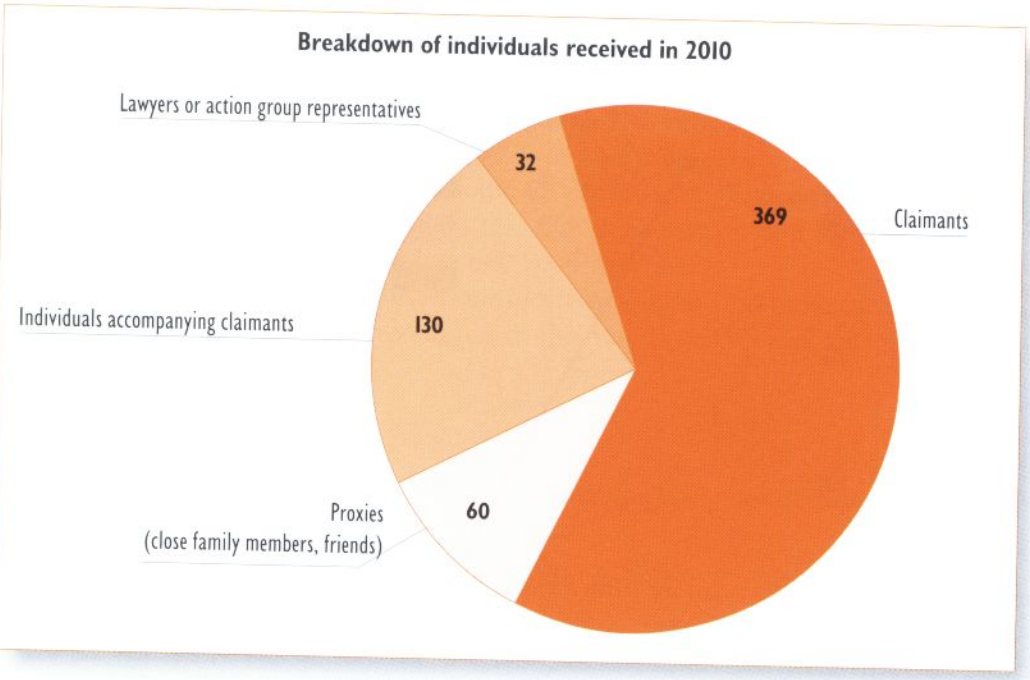
- telephone reception desk (switchboard, information, hotline);
- the reception of claimants seeking assistance at the CIVS head office, for example, to fill in the questionnaire required to open a claim;
- the reception of claimants attending the hearing examining their claim;
- finally, the reception of claimants seeking to consult their case file, particularly archival documents collected by the Commission.

It should be noted that 21% of calls recorded concern current claims. Other reasons for phoning are:

- to ask about a hearing;
- to ask about reserved portions;
- to get additional information;
- miscellaneous: e.g. to make an appointment, ask about compensation payment or other possible hearings for compensation, etc.

A Commission open to claimants

Behind its judicial demeanour, the institution's day-to-day activities are geared towards support, assistance and, when necessary, consolation. Between April and December 2010, 17 individuals were received at the Commission offices to receive support before filling out the questionnaire. Of the 1,027 individuals invited to the hearing, 401 attended and 60 attended by proxy. Finally, 76 claimants sought both information on the content of their case file and, often, to have a copy made once processing was completed. The CIVS therefore extends a welcome to claimants at each step of the handling of their case file. Rapporteurs form personal ties with the claimants while examining their assigned case files. All staff members in general are accustomed to answering questions from individuals in various situations, in all cases moving and in some cases difficult.



