Introduction to the Inventory of the Archives of the American Joint Distribution Committee in Poland 1945-1949

Edited by Tadeusz Epsztein, Archive of the Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw, 2005

English version machine-translated, then edited and adapted by Jeffrey Edelstein, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Archives, New York, 2014
Introduction

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC)\(^1\) was established on November 27, 1914, as a coalescence of three relief committees, including the American Jewish Relief Committee established one month earlier (Oct. 24, 1914) by Jacob H. Schiff, Louis Marshall, and Felix M. Warburg. Warburg became the first chairman of AJDC, the main objective of which was to render help to Jewish people in diverse regions of the world. The organization initially formed to address the plight of Jews in Palestine, but the worsening situation in Europe soon directed the Joint’s attention to the people of Central and Eastern Europe. Immediately after the end of the war, in early 1919, AJDC sent its representatives to Poland. From that moment, the Joint began relief efforts in Poland, offering financial and organizational support to numerous educational, social, and economic initiatives. Financing the work in Poland was a significant part of its budget (from 25 percent in the 1920s to 33 percent at the end of the 1930s\(^2\)). The outbreak of war in 1939 did not end the AJDC activity in Poland. During the first years of Nazi occupation, the Joint was able to continue its activity, although much diminished compared to the prewar period. The branches of AJDC in the area of the General Government worked until December 1941, providing help to the Jewish people. The activity of the AJDC did not stop when the United States entered the war, but was forced underground. With the total extermination of major Jewish communities in 1942 and 1943, AJDC efforts in the occupied territory ceased almost entirely.

Surviving members of the AJDC Polish branch managed to reopen the Joint office in Poland only a few months after the end of the war: on July 19, 1945, the Ministry of Public Administration gave formal consent for the Joint to begin its activity, and in August the initial agreements that established the operating principles of the AJDC branches were signed. The Polish headquarters was located in Warsaw at Chocimska 18 as of September 1, 1945. The main initiator of reconstruction of the Polish branch was David Guzik, one of the AJDC directors during the interwar period and occupation, a man of great merits, particularly in the organization of help for the Jewish people during the war.\(^3\) Guzik became the first director of the Warsaw headquarters, and after his tragic death in an airplane crash on March 5, 1946, he was replaced by William Bein. The general secretary in Warsaw was Józef Gitler-Barski. The Polish Joint was gradually growing: in October 1945 it hired twenty people; several months later (March 1946) it was

---

1 Short forms and abbreviations of the name were commonly used, including American Joint Distribution Committee, AJDC, or Joint, and for the American Headquarters, Joint Distribution Committee (JDC).
3 The activity of David Guzik during the occupation was described by, among others, Adam Czerniaków, *Warsaw Ghetto Diary, 6.9.1939-23.7.1942*, edited by M. Fuks (Warsaw, 1983), pp. 93, 104-105, 127-128, 130, 136, 146.
almost eighty; and by December 1947 its branches employed almost 130 people. Its organizational structure also evolved in the years 1945-1949 due to the changing needs of the Jewish people.

AJDC’s most important objective was providing financial aid. Food, medicine, clothing, raw materials, machinery, and other goods were obtained through foreign assistance or direct purchases abroad or in Poland. AJDC also acted to provide direct aid to individuals. In the years 1945-1949 AJDC imported almost 600 railway car and shiploads with hundreds of tons of food and other goods. The first transport arrived in Gdynia on October 8, 1945, and contained, among other items, 5 tons of vegetable fat, 2 tons of powdered milk, and the like. The Polish headquarters of AJDC had separate departments for receipt, storage, and distribution of the enormous aid: the Transportation and Warehousing Departments had their own means of transportation, storage, etc. The Gdynia Department of Transportation branch arranged the shipments by sea, and these and the railway cargoes were directed to AJDC warehouses (in Gdynia and Warsaw), from which they were redistributed throughout Poland. Together with the food, clothing, and other goods, financial assistance in the form of ongoing aid or occasional help were granted. Aid was given directly to individual recipients in only a minority of cases; mostly, it was directed to various organizations and associations. It should be stressed that the financial aid and AJDC donations were often the basic source of funding for these organizations’ regular activity. The major beneficiaries were the Central Committee of the Jews in Poland (CKŻP) and the health care organization TOZ; for example, the Central Committee received about 3.5 billion Polish zlotys in the years 1945-1949. But the Joint also supported Jewish political parties and social organizations, including the Bund labor union, the Zionist and religious organization Mizrachi–Torah v’Avodah, the Ichud Zionist Democratic political party, the Hashomer Hatzair and Poalei Tsiyon-Left Jewish labor parties, the Jewish religious labor party Poalei Amunai Yisrael–Lódz, the Zionist and socialist labor party Poalei Tsiyon–C.S.–Hitachdut, the Union of Non-Party Zionists, and the General Jewish Union of Non-Party Jews; youth associations such as Hehaluts-Pionier [Pioneer], the Haluts socialist youth organization Dror (from 1948, the Union of Haluts Poalei-Tsiyon Dror Borochow Youth in Poland), and the Coordinating Committee for Children and Youth Affairs of Ichud and Hehaluts-Pionier; and religious organizations, mainly the Organizational Committee of Jewish Religious Congregations, the Chief Religious Council, and the Aguda religious kibbutzim. Hebrew schools were also maintained with AJDC funds.

