

**THE FIRST HOLOCAUST**  
THE SURPRISING ORIGIN OF THE SIX-MILLION FIGURE

# The First Holocaust

The Surprising Origin  
of the Six-Million Figure

Don Heddesheimer



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Don Heddesheimer:

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## Foreword

By *Germar Rudolf*

As we all know, roughly six million Jews were killed by National Socialist Germany during World War II, or so we are told. This genocide is today generally referred to as *the Holocaust* or *the Shoah*. But how do we know that six million Jews lost their lives? And for how long have we known it?

Whereas it seems that the first question can be answered by demographic research on Jewish mortality during World War Two, the second question has to be directed to historians.

With regard to the first question, while several scholars tried to make demographic investigations into the question of Jewish population losses during World War Two – sometimes with quite conflicting results – it was not until 1991 that a major monograph, published in Germany by a mainstream publishing house and authored by a group of renowned authors, addressed this important issue. To nobody’s surprise, the result of this massive demographic study confirmed what everybody knew anyway:<sup>1</sup>

*“The bottom line indicates a minimum of 5.29 and a maximum of just over 6 million [Jewish victims of the Holocaust].”*

And even though the six-million figure had been called a highly “*symbolic figure*,”<sup>2</sup> it has now reached almost sacrosanct proportions. It is clear that the massive social and legal persecution encountered by everyone in Germany who doubts, denies, or refutes the six-million figure<sup>3</sup> has resulted in an invisible guideline for this study despite the editor of said tome, Wolfgang Benz, rushing to point out:<sup>4</sup>

*“Of course the purpose of this project also was not to prove any pre-set figure (‘six million’).”*

But considering that the Holy Holocaust is without any doubt the biggest taboo of our times, is this really a matter of “of course”?

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<sup>1</sup> W. Benz (ed.), *Dimension des Völkermords*, Munich: Oldenbourg, 1991, p. 17.

<sup>2</sup> German mainstream historian Martin Broszat from the Munich Institut für Zeitgeschichte did so while testifying as an expert witness for the Frankfurt Jury Court, May 3, 1979, Ref. Js 12 828/78 919 Ls.

<sup>3</sup> For this, see my study “*Discovering Absurdistan*,” *The Revisionist* 1(2) (2003), pp. 203-219.

<sup>4</sup> W. Benz, *op. cit.* (note 1), p. 20.

In a comparative analysis of Benz's study with a major revisionist analysis of Jewish population losses during World War Two,<sup>5</sup> I pointed out that Benz's work has so many logical, methodic, and systematic flaws that its results have to be rejected.<sup>6</sup>

But if it is true that we do not have a reliable demographic study that shows without a doubt that six million Jews lost their lives during World War Two, then why are we confronted with this six-million figure? Where does this figure originate? And when was this figure first propounded?

The late Dr. Joachim Hoffmann was the first mainstream historian who marveled over this question. In his 1995 study *Stalin's War of Extermination 1941-1945*, he pointed out that the chief Soviet atrocity propagandist, Ilya Ehrenburg, had publicized the six-million figure in the Soviet foreign press as early as January 4, 1945, *i.e.*, fully four months before the war's end.<sup>7</sup> At that time, no demographic figures could have been available to him. Just a year later, British Historian David Irving emphasized that as early as June 1945, in other words immediately after the end of hostilities in Europe, some Zionist leaders claimed to be able to provide the precise number of Jewish victims – six million, of course – even though the chaos reigning in Europe at that time rendered any demographic studies impossible.<sup>8</sup>

Revisionist scholars, on the other hand, have long pondered about the origin of the six million figure, the most famous and thorough research stemming from Prof. Dr. Arthur Butz in his epochal work *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*.<sup>9</sup> While analyzing a large amount of *New York Times* articles on the persecution of Jews in German dominated Europe during World War Two, Butz found several articles which clearly indicate that as early as late 1942/early 1943, Jewish lobbying groups within the United States were already anticipating a total loss of five to six million Jews at war's end. Some of these articles I would like to briefly quote here, taken from Butz' book:

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<sup>5</sup> Walter N. Sanning, *The Dissolution of the Eastern European Jewry*, Newport Beach, Cal.: Institute for Historical Review, 1983.