Changes to the investigation process

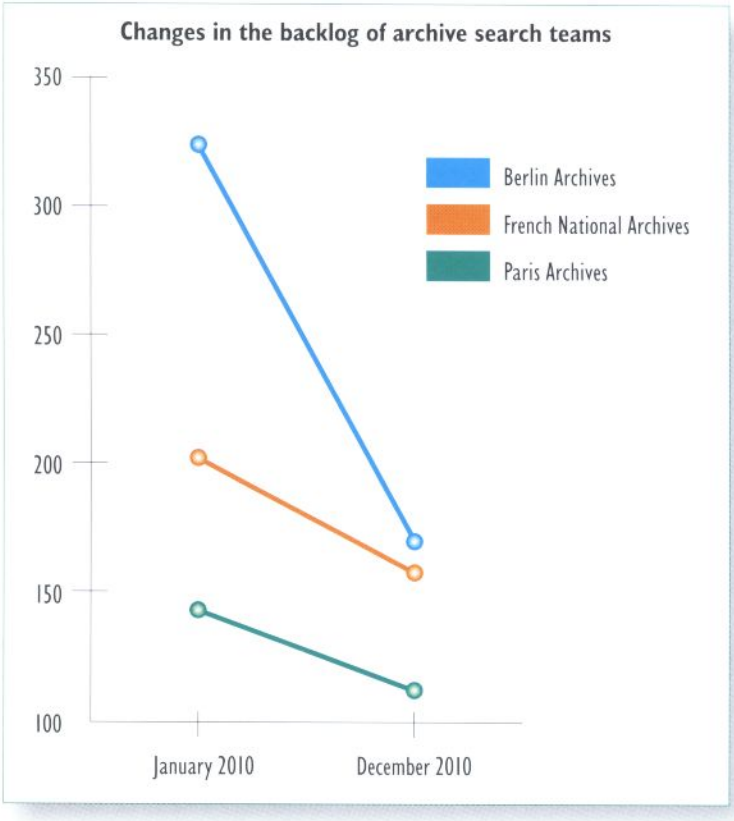
In 2010, the Control and Investigation Network (RCI), the department responsible for archival research, processed 699 material claims forwarded by the administrative unit, for an average of 58 case files per month. Nevertheless, the RCI noticed, starting in October, a decrease in the number of claims received (an average of around thirty).
The RCI processed more claims in 2010 (699) than in 2009 (598). This is due to the fact that the administrative unit, which received fewer claims in 2010 than in 2009, dipped into its backlog of case files to ensure they were forwarded. Additionally, the department was confronted with a constant arrival of claims throughout the year concerning spoliations in Tunisia.

At 31 December 2010, the number of case files being processed at the RCI totalled 450 (478 as at 1 January 2010). Depending on the location of spoliation, these case files can be broken down as follows:

Continental France	Tunisia	Total
280	170	450

The case files concerning spoliations that occurred outside continental France are subject to special treatment. They are forwarded to the Nantes Center for Diplomatic Archives (CADN), the repository for archives on war damages in Tunisia, which is the only centre consulted.

For the archive search teams, 2010 was marked by the decrease in the number of claims to be processed. Their teams studied, on average, more claims than they received. This point is even more significant for the Berlin search team, which receives the majority of material claims..



The decrease in the backlog of the archive search teams and of the RCI has been accompanied by a drop in the number of case files forwarded to the Principal Rapporteur for investigation by a magistrate: 739 in 2010 compared to 866 in 2009; on average, 57 material claims submitted monthly, as opposed to 70 in 2009.

Data and document conservation

Activity of the "resource" department

Since 2004, the purpose of the Supervision Unit (CDS) has been to verify the accuracy of the various documents making up each claim, material or bank-related, as well as their consistency with the information inserted in the electronic database by Commission staff members.
The CDS is responsible for organising case files, verifying the recommendations prepared by the Hearing Secretariat, reviewed and signed by the Chairman, and archiving case files. By December 31st, 2010, 13,946 case files had been examined and 22,783 verifications had been made by the CDS[9]. Today, the CDS is an effective resource for the production of statistical data. Once its mission is accomplished, the CDS shall have achieved its goal of compiling an "administrative memory" for future use by researchers.

9 - A given case file may be verified several times if it is subject to renewed treatment by the CIVS (e.g. reexamination, allocation of portions, etc.)

Management of archive filing

In 2010, the department in charge of filing archives pursued its assigned tasks of case file maintenance and management of available linear footage. Additionally, a new filing system for CIVS-issued recommendations was set up to facilitate the work of staff members.
Additionally, to allow researchers associated with the **CIVS History Committee**[10] to carry out their assigned task under optimal conditions, 2,050 case files were turned over to the French National Archives between 2008 and 2010. Today, this task is completed.
It is nevertheless possible to consulted archived case files following the "administrative communication" procedure. In 2010, 97 case files were requested in this way by CIVS staff members.

Communication

Throughout 2010, the CIVS pursued its mission of informing the public, community organisations and various institutions of its actions.

