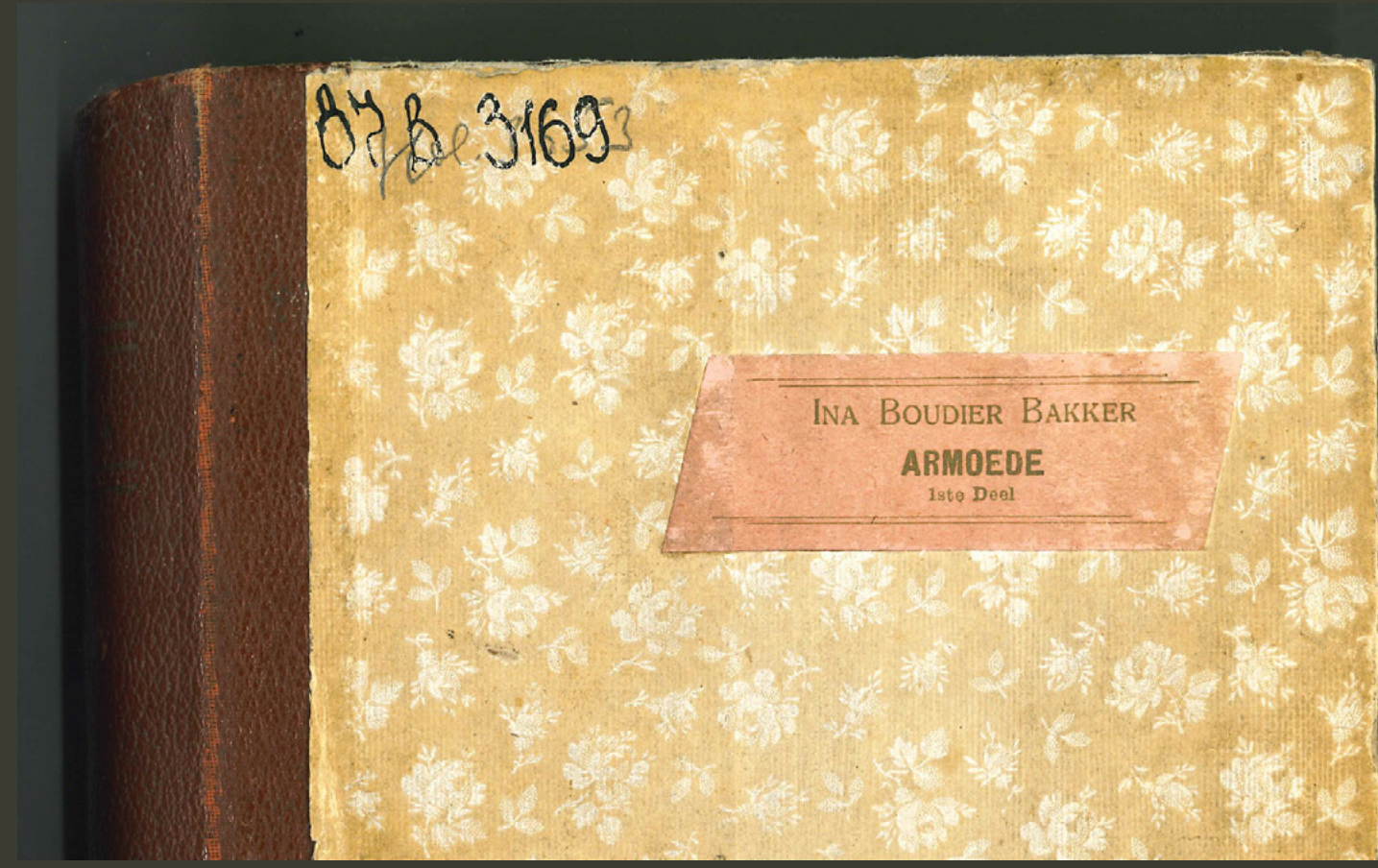


The Book *Armoede*



01

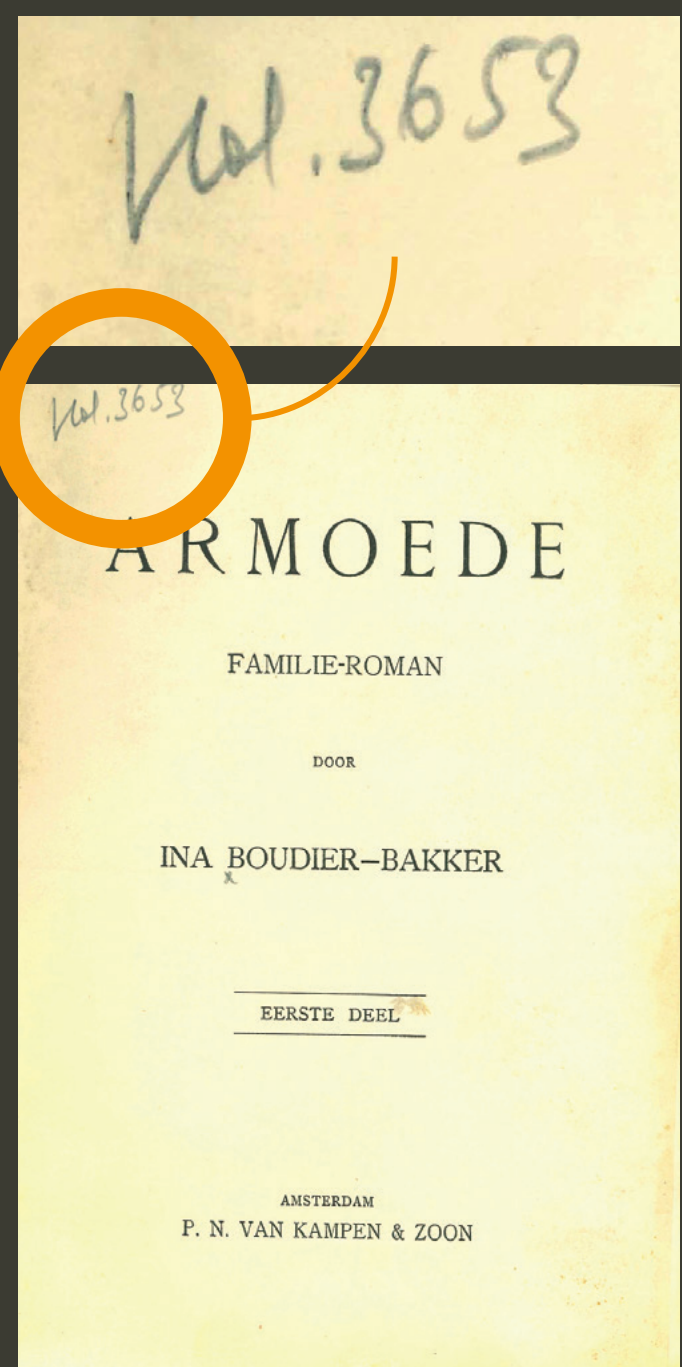
Armoede by the Dutch author Ina Boudier-Bakker is a novel on poverty that was published in several volumes in the early 1900s. This copy of the book was in the private library of Elisabeth Andriessse. Her handwritten name and address (24, Avenue des Klauwaerts in Ixelles) identifies the novel as her personal belonging.

When the Nazi looting agency Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR) started raiding the homes of Jewish owners in 1941, they twice inspected the home of the Andriesses to confiscate books. The inspection reports document a house search on July 27, 1941, and a second inspection on August 6, 1941, noting that the books were packed in boxes and taken away.