<sup>6</sup> "Holocaust Victims: A Statistical Analysis. W. Benz and W. N. Sanning – A Comparison," in Germar Rudolf (ed.), *Dissecting the Holocaust*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Chicago: Theses & Dissertations Press, 2003, pp. 181-213.

<sup>7</sup> *Stalins Vernichtungskrieg 1941-1945*, Munich: Verlag für Wehrwissenschaften, 1995, pp. 160f.; English: *Stalin's War of Extermination 1941-1945*, Capshaw, Ala.: Theses & Dissertations Press, 2001, pp. 189f.

<sup>8</sup> David Irving, *Nuremberg. The Last Battle*, London: Focal Point, 1996, pp. 61f.

<sup>9</sup> Brighton: Historical Review Press, 1976. All following quotes are from the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, ChicagoIll.: Theses & Dissertations Press, 2003.



*NYT*, June 30, 1942, p. 7:

*"1,000,000 Jews Slain By Nazis, Report Says"*<sup>10</sup>

*NYT*, September 3, 1942, p. 5:

*"A European observer said the Germans planned to exterminate the Jews not only in Europe, but throughout the world. He declared the Nazis had executed 2,000,000 Jews in the past three years."*<sup>11</sup>

*NYT*, December 13, 1942, p. 21:

*"[...] 'Authenticated reports point to 2,000,000 Jews who have already been slain by all manner of satanic barbarism, and plans for the total extermination of all Jews upon whom the Nazis can lay their hands. The slaughter of a third of the Jewish population in Hitler's domain [3×2,000,000=6,000,000] and the threatened slaughter of all is a holocaust without parallel.'"*<sup>12</sup>

*NYT*, December 20, 1942, p. 23:

*"What is happening to the 5,000,000 Jews of German-held Europe, all of whom face extermination [...]."*

*Early in December 1942 the State Department in Washington gave some figures showing that the number of Jewish victims deported and perished since 1939 in Axis-controlled Europe now reached the appalling figure of 2,000,000 and that 5,000,000 were in danger of extermination."*<sup>13</sup>

*NYT*, March 2, 1943, pp. 1, 4:

*"Immediate action by the United Nations to save as many as possible of the five million Jews threatened with extermination [...] was demanded at a mass demonstration [...] in Madison Square Garden last night."*

*[...Rabbi Hertz said] 'appalling is the fact that those who proclaim the Four Freedoms have so far done very little to secure even the freedom to live for 6,000,000 of their Jewish fellow men by readiness to rescue those who might still escape Nazi torture and butchery. [...]'"*<sup>14</sup>

*NYT*, March 10, 1943, p. 12:

*"Forty thousand persons listened and watched [...] last night to two performances of 'We Will Never Die,' a dramatic mass memorial to the 2,000,000 Jews killed in Europe. [...] The narrator said 'There will be*

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<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 98.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 99.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 100.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 101f.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 103. This is the same Rabbi Hertz who already as early as 1922 referred to "1,000,000 human beings [...] butchered" during pogroms in the Ukraine, *New York Times*, January 9, 1922, p. 19; see p. 55 and Appendix, p. 117.

*no Jews left in Europe for representation when peace comes. The four million left to kill are being killed, according to plan.*”<sup>15</sup>

*NYT*, April 20, 1943, p. 11:

*“London, April 19 (Reuter) – Two million Jews have been wiped out since the Nazis began their march through Europe in 1939 and five million more are in immediate danger of execution. These figures were revealed in the sixth report on conditions in occupied territories issued by the Inter-Allied Information Committee.”*

Thus, Butz concludes in his book:<sup>16</sup>

*“Another point that should be made here [...] is that the six million figure had its origin apparently in the propaganda of 1942-1943.”*

Butz also shows that the origins of these articles were Jewish-Zionist pressure groups like the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress. Initially, their claims were not taken seriously in Washington, until Henry Morgenthau of the Treasury department managed to reduce the influence of the State Department on official U.S. politics.<sup>17</sup>