In addition to the Joint’s support of the above-mentioned institutions, it also focused its activity and interest on academic, cultural, and artistic associations. It supported the activity of the Central Jewish Historical Commission (which became the Jewish Historical Institute in 1947), whose major task was to collect materials related to the Holocaust. Separately, the AJDC financed the work associated with the protection and arrangement of the Ringelblum Archives (the first parts of which were excavated in 1946) and the search for the second part of these archives (excavated not earlier than 1950). Other groups that
benefited from the Joint’s funding were the Union of Jewish Writers and Journalists in Poland, the Union of Jewish Stage Artists in Poland, the Jewish Theater in Warsaw, the Union of Jewish Artists, the Jewish Society for the Promotion of Art, the Jewish Society of Culture, the Society of Friends of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (presided by Julian Tuwim), and other associations and societies, as well as the Czytelnik [Reader] and Nowe Życie [New Life] publishing houses and the editors of newspapers and magazines.

In economic activity, the Organization for the Development of Industrial, Craftsmen’s, and Agricultural Activity (ORT), the Cooperative Bank for the Productivity of the Jews, the Solidarność (Solidarity) Cooperative Center, and other cooperatives were also under the auspices of the Joint.

A separate field of AJDC interest was the landsmanshafts—associations and societies of people from the same villages or towns across Poland. The landsmanshafts were organized among the repatriates, mainly those who had been displaced to the interior of the Soviet Union at the beginning of the war, but also Jews who survived the war in Poland and other European countries. The Landsmanshafts Department was responsible for them. By mid-1946, 41 landsmanshafts had been established with the help of AJDC. They not only benefited from AJDC’s financial support but also received employment assistance and loans as well as raw materials and machinery for production.

The Joint also directed its financial assistance to the general Polish population. Special consideration was offered to those who rescued and hid Jews during the occupation; for example, 1 million zlotys was allocated to this purpose during the first quarter of 1947. At the same time, several caregiving facilities administered by monastic communities that hid Jewish children benefited from the Joint’s help. Such institutions included orphanages in Mgoszcz (the Convent of Immaculate Conception), Bożycyn and Płudy (the Convent of the Family of St. Mary), Chotomów (the Convent of Servant Sisters), and Chylice (the Convent of Saint Ursula). Several institutions in Warsaw also received donations, including the Convent of Capuchin Fathers, the Ewa Matuszewska Boarding School, the Boarding School of the Convent of Saint Ursula, the Orphanage of the Convent of Orisonist Fathers, the Providence Boarding House, the Municipal Emergency Child Care, the Father Boduen Orphanage, the Kindergarten of the Family of St. Mary, the Municipal Boarding School, the School for the Deaf, Dumb, and Blind, the Institute of the Mokotów District, and the Warsaw Orphanage.

The best evidence of the scale of AJDC activity in Poland is the budget of its Warsaw headquarters. It helps to separate the direct aid provided by the Joint from the indirect aid offered to various social and cultural institutions and organizations.
Table 1. Expenses of the American Joint Distribution Committee in Poland, 1945-1949 (in mil. Polish zlotys)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Committee of Polish Jews</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>191.50</td>
<td>234.0</td>
<td>187.40</td>
<td>135.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOZ</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>33.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zionist organizations</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious organizations</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJDC**</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>33.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other**</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>39.0</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>312.5</td>
<td>360.1</td>
<td>322.1</td>
<td>282.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: AJDC Archives in Poland, Archives of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw

Besides providing financial aid, the AJDC dealt with the search for lost persons. The Department of Tracing Services generated voluminous correspondence with various institutions and private individuals in Poland and abroad. Thousands of letters survived in the department’s documentation. The documents include lists of family members whose relatives searched for them; few of them were found, the majority having died during the war. The search lists were published in the press at AJDC cost.