In several ways, the Commission took the initiative to find victims, or the heirs or beneficiaries of spoliation victims, who had not been informed of their rights or the Commission's existence. For example, a partnership was set up with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in which each institution undertook to raise awareness of the other's activities. In August 2009, the CIVS had sent an information letter to 2,000 claimants concerned by a programme developed by the USHMM, the "Survivors Registry". In turn, in June 2010 the USHMM sent a letter describing the CIVS to 2,000 individuals in its database who had resided in France during World War II. It should be mentioned that only 12 questionnaires arrived at the CIVS after this campaign, a return rate of 0.6%. We may safely conclude that the US information campaign carried out over the past ten years has reached its goal.
Additionally, the Commission asked the management of the French Veterans' Affairs Bureau (Fr. ONAC) for an exchange of information to uncover potential claimants.

During 2010, the CIVS had the pleasure of receiving several U.S. Department of State representatives who were interested in its work.
For example, on 21 June, the Chairman, Director and Principal Rapporteur met with Mr Basil Scarlis, delegate of the Office of Holocaust Issues of the Department of State. Mr Scarlis was seeking information on how the CIVS worked, particularly as regards its investigations for prior compensations and the handling of archival documents.
On 17 November, the Chairman and Director received Mr Douglas Davidson, the Department of State's Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues. The Special Envoy is currently working on the development of American policy for the restitution of property to Holocaust victims as well as compensation and memory. Mr Davidson was seeking details on how the Commission works, particularly as regards its compensation and restitution procedures for works of art.
Messrs Scarlis and Davidson both applauded the work of the CIVS, which is often looked on as an example by other European countries, particularly for its meticulousness and transparency.

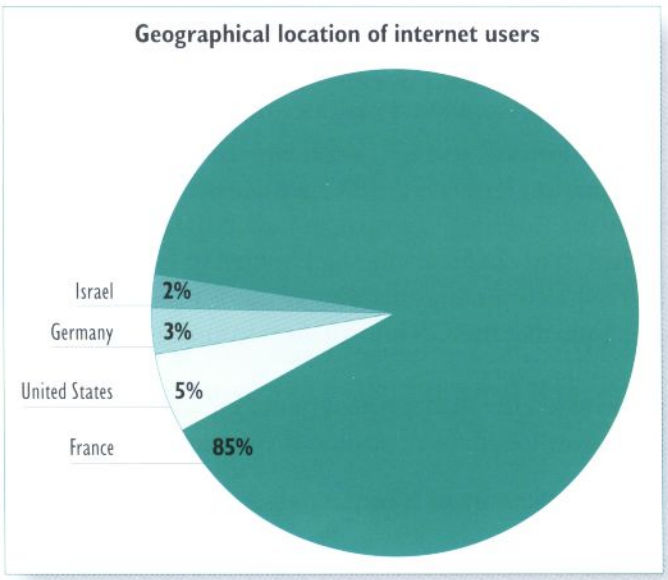
To help Commission staff members enhance their knowledge of the historical background of their mission, several business trips to Holocaust memorial institutions in France and abroad have also been organised. For example, on 24 March 2010 a delegation of several Commission staff members

10 - The CIVS History Committee, under the research direction of Dr Anne Grynberg, professor of contemporary history, was instituted by decree of the Prime Minister on 3 August 2007. Further information on its objectives may be found in the Report to the Public on the Activities of the CIVS 1999-2009 (pages 62-63).

travelled to Auschwitz and Birkenau. On 21 October, researchers of the Berlin search team toured the Drancy internment camp memorial (Fr. CHCD). Founded in 1989, it is an educational presentation of the history of this Paris region internment camp.

Resources and assistance

For nearly a decade, the CIVS information portal (**www.civs.gouv.fr**) has acted as an effective interface between the Commission, claimants and all those seeking to follow its work. During 2010, the website had 71,000 connections[11], as compared to 69,000 in 2009. This suggests strong interest in the actions of the CIVS. The most frequent consultations were of the "Questions/Answers" tab (34%), "The CIVS" (30%), and "Getting Compensation" (7%).).