But even Butz’s farsighted approach was still a little short. Let me first go back in time six more years. On November 25, 1936, Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, testified in front of the Peel Commission, which was formed as a reaction of violent clashes between Jews and Arabs in Palestine and which finally decided to divide Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab State. In his speech, Weizmann said:<sup>18</sup>

*“It is no exaggeration to say that six million Jews are sentenced to be imprisoned in this part of the world, where they are unwanted, and for whom the countries are divided into those, where they are unwanted, and those, where they are not admitted.”*

That Weizmann’s reference to six million threatened and/or suffering Jews is neither an exception nor by any means the earliest reference to this figure, is now shown by Don Heddesheimer. He has collected a vast amount of material indicating that the propaganda unleashed by Zionist organization during World War Two was not unprecedented. As a matter of fact, it is a mere repetition – or should we say continuation? – of propaganda, which intensified during World War One (!) and reached its first culmination in the 1920s. Already by then, the figures of five or six

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<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 104.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 105.

<sup>17</sup> See Butz’s chapter “*The First ‘Extermination’ Claims and Washington*,” starting on p. 81 of his book, *ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> Retranslated from the introduction of Walter A. Berendsohn to Thomas Mann, *Sieben Manifeste zur jüdischen Frage*, Darmstadt: Jos. Melzer Verlag, 1966, p. 18. I am grateful to R.H. Countess for bringing this to my attention.

million Jews threatened by death were widely publicized and were used as a means to an end: namely the uncritical support of Jewish and Zionist political goals.<sup>19</sup> To go one step further, Heddeshheimer even found a source from 1900 claiming that six million suffering Jews were a good argument for Zionism (see p. 41).

In this preface, I have quoted several *New York Times* articles of the years 1942 and 1943, because after having read this book, I would like the reader to come back to these pages and read those articles again. He will then be struck by the similarity of the theme. But he will also notice a difference:

During World War Two, Zionist pressure groups found a very convenient propaganda target in National Socialist Germany, whose extremely anti-Jewish politics invited all sorts of credible-sounding accusations.

Before, during, and immediately after World War One, however, the situation was more complex. As Heddeshheimer shows, the major target for polemic attacks in the years before World War One was czarist Russia due to its policies toward Jews, which many Zionists considered to be anti-Jewish. After czarist Russia's defeat was apparent in 1916/1917, Zionist propaganda switched its target over to Germany (see pp. 39f. of this book), whose ally, the Ottoman Empire (Turkey), needed to be defeated to 'liberate' Palestine for Zionist plans (and of course in order to secure billions of dollars lent to the British and French). Such propaganda accusations against Germany, however, ceased at war's end, because Germany, in those years, was quite willing and able to defend itself against such untrue propaganda.

After the end of World War One, when Zionist dreams about Palestine were temporarily disappointed, but new hopes had arisen with the Soviet experiment in Russia, no particular country was initially singled out, even though there was a perfect target: Poland.

Between World War One and World War Two, Poland was a military dictatorship, which implemented a policy of 'ethnic pressure,' *i.e.*, all non-Polish minorities were subjected to discriminations and various degrees of persecution with the intention to 'convince' them to emigrate (quite similar to what Israel does today in Palestine against non-Jews). The Jews in Poland were not exempt from this treatment. As a matter of fact, Polish official as well as unofficial anti-Judaism was so massive that many Polish Jews preferred living in Germany even during the Third Reich until late 1938 rather than staying in their native country.

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<sup>19</sup> Don Heddeshheimer has published an earlier, shorter article on this topic: "Holocaust Number One – Fundraising and Propaganda," *The Barnes Review*, 3(2) (1997), pp. 19-24.

Hence, there was enough justification to massively attack Poland for its rabid anti-Jewish attitude as there were reasons to attack Germany after Adolf Hitler rose to power there and step by step implemented a policy increasingly comparable to that already in effect in Poland.