One of the AJDC objectives was to help people who wished to emigrate from Poland. The Department of Emigration handled the preparation of documents, passports, visas, railway tickets, and the like. Travel expenses for people of limited means were paid. In addition, emigration groups were organized. Most people immigrated to Palestine (Israel), the United States, and Latin America. Altogether, the Department of Emigration helped several thousand people to emigrate, although it was not many considering the number of Jews emigrating from Poland in that period. A separate unit of this department looked after children, especially orphans. AJDC financed the redemption of Jewish children from Polish families, organized health care for them, granted scholarships, and prepared them for emigration.

The AJDC branch in Poland operated until the end of 1949. Its activity was discontinued due to the decision of the Polish authorities to eliminate most of the Jewish organizations, political parties, associations, and institutions in Poland.

---

4 Planned expenses
5 Immediate help and overheads
6 This category includes various organizations and institutions under AJDC auspices; e.g., in 1945/1946 the majority of this donation (7.5 mil. Polish zlotys) was allocated to the Kassa (later, Bank) for the Productivity of Jews in Poland; in 1949 about 15 mil. Polish zlotys were planned for the separate emigration fund.
7 In the budget for this quarter the expenses for “Other” purposes were included with direct AJDC aid.
The Archive

The archive of the Polish AJDC Headquarters held at the Jewish Historical Institute does not contain all documents produced by the Joint in Poland in the years 1945-1949.\(^8\) An initial impression of the collection was reconstructed on the basis of two incomplete descriptions of the archive, one from the end of 1949, another written at the JHI after 1949. The first inventory of the archive was made on 20-28 December 1949 at the AJDC Headquarters office after packing most of the files in about a dozen cartons. The general inventory of the content of cartons 1-5, 7-10, 12-13, and 15 survived. We do not know if there were more than fifteen cartons and what materials were included in cartons 6, 11, and 14. The inventory notes particular categories of archival documents, but does not define their extent. Therefore it is difficult to define the volume of the collection. However, it is possible to say that there are some gaps. First of all, some portion of the employees’ personal files, which had been in the Joint office as late as December 1949, did not survive.\(^9\) It is also unknown if the packing and inventory of the archive made in December 1949 was executed because of the need to transfer the documents to JHI or another archive in Poland, or if they were intended to be sent abroad, either in whole or in part. We do not know the exact date when the JHI took over the Joint archive, but it was undoubtedly after December 1949.

The next description of the archives ("The A.J.D.C. archival collection for Poland") was created after the transfer of the AJDC documents to JHI. Unfortunately, the description contains even less data than the inventory of December 1949; for example, personal files once divided into some dozen categories were incorporated into a single unit called “personal records.” It does not help us at all to compare that portion of material before the liquidation of AJDC in Poland and after JHI took it over. However, even that rough list shows a significant gap in the files of the Department of Emigration.\(^10\) The papers of that department are now located in the Joint archive, but why weren’t they there after the archive was taken over in 1949? It is likely to have something in common with the suspension of the activity of the Department of Emigration by the Security Office at the beginning of 1949. At that time, the department’s office was sealed and the staff was not allowed access to the documents.

The AJDC collection was initially arranged in the 1980s by Jan Krupka, a JHI employee. Part of the material was arranged and described, and catalog cards were made for some files. The work was

---

\(^8\) Files relating to the Joint in Poland are also included in the AJDC archives in New York.

\(^9\) It is not unlikely that these files of AJDC employees drew the interest of the Security Office and were confiscated by them.

\(^10\) There are general remarks at the end of the index concerning the arrangement and condition of the collection. It reads, in part: “Descriptions of particular divisions delivered by AJDC are incomplete and lack carton lists. During arrangement of the collection, we tried to check the documents of this division using the existing division lists (from the Joint) delivered with the documents, but a full comparison was impossible.” The above information might show that the surviving inventory of December 1949 may not be complete or that the gaps noted in the description of the cartons may already have occurred by then.
completed but the bulk of the collection had to wait for arrangement until the present, intact and in original folders and covers as it had been arranged and described at the AJDC office.