Conclusion

The waning number of new claims, of which several are now filed by individuals with only far-removed inheritance rights, suggests that the mission of the CIVS is coming to completion.
This may therefore be an appropriate time to set a date for the works of the Commission to come to a close. However, in keeping with the expressed desire of the State, this should be done only on the condition that as yet uncompensated victims (perhaps hesitant or poorly informed) are given the chance to make full use of the remaining time, which will be preceded by an information campaign and may take up to one year. It goes without saying that, if warranted by the number of new claims, the completion date could be postponed or even suspended.
Finally, if no foreclosure occurred, plans should be made to renew the contracts of Commission staff, some of whom have been working here for twelve years, and adapt the number of staff members to our reduced activities.
Regardless of the solution chosen, the CIVS will complete or pursue its mission with the conviction that its task helps at least partially pay back France's "unremitting debt".

11 - Number of pages viewed.

Memento

Executive Board of the Commission:

Chairman: Mr Gérard GÉLINEAU-LARRIVET, Honorary President of Chamber at the Court of Cassation
Director: Mr Jean-Pierre LE RIDANT, former member of Parliament
Principal Rapporteur: Mr Jean GÉRONIMI, Honorary Advocate General at the Court of Cassation

Commission's decision-making members

Mr François BERNARD, Honorary State Counselor, Vice Chairman of the Commission
Mr Jean-Pierre BADY, Honorary Counselor of the Court of Audit (Cour des Comptes)
Mr Bernard BOUBLI, Honorary Senior Counselor at the Court of Cassation
Mr Gérard GÉLINEAU-LARRIVET, Chairman of the Commission
Ms Anne GRYNBERG, Professor at the National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO) and researcher at the Institute of Contemporary History (IHTP)
Mr Gérard ISRAËL, philosopher, writer and member of the steering committee of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF)
Mr Pierre KAUFFMANN, Secretary General of the Shoah Memorial in Paris
Mr Pierre PARTHONNAUD, Honorary Master of the Court of Audit (Cour des Comptes)
Mr David RUZIÉ, Honorary Dean and Professor Emeritus
Mr Henri TOUTÉE, State Counselor

Government Commissariat

Ms Martine DENIS-LINTON, State Counselor, Chairman of the National Court on the Right to Asylum, Government Commissioner
Mr Bertrand DACOSTA, *Maître des requêtes* (Master in Chambers) at the Conseil d'Etat, Deputy Government Commissioner

Rapporteurs

Ms Monique ABITTAN, Magistrate of the regular court system
M. Jean-Michel AUGUSTIN, Magistrate of the regular court system
M. Christophe BACONNIER, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Françoise CHANDELON, Magistrate of the regular court system
M. Brice CHARLES, Magistrate of the administrative court system
M. Claude COHEN, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Rosine CUSSET, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Chantal DESCOURS-GATIN, Magistrate of the administrative court system
Ms Marie FRANCESCHINI, Magistrate of the regular court system
M. François GAYET, Magistrate of the administrative court system
Ms Nicole JULIENNE-SAURIN, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms France LEGUELTEL, Magistrate of the regular court system
M. Ivan LUBEN, Magistrate of the administrative court system
M. Jean-Pierre MARCUS, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Éliane MARY, Magistrate of the regular court system

M. Michel MOREL, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Marie-Hélène VALENSI, Magistrate of the regular court system
Ms Sophie ZAGURY, Magistrate of the regular court system

The Commission would like to pay tribute to Mr Jean Corbeau, magistrate of the Court of Audit, and Mr Pierre Renard-Payen, magistrate of the regular court system, both of whom passed away in 2010.

Files registered: 27,327

- Including 18,150 material files
- Including 9,177 bank-related files

Frequency of hearings:

- Sub-commissions: 3 a week
- Plenary hearings: 2 a month

Hearings organized in 2010: 117

- Sub-commissions: 96
- Plenary hearings: 21

Average number of files examined per hearing:

- Sub-commissions: 8
- Plenary hearings: 3

Recommendations adopted[12]: 29,930

- 18,446 material recommendations
- 11,484 bank-related recommendations

including 3,174 recommendations formulating the lifting of reserved portions, or 10.6% of recommendations adopted.