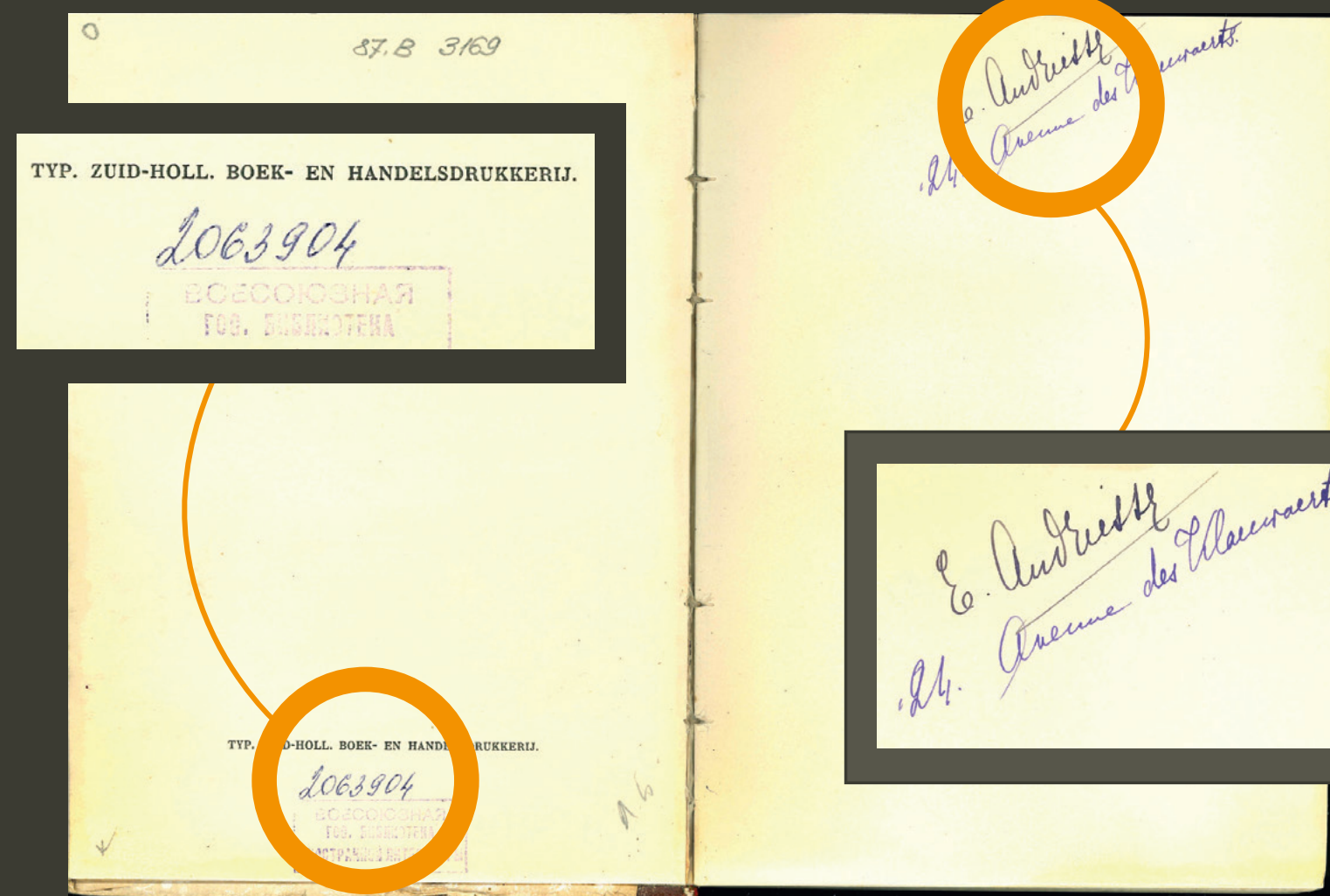
The marks and stamps on the book bear witness to its subsequent journey. After it was stolen from the Andriesses' home in Brussels, it was first brought to Berlin on May 11, 1942. In November 1943 it was evacuated from Berlin to the ERR's so-called Ostbücherei (Eastern Library) in Ratibor, today Racibórz, in western Poland. There, the book received its mark on the title page "HOL 3653," a code for Holländisch/Dutch.

After World War II, the book was taken by a Soviet Trophy Brigade from Ratibor to Minsk. From there, it was handed over in 1981/1987 to the Rudomino Library of Foreign Literature in Moscow, Russia, where the book was stamped with the library's imprint.