Returning to the present state of the collection, it should be stated that in addition to the gaps in personal files, some of the logbooks are missing. For example, the logs of the Secretariat, the Department of Tracing Services, and the Department of Assistance to Individuals did not survive in full. It is not possible to state when those logs could have vanished and if they had been turned over to the JHI archives at all.

The Joint Archives contain documents prepared in the office of the Headquarters in Warsaw, the AJDC warehouses, and the Gdynia Department of Transportation. The AJDC office used a daybook system. Due to the large volume of correspondence, there was no such thing as a common log for all mail. Before registration, the incoming letters were transferred to the respective unit and registered in its log. The same procedure was used for outgoing letters. The following units had their own logs for incoming and outgoing letters: the Secretariat, Assistance to Individuals, Tracing Services, Emigration, Landsmanshafts, Transportation, and Legal Affairs. As mentioned above, not all sets of logbooks survived. The mail of particular departments and subunits was marked with letter symbols or abbreviations such as “GO” (General Office), “GO-Acc” (Accounting), “ES” (Emigration Service), “SL” or “Search” (Search and Location [Tracing Services]), IR (Individual Relief - Welfare), “LND” (Landsmanshafts), “ST” or “Department of Transportation” (Supplies and Transportation), “R” (Research), “GO-Adm” (Administration), “Ch” (Children), “W” (Warehousing), “C” (Control [Audit]).

Outgoing mail was prepared in several copies, which were divided among the various file systems. As time went by, separate colors were introduced for particular copies, e.g., white, blue, yellow, pink. The first copy of each outgoing letter of a particular department was added to the general files of the respective department in numeric and chronological order. Remaining copies were put into separate folders or attached to the files of current cases. The system, although quite convenient for the office, resulted in duplicate documentation scattered throughout the entire archive. Folders created in one department could move to another one according to the course of the case in question. In particular, personal cases were conducted simultaneously or successively by several AJDC units. Correspondence concerning one particular person might be initially directed to the Department of Tracing Services, then to the Department of Assistance to Individuals, finally to be found in the Department of Emigration.

Some departments, to make the sorting easier, introduced additional registers. This is mostly evident in the Department of Tracing Services, which received a large volume of mail. This department had a dual marking system. The letters obtained successive numbers of logbook and letter marking that referred to the nature of the case, for example, mail from the United Service for New Americans (USNA)

---

11 The marking was executed by special rules of the AJDC Secretariat in Poland (circular letter no. 10, March 1947).
in New York was marked with a letter “H,” that from the Central Local Index in New York with a letter “I.” Outgoing mail was sometimes double-marked to differentiate it from various ranges of correspondence.

As for the language, most of the AJDC documents are written in both English and Polish. Foreign correspondence is almost entirely in English. Circular letters of the Headquarters and printed documents are also in English. Domestic letters are in Polish. French, German, and Yiddish appear less frequently, and there is little in the files in other languages.

The documents survived in good physical condition, except for a minor portion of files of the Department of Tracing Services, where some signs of water damage have been found. After arrangement, the collection amounts to 2,445 archival files, ca. 37 running linear meters.

**Principles of arrangement**

Simple and logical order in the office and the relatively good condition of the majority of the AJDC documents suggested keeping the original arrangement of the Joint archives, i.e., dividing the files among the particular organizational units of the institution. Only minor modification and rearrangement was introduced, which resulted from operational changes in the Polish AJDC Headquarters. Documents of the following departments were separated: Emigration, Assistance to Individuals, Tracing Services, Landsmanshafts, Transportation, Transportation in Gdynia, Warehousing, Audit, Bookkeeping, and Administration. There were also the Departments of Legal Affairs and of Purchasing, but no significant documentation of their activity survived.\(^{12}\)

Only part of the material was difficult to restore to original arrangement. These problems concerned the financial files and the files of internal and external audit, because it was difficult to understand how they were divided among the Secretariat and the Audit and Bookkeeping Departments. These problems resulted from the existing labeling system. In general, financial files were included with Bookkeeping, whereas the auditing files were shared between the Audit and Bookkeeping Departments. Nor do we know how the personnel files were arranged (mainly as personal folders), which related to diverse matters (tracing, relief, emigration). Considering that those matters were sometimes settled by different organizational units of the Joint, they were kept together with the Secretariat files.