Cases heard by the commission[13]: 26,241

Recommendations for refusal: 3,140 (i.e. 11.18% of the recommendations made)

- In respect of material spoliations: 1,241
- In respect of bank-related spoliations: 2,106

Requests for reexamination screened by the commission: 601

Cases pending as at 1 January 2011: 1,183

- "Material" files: 1,073
- Bank-related files: 110

12 - All losses combined, including rejected claims
13 - Several recommendations may be made for a single case file.

Organization Chart

Mr Gérard GELINEAU-LARRIVET
Chairman

Secretariat
Ms Elvire STEELS

Vice Chairman
Mr François BERNARD

Government commissariat

Mr Bertrand DACOSTA
Government commissioner

Secretariat
Ms Catherine CERCUS

Mr Jean GERONIMI
Principal Rapporteur

Secretariat
Ms Myriam DUPONT

Decision-making members

Mr Jean-Pierre BADY, Member
Mr Bernard BOUBLI, Member
Ms Anne GRYNBERG, Member
Mr Gérard ISRAEL, Member
Mr Pierre KAUFFMANN, Member
Mr Pierre PARTHONNAUD, Member
Mr David RUZIE, Member
Mr Henri TOUTEE, Member

Mr Jean-Pierre LE RIDANT
Director

Secretariat
Nathalie CORNU

Rapporteurs (magistrates of the court system indicated)

Ms Monique ABITTAN (regular court system)
Mr Jean-Michel AUGUSTIN (regular court system)
Mr Christophe BACONNIER (regular court system)
Ms Françoise CHANDELON (regular court system)
Mr Brice CHARLES (administrative court system)
Mr Claude COHEN (regular court system)
Ms Rosine CUSSET (regular court system)
Ms Chantal DESCOURS-GATIN (administrative court system)
Ms Marie FRANCESCHINI (regular court system)
Mr François GAYET (administrative court system)
Ms Nicole JULIENNE-SAURIN (regular court system)
Ms France LEGUELTEL (regular court system)
Mr Ivan LUBEN (administrative court system)
Mr Jean-Pierre MARCUS (regular court system)
Ms Eliane MARY (regular court system)
Mr Michel MOREL (regular court system)
Ms Marie-Hélène VALENSI (regular court system)
Ms Sophie ZAGURY (regular court system)

Bailiffs
Mr Christophe CHENET
Mr Benjamin NAND JUI

Chargé de communication
Mr Nicolas BENARD

Case officer for administrative affairs
Ms Nathalie CALICHIAMA

Investigation/Archives
Ms Isabelle RIXTE

IT specialist
Mr Miguel CABEZAS

General reception of claimants
Ms Sylvette DESOPPI (Manager)
Ms Sandrine CADET

Case file preparation unit
Mr Stéphane PORTET

Control and Investigation Network
Ms Karine VIDAL

Cultural Personal Property
Ms Muriel de BASTIER

Bank-related search team
Ms Sylviane ROCHOTTE

French National archives search team
Ms Émilie BOULANGER
Mr Matthieu CHARMOILLAUX
Mr Emmanuel DUMAS