Although it can be shown that *The New York Times* accused Poland of anti-Jewish persecution in many articles – whereas this newspaper was basically silent about similar persecution suffered by Germans, Lithuanians, Ruthenians, Ukrainians, and Slovaks residing in Poland – Heddesheimer does not focus on this aspect, because his book is not about the suffering and persecution of Jews in eastern Europe, but about propaganda and fundraising in New York. I therefore want to draw the reader's attention to a few examples of articles in *The New York Times* addressing anti-Jewish persecution in Poland.

Already by 1919, a report about alleged anti-Jewish pogroms in Poland appeared in the *New York Times*, but with a very ironic connotation, since the veracity of these reports was doubted:<sup>20</sup>

*“It has been pointed out that some of these reports may have originated with German propagandists or may have been exaggerated by them with the obvious purpose of discrediting Poland with the Allies, in the hope that Germany might be the gainer thereby. Germany might have assisted in spreading these stories, may have invented them, although it would be a cruel deception to wring the hearts of great multitudes of people in order to gain such an end [...]”*

False claims of Jewish suffering would be cruel, indeed, and it sure is nice to read it from the horse's mouth. It is troubling, however, when such claims are falsely attributed as in this case where the *New York Times* apparently could not suppress its prejudice to potentially see the 'evil German' behind everything.

In some articles during the 1920s addressing the sufferings of Polish Jewry, these hardships were interestingly depicted as a result of general economic hardship in Poland after World War One rather than as a result of any specific anti-Jewish policies.<sup>21</sup> Others, in particular during the 1930s when Polish policies became more repressive, reported anti-Jewish persecutions, which triggered the public protest of Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, the chairman of the American Jewish Congress.<sup>22</sup> This was, however, also accompanied with some dramatically exaggerated claims about the suffering of the Jews:<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> “Pogroms in Poland,” *New York Times*, May 23, 1919, p. 12.

<sup>21</sup> E.g., “Jews of Poland Again Face Period of Want,” *New York Times Sunday Magazine*, May 28, 1926, p. 8.

<sup>22</sup> “Tenenbaum Quits Polish Group Here. Charges Anti-Semitic Policy Abroad in Resigning as Head of Good-Will Committee,” *New York Times*, Nov. 20, 1931, p. 26.

<sup>23</sup> “Racial Bias Viewed as Threat to Peace,” *New York Times*, Feb. 22, 1932, p. 20.

*“The Jewish people all over the world face a war of extinction, Dr. Tenenbaum declared in an address [...].”*

This was roughly one year before Hitler was elected Chancellor of Germany!

Even though Poland’s anti-minority policies in general and anti-Jewish policies in particular, which started right at this country’s establishment in 1918/19, made it a perfect target for criticism, this aspect of Polish history is today forgotten, largely unreported as it was.

As we know today, the largest suffering of mankind between the two world wars was happening in the Soviet Union, so one would expect that the Zionist organizations would name the Red Terror as one main reason for the claimed sufferings of Jews. But this didn’t happen until later. The reason for that can be deduced from one example, shedding a bright light onto how the *New York Times* viewed the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union. In late 1922, that newspaper reported that there were some hostilities toward Jews in the Ukraine, but that this was stamped out violently with the help of a Jewish army of allegedly 500,000 soldiers – an army that could have been formed and operated only with the consent of the new Soviet authorities.<sup>24</sup> In other words: Considering the terror inflicted upon the civil population of the early Soviet Union in general and the Ukraine in particular by armed and unarmed units of the Soviet authorities, it must be assumed that this Jewish army was one important factor *causing* terror rather than defending against it. And the *New York Times* depicted this essential part of Red Terror as heroic, justified Jewish self-defense. This attitude can be understood if one keeps in mind that many Zionist Jews looked at the new Soviet Union as a Jewish-dominated and -controlled experiment of a Jewish-led country free of anti-Judaism.

Another aspect of the story is to trace the money raised by those fundraising campaigns. In Chapter 5, Heddeshheimer addresses this question. The literature he quotes shows that Jewish organizations were indeed using some of the money to assist the Jewish populace in Poland. But on the ugly side, as Heddeshheimer hints in his fifth chapter, it also served as a fundraising drive to support various aspects of the Jewish-dominated communist revolution in Russia, or in other words: to wittingly or unwittingly finance the Jewish-Soviet holocaust against Christians in Russia, the Ukraine, and all the other states within the Soviet Union.

