

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies
Persecution and Deportation in Western Europe - General Introduction

MS (CDJC), CXXVIIa-8

Translation: II04 Telegram on the deportation of the Belgian Jews

Telegram

Brussels, Foreign Affairs Office, 9 July 1942

Military administration intends to carry out requested deportation of 10,000 Jews. Military administration chief presently at headquarters to discuss matter with Reichsführer SS. Reservations to measure could emerge because understanding of the Jewish question not very widespread here and the population views Jews of Belgian nationality to be Belgian. Measure could therefore be seen as the start of a general deportation. On the other hand, Jews largely integrated into the local economic process so that difficulties on the labour market could occur. The military administration believes reservations can be allayed if deportation of Belgian Jews is avoided.

Therefore, Polish, Czech, Russian and other Jews will be selected first, so that the target quota can be achieved on paper. Practical difficulties to be expected because a certain unrest in local Jewry has arisen after the commencement of deportations out of France and Holland became known. Jews will try to escape round up. Existing police numbers are insufficient for coercive measures. A further report to follow.

Bargen