Paris Archives search team
Ms Brigitte GUILLEMOT

Berlin archives search team
Responsable :
Ms Laura MEIER-EWERT

Research directors
Mr Sébastien CADET
Ms Coralie PIETRUCCI
Ms Coralie VOM HOFE

Hearings secretariat
Ms Sarah INTSABY
Mr Gabriel MASUREL
Mr Nicolas NALON

Secretariat
Ms Clarisse GODARD
Ms Elvire STEELS

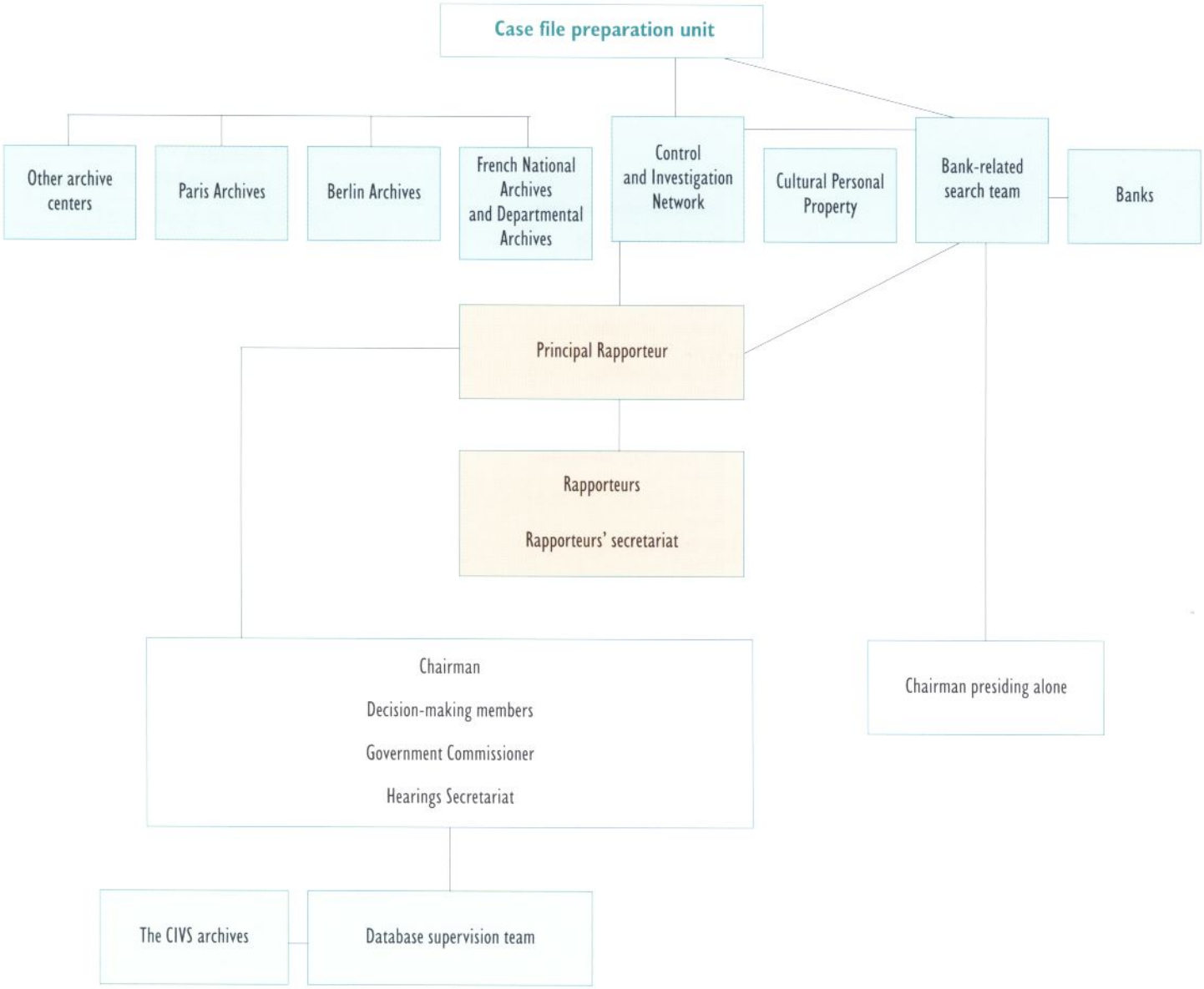
Supervision unit
Ms Sandrine CADET
Mr Richard DECOCQ
Ms Eloïse GARNIER

Archives Room
Central Square
Basement meeting room
Hearings Chamber

Central Rapporteurs' secretariat

Mr Romain MARQUAND
Ms Monique STANISLAS-GARNIER
Ms Nathalie ZIHOUNE

Diagram of how a file is processed



Search teams and archive centers consulted by the RCI and cultural personal property unit

CIVS search team in Berlin

French Embassy in Germany
Pariser Platz 5
10117 BERLIN

French National Archives Search Team of the CIVS

20th century department
60, rue des Francs-Bourgeois
75003 PARIS

CIVS search team aux Paris Archives

18, boulevard Sérurier
75019 PARIS

Departmental Archives

Documentation Center

of Contemporary Judaism
17 rue Geoffroy L'Asnier
75004 PARIS

Préfecture de Police de Paris

1 bis, rue des Carmes
75005 PARIS

Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations

DBRP2. Cellule des biens spoliés
15, quai Anatole France
DBRA5-Pôle 4
75356 PARIS 07 SP

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Art Recovery Archives
3, rue Suzanne Masson
93126 LA COURNEUVE CEDEX

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Centre des Archives diplomatiques
17, rue Casterneau
PO Box 43605
44036 NANTES

Ministry of Culture and Communication

Heritage Department
Museums of France Department
6, rue Pyramides
75041 PARIS CEDEX 01

The Central Archives for the History of Jewish People

(for consulting archives at the personal property spoliations unit at the FSJU)
Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
46 rehov Jabotinsky
JERUSALEM

Fédération Française des Sociétés d'Assurance (F.F.S.A.)