In contrast to that, the second large-scale Zionist fund- and support-raising campaign during World War Two was aimed at the creation of

<sup>24</sup> “South Russian Jews Raise Strong Army,” *New York Times*, December 20, 1922. It is possible that this claim is an exaggeration itself, though it is quite likely that Jews joined the armed forces of the early Soviet Union more eagerly than non-Jews.

Israel, and this propaganda has never ceased since. First of all because Israel has a continual need for massive support, whereas the Soviet Union did not get any more such support after it became basically de-Judaized under Stalin, and secondly because Germany collapsed totally after the war and has never been allowed to defend itself against those Zionist propaganda claims; quite to the contrary: it is punishable by law in Germany and many other European countries to challenge those claims.

In his last chapter, Heddesheimer briefly investigates whether or not the claims of extraordinary Jewish sufferings made by Zionist pressure groups during the late 1910s and the 1920s were based on facts. Did Jews in Central and Eastern Europe suffer more than the average populace in those countries, which had collapsed after World War One? Was there indeed a holocaust looming or going on in the years between 1915 and 1927? Using contemporary Jewish population statistics, Heddesheimer briefly points out that the worldwide Jewish population was growing much faster during and shortly after World War One than the other religious and/or ethnic groups who lived in the same countries. That should suffice to answer the above questions.

One might also easily conclude that if those first holocaust claims were true, it would dominate our history books as the First Holocaust. But since it cannot be found there, we can rightly assume that this propaganda was untrue.

To close my preface, I would like to briefly mention the causes of alleged Jewish suffering in both holocaust propaganda claims. Whereas simple poverty is mainly claimed to have been the reason for the (invented) First Holocaust, mass murder by gas chambers and executions are supposed to have been the means during the Second, the 'real' Holocaust.

Even though gas-chamber claims were not part of the propaganda pattern of the 1910s and 1920s, there is one known exception, which was published by the London *Daily Telegraph* on March 22, 1916, p. 7:

**“ATROCITIES IN SERBIA**

*700,000 VICTIMS*

**FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT**

*ROME, Monday (6:45 p. m.).*

*The Governments of the Allies have secured evidence and documents, which will shortly be published, proving that Austria and Bulgaria have been guilty of horrible crimes in Serbia, where the massacres committed were worse than those perpetrated by Turkey in Armenia.*

[...] *Women, children, and old men were shut up in the churches by the Austrians and either stabbed with the bayonet or suffocated by means of asphyxiating gas. In one church in Belgrade 3,000 women, children, and old men were thus suffocated. [...]*"

Of course, today no historian claims that the Austrians or any of their allies ever committed mass murder with poison gas in Serbia during World War One. This was nothing but black propaganda issued by the British government and eagerly disseminated by the British media.

But juxtapose this with an article that appeared in the same London *Daily Telegraph* on June 25, 1942, p. 5, that is, five days before the Jewish-owned and -controlled *New York Times* reported the alleged mass murder of Jews in German-controlled Europe for the first time:

***“GERMANS MURDER 700,000  
JEWS IN POLAND  
TRAVELLING GAS CHAMBERS  
DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER***

*More than 700,000 Polish Jews have been slaughtered by the Germans in the greatest massacre in world history. [...]*"

This time, however, we all know that these claims were true, don't we? And it is also true that at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century nobody would seriously accuse any country in the world of building gas chambers and stocking Zyklon B to murder all Jews, hence, that the Jews would once more face a holocaust, an extinction of millions. After all, that was something uniquely German and 'Nazi,' which does not happen again, right?

If you think that it is obvious that nobody would make such outrageous claims, I have to teach you another quite astounding lesson: Let me bring up only two examples from a war that took place almost 50 years after the second holocaust propaganda started, in 1991. It is about America's first war against Iraq to drive Iraqi occupiers out of Kuwait. The New York-based *Jewish Press*, then calling itself "*The largest independent Anglo-Jewish weekly newspaper,*" headlined its front page on February 21, 1991:

***“IRAQIS HAVE GAS CHAMBERS FOR ALL JEWS”***

Or take the front cover announcement of volume 12, number 1 (spring 1991), of *Response*, a periodical published by the Jewish Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and distributed in 381,065 copies:

***“GERMANS PRODUCE ZYKLON B IN IRAQ  
(Iraq's German-made gas chamber)”***



If you do not believe this, turn to the Appendix, pp. 135f., for reproductions of the articles mentioned above.