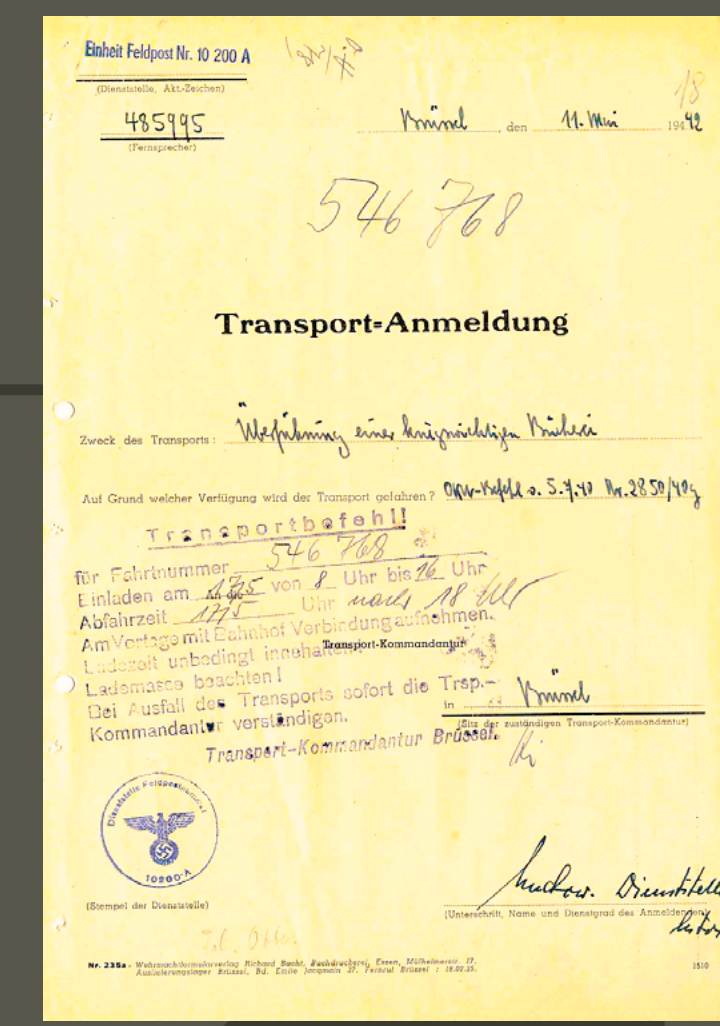
In September 1992, the Russian Federation restituted 608 looted books to the Netherlands. All were in Dutch, originating from looted collections located in the Netherlands, Belgium, and France. Six years later, in 1996, the books that came from Belgium were turned over by the Dutch government to the Belgian government. The book belonging to Elisabeth Andriessse was kept by the Economy Ministry of Belgium. On the occasion of this exhibition, the ministry presented the book and signaled its intention to reconstitute it to the rightful heirs of Elisabeth Andriessse, represented by their lawyer Julius Kaspar Niesert. The heirs plan to donate the book to the Jewish Museum of Belgium, allowing it to be available to the public in the city where the Andriesses once lived.



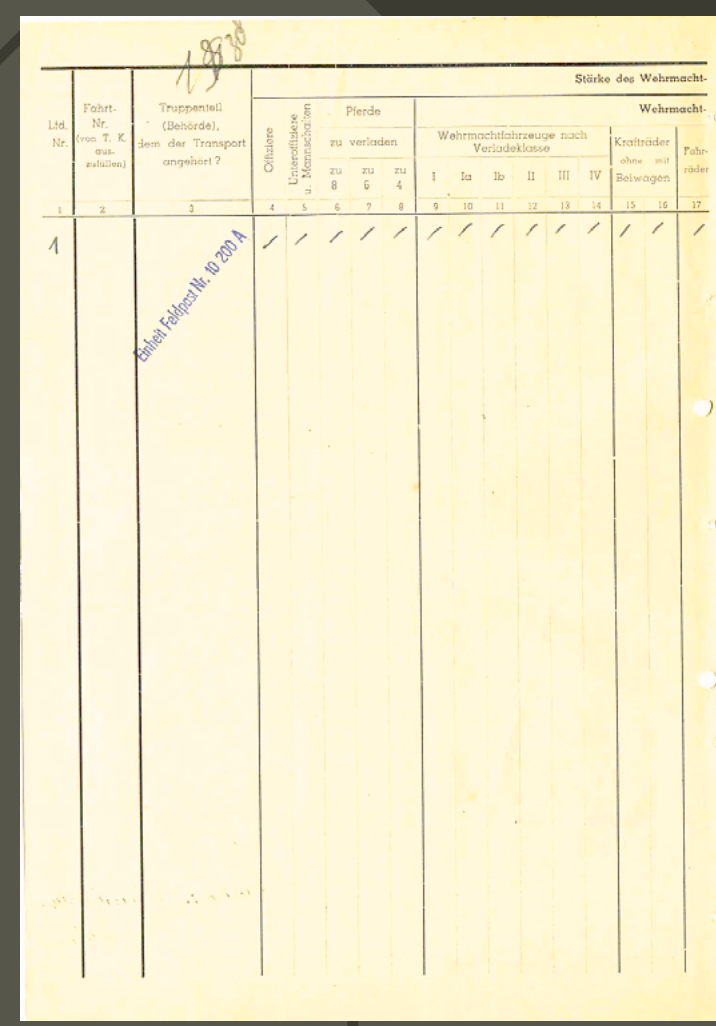
02



03



04



01

Cover of the book by Ina Boudier-Bakker, *Armoede*, Eerste Deel, Amsterdam. On the upper left, handwritten signature 87.B.3169, Economy Ministry of Belgium.