26, boulevard Haussmann
75311 PARIS CEDEX 09

Ministry for the Budget, Public Accounts and State Reform

Direction Générale des Finances Publiques
Bureau GF3B
86, allée de Bercy
75572 PARIS CEDEX 12

Centre des Archives d'Outre-mer

(For the "Algeria" case files)
29, chemin du moulin de Testa
13090 AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Summary of the sums allocated since the start of the work of the Commission up to December 31st 2010

Total amount of allocated compensations, all losses combined :

€ 492,267,134

Total amount of compensations paid for bank-related spoliations:

€ 47,387,017

This amount is broken down as follows:

- Escrow account – Fund A: € 14,278,803 + € 1,538,053 (to Fund B since October 2008)
- Fund B: € 24,080,820 (stopped in October 2008)

Total € **39,897,676***

To this figure must be added the amount allocated the State for bank-related spoliations: € **7,489,341**

Measures relative to the Washington Agreement

The following are the measures contained in the various Exchanges of Letters:

2001: 7-10/08/2001:

- introduction of a supplement of up to USD 1,500 from Fund B for compensation of under USD 1,500 pertaining to Fund A;
- implementation of a second round of compensation totaling USD 1,500 for Fund A claims, the balance of compensation for which is under USD 1,500 and for Fund B claims submitted before the foreclosure date of 18/07/2002, for a total indemnity of USD 3,000.

2002: 30-31/05/2002:

- the foreclosure date for claims relating exclusively to Fund B is extended from July 18, 2002 to January 18, 2003.

2005: 02/02/2005:

- compensation for debtor accounts: debit balances are no longer deducted from total compensation granted;
- compensation supplement totaling up to USD 3,000 taken from Fund B for each account managed by a provisional war-time administrator if under this amount. Proven amounts, however, are still paid out from the State budget;
- compensation for unproven accounts held by individuals residing abroad during the 1940-1944 period.

2006: 21/02/2006:

- a lump sum of USD 15,000, drawn from Fund A, is awarded to all direct survivors of the Shoah meeting four criteria;
- award of an additional sum of up to USD 10,000, drawn from Fund A, for personal or business accounts with a proven, compensated amount of over USD 3,000;
- a fixed indemnity of USD 1,000 drawn from Fund B to proven personal or business accounts with a proven, compensated amount of under USD 3,000;
- postponement of the foreclosure date for Fund B, from January 18, 2003 to February 2, 2005;
- substitution of Fund A for Fund B if the latter becomes depleted;
- reduction of the Fund A escrow account to USD 10,000,000.

12/04/2006 :

Interpretative letter attached to the Exchange of Letters of February 21, 2006.

The signature of the last Exchange of Letters constituting a comprehensive, definitive rule for final settlement of the Washington Agreement was finalized in 2006.

Abbreviations

AN : *French National Archives Search Team (CIVS)*

AP : *Paris Archives Search Team (CIVS)*

BCM : *Cultural Personal Property*

DB : *Database (CIVS)*

CDC : *State Official Deposit Bank*

CHCD : *Drancy internment camp memorial*

CIVS : *Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliations*

CRA : *Artistic Recovery Commission (French Foreign Affairs Ministry)*

CRIF : *Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France*

DMF : *French Museums Directorate (French Culture Ministry)*

IHTP : *Institute of Contemporary History (CNRS)*

INALCO : *National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations*

MAE : *Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

MNR : *National Museums list of artwork retrieved from Germany following the war*

NARA : *National Archives and Records Administration (United States)*

OBIP : *Office for Personal Property and Interests*

ONAC : *National War Veterans and War Victims Administration*

PP : *Police Prefecture*

RCI : *Control and Investigation Network (CIVS)*

SDS : *Hearings Secretariat (CIVS)*

USHMM : *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum*

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PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE

Commission for the Compensation
of Victims of Spoliations
due to the anti-Semite legislation
in effect during the Occupation
– CIVS –

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