**General arrangement of the files**

According to the functional principles of the AJDC Headquarters in Poland, the files of the Secretariat, which coordinated the activity of the Polish branch of the Joint, were placed first. The files of the

---

\(^{12}\) The correspondence of the Department of Legal Affairs used to have its own logbook but the numbering was the same as the letters of the Secretariat, differing only in being marked with a letter “L.”
Secretariat included all types of legal and organizational documents—external (circular letters, directives, bulletins, and other documents) written by the Headquarters in New York and Paris; and internal, written by the Headquarters in Warsaw. There also were documents concerning the history of AJDC and reports of its activity. The Secretariat controlled a large volume of correspondence concerning various matters, routine activity, and contact abroad and in Poland. Two separate collections can be differentiated: general, outgoing letters, including all letters sent by the Secretariat; and correspondence, both outgoing and incoming, with particular institutions, organizations, individuals, and the like. For the latter, in cases of a greater volume of correspondence, the incoming and outgoing letters were arranged separately. Correspondence with different institutions and offices were either separated or kept together. Domestic letters were generally separated from foreign mail. Letters from and to individuals comprised a separate series. Some selected cases were also put into separate folders. These cases referred to general and organizational matters as well as private ones.

The personal files of the staff constitute a separate series. As I have already mentioned, the primary documentation (personal files) of the employees of AJDC in Poland was lost. We only have second-hand information, in the form of copies, testimonials of employment, payrolls, lists of employees, roll calls, etc. On this basis we can reconstruct the status of employment in various periods, but it hardly informs us about the individual employees. Some additional material survived from two directors of the Joint: David Guzik and William Bein. Documents of the Circle of AJDC Employees trade union are found as an annex to personal employee files, along with files of various social and political organizations to which the Joint staff members belonged.

The organization chart of the AJDC Polish Headquarters was subject to some changes and we cannot be sure about the order of particular departments in AJDC hierarchy (except for the Secretariat). Considering this, I introduced an order based on the nature of the activity of particular units within the Polish branch of the Joint, also partly based on the general archival arrangement of the files.

I placed the files of the Legal Affairs and Auditing Departments immediately after the files of the Secretariat. Both of these departments had oversight over AJDC activities. In the Department of Oversight and Audit there are reports by Joint inspectors who oversaw various AJDC units (internal audit) as well as by inspectors of AJDC-financed institutions and organizations (external audit). Several inspectors left vast documentation supplemented with numerous attachments. These files were arranged in geographical order, although files of some major institutions that are frequently mentioned were separated.

I reserved the central position to the four departments that dealt with various forms of relief: Tracing Services, Assistance to Individuals, Landsmanshafts, and Emigration. Among the documents of those units the personal files stand out, mainly correspondence concerning individual and collective cases
settled by the Joint. The Department of Tracing Services has the most material, which consists of correspondence with various institutions, organizations, and individuals concerning the search for particular persons. This documentation provides more or less detailed information about tens of thousands of people lost throughout Central and Eastern Europe during the war, in the years 1939-1945. The Landsmanshafts Department includes documentation about Jews who survived, along with information of their prewar territorial origin. Certain Jewish committees and other organizations provided such information to the AJDC. This helped the AJDC to distribute financial relief to the landsmanshafts. In the Department of Emigration, besides loose letters, we find a set of personal files numbering in the thousands; a smaller set of personal files survived in the Department of Assistance to Individuals.

The documents of the Departments of Transportation (together with the Gdynia Department of Transportation) and Warehousing illustrate the organization and range of financial relief for the Jewish people in Poland that the Joint provided. Documents related to the transport of material relief that arrived by land and sea to Poland in the years 1945-1949 survived. The further distribution of goods that arrived in Poland can be tracked on the basis of other documents that are in these record groups, including documentation of storage, distribution indexes, vouchers, etc.

We can obtain a view of AJDC activity in Poland by examining the financial records of the Department of Bookkeeping. They begin with preliminary budgets, collective balance sheets, and financial reports of the AJDC and institutions and organizations it financed. Financial files concerning particular subjects with attached documentation and mail were separated. In numerous attachments we find documents related to the activity of many institutions, associations, political parties, and editors’ offices that were financed by the Joint.13

The files of the Departments of Administration and Purchasing contain documents related to the supply and maintenance of the AJDC offices in Poland.