02

Title page of the book with a mark on the upper left: Hol. 3653, Economy Ministry of Belgium.

03

First pages of the book with a handwritten inscription on the upper right by Elisabeth Andriessse: "E. Andriessse 24 Avenue des Klauwaerts," on the upper left "87.B.3169" and lower left "2063904" with a Russian stamp, Economy Ministry of Belgium.

04

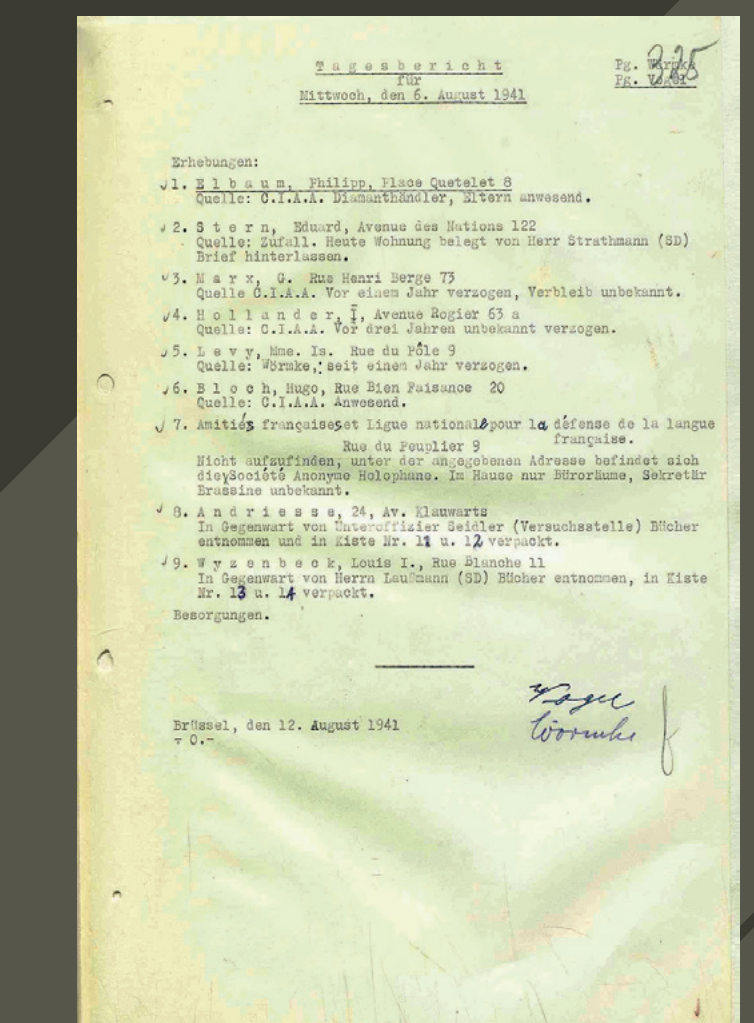
Daily Report of the ERR staff in Brussels documenting the first inspection at the Andriesses' home on July 29, 1941, TsDAVO (Kyiv).