I hope that you get the idea of this book: 1900, 1916, 1926, 1936, 1942, 1991...

In 1991, it was all invented, for sure, as were the later claims prior to America's second war against Iraq in 2003 that Iraq possessed or was about to possess weapons of mass destruction – Zyklon B not being mentioned here, though. But as Israel's renowned newspaper *Ha'aretz* proudly proclaimed:<sup>25</sup>

*“The war in Iraq was conceived by 25 neoconservative intellectuals, most of them Jewish, who are pushing President Bush to change the course of history.”*

Because, as we all know, the Jews in Israel deserve preventive protection from annihilation by weapons of mass destruction – Zyklon B or not, invented or not...

So maybe not quite all claims referring to events between 1941 and 1945 are completely true? Maybe there is a chance after all that things were twisted, distorted, exaggerated, invented? Maybe...

If the reader has by now opened his mind to that possibility, I can only invite him to read the arguments of those who do indeed claim that many things about the 'Holocaust' were twisted, distorted, exaggerated, and invented. If Heddesheimer's book is an eye-opener to you, which I think it will be, then I can only invite you to read even more-tantalizing revelations, about which you can learn in the back of this book.

I think that Don Heddesheimer's book is a very important contribution to our understanding of the origins of present-day Jewish Holocaust claims. These claims are neither primarily Anglo-Saxon nor Soviet-Communist. The victorious nations of World War Two surely seized upon the opportunity to take advantage of such propaganda and to increase its scope and impact. But the original propaganda claims are Jewish-Zionist in nature and part of a propaganda pattern that started at the very dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. And they have increased in intensity ever since due to their political success and the lack of resistance.

This book ought to remind us also of the simple fact that the truth is always the first casualty of every war. It is surprising that so many people overlook this, when it comes to the most atrocious war ever fought, during and even more so after which the truth was raped and murdered more often than ever before or since in human history: World War Two. Isn't it therefore likely that we were and are being told many more lies

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<sup>25</sup> Ari Shavit, "White man's burden," *Ha'aretz*, April 7, 2003; [www.haaretzdaily.com/hasen/pages/ShArt.jhtml?itemNo=280279](http://www.haaretzdaily.com/hasen/pages/ShArt.jhtml?itemNo=280279); see also Stephen J. Sniegoski, "War on Iraq: Conceived in Israel," *The Revisionist*, 1(3) (2003), pp. 285-298



about this particular war than about all those other wars, where we all *know* that our government lied: World War One, Korea, Vietnam, and the wars against Iraq?

Without further comment:<sup>26</sup>

*“Nothing illustrated the Jews’ new status more clearly than the Senate response to the Romanian pogroms in 1870. The first news reports to reach the United States indicated that ‘thousands’ had been killed in riots in late May. Protest rallies were held in Indianapolis, Louisville, and a half-dozen other cities. After some furious lobbying by Simon Wolf, the matter was brought to the Senate floor by Senator Oliver Morton of Indiana.*

*Morton read a statement from the Indianapolis Jewish rally and asked for action by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The committee chairman, Massachusetts GOP leader Charles Sumner, delicately told the chamber he was ‘disposed to believe that there is at least some gross exaggeration in the report’ of mass murder. In reply, Senator Morton assured his colleagues that his statement had come from ‘gentlemen of the highest respectability and position, and they represent a very large and numerous class of people in Indianapolis and in Indiana.’ That was enough it seems; the Senate ordered the Foreign Relations Committee to take up the matter with the State Department. (Sumner turned out to be correct. The riots’ death toll had been zero.)”*

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<sup>26</sup> Jonathan Jeremy Goldberg, *Jewish Power*, Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley 1996, pp. 98f.