**Description of the files in the inventory**

The description of each file consists of two parts. It begins with the name of the organizational department, e.g., Secretariat, Department of Tracing Services. The next part of the description provides the nature of the file, e.g., record, report, correspondence, etc. In some cases supplementary information concerning the content is included in parentheses. For files containing the names persons included in the index, “Names index” is noted at the end of the description.

The description of the files contain the initial and the final dates of the documents included within each file, as well as the means of recording (handwritten, typewritten, printed, photocopy, photograph),

---

13 The names of the institutions and organizations are as listed above.
language, form of storage (files; loose or bound), number of pages, and, if need be, remarks about physical condition.

**Finding aids**

There are original card catalogs and personal cards that facilitate the review of the documents. I have already mentioned several series of logbooks above. Alphabetical indexes were created for some card catalogs with lists of files (mainly personal). The Department of Tracing Services had its own personal catalog including about 67,700 cards (folders 625-626).\(^{14}\)

A smaller card catalog was created for personal files of the Department of Emigration. It comprised about 6,400 cards (folder 1432) that include most of the cases settled by the department.

Further finding aids were prepared during preparation of the AJDC archives inventory. Indexes of persons were created for some units containing personal files, and a comprehensive index for the entire collection. All individual personal files and a small part of the remaining personnel files were subject to indexing. The indexes (appendixes) of each file contain the names and surnames of people in the order applied to particular files (not necessarily in alphabetical order). The comprehensive index includes more than 13,000 names. In order to find a given person in the Joint files, it is necessary to start with the comprehensive index, which enables users to find out in which indexes the name in question is mentioned. Then one can find the exact location of the files concerning the given person based on the names appendix to the respective files. The index covers only a small portion of names quoted in the AJDC files. It refers us to the specific archival folders that contain the files of the given individual, but it also contains data about the previous numbering assigned by the AJDC office.

We intentionally did not index information from lists. Among these categories are lists of more than three individuals quoted in correspondence, various name lists of people being traced, emigrants, employees, payrolls, etc. However, to help users to access such information, we created the following system: *name index(es)* ..., *comprehensive index(es), and payroll(s)* ... . The name lists were often attached to personal correspondence or other personal files; they were always applied at the beginning of the file, in chronological order, to make the use of them easier.

The geographical index to the inventory, including some files that refer to particular locations, forms an additional finding aid for the collection. Among other parts of the collection, the geographical

\(^{14}\) The usefulness of this card catalog for the review of personal files is questionable, as the case numbers quoted in the files were applied to the initial letter, which was then attached to letters that followed in the same case. Eventually, the entire set of documents was placed under the final letter number. In order to pick the specific file of the person covered by the index, it is sometimes necessary to look through several logbooks and many other archival files.
index covers part of the Landsmanshafts Department files that contain lists of the names of people coming from different towns and villages.

* * *

Work on the inventory of the AJDC Archive in Poland was undertaken in 2003-2005 thanks to the financial support of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

I would like to render my cordial thanks to (the Ladies): Agnieszka Jarzębowska and Agnieszka Reszke, who helped me to arrange the Joint files. Ms Agnieszka Reszke also created out the indexes to the personal files.

Tadeusz Epsztein

Bibliography:


Index of abbreviations (in Polish original copy)

cz. – część (part)
fot. – fotokopia (photocopy)
j. – jednostka archiwalna (archival file or unit)
j. ang. – język angielski (English language)
j. czes. – język czeski (Czech language)
j. franc. – język francuski (French language)
j. hebr. – język herbrajski (Hebrew language)
j. holend. – język holenderski (Dutch language)
j. niem. – język niemiecki (German language)
j. pol. – Polish language (Polish language)
j. port. – język portugalski (Portuguese language)
j.ros. – język rosyjski (Russian language)
j. szwed. – język szwedzki (Swedish language)
j. węg. – język węgierski (Hungarian language)
j. żyd. – język żydowski (Yiddish language)
koresp. przych. – korespondencja przychodząca (in-mail, in-letters)
koresp. wych. – korespondencja wychodząca (out-mail, out-letters)
l. – luźne (loose)
l. dz. – liczba dziennika ([day]book number, journal number)
mps – maszynopis – typewriting
mps pow. – maszynopis powielany (typewriting in several copies)
rkps – rękopis (handwriting)
s. – strona (page)