05

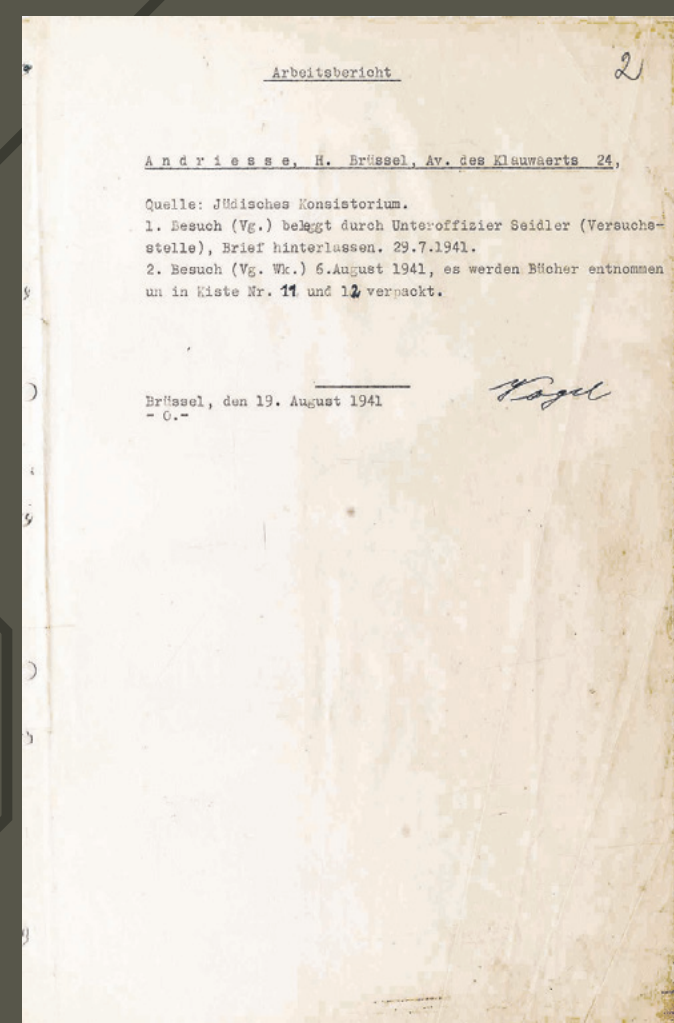
Daily Report of the ERR staff in Brussels documenting the seizure of books at the Andriesses' home on August 6, 1941, TsDAVO (Kyiv).

06

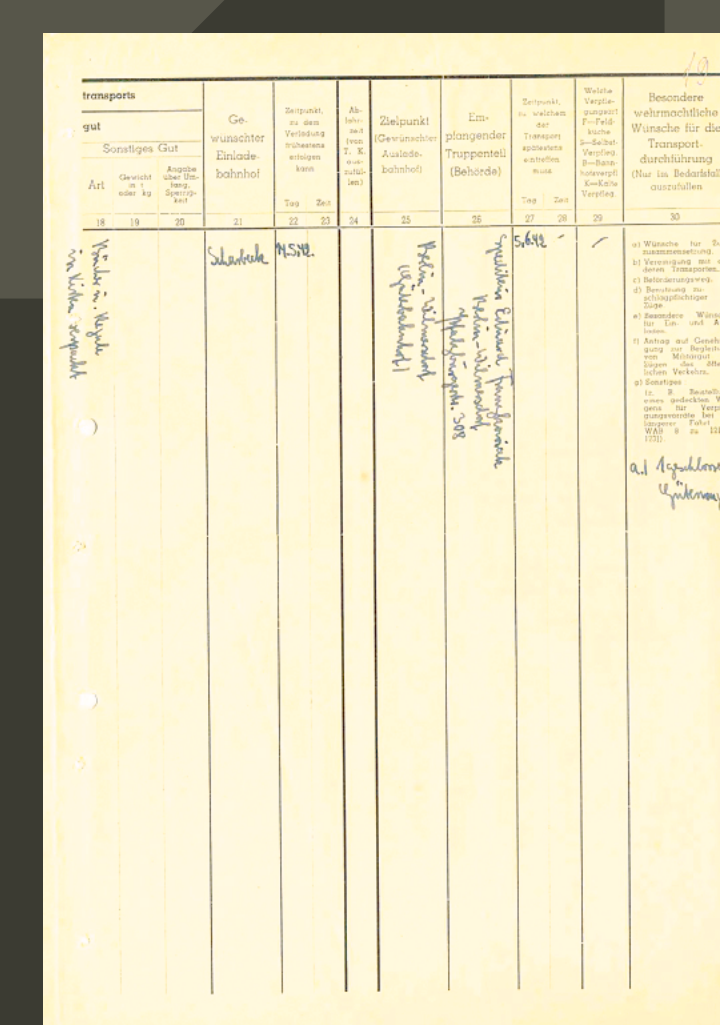
Transport declaration of the Dienststelle Brüssel for a railway car of books and shelves packed in crates, arriving in Berlin on June 5, 1942, TsDAVO (Kyiv).



04



